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Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor



Premier of Ontario • Première ministre de l'Ontario

June 2, 2013

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone celebrating Italy's Republic Day — the holiday commemorating Italy's institutional referendum of 1946 and the country's birth as a republic.

Today, all of Italy — and Italian nationals around the world — take time to express the great sense of pride they feel as Italian citizens and to reflect on their nation's record of continuous achievement since its formation as a republic in 1946.

June is also a special occasion for Ontarians of Italian descent as it marks Italian Heritage Month. Both Republic Day and Italian Heritage Month give Ontarians the opportunity to recognize the great success the Italian Canadian community has achieved in every field and in every walk of life. I know I reflect the sentiments of all Ontarians when I acknowledge — with gratitude — the many ways in which Italian Canadians have enhanced the social, cultural and economic life of our province.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable celebration of Republic Day and Italian Heritage Month.

Kathleen Wynne
Premier

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Rona Shaffran reading Il Postino

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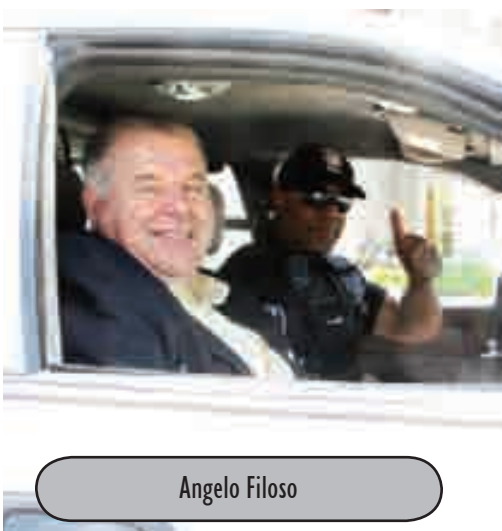
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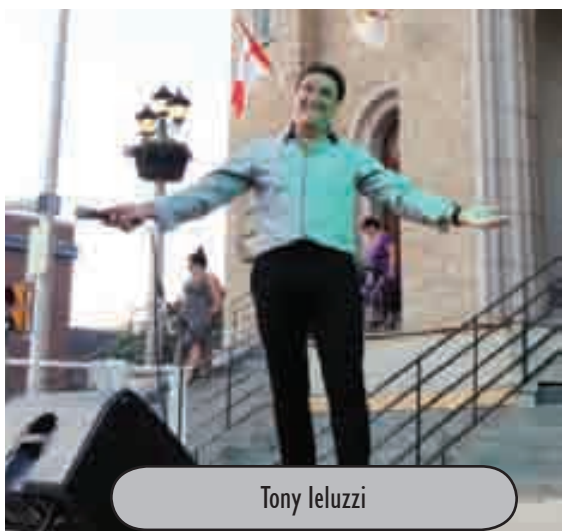
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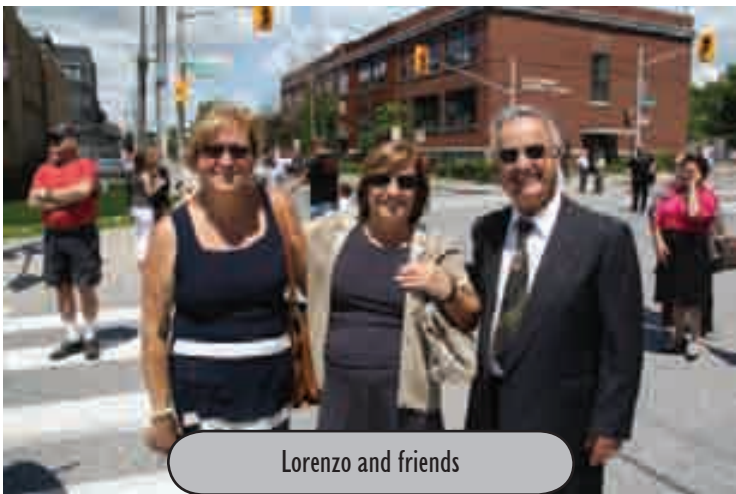
Festa di Sant' Antonio



Angelo Filoso



Tony Ieluzzi



Lorenzo and friends



H.E. Gian Lorenzo Cornado



Brent and Lucia Francis

LOCAL



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Rapinesi Delegates Visit Ottawa!



Visiting CHIN Radio Ottawa



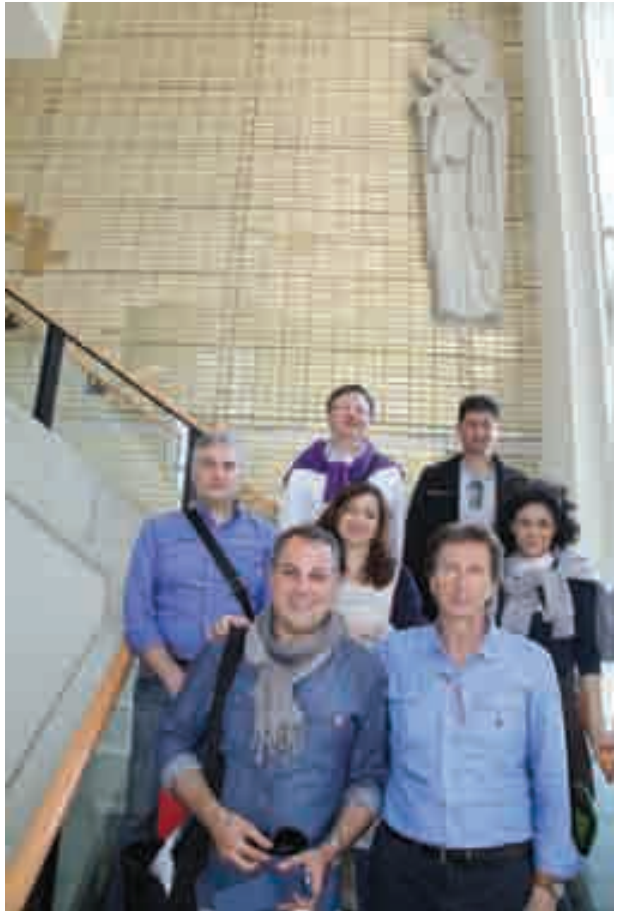
In Front of Ottawa Firefighters Memorial



Adriano, Rosalba, Mayor Cocciaglia, Mayor Watson, Andrea, Doctor Fabrizio



Mayor Rocco with Mayor Jim Watson



Delegates with Executive

LOCAL

Faith, Hope and Sewing Skills: Making a Difference

Nina Chung and Suzanne Stoltz

Up to the 1920s, many Italian immigrants to Canada relied on faith, hope and the skills they had acquired to make a new life for themselves. Among them was Angela Parrotta who arrived in the mid-1920s with her young daughter, Maria. Among other things, Angela, who was a widow and just 25 years old at that time, used her sewing and lace-making skills to make a living and to be able to stay in Canada. She passed her skills on to her daughter who was selling their embroidery and lace work from the young age of seven. Mary Parrotta (who later became Mary Ierullo) became a young entrepreneur. Angela opened a small store-front shop where she sold their handmade specialty items. Today, Angela Ierullo, who bears her grandmother's name, was touched by a similar tale of perseverance and making the most out of life with what you have at hand. Angela recently got involved with a project in Kenya which takes young women from rural villages to a sewing college in a town called Malindi. The two-year program teaches tailoring skills as well as how to start up and run a sewing business. Another Ottawa woman, Nina Chung, has taken the training program a step further by establishing a project to sponsor students to the sewing college. As part of the program, graduates receive their own brand new foot-pedal sewing machine—exactly the same style of machine used by Angela's mother at her



sewing project and an initiative that in two years has almost completed a three-room nursery school for approximately 100 children. Nina lives in Kenya for most of the year and personally oversees the projects working directly with community leaders. Elimu was established in 2010 to help ensure viability of their projects for the long-term. They received official charitable status in 2012. This global initiative began modestly with Nina gathering funding for the 14 children and their home with



small shop. Many villages in rural Kenya are without electricity. This means the old-fashioned foot-pedal sewing machines continue to be prized possessions for tailors there. Just ask Mary Kombe, a graduate from the sewing program in December 2010. At 21 years old Mary is unique in her village. She

is still single (by choice) and independent. Not only does she have independence, and a brighter future with her small sewing business, she was also able to build herself a traditional rural house with mud walls and a thatch roof. She later added a second building for her sewing workshop. Recently, she began taking on her own students and continues to spread knowledge and help others like herself. Like Angela's mother, this Mary is making a real difference in her community. "This is exactly the type of difference that we were hoping for" says Nina Chung, "when we established Elimu as a charity." The word "Elimu" means education in Swahili. Nina went to Kenya in 2004 on a volunteer posting. While there, she met a grandmother caring for five of her grandchildren abandoned by their parents.

Two of the boys were of school age but were not in school. Their grandmother simply could not afford the \$7.50 per month required to pay nursery school fees.

Nina stepped in and offered to pay the school fees. Friends visiting Kenya at the time bought the children school uniforms and backpacks. This small step in 2005 was the first of many towards the forming of the Canadian-based charity. Elimu now has three projects in Kenya: a small childrens' home, a two-year sponsored



only the help of a handful of friends and family. Find out more about the people and projects behind Elimu at www.elimu.ca.

Find out how you can get involved by checking the web page above or contacting Angela Ierullo at 613 828 1807

St. Anthony's Church
100th Anniversary
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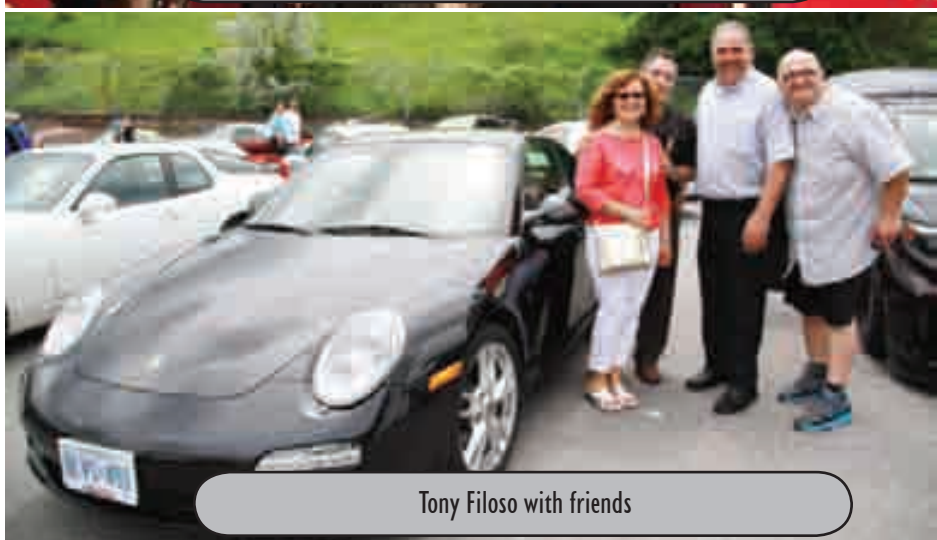
Summer Roll-Out For The Children's Wish Foundation at St. Anthony's Soccer Club



The Committee with Chair Enrico Valente



Joe Ierullo with friends



Tony Filoso with friends



Gino and Lena Buffone and Nello Bortolotti



Domenic Cassone



Italian Week Gala 2013

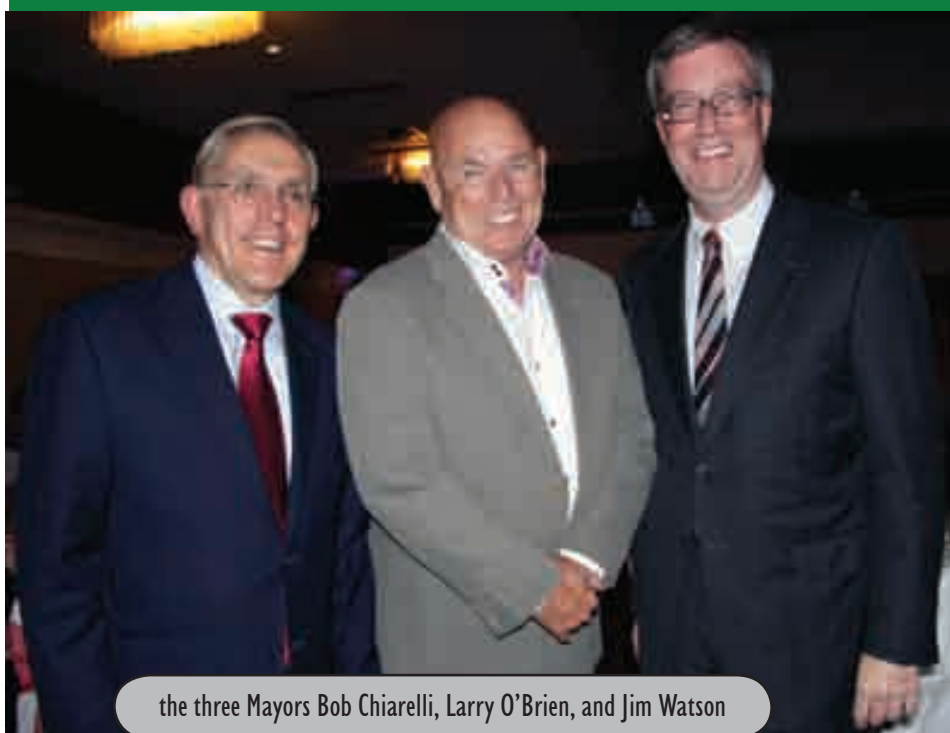
Photos By Giovanni



Italian Canadian Community Centre Table



Vittorio Cocco from Chin Television Toronto with guests



the three Mayors Bob Chiarelli, Larry O'Brien, and Jim Watson



Angelo and Rina Filoso with Inspector Chris Rheume and Mrs. Rheume;



Rocco Petrella with Guests

ITALIAN

I delegati italiani visitano Ottawa

Nel giugno 2013, Ottawa ha avuto l’opportunità di ospitare e accogliere una delegazione di sette individui dal Comune di Rapino, provincia di Chieti, Italia. La delegazione era composta dal sindaco di Rapino, Rocco Cocciaglia, Vice Sindaco Andrea Oliva, Rosalba Mascioli, Dottore Fabrizio Costantni, Adriano Pasquale

La visita alla città di Ottawa e l’area circostante è stata un grande successo per gli italiani. Sono stati molto ben accolti dalla gente di Ottawa che hanno dimostrato un carisma di un tipo molto speciale. Dal momento in cui sono arrivati, si sono sentiti subito a casa e hanno potuto rapidamente per adattarsi alla cultura e il clima canadese. Hanno incontrato molte persone nuove per la prima volta dalla regione Abruzzo con la quale hanno sviluppato facilmente un legame reciproco, come se si conoscono da molti anni.

L’emozione di sindaco di Rapino, Rocco Cocciaglia era evidente e profonda. La Fraternità è indiscutibile e questo è stato dimostrato ogni volta che ha parlato in un forum pubblico o ad un ricevimento ufficiale della comunità. Tra cui un viaggio a Niagara Falls e Montreal, la delegazione ha visitato molte aree di Ottawa tra cui: Parliament Hill, il mercato del centro, viaggio a La Bottega Nicaastro per un espresso e una sosta al Di Rienzo Foods per uno dei loro famosi panini .. Gli italiani sono stati accolti con un caloroso benvenuto ogni luogo hanno visitato.

La delegazione ha anche avuto l’opportunità di incontrare il Sindaco di Ottawa, Jim Watson, e fare un giro del municipio di cui sono rimasti molto colpiti.

Il Sindaco di Rapino indicato tante volte che era molto commosso dalla generosità della gente che ha incontrato a Ottawa. Egli ha ringraziato “i figli della Maiella” (il Rapinesi, Pretoresi, Roccolani) che erano presenti molti degli eventi cui ha partecipato. Il calendario degli eventi per la delegazione sono stati molto ben organizzata da Lorenzo Micucci e sua moglie Denise, individui della regione Abruzzo tra cui il generoso sostegno da parte dell’Associazione RAPINESE di Ottawa, presidente Gina Marinelli, il suo comitato esecutivo e dei membri. Ci sono stati molti altri amici e parenti che hanno contribuito al successo degli eventi della visita.

Il sindaco si è detto molto orgoglioso di sapere che gli immigrati provenienti dalla regione Abruzzo è diventato un grande successo nel loro lavoro e il loro contributo al progresso della società canadese, parlando in quattro lingue diverse inglese, francese, italiano ei dialetti diversi della lingua italiana.

Il sindaco Rocco è stato anche contento di vedere come gli immigrati abruzzesi e la prossima generazione di famiglie integrate con successo nella società canadese, diventando imprenditori, commercialisti, medici, avvocati e imprenditori e professionisti informatici.

L’ospitalità e ricevimenti generose che erano state organizzate per famiglie e amici a Ottawa evocato forti emozioni di comunità con un legame comune per il ‘paese vecchio’. Essi saranno in grado di tornare a Rapino con grandi ricordi, storie e sentimenti di cameratismo che hanno trovato nelle persone del Canada.

In chiusura, il Sindaco Rocco Cocciaglia ha dichiarato: “Vogliamo vedere tutti voi a Rapino”. Foto a pagina quattro

ITALIAN TOURISM IN THE WORLD - MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS ‘MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Franco Frattini, and the Secretary to the Prime Minister with responsibility for Tourism, Hon Michela Vittoria Brambilla, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that gives new impetus to cooperation between the two ministries for international support Italian tourism sector. Objectives of the Protocol is to define a common operational line to promote Italy as a tourist destination, enhancing the diplomatic-consular network-cultural, build cohesive picture of the Italian brand with specific projects to promote communication and encourage foreign investment in the tourism sector. Among the first concrete developments of the Protocol is the mission of the supply chain jointly organized by the Department of Tourism and the Foreign Ministry, which will bring in the Gulf countries led by Italian operators Secretary Brambilla February 2 to 5. Among the tools included in the Protocol, there is the ‘organization of tourist events in parallel to promotional initiatives (events, fairs, missions) concerning the funds of Made in Italy that best evoke the “Italian way of life,” such as food and wine, luxury products, design or fashion. “They are clear synergies between policies and programs promoting tourism and actions and foreign policy instruments - said Minister Frattini during the meeting - and hence the need for a precise fitting, especially in a country like ‘Italy. “ Recalling also the need for closer collaboration between all actors working in support of the international projection of the country he added: “The challenge of internationalization must find an organic response on several fronts: products, services , capital, and culture. The coordination between all public and private actors active in these fields allows you to multiply the results, for the same resources. In this approach is reflected in the action of the Italian Economic Diplomacy and it is in this spirit that today I sign this Memorandum of Understanding. “ “The Memorandum of Understanding signed today - said the undersecretary Brambilla - is further confirmation of willingness to this government to finally give birth to a national policy of tourism, realizing that other countries have already implemented for some time and that is called system programming, along with all the institutions have with tourism ministerial meeting places. “ Then pointing to the role that tourism can play in the national economy, he added: “This is the turning point when our country desperately needs to get back to being competitive on international markets but, at the same time, to produce the added value of resources that today are essential to our economy, to deal first with trump cards, this economic crisis and then to better prepare those who are our real asset for development. “(14/01/2009-ITL/ITNET)

Italian Delegates visit Ottawa

In June 2013, Ottawa had the opportunity to host and welcome a delegation of seven individuals from the City of Rapino, province of Chieti, Italia. The delegation was composed of the Mayor of Rapino, Rocco Cocciaglia, Vice Mayor Andrea Oliva, Rosabla Mascioli, Doctor Fabrizio Costantini and Adriano Pasquale.

The visit to the City of Ottawa and surrounding area was very successful for the Italians. They were very well received by the people of Ottawa who demonstrated a charisma of a very special type. Since the moment they arrived, they felt immediately at home and were able to quickly adapt to the Canadian culture and climate. They met many new people for the first time from the Abruzzo region with which they easily developed a mutual bond as though they had known each other for many years.

The emotion of Mayor of Rapino, Rocco Cocciaglia was evident and profound. The fraternity was unquestionable and this was demonstrated every time he spoke in a public forum or at an official reception of the community. Including a trip to Niagara Falls and Montreal, the delegation visited many areas of Ottawa including: Parliament Hill, the downtown market, trip to La Bottega Nicaastro for an espresso and a stop at Di Rienzo Foods for one of their famous sandwiches.. The Italians were received with a warm welcome each place they visited.

The delegation also had the opportunity to meet the Mayor of Ottawa, Jim Watson, and take a tour of the City Hall of which they were very impressed.

The Sindaco of Rapino indicated many times that he was very moved by the generosity of the people he has met in Ottawa. He thanked “The Sons and Daughters of the Maiella” (the Rapinesi, Pretoresi, Roccolani) who were present at many of the events he attended. The schedule of events for the delegation were very well organized by Lorenzo Micucci and his wife Denise, individuals from the Abruzzo region including the generous support from the Rapinese Association of Ottawa, President Gina Marinelli, its executive committee and members. There were many other friends and relatives who contributed to the success of the events..

The Mayor said he was very proud to know that immigrants from the Abruzzo region became very successful in their work and their contributions to the advancement of Canadian society, speaking in four different languages English, French, Italian and the varied dialects of the Italian language.

Mayor Rocco was also pleased to see how the Abruzzo immigrants and the next generation of families successfully integrated into the Canadian society by becoming business owners, accountants, doctors, lawyers, and business and computer professionals.

The hospitality and generous receptions that were organized by families and friends in Ottawa evoked strong emotions of community with a shared bond to the ‘old country’. They will be able to return to Rapino with great memories, stories and feelings of camaraderie they found in the people of Canada.

In closing, the Mayor Rocco Cocciaglia said “We want to see you all in Rapino”. photos on page four

LA MARCA (PD): NEL NOME DELLA REPUBBLICA LA FORZA DI RIPRENDERE IL CAMMINO DELL’ITALIA NEL CONTESTO INTERNAZIONALE

“Una felice coincidenza. Questi sono stati per me la partecipazione al ricevimento offerto dall’Ambasciatore Cornado ad Ottawa e gli incontri con le comunità di Montreal e di Toronto in occasione della festa della Repubblica. Non avrei potuto godere di una migliore opportunità per avere il mio primo incontro ufficiale con le comunità italiane più importanti del Canada proprio nella ricorrenza civile più significativa per l’Italia: la festa della Repubblica”.

Con queste parole l’On. FrancescaLa Marca, eletta nella ripartizione Nord e Centro America per il Partito Democratico, ha ricordato la sua presenza alle iniziative realizzate in Canada in questi giorni.

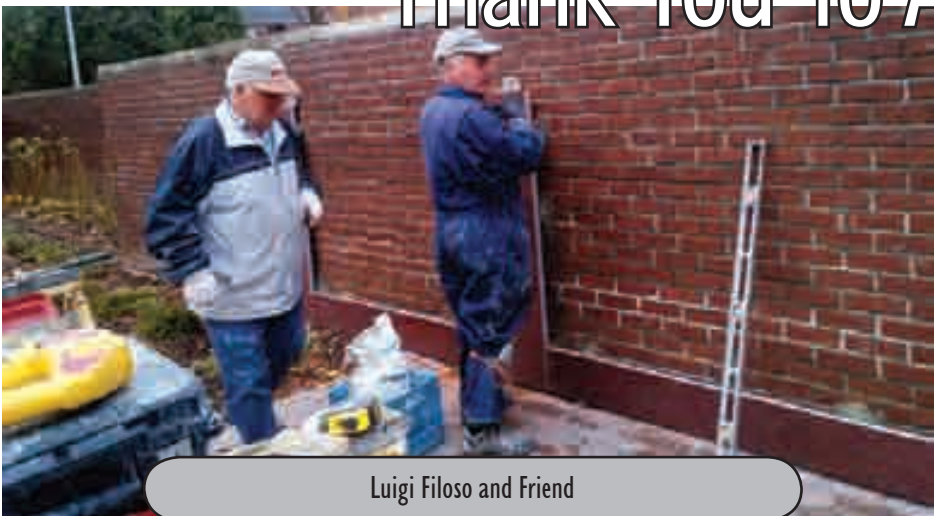
“Sia a Montreal che a Toronto – ha affermato l’On. La Marca - negli incontri affollati e appassionati nei quali i connazionali si sono stretti intorno alla nostra Repubblica pur in un momento di seria difficoltà, nel saluto a loro rivolto mi sono soffermata su tre punti essenziali.Prima di tutto, la fedeltà ai valori di libertà e di democrazia che sono alla base della Repubblica italiana e della vita civile dell’altro nostro grande Paese, il Canada. Gli italiani in Canada hanno potuto superare le restrizioni del tempo di guerra e diventare una delle più importanti comunità del Paese solo quando il fascismo è caduto e la libertà si è affermata.

In secondo luogo, tra i due Paesi c’è un vincolo profondo costituito dal sacrificio di tanti giovani canadesi che hanno dato la loro vita per ridare all’Italia la libertà e salvaguardare la democrazia in Europa.

Gli incontri – ha proseguito l’On. La Marca - sono stati anche l’occasione per parlare dei problemi degli italiani all’estero in relazione alla situazione, non certo ottimale, che l’Italia sta attraversando. In questa fase di crisi, l’Italia ha bisogno degli italiani all’estero più di quanto gli italiani all’estero hanno bisogno dell’Italia. Essi hanno sempre fatto la loro parte, quando ce n’è stato bisogno. E sono pronti anche ora, soprattutto nel sostenere le politiche di internazionalizzazione del nostro sistema.Ma – ha concluso l’On. La Marca – è necessario che nella classe dirigente italiana e nell’opinione pubblica vi sia questa consapevolezza. E che si rafforzino i legami attraverso gli strumenti propri, che sono la cittadinanza, la promozione della lingua e della cultura italiana, gli accordi bilaterali sulle questioni sociali, il sostegno alla comunicazione in italiano, e cos ì via.

Ecco perché mi è sembrato doveroso concludere questi incontri informando i nostri concittadini sulle iniziative da me intraprese in questi due mesi di attività parlamentare, dalle proposte sulla cittadinanza alle richieste di ratifica dell’accordo bilaterale con il Canadain materia sociale, dalla priorità alla promozione della lingua italiana all’insegnamento della storia e della cultura dell’emigrazione nelle scuole”.

St. Anthony's Church Memorial Wall Construction



Luigi Filoso and Friend



Fred Dinardo



Angelo Filoso and Frank DeCarlo



Tony D'Angelo and Frank DeCarlo

LOCAL

Thirty years of love, honour and shoes?

By Dosi Cotroneo

Recently I glanced at my calendar and made the startling realization that the husband and I will be celebrating our 27th wedding anniversary this month. That coupled with three years of dating comes to a grand total of 30 years. It is hard to believe that three decades have passed since our early days of courtship. With Italian Week in the air, memories of one of our first dates walking hand in hand at Dow’s Lake, stir emotions to say the least.

I could picture it right now – one shy Italian girl, 17 years old, on a date with an “older” Italian fellow of 22 years of age. They say the only constant in life is change, but I must beg to differ. Looking around at the many young people taking part in the Italian Week festivities, it wouldn’t surprise me if some, if not many, were on dates that may very well lead to, well, 27 years of marriage!

Fast forward three years from that very date, and a barely 20-year old bride, was getting married to the man of her dreams; certainly the most exciting event of a young bride’s life. Amid the love and laughter of the wedding and honeymoon, reality quickly set in with the arrival of bills in the mail, cooking, cleaning, and a whole new host of responsibilities. On more than one occasion in those early days of matrimony, I found myself drowning in dirty laundry consisting of men’s briefs, men’s athletic socks, men’s hockey gear, men’s workout clothes, and men’s dirty towels. I quickly learned a valuable lesson that may very well have saved this young bride from running to a divorce lawyer many times over the last 27 years. A piece of sage advice that must be handed down from one generation of Italian brides to another: never, ever, attempt to smell one single article of men’s clothing, particularly socks or foundation garments (underwear) that may be lying on the ground on laundry day, to determine if it is in fact, clean, or soiled, and I used the term “soiled” loosely.

After a dreadful bout involving one nose and one pair of men’s briefs, I felt as though my life had taken a turn. Things certainly didn’t look this way in those glossy honeymoon brochures of couples bathing in heart-shaped pools, sipping champagne, somewhere in the Pocono Mountains. I couldn’t help but wonder whatever became of those couples? Are they still married? Who did their laundry? Did they seek the advice of Dr. Phil, Dr. Oz, or some other self-help guru?

Suffice it say, I have been one of the lucky ones. Husband lived away from home during his university years and that meant learning how to cook, clean and do laundry. Today, he is the main grocery shopper, meal planner, cook, and in charge

of the laundering of all sports-related equipment, including athletic socks, jock straps and all other sweat-laden articles. Could this very well be the key ingredient to a long and happy marriage?

My self-help guru arrived in 1986, in the form of one 85 year old Italian Nonna, fresh from Southern Italy. She, barely a widow, while I, barely a new bride. Husband’s Nonna became

my confidante, my sage, my fountain of knowledge. Thanks to her, my Italian improved ten-fold, and my “how to cope with the Italian husband” skills improved a thousand times over.

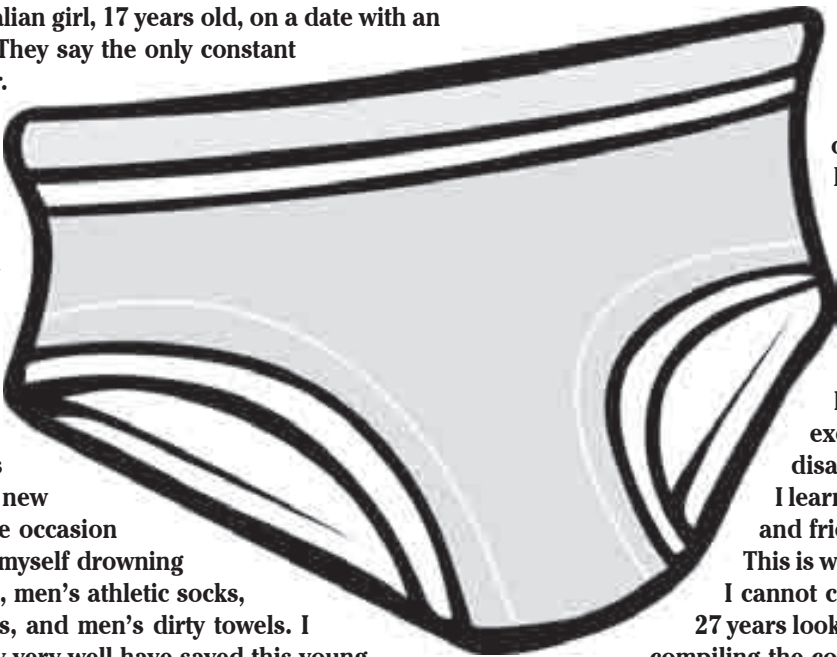
Thanks to Nonna and her heartwarming stories of life in the old country, I learned that “being in love” is not something reserved only for the young. I learned that “patience and understanding” often means “blind eye, deaf ear.” I learned that expressing your true feelings works best over a delicious dinner of pasta, a pot full of meat balls, and a bottle or two of homemade vino. I learned that keeping Andrea Boccelli and Luciano Pavarotti on the playlist during meal times is an excellent way to drown out any shouting, should a disagreement over “what happened to the car” arise.

I learned that seeking solace in one’s passions, interests and friends is vital to the survival of a long relationship. This is where the shoe and purse situation comes into play.

I cannot count how many hours I have spent over the past 27 years looking at shoes, shopping for shoes, trying on shoes, compiling the collection of shoes and purses, organizing, sorting, cataloguing, photographing, and finally introducing the collection to family and friends.

This time away from the husband provides him with ample opportunity to indulge in his interests – barbequing, beer drinking, cigars, football, hockey baseball, burping, cooking, beer, talking about beer, buying beer, and more burping. I tell you, it’s been like a match made in heaven.

I now look forward, God willing, to the next 30 years ahead, and growing older and hopefully wiser, alongside my mate, my companion, my best friend, my husband. I’ve learned that a husband and a wife don’t have to like the same things, share the same interests, or even shop for shoes or groceries together to have a strong relationship. I’ve learned that chemistry will get you through the toughest of times and I’ve learned that laughter, particularly at ourselves, is a saving grace in relationships. I’ve learned that forgiveness could be the greatest mountain to conquer, and at the same time, your greatest ally. Here’s to the next 30 years! Auguri!



Stuffed Tomatoes with Sicilian Tuna and Capers (Pomodori Ripieni)

Jerry Buccilli
Zeppoli’s - Italian Comfort Food



Well summer is finally here and that for a lot of us means – the beach! I love the beach and try to get there as much as possible with my family. My best memories are from Sicily, circa 1973. I spent a whole summer practically living on the beach. The laughter. The music. The sea air. Nothing matches it. Memories to last a lifetime.

For our beach days we usually pack a large basket of food. Some lasagna. Some salad. A few panini. Mortadella. Capicollo. Prosciutto. Often my mom would make Pomodoro Ripieni (stuffed tomatoes).....they were quick and easy to prepare and tasted delicious

These Sicilian treats are a perfect mid-afternoon summer snack when you’re lounging in the sun or on the patio. They’re a perfect light appetizer. Some recipes call for the tomatoes to be oven baked but I prefer them this way...simple and elegant and more refreshing especially on hot days when you want to keep it light.

Ingredients:

- 4 medium sized firm tomatoes
- 1 6-ounce can Italian tuna packed in oil, drained well
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon salt or vinegar packed capers, rinsed and finely chopped
- 2 anchovy fillets, very finely chopped
- Some chopped parsley
- freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 cup good quality balsamic vinegar (to make a reduction)

Directions:

1. Rinse and core the tomatoes. Clean out any seeds with a small spoon. Lightly salt inside of cavity and place upside down on paper towels or in a colander to drain for about 30 minutes.
2. Mash anchovy fillets together in a medium bowl. Add tuna, lemon juice, olive oil and capers, parsley and stir until blended. If mixture appears dry, add a bit more olive oil. Season with freshly ground pepper to taste.
3. Rinse cavity of tomato and drain. Fill each tomato with filling. You should have enough filling to fill all four tomatoes.
4. Bring vinegar to a boil in a small saucepan and simmer until reduced and syrupy, about 5 minutes. Drizzle the syrup on a plate and place the tomatoes on top or put aside and serve on top of tomatoes when ready to serve.

Jerry Buccilli is a 2nd generation Italian living in Niagara Falls, Ontario. He lives with his wife and twin boys. He is the owner and operator of Zeppoli’s – Italian Comfort Food, a catering company specializing in regional, Italian cuisine. www.zeppolis.ca

LOCAL

ITALIAN ECONOMY - EUROPE - EU COMMISSION: PRIORITY 'MEASURES AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT AND FINANCING REAL ECONOMY

At the end of the Commission’s weekly meeting, focused on the European Council meeting in late June, President Barroso said: “Europe there is going all out of the crisis, as is apparent from the detailed analysis of the Commission which accompanies the specific recommendations country. Our pace of growth, however, remains inadequate and certain parts of Europe are experiencing a real social emergency. The European Council meeting scheduled for the end of next week can allow us to reach a new consensus at EU level on measures we intend to take to boost growth of our economy and to give new impetus to the process. We are proposing concrete measures to tackle youth unemployment and support, together with the EIB, the financing of the real economy, in particular SMEs. items of consent are available to us, but we must ensure that translate into concrete results. “ In view of the European Council on 27 and 28 June 2013, the European Commission has prepared three contributions. Those related to combating youth unemployment, improvement of legislation and review of the pact for growth and employment were adopted this morning, while the contribution on the increase in lending to the economy, developed together with the European Investment Bank, will be available immediately after its formal adoption. This package of initiatives will help Europe to radically change the situation by re-inserting the workers into the labor market by facilitating the recruitment of staff and investment by businesses and enabling banks to lend to the real economy. Main elements of the four contributions : Working together for young people in Europe - Call for action against youth unemploymentThe fighting youth unemployment is a top priority. Although many of the tools to combat it is in the hands of Member States, action at EU level can be crucial to achieve tangible results. The Commission has proposed a number of concrete measures that can be implemented and have immediate effects. Some of them, however, must still be approved at EU level, in particular those relating to the multiannual financial framework. priority is to accelerate the implementation of the Youth Guarantee. The Commission proposes to concentrate EUR 6 billion for the Initiative for Youth Employment in the initial period, so that they can be committed in 2014 and 2015 instead of over the seven years of the multiannual financial framework. Member States should submit their programs in the fall on youth employment. To help the Commission will develop in parallel a number of EU instruments such as the European Alliance for apprenticeship, the Coalition for Employment digital, EURES and the initiative “Your first EURES job”, while also providing support to businesses to recruit young people. All these measures have to be implemented in close cooperation with the social partners and stakeholders. Joint Commission-EIB to the European Council - Increase lending to the economy: the implementation of the capital increase of the EIB and Commission joint initiatives EIB- As indicated in the Commission’s Annual Growth Survey, one of the main obstacles to recovery is the lack of a normal lending to the real economy, and in particular SMEs. joint report of the European Commission and the European Bank for investment specifies how the allocation of the capital of the EIB agreed recently. The report also sets out three options for helping SMEs to obtain financing and take on young people in the near future. The Commission will urge the European Council to adopt an ambitious approach. The pact for growth and employment a year later - Report to the European Council The European Commission has adopted a report on the progress made in implementing the pact for growth and employment which showed that, one year after the agreement was concluded, the United States can do much more to improve their situation,

for example by exploiting the potential of the single market in areas such as digital, energy and research . The report highlights the need to complete the Single Market Act I, as only 7 of the 12 proposals submitted by the Commission were approved by the co-legislators. The European Commission has already presented most of the proposals for the Act and plans to submit the other in the coming weeks, including legislation to promote long-term investment funds, which may constitute an alternative source of lending to the economy real. The Commission strongly supports the rapid adoption of these proposals before the European Parliament elections. The report shows that the Commission has made available the entire budget allocation for cohesion policy to support projects aimed at promoting growth and employment in ‘scope of an investment package of 120 billion expected in the covenant. Commission follow-up to the consultation “Top 10” of the EU regulation on SMEs A favorable business environment is an important element in this context. Regulation at EU level, in lieu of twenty-seven national regulatory body, has proved an effective way to create new opportunities. , the Commission adopted a Communication setting out in detail the measures taken or envisaged concerning the ten legislative acts of the toughest ‘ EU as identified by SMEs. The Commission has already examined the concerns expressed with regard to each of the pieces of legislation identified by SMEs taking steps, in cases where he could do it, or submitting proposals to the co-legislators to minimize burdens for SMEs. In December 2011, for example, the Commission proposed a revision of the public procurement regime that will have a direct impact on SME access to procurement. In February 2013, the Commission proposed to replace the General Product Safety Directive with a Regulation on the safety of consumer products that contain a simplified set of common requirements for businesses.This part of the work we are doing to review the Community acquis and make sure that it is appropriate to the intended objective (program “REFIT”). European Council will approve the Commission’s country-specific recommendations to guide economic policies and budgets of Member States over the next year and set out the next phases for the consolidation of the Union’s economic and monetary union. The four input from the Commission, which contain information on the immediate actions needed to boost economic growth, will help to restore confidence to help businesses to invest and hire and allow banks and other investors to resume normal lending. They show that collective action at EU level can have a greater impact than isolated measures at national level. Now President Barroso will send the contributions of all members of the European Council and the European Parliament. (19/06/2013-ITL/ITNET)

Ottawa in 2017

By Mayor Jim Watson

When I was six years-old Montreal hosted Expo 67. Visitors and locals alike enjoyed an amazing celebration while the eyes of the world watched. As a kid, I was swept up in the excitement of the Expo and count that feeling as one of my earliest memories. It left a lasting impression on me and I’ve never forgotten how a world-class event can transform a city.

In 2017 Canada will celebrate 150 years since the signing of the British North America Act and the creation of our country. As the capital of Canada, I want to make Ottawa the focal point of these anniversary celebrations. Our city is known for its annual Canada Day celebration but I want to extend that celebratory spirit to the entire year of 2017.

In the lead-up to 2017 we have already been aggressive in pursuing major events for Ottawa. The City, in partnership with Ottawa Tourism, created Events Ottawa which is guided by a simple strategy: bid more, win more, host more. Already this has borne fruit as seen by the 2012 NHL All-Star Game, the 2012 JUNO Awards, and the 2013 IIHF Women’s World Championships all having come to Ottawa. And for 2017, we have already confirmed a several events including:

2017 Annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference;
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference and Tradeshow; and, The Canadian Whitewater Canoe and Kayak National Championships.

To coordinate the City’s efforts and plan for 2017 we have set up a task force led by Councillors Katherine Hobbs and Rainer Bloess. It has already begun to meet regularly to discuss other major events and conferences that should be bid on but those are only part of what we want to bring to Ottawa in 2017. The larger goal is to realize former Convention Centre Chair and Member of Parliament Jean Pigott’s dream of Ottawa being every Canadian’s second home town. In 2017, we want Canadians to be especially proud to call it so.

We have ideas already as to how we can make 2017 a year to remember in Ottawa but we want to hear your ideas as well. Are there festivals, events, concerts, or cultural celebrations you think would make for great additions to Ottawa in 2017? If there are, or if you would like to share any ideas you have for Ottawa in 2017, please send me an email at Jim.Watson@Ottawa.ca

For more information please visit www.ottawa2017.ca



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HISTORY

BUGATTI'S T57 REPRESENTS THE PEAK OF A GOLDEN AGE

by Alan Franklin
www.petrolicious.com

Before every sixth grader in the world lusted for a 1,000 HP, \$1,000,000+ Volkswagen, decades prior to a brilliant and ambitious yet ultimately doomed AWD, V12, Gandini-penned coupe-led nineties resurrection, Bugatti stood for one thing: Le Pur Sang des Automobiles, simply “pure blood automobiles”.

Ettore Bugatti descended from a long, illustrious line of artists and artisans, a tradition he followed, unconventional though his chosen medium was. His artist’s approach, combined with an informal, unstudied, yet deep and innate understanding of engineering produced the most exquisite cars, their incredible beauty emanating from their inner structures and workings—it almost seems shallow to mention they were frequently clothed in stunning bodywork, no doubt inspired by the sublime machinery underneath.

Bugatti named his cars with a typing system, with “type” usually abbreviated to “T”. During his eponymous company’s original glory days, a stretch lasting roughly thirty years from its 1909 founding until the tragic death of his beloved son and business partner, Jean, at the wheel of an experimental Bugatti racer, and the ensuing chaos brought about by continental war, countless groundbreaking and world-beating types rolled out the Molsheim works. Among the most notable are the T35, the single most successful GP racer of all-time, the T41 Royale, a gigantic luxury car designed for royalty, and the subject of this piece, the elegant and advanced T57.

As a culmination of all that Bugatti had learned up to the point of its conception, the T57 was a rolling showcase of his company’s technical prowess and mastery of fine craftsmanship. Introduced in 1934, it featured futuristic design attributes like dual overhead camshafts, yet in true Bugatti fashion retained long-obsolete features like monobloc engine construction, cable-operated brakes, and solid axle front suspensions—Ettore was known for his stubbornness.

By this point Bugattis had long been recognized for their delicate handling and amazing roadholding, as well as their mechanical refinement, and the world of automotive press and enthusiasts expected no less than what the T57 proved to be—the finest road biased Bugatti, perhaps the finest road car, period, ever designed and

built to that point, as nicely illustrated by Sir Malcom Campbell in an article from Field, published September 4th, 1937:

“If I was asked to give my opinion as to the best all-around super-sports car which is available on the market today, I should, without any hesitation whatever, say it was the 3.3 Bugatti. I grant that it is not the type of car that would necessarily appeal to the majority of drivers who merely indulge in a burst of speed from time to time, but it cannot fail to attract the connoisseur or those who know how to handle the thoroughbred. It is a car in a class by itself.”

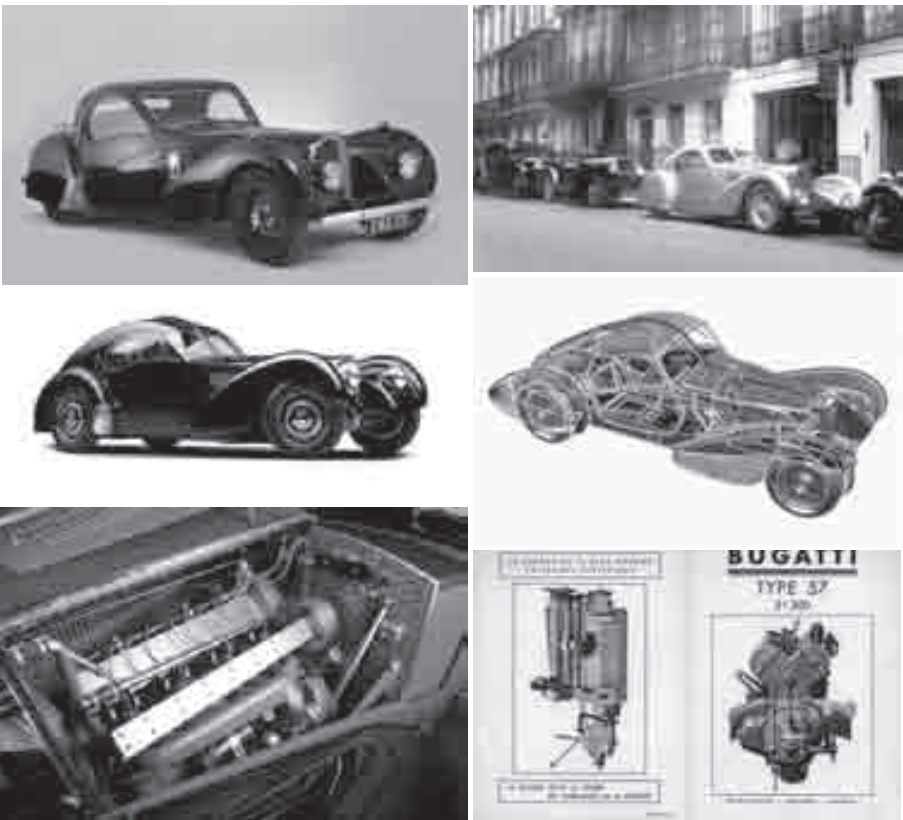
Campbell was referring to a T57S he had just bought, a lower slung, short-chassis sport version of the car, still with a naturally aspirated straight eight of 3.3 liters, but with an increased compression ratio, dry sump, and various chassis detail changes aimed at improving handling even further from the already excellent standard variants. About 18 months later the Type 57SC would be introduced, itself essentially at 57S with the addition of a supercharger, raising power from 135 to 175 HP and taking performance to a level then undreamt of for a road car—top speed was in excess of 125 MPH, with 0-60

MPH in a shade under 10 seconds.

Today, T57s are some of the most valuable cars on earth, with Ralph Lauren’s gobsmackingly gorgeous T57SC Atlantique currently valued somewhere north of \$40,000,000, and more “common”, naturally aspirated cars with less attractive bodywork still commanding seven-figure prices on the open market.

The idea of a roughly 80 year old collection of metal, wood, leather, and being more valuable than a Rembrandt might be anathema to some, but to those of us who see machines as high art it feels just about right—it’s unlikely, after all, that the world will ever see another one like it. Golden ages, and the peaks that go with them, come only once.

Image Sources: bugattirevue.com, brzabrzina.com, bugatti-club-deutschland.de, autoblog.gr, carpatys.com, autonewsinfo.com



Good-bye Tony Soprano

Emily Guccione

Over the course of contributing to Cynics Unlimited, I have written a number of obituaries. I have never, though, written about any actors (or actresses, for any reader not familiar with the gender-neutral term ‘actor’). I generally don’t find the lives of actors particularly interesting - and for those who do, there’s always Kitty Kelley. However, I feel I just have to say something about the recently deceased James Gandolfini. Gandolfini, of course, was the actor who played Mafia chief Tony Soprano in the hit series The Sopranos. He died at a relatively young age (51), perhaps not in the prime of life as Princess Diana at 36, but not at an advanced 92 as did former actress and swim star Esther Williams earlier this month.

Though wildly successful as head of the Soprano ‘family’ (double meaning here!), James Gandolfini came under fire in some quarters for his role. Some accused him of promoting stereotypes of Italians as gangsters. For example, in 2000 the editor of an Ottawa-based Italian-language newspaper urged CTV to cancel their planned broadcast of The Sopranos for that very reason (the station didn’t cancel it, by the way). The editor was disgusted that at a time when Giuliano Zaccardelli had just been appointed Commissioner of the RCMP and Julian Fantino head of the Ontario Provincial Police, Italians were still being depicted as members of the criminal underworld. Of course, not all Italians shared the editor’s opinion. One of my aunts, who was born in Italy, was outraged when she heard that some people wanted to ban the show. ‘But I want to watch The Sopranos!’ she said angrily. ‘We all know there are people in our community who do those things [i.e. crime].’

Being of partial Italian descent myself, I watched the dispute over The Sopranos with amusement more than anything else. I found it hard to see The Sopranos as an anti-Italian plot when so many of the people involved in the show were of Italian origin themselves, not only Gandolfini but Edie Falco, who played Tony Soprano’s wife Carmela, and Lorraine Bracco, who acted as his psychiatrist Jennifer Melfi (I was pleased to discover that the Mafia had socially progressed somewhat since

The Godfather, the title character of which told his son Michael that ‘Fooling around is for women and children, not men’). Even the very WASPish-sounding producer David Chase’s real last name was DiCesare.

James Gandolfini defended his choice to play the role of a Mafia boss. ‘Sure, you can have movies about sweet Italian Americans, but do they make money at the box

office?’ he asked rhetorically. His remark reminded me a bit of a statement by Black actress Hattie McDaniel, who played (and won an Oscar for) Mammy in Gone with the Wind. When accused of catering to racial stereotypes by taking on servants’ roles in Hollywood, McDaniel replied, ‘I can be a maid for \$7 a week or I can play a maid for \$700 a week.’ Like it or not, the entertainment industry’s raison d’être is not to defend oppressed minorities; it is, as Gandolfini insinuated, to make money.

It also seems a bit late to get all up in arms about stereotypes of Italians as mobsters after the spate of Mafia films we’ve witnessed over the years. Although The Godfather is still considered

THE Mafia movie, it was actually preceded by The Brotherhood four years earlier (1968), starring Kirk Douglas and Irene Papas. (By playing an Italian, Douglas, a Jew, showed his ethnic versatility - a decade before The Brotherhood, he appeared in the title role of the film The Vikings). It’s fair to say, however, that it was The Godfather, and its sequel Godfather II, that spawned a series of Mafia features. Some were well-done and critically acclaimed, like Goodfellas or Scarface; others forgettable but - to their credit - unpretentious, like Married to the Mob; and still others forgettable and pretentious, such as Prizzi’s Honor. The Sopranos is merely part of a long line of such works. And it probably won’t be the last, because again like it or not, the Mafia has obviously gained a stranglehold over the American viewing public.

So rest in peace, James Gandolfini. And maybe 20 years from now the people who criticized you for acting in The Sopranos will be glued to their seats watching a TV show about the Russian Mafia.



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