

IL POSTINO

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September 5, 2013



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Letters to the Editor

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PM to welcome Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta to Canada

Ottawa, Ontario

Prime Minister Stephen Harper today announced that he will welcome Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta to Canada on September 22-23, 2013, as part of an official visit to the country.

"Italy is an important friend and valued ally to Canada," said the Prime Minister. "We are both committed to building on shared priorities, including ensuring our prosperity and security, and advancing the values of freedom, democracy and the rule of law."

This will be Prime Minister Letta's first visit to Canada, and the first official visit of an Italian Prime Minister since 2001. This official visit will provide an opportunity for both leaders to discuss matters of shared interest, such as growing trade - including the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) – and investment and security, which includes recent developments in Syria. The two leaders last met on the margins of the Lough Erne G-8 Summit in June 2013.

"This official visit will afford me an opportunity to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit and success of the Italian-Canadian community, who remain deeply committed to Canada and make significant contributions to our nation in all areas of human endeavour," said the Prime Minister.

Two-way merchandise trade between Canada and Italy amounted to \$6.9 billion in 2012, making Italy Canada's 10th largest trading partner. Bilateral relations between Canada and Italy are underpinned by strong commercial, cultural and people-to-people ties and are greatly enhanced by Canada's vibrant 1.5 million-strong Italian-Canadian community.

Il Postino is looking for writers...



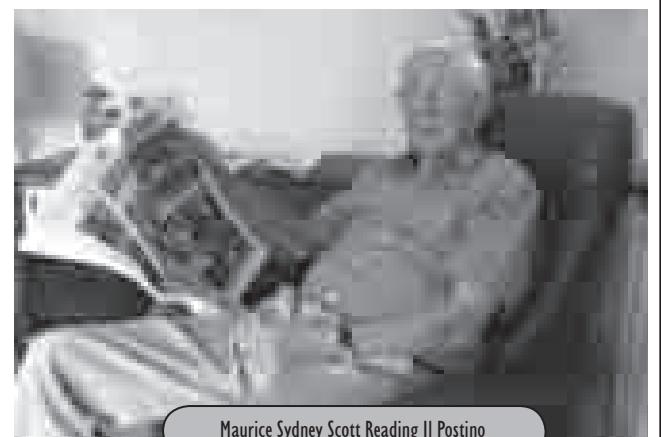
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Ottawa Firefighters Dinner raises over \$37,000



LOCAL

Progress in Education

Good News as Students Head Back to School

Dear friends,

It's hard to believe fall is here and school is back for a new year. This time of year education is top of mind and our government is taking action to help our kids succeed from their first day of school to their first day on the job.

The beginning of this school year brings great news about Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK). A study conducted in partnership with Queen's and McMaster shows that our FDK program is giving children a better start in school and preparing them for success in Grade 1. In every area, students improved their readiness and accelerated their development. FDK was shown to reduce risks in social competence development, language and cognitive development, communication skills and general knowledge

development. Giving our youngest learners the tools they need to succeed in Grade 1 and beyond is part of our government's plan to prepare students for a productive and successful future.

In Ottawa West-Nepean, students at Briargreen Public School, Meadowlands Public School, Severn Avenue Public School and Our Lady of Victory Elementary School now have the option to attend Full-Day Kindergarten at their schools. By September 2014, FDK will be available in all elementary schools across the province. For more information on Full-Day Kindergarten and a full listing of schools which offer the



program, visit: www.ontario.ca/kindergarten.

Our government is not only supporting our youngest learners, but our older ones as well. Before schedules become overwhelmed with classes, homework, new friends and experiences, I'd like to remind post-secondary students to apply for the 30% off tuition grant. If you've already applied for OSAP, you'll automatically be considered for the 30% off tuition grant. For university and college degree students this works out to \$1730 for the 2013-2014 academic year and \$790 for college diploma and certificate students. For more information and to find out if you are eligible, visit www.ontario.ca/30off.

This grant has been available to eligible students since January 2012 and is indexed to reflect tuition increases. Over 207,000 college and university students saw their tuition costs reduced by 30 per cent in 2011-2012.

As we move into the Fall I want to wish you and your family a safe and happy school year.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at 613-721-8075 or bob@bobchiarelli.com with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,
Bob Chiarelli, MPP
Ottawa West-Nepean

DEPUTATI PD ESTERO: MESSI IN DISCUSSIONE I DIRITTI DEGLI ITALIANI ALL'ESTERO NELLA RELAZIONE PER LE RIFORME COSTITUZIONALI

Con lodevole puntualità, la Commissione per le riforme costituzionali ha presentato al presidente del Consiglio On. Letta la relazione che costituirà la base della discussione nelle previste sedi parlamentari. Ad una prima lettura della bozza anticipata da alcuni organi di stampa, sembrano intravedersi le linee di una riforma lungamente attesa e da molti invocata, soprattutto per quanto riguarda il superamento del bicameralismo, la riduzione del numero dei parlamentari, una maggiore produttività e celerità del lavoro normativo. Sull'impianto generale non possiamo che concordare, nella convinzione che ci sia un grande bisogno di riforme per rispondere più efficacemente alla crisi del nostro sistema politico-istituzionale e per recuperare credibilità tra i cittadini.

La Commissione, tuttavia, solo su due punti ha raggiunto un'unanimità di vedute: il superamento del bicameralismo e la cancellazione della circoscrizione Estero. Sulla circoscrizione Estero la Commissione ha semplicemente ribadito le posizioni negative già avanzate dai famosi "saggi" di nomina presidenziale. Non da eletti all'estero ma da parlamentari "senza vincoli di mandato" e da cittadini, ci sentiamo di affermare che questo è il punto più povero di riflessione e più contraddittorio tra quelli che il documento propone. Si fa discendere, infatti, l'abolizione della circoscrizione Estero da una valutazione negativa sul funzionamento del voto degli italiani all'estero, dimenticando che la circoscrizione Estero è stata inserita in Costituzione per dare "effettività" al diritto di voto dei cittadini all'estero e un'autonoma rappresentanza agli stessi, mentre il sistema di voto è una soluzione dettata da una legge ordinaria che si poteva e si può modificare con facilità, rendendola più severa ed efficace. Si confonde, insomma, un diritto primario di cittadinanza con una modalità organizzativa di voto e, alla fine, con l'acqua sporca, si butta anche il bambino. Il contentino che con una superficiale battuta si cerca di dare - quello di un'eventuale presenza di una rappresentanza nel Senato delle Regioni - è legata ad una non scontata elezione diretta del nuovo Senato e comporta una sostanziale diminuzione di un diritto sostanziale.

Il nostro dissenso da queste soluzioni è totale. Una volta per tutte, è necessario riconoscere che i cittadini italiani all'estero sono cittadini di pieno diritto. Per questo è necessario che il loro voto sia effettivo e non finto, come è stato per mezzo secolo; è necessario che la loro presenza nel Senato dei territori, in dialogo con le Regioni e con gli enti locali, attivi da tempo nelle comunità, sia certa e non eventuale; è necessario che la loro presenza nella Camera che vota la fiducia al Governo e adotta gli atti fondamentali, sia assicurata per non mutilare il loro diritto di cittadinanza della sua più importante prerogativa. Se si pensa che l'attuale strumento elettorale non abbia funzionato bene, lo si riformi e lo si renda più adeguato alle indicazioni costituzionali.

E' il momento che su queste cose non si giochi più a rimpiazzino, ma che ogni soggetto politico e istituzionale - forze politiche, Governo, Regioni - venga allo scoperto e si assuma con chiarezza le sue responsabilità. Riparte dunque da oggi la lunga mobilitazione che ha visto gli italiani all'estero impegnati nelladifesa dei loro fondamentali diritti: non si può tornare indietro e non si può un solco odioso tra cittadini di serie A e cittadini di serie B.

Oltre tutto, nel momento in cui il nostro Paese ha più bisogno di tornare attivamente nel mondo, l'ultima cosa da fare è quella di allentare i legami con i milioni di connazionali che nel mondo ci vivono e ci lavorano.

Gianni Farina, Marco Fedi, Laura Garavini, Francesca La Marca, Fabio Porta

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LOCAL

Celebrate - we're getting older every day

By Dosi Cotroneo

The recent passing of yet another birthday got me to thinking - thinking about life, how quickly time is passing, and how it is about time we celebrate each birthday with joy rather than worrying about the "dreaded" aging process. In this world of Botox, fillers and plastic surgery, many fear the passing of time and its effects on their skin. For those standing in front of their mirrors right now, examining their pores and wrinkles, I have news for you: cannot be captured in at the plastic surgeon's just as time cannot be captured at the watch or shop."

This may sound bizarre, but I have always looked forward to my birthdays, and must confess, I was probably as excited for my 48th this month, as I was for my eighth. Sounds silly to some, but for me, I live for any reason to celebrate. Yes, it can get annoying for my family, my two older sisters in particular, especially when they are reminded some two months in advance about my impending celebrations. No matter how much they may frown and complain, I am grateful that I miraculously inherited the optimist gene from some relative way down the Italian family tree. I ask you: why can't people look towards each birthday as a gift in itself? You are alive another whole year - you get to eat cake, blow out candles, and if you get presents.

This enthusiastic outlook towards birthdays and aging resonated deeply during the recent funeral service of one beautiful young man,



whose life tragically ended at the age of 22. I found myself asking the dreaded question "why?" Why a healthy young person, who was a joy to be around, happy, and so full of life, while debilitated unhealthy, unhappy, despondent adults are sitting in hospitals and nursing homes just waiting for their turn to go? Sadly, this question has no answer, not while we are here and they are there, but someday, I am optimistic that

I n and we will know why.

In the meantime, I plan to celebrate not only my birthdays the birthdays of my beloved family and friends, but every day for that matter. In fact, what if we paused for a second now and then to think about how about how every second, minute, and hour is a gift - even those seconds and minutes that feel like hours when we are stuck in traffic, trapped in the dentist's chair, or in the midst of yet another very long, drawn out boring conversation with somebody sitting next to you with horrendously bad breath? Hard to imagine, but if we really dissect time into microcosms of gratitude rather than a culmination of complaints about wrinkles, cellulite, the falling markets, traffic, in-laws, reality t.v., and the government, etc., people just may learn to feel happier, maybe even healthier, hence maybe even living longer.

So the next time you hear someone saying, "oh no, another birthday, I'm getting old" remind them of how blessed they are for being granted the gift of more time - more time to laugh, more time for family, more time for friends, more time to pursue those dreams. Now that's something to celebrate.

Sugo di Pomodoro

By Jerry Buccilli

It always pains me when I'm at the grocery store and I see people reaching for a jar of pre-made tomato sauce. I can never figure out why anyone would want to use one of those jars when with a few extra steps and some effort they can make their own beautiful, and delicious sauce on their own. Making sugo di Pomodoro is as easy as a few simple steps using tomatoes, olive oil and garlic! That's it!

There are many variations of sugo di pomodoro in Italian cooking, but like all cuisine there is a standard technique that should be utilized: you start off with a "soffritto" by sautéing vegetables in olive oil, add tomato, salt (sea salt is even better) and let simmer for 20-30 minutes.

Here is the most basic sauce that you can make. As you grow more comfortable in your sauce-making abilities you can start to get creative. Adding different ingredients to make different styles of sauces. Hot peppers to make an arrabiatta. Add some capers and black olives and you've got yourself a puttanesca. Use braised pork and meatballs and you've got the famous Sunday sauce that we all cherish and adore.

Ingredients

- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 1 carrot, finely chopped
- 1 stalk celery, finely chopped
- Salt and pepper
- Olive oil
- 1 28 oz. can tomatoes

Use San Marzano tomatoes if you can find them and if you absolutely have to use canned. If fresh tomatoes are available I would urge you to use those whenever you have the option.

Using carrots and celery is also optional. My personal inclination is to let the tomatoes speak for themselves so I tend to use just the onions and garlic but it's really a matter of personal preference and it also depends on the type of sauce you're making. Remember, this time around we're aiming for simplicity.

For a smooth sauce crush and pass the tomatoes through a food mill. If you prefer a chunkier sauce then simply crush by hand and add to the pot when it is time.

Directions

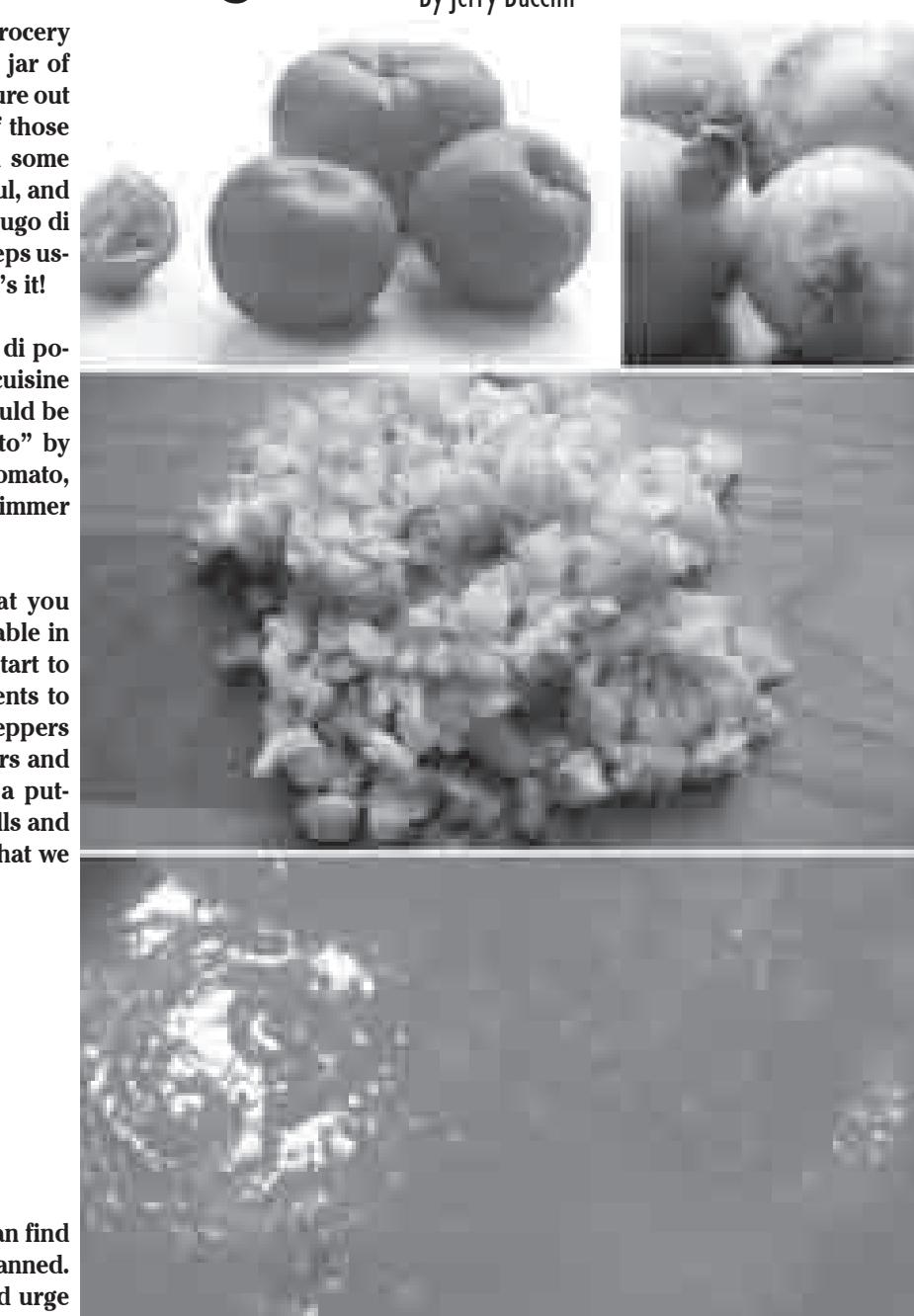
Sauté the soffritto ingredients in olive oil, seasoning with salt, being careful not to brown the onions. When the vegetables are nice and soft, add the tomatoes and simmer gently for 20-30 minutes, until the sauce is well reduced and you can see the oil and tomato have separated.

Grated cheese, either parmesan or pecorino, is the customary topping for pasta with tomato sauce. But there are some people who will say that cheese does not belong on top of any dish that is based on garlic and oil. A nice variation, is a bit of chopped parsley or basil.

Nothing will make you prouder and happier than making your own sauce at home. It's easy, quick and opens up many more possibilities on your journey to learn Italian cooking. The key is to use the freshest ingredients you can find, some patience to learn the basic technique, and a hearty appetite.

Buon Appetito!

Jerry Buccilli is the owner of Zeppoli's - Italian Comfort Food, a catering company based out of Niagara Falls, Ontario. He has a wife and twin boys. He loves Italian cooking and traditions.



50 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD FOR FATHER JACQUES DESGRANDCHAMPS



LOCAL

Un Bicchiere di Vino con IL Postino.... Vittoria Trattoria

Domenico Cellucci

We continue this month with our coverage of Ottawa's wine personalities. This month, we are featuring another brother tandem: Domenic and Cesare Santaguida, owners of Vittoria Trattoria, located at 35 William Street and 3625 Rivergate Way.

The brothers opened their first restaurant in 1991. Back then, it was located in the Glebe under the name Vittoria Veal and Delicatessen. It had only 13 wine labels when they first started out. A big help in the early days was nonna Rachele author of many recipes. She worked at the restaurant for many years until she "retired" at age 93! Also, playing an important role then and today is their sister Francesca who is responsible for the continuing business development of both restaurants. The present location on William Street was opened in 1996, while the second location on Rivergate Way was opened in 2003.

The brothers are graduates of Algonquin's Sommelier Program. In 2003, Cesare was voted "Wine Person of the Year" by the National Capital Sommelier Guild. Vittoria Trattoria is the sponsor of their own award at Algonquin College and it is given to the year's top graduating student. In 2006, Domenic was awarded the "Forty under Forty" for his passion for the restaurant business.

Recently, I sat down with Cesare at the William Street location.

DC: Cesare, I've known you and your brother for many, many years going back to when we went to Italian school together. Who was the restaurant named after and when did you decide that the restaurant business was what you wanted to do?

CS: The restaurant was named after our nonna Vittoria on my mom's side. As a young man I had worked at Fettuccine's back on Bank Street. But my real inspiration for this business was my nonna Rachele.

DC: Cesare, I know you and your brother have an extensive wine collection. How many wines can patrons choose from here?

CS: We have about 7500 bottles presently in stock. These come from about 700-800 titles.

DC: I noticed on the wall all your Best of Award of Excellence from the prestigious Wine Spectator magazine. Congratulations!

CS: Thanks. We were first awarded the Award of Excellence back in 1999 and achieved the Best of in 2003. We are very happy with this recognition. There are only about 500 restaurants in the world with this achievement.

DC: How many wines do you offer by the glass?

CS: We currently offer 32 wines by the glass and over 150 wines by the half bottle.

DC: What are your top selling wines?

CS: Over 70% of our sales are red. Currently, our top sellers are Chianti's. It



does not matter which producer. Customers at the moment are in love with Chianti. In the whites, Pinot Grigio and Sauvignon Blanc are the best sellers.

DC: Do you carry any consignment wines?

CS: About 40% of our wine list is from consignment, 40% from the Vintages section at the LCBO and 20% from the general listing. From our consignment list, I would recommend the Gabbiano Chianti Classico Riserva and for whites the Venica Pinot Grigio.

DC: How many Sommeliers do you have on staff?

CS: Between the 2 restaurants we have 12.

DC: Cesare, which wine appreciation events have you had at the restaurant?

CS: The last event involved the owner of Cloudy Bay from New Zealand. I hope to bring in some small producers from Italy in the future.

DC: Cesare, what are some of your favourite wines.

CS: Dom, right now, I am all over the map. This is a very common question people ask me. I like good quality wine like anyone does. My goal is to find inexpensive wines of excellent quality. Recently, I had a Malbec from Argentina which came in at under \$20 per bottle, but tasted like a \$40 bottle of wine. We all know that the \$100 bottle of wine will be excellent most of the time. However, it is those gems that taste out of this world and won't break the bank that I search for. I want these gems not only for myself, but also for my customers. I also enjoy good quality whites and absolutely love Champagne.

DC: Are there any food and wine matches at the restaurant that work really well?

CS: My sommeliers are very knowledgeable and make suggestions to our patrons all the time. However, they are never pushy with this knowledge. We leave the choice up to the customer. Dom, as you are aware, today's customer is better educated. They travel, try new wines, watch cooking shows, take courses at Algonquin for example. I would also say, having travelled across Canada, that Ottawa is a very well educated "wine" city compared to other cities in Canada.

DC: Cesare, talk to me about the process of introducing new wines to the restaurant.

CS: My brother Dom and I make those decisions. Our wine lists changes every week. Today for example, we added 3 new wines to the list.

DC: Cesare, thanks for sharing some of your thoughts with my readers and I today. I wish you and your brother Dom, the very best. Salute!

If you have any questions or suggestions for future columns, please contact me at vinumbonumest@yahoo.com. Domenico Cellucci is a wine consultant and educator and is a graduate of Algonquin College's Sommelier Program. He puts on food and wine matching events in the national capital area. He has visited wineries and vineyards in Italy, France, British Columbia, Ontario and the United States.

Un Cuore XXL di Sara D'Amario

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Sara D'Amario è nata a Moncalieri. Dopo aver conseguito la laurea in lettere, si è diplomata presso la Scuola per Attori del Teatro Stabile di Torino e si è specializzata a New York con Susan Batson. In teatro è stata diretta da Luca Ronconi, Nanni Garella e Luca Zingaretti; per il cinema ha recitato in La banda dei Babbi Natale (con Aldo Giovanni e Giacomo), Caos calmo (con Nanni Moretti), Colpo d'occhio (con Riccardo Scamarcio e Sergio Rubini), Assassini dei giorni di festa (con Carmen Maura, regia di Damiano Damiani), La ragazza del lago (con Toni Servillo); in televisione ha partecipato allo sceneggiato Il commissario Nardone (nel ruolo di Rina Fort); Le tre rose di Eva, Non smettere di sognare, Distretto di polizia 8, oltre ad aver recitato nelle soap opera Vivere e Centovetture. Vive a Parigi con il marito e la figlia Venise.

www.saradamario.it

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John Denofrio Memorial Golf Tournament raised over \$26,000 for Villa Marconi!

Article / Photos by GioVanni

The 22nd Annual John Denofrio Memorial Golf Tournament, which took place at the Emerald Links Golf and Country Club in Ottawa which had 120 golfers, over 200 guests attended the sold-out dinner, which raised over \$26,000 for Villa Marconi. The funds generated from this event will assist the 128 residents at the Villa Marconi Long Term Care Centre in providing the highest quality of care to the residents in the spirit of respect and dignity, and provide day programs for seniors and offer a community/cultural centre for local Italian/Canadians of all ages, as well as neighbouring residents. MC's for the evening were Dave Schreiber, and Gary Michaels, who kept the guests entertained all evening. Just to name a few guests in the room were Hon. Bob Chiarelli, MPP Minister of Energy, Gary Guzzo, Audrey Denofrio (wife of the late John Denofrio with her family) and many more. Special thanks go out to the Committee Members, Stu Cameron, David Carbonetto, Linda Denofrio, Gerry Dover, Yinnie Lim, Pina McClurg, and Domenic Ricci who did an amazing job pulling a great event together.

"Thank you for embracing our tournament with your support and we hope to see you again next year which is tentatively booked for Friday August 22, 2013 as we celebrate our 23rd anniversary." said Tournament Chairman, Nello Bortolotti



IL POSTINO

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Father Daughter Dance



ITALIAN

ITALIAN ICON VESPA WAS DESIGNED AS THE ANTI-MOTORCYCLE

by Petrolicious Productions / 23 Aug 2013

<http://www.petrolicious.com/italian-icon-vespa-was-built-as-the-anti-motorcycle>



As those affected by World War II began to rebuild their countries and their lives, Enrico Piaggio had a vision for a contemporary and affordable invention that would revolutionize the way the Italians lived and got around.

Inspired by the American Cushman scooter, the first scooter design by the in-house Piaggio team was rejected by Enrico—he didn't like that it looked too similar to a motorcycle. Piaggio wanted something new, different, and simple. He then hired outsider and aeronautical engineer Corradino D'Ascanio, who turned around and designed an aeronautically-influenced scooter that was more compact and lightweight than a motorcycle. Upon seeing the scooter, Enrico proclaimed "Sembra una vespa!" ("It looks like a wasp!"). The name stuck.

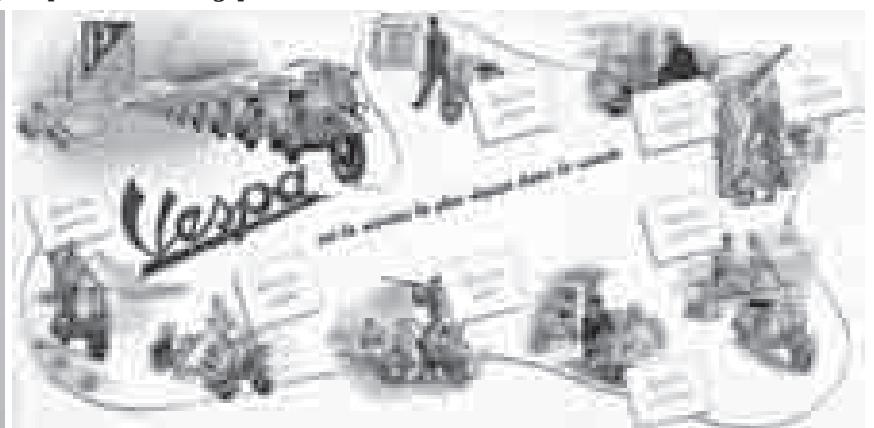
Vespas were immediately patented and created in mass production, and the

scooter was launched to the public during the 1946 Milan Fair. In Italy, interest in these scooters was slow to catch on, but gradually more and more were seen on the streets. Vespas became international sensations in 1952 when one was featured in the film Roman Holiday, and these well-designed scooters have stood the test of time ever since.

Today, Italy is Vespa's largest market, but even in the saturated, international scooter market, demand for the Vespa continues.

Below are some playful, vintage Vespa ads which show a few of the ways this timeless design icon was marketed to the public.

Image Sources: directorybengkel.wordpress.com, vespa-house.com.au, blog.internationalposter.com, vespa-house.com.au, justanother.tumblr.com, wax-wane.com, vespamore-uk.blogspot.com



IL CORRIERE CANADESE SI PREPARA A RIPRENDERE LE PUBBLICAZIONI: UNA BUONA NOTIZIA PER LA COMUNITÀ ITALOCANADESE

“E’ certamente un’ottima notizia quella dell’acquisto della testata de Il Corriere canadese e del settimanale in inglese Tandem da parte di una cordata di imprenditori dell’Ontario, guidati dall’ex ministro federale on. Joe Volpe. Nel giro di qualche mese, se il progetto della nuova proprietà procederà secondo gli intenti, la comunità italo canadese dell’Ontario dovrebbe riavere la sua storica testata in italiano e l’intera comunità italiana del Canada un importante riferimento informativo, linguistico e culturale”. Con queste parole l’on. Francesca La Marca ha commentato il passaggio di mano de Il Corriere canadese, costretto per vicende societarie e amministrative a sospendere le pubblicazioni nel marzo di quest’anno, dopo che la stessa sorte era toccata a Tandem, il settimanale in inglese diretto alle nuove generazioni italocanadesi. “Io stessa nei mesi passati mi ero attivata per aiutare a superare la crisi cui il giornale era andato incontro con un’interrogazione parlamentare e con un colloquio diretto con il Sottosegretario all’editoria on. Giovanni Legnini. Dagli approfondimenti che ne erano venuti, era risultato ben chiaro che il nodo societario era dirimente rispetto all’intera questione e alle prospettive di ripresa delle pubblicazioni. La soluzione dell’acquisto da parte di un nuovo gruppo imprenditoriale, che si giova dell’esperienza e dell’autorevolezza dell’on. Volpe, consente di superare l’ostacolo più difficile e di procedere ad una nuova programmazione delle attività.

Solo in Ontario la comunità italo canadese sfiora il milione di persone e di esse circa un quarto usa quotidianamente o frequentemente la lingua italiana. Il quotidiano, assieme alla radio multietnica CHIN, rappresenta uno dei fattori più importanti di sostegno linguistico-culturale di questa importante comunità. In più, l’esercizio del voto per corrispondenza comporta doveri d’informazione verso i nostri concittadini sulla vita civile e politica italiana che non possono essere elusi.

La soluzione realizzata – ha concluso l’on. La Marca – mi conferma in quello che da quando sono parlamentare vado affermando, e cioè che le nostre comunità sono capaci di esprimere energie umane, organizzative e culturali che in questo momento di difficoltà per l’Italia rappresentano leve da utilizzare con intelligenza e lungimiranza.

Per quanto mi riguarda come parlamentare residente in Ontario, continuerò ad essere disponibile per facilitare, nelle forme previste dalla normativa in materia, il rafforzamento dei rapporti tra questo insostituibile strumento d’informazione e le istituzioni italiane, in particolare di quelle che presiedono alle attività editoriali, in Italia e all’estero”.

St. Gabriele Mass, Precession, Dinner and Dance

September 28th 2013

6 PM Mass at St Augustine Church (Baseline at Merival rd. Next to Myers Motors) Followed by a precession to Villa Marconi

7 PM Dinner followed by Dancing

Entertainment by Tony Ieluzzi

To ticket information contact:

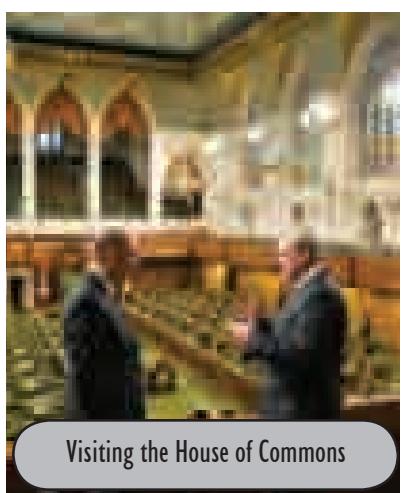
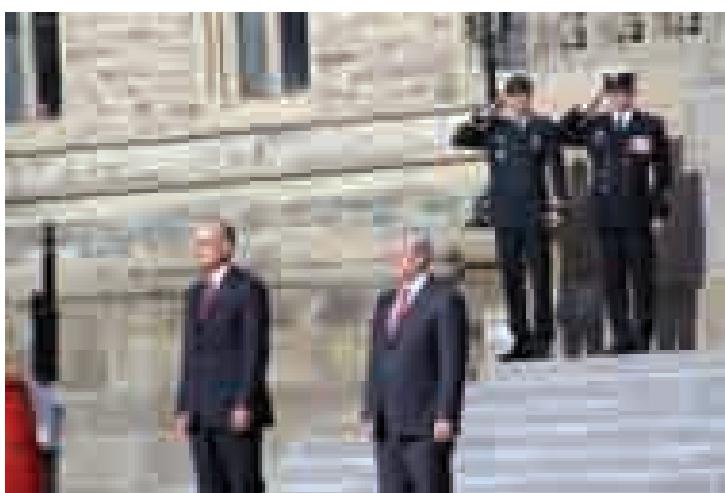
Tony Mariani 613-913-2664

Tony Iannucci 613-899-5076

Gino Buffone 613-820-5291

Centro Abruzzese 613-230-9754

ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER ENRICO LETTA VISITS OTTAWA CANADA



Visiting the House of Commons



A gift presented to the Mayor of Rapino by the Association Rapinese

Parliament Hill



Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his wife Laureen watch as Enrico Letta, Prime Minister of the Republic of Italy, and Mrs. Gianna Fregonara, First Lady of Italy, sign the guest book



Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Enrico Letta, Prime Minister of the Republic of Italy, walk down the Hall of Honour

IL PRIMO MINISTRO ITALIANO ENRICO LETTA VISITA OTTAWA, CANADA

IL POSTINO • OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA

LOCAL

Dean Martin, un grande abruzzese

www.piazzagrande.info/cultura/dean-martin-un-grande-abruzzese/2013/08/26

La storia di Dino Paul Crocetti, figlio di un montesilvanese emigrato negli Stati Uniti che diventò una star di Hollywood. Il comune rende omaggio al cantante e attore con un premio agli abruzzesi che si sono distinti all'estero.

Il firmamento di Hollywood è coperto di stelle tra le quali tante di cognome italiano, e solo per citare qualche esempio: Rodolfo Valentino, Capra, Minelli, Sinatra, Pacino, De Niro, Stallone, Scorsese, Coppola, Travolta, Di Caprio, Ida Lupino, Tea Leoni, Marisa Tomei, Susan Sarandon, Isabella Rossellini. Un mondo fantastico nel quale ci sono anche tante star di origine abruzzese che illuminano con luce propria, come Henry Mancini, originario di

Scanno, autore della musica della Pantera Rosa; Madonna /Luisa Veronica Ciccone/ (Pacentro); Perry "Pierino" Como, (Gissi Palena), Alfredo Arnoldo Cocoza/Mario Lanza (Tocco da Causauria); Alan Alda (L'Aquila) e persino uno sportivo, noto anche a Hollywood come Rocco Francis Marchegiano/Rocky Marciano (Ripa Teatina), campione del mondo dei pesi massimi dal 1952 al 1956, l'unico a ritirarsi imbattuto. Non sono mancate le stelle fugaci, ma tra quelle che sono andate al di là della fama e sono diventate icone, c'è il personaggio del quale ci occupiamo oggi: Dino Crocetti, in arte Dean Martin cantante, attore, showman la cui luce rimane accesa, plasmata in tante sue canzoni e film.

DA MONTESILVANO A STEUBENVILLE

L'Abruzzo è una regione un tempo caratterizzata dal suo alto tasso di emigrazione e in tale contesto, Gaetano Crocetti ne è un esempio. Nato a Montesilvano, il comune vicino a Pescara, barbiere di professione, nei brevi momenti di ozio, guardando il placido Adriatico, liberava la sua fantasia e viaggiava con la mente in terre lontane, a cominciare dagli Stati Uniti, paese dove era emigrato suo fratello Giuseppe, il quale, secondo quanto gli aveva promesso, gli spedì 25 dollari e un biglietto di terza classe per spalancargli le porte del "novomondo". Con quella chiave in suo possesso, in tasca il mestiere di barbiere e la valigia di cartone con pochi vestiti e tante illusioni, partì Gaetano in quell'alba del XX secolo verso New York, "terra dei sogni possibili". Il suo, cominciò a farsi realtà quando arrivando, gli sembrò di vedere la Statua della Libertà sorridergli dandogli il benvenuto, e strizzare l'occhio forse perché sapeva che sarebbe diventato padre di Dean Martin.

Giunto in America e da buon abruzzese, cocciuto, inquieto e transumante, Gaetano si sposta in diverse città, prende contatto con i paesani e dopo vari trasferimenti si ferma in una tranquilla località chiamata Steubenville dove comincia ad americanizzarsi e Gaetano, il giovane barbiere di Montesilvano diventa semplicemente Guy. Sposa una connazionale di origini campane, Angela e ben presto si ritrovò ad essere padre di due ragazzi, el primo Dino Paul nacque il 17 luglio 1917 poco tempo dopo Bill. Per il nostro Gaetano, i figli rappresentavano la speranza, un motivo in più per perseverare nella ricerca del sogno americano che, in un certo senso, diventa realtà attraverso il suo primogenito, il quale conquisterà fama e fortuna.

VERSO IL SUCCESSO

Dino trascorse l'infanzia tipica di un italoamericano modesto, costellata da numerosi lavori e da tanti sogni nel cassetto. All'età di cinque anni parlava solo il dialetto abruzzese, poi frequenta la scuola solo per imparare l'inglese. Adolescente abbandona gli studi, impara il mestiere paterno ma comincia a cercare anche il suo destino attraverso varie occupazioni: lustrascarpe, commesso in un supermercato, il pugile con il pseudonimo Kid Crochet, avventura durata poco e che lascia per un lavoro ben più faticoso in miniera, poi benzinaio, tassista e per finire ai tavoli del casinò, prima come giocatore professionista e poi assunto come croupier. Tra i sogni accarezzati da Dino, quello di diventare cantante era di assoluta priorità, anche perché aveva le condizioni per farlo e le doti che lo aiutarono a scalare nel mondo della musica. Esordì in night-club di dubbia reputazione come Dino Martini, (cognome preso dal tenore Nino Martini) e con lo stimolo della numerosa comunità italo-

americana, cominciò a transitare negli ambienti dello spettacolo, nella scia di altri cantanti di origine italiana come Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Mario Lanza, Perry Como e Vic Damone. Comincia ad assaporare i primi successi e a consolidare la sua fama ma, diversamente da quanto avviene con molti dei citati artisti, mantiene sempre vivo il legame con le sue radici e nel suo vasto repertorio, molte canzoni, sono italiane, "Volare" "Arrivederci Roma" ecc. e altre, avuto almeno in parte del colorito linguistico italo-americano esempio del successo di "That's Amore" dove si arrangiava per combinare "mozerella" che fa rima con "tarandella"

SPLENDORE E TRAMONTO

Il mondo dello spettacolo lo scoprì solo nel 1946 quando il futuro attore tiene un incontro fondamentale per la sua carriera con un comico ebreo debuttante, di nome Joseph Lewitch, in seguito conosciuto come Jerry Lewis. Uniti costituirono una delle coppie cinematografiche di maggiore successo nella storia nel grande e nel piccolo schermo, nel periodo 1948/1956. Insieme girarono 16 film, un trionfo dopo l'altro. Dino era solito spiegare che i due momenti più importanti della sua vita erano stati: "quando si era associato a Jerry e quando si era separato da Lewis". Una indipendenza questa che gli consentì di interpretare ruoli più impegnativi, accanto a Marlon Brando, John Wayne e col suo amico Frank Sinatra. Inoltre dal 1965 al 1974 condusse il programma televisivo settimanale "The Dean Martin Show".

Per quanto riguarda la sua vita familiare, fu prolifico di mogli e figli: si sposò tre volte ed ebbe in totale 8 figli, dei quali uno adottato.

LE RADICI ABRUZZESI

"Dino" per gli amici, mantenne sempre vivo il suo legame con le sue radici. Il figlio di Gaetano, "lu barbiere", per i montesilvanesi è stato un idolo, affettuosamente lo chiamavano "zi Dean". Sempre atteso nel paese, una visita fu più volte programmata, e sempre rinviata per i troppi impegni di lavoro ma, pare che l'attore tornò almeno una volta, anche se in forma anonima, in gran segreto, fermandosi a riflettere sulle vestigia della sua storia familiare. Tra le battute attribuite a Dino Paul, si ricorda quella secondo la quale disse: "Le cose di cui vado particolarmente fiero e che non ho mai dimenticato,

sia nei momenti di successo che in quelli meno brillanti, le mie origini abruzzesi". Un'altra volta confessò che preferiva le canzoni che gli ricordavano "lu paese d. papá". Amava una pietanza che mamma Angela gli preparava ogni domenica sera: Quajatije" e fagioli "non sapeva fare senza".

Montesilvano si identifica con un suo famoso emigrato: Dino Crocetti, tanto da dedicargli una festa nel mese di luglio. Ma non solo, per onorare la sua memoria, ma anche per premiare gli abruzzesi che si sono distinti all'estero, ed in particolare in America, con una targa la cui motivazione scritta è: "...per aver realizzato il sogno americano" manifestazione giunta alla sesta edizione. Non è tutto oro quello che luccica e anche se Dino è stato conosciuto per la sua simpatia e affabilità negli ambienti sociali e nelle feste, era allo stesso tempo una persona riservata e taciturna, fedele riflesso del suo essere essenzialmente abruzzese.

Dean Martin, il cantante, il showman, un grande abruzzese, come il canto del cigno, cominciò a oscurarsi. La morte di un figlio nel 1987 a causa di un incidente aereo, lo sommerso in una profonda tristezza, di un padre in lutto. Fu un duro colpo per la sua già debole salute, che lo portò a ritirarsi dalle scene. Era l'inizio di una vecchiaia malinconica en el fisico comparvero i primi segni del male che lo avrebbero visto soccombere più tardi, all'età di 78 anni, in un triste giorno di Natale de 1995. Fu sepolto nel cimitero di Westwood in California. L'epitaffio sulla sua tomba, come lui aveva stabilito, è «Everybody Loves Somebody Sometime» ("Tutti amino qualcuno prima o poi"), il titolo di una delle sue canzoni più famose, anche la più amata del nostro "Albertone nazionale", Moriconi Fernando detto l'"americano", e anche una delle preferite del sottoscritto, un pescarese doc, che con altri abruzzesi dell'Argentina abbiamo versato qualche lacrima per la sua partenza da questo mondo.



LOCAL

Ignite by Rona Shaffran

Review by James Edward Reid

For Rona Shaffran, the ground beneath her feet is important. The linked poems in this collection present some of the most honest and true poetry I have read recently. Ignite opens with a sequence of poems bathed in mid-winter light. The heat in a relationship between a man and woman has gone cold, emotionally and sexually. Its dying embers are described clearly by the woman, especially in the first three poems of the book. "Impasse" contains these troubling and fearless lines about her partner's arrival home:

You scan my body
as though looking
for an answer and say,
I forgot
to pay
the electric today.

As he climbs the stairs, her partner is more concerned about his new "navy Nubuck shoes" than about her. So concerned, he thinks:

I notice
the double scallop
of your hips
as you stand
there on the landing,
your wedge of dark curls
a challenge
I just can't
seem to face.

While reading these lines, just for a moment, I thought I heard echoes of Sexton talking to Roethke.

But the voice here is Shaffran's own, speaking the naked truth in the woman's voice, and then in the man's. This is daring, high-wire poetry that requires perfect balance between the female and male personas. This balance and credibility in a dialogue



IGNITE

Rona Shaffran

between two voices is difficult to achieve convincingly, yet in Shaffran's hands, it appears to be easy—it isn't.

The second section of Ignite opens with an epigraph from "Life is Motion," a poem by Wallace Stevens devoted to "Celebrating the marriage / Of flesh and air." This section includes poems set on an island where there is a change, or transition, to a place where love and passion are re-awakened, as is evident in the poem, "Ignite":

Supine on moist sand,
my spine curves
to meet the lissome earth
Kindled by a tangelo sun,
I ignite
into life

The third and final section of Ignite is the shortest and one of the strongest in this noteworthy collection of poems. The epigraphs in Ignite quote the mid-20th century poets Anne Sexton, Theodore Roethke, and Wallace Stevens. Sexton's work was deeply personal and sometimes troubled. Roethke's distinctive poetry, such as "In a Dark Time," was also troubled. And Stevens' was brilliant and often cool. The best of these influences and a number of others are apparent in the sometimes cool and hot bursts in Ignite.

Contributor bio:

James Edward Reid publishes in *The Sarmatian Review*, *Vallum*, and the *Pacific Rim Review of Books*. He has also published in *Prairie Fire*, *Highgrader Magazine*, *Cirque: A Literary Journal for the North Pacific Rim*, and *The Guardian*.

<http://www.jamesedwardreid.ca/>

HOCKEY NIGHT at the OPERA

Wednesday, October 30, 5:30 p.m. at Sala San Marco

JOIN THE HONOURARY CO-CHAIRS HIS EXCELLENCY GIAN LORENZO CORNADO, AMBASSADOR OF ITALY, AND CYRIL LEEDER, PRESIDENT OF THE OTTAWA SENATORS, FOR A SPECIAL EVENING

For table sales and individual tickets, contact:

Jessica Crouch, The Ottawa Senators Foundation, 613-594-0723

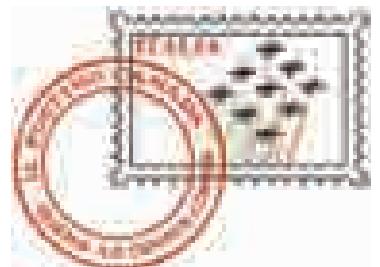
Angelo Filoso, Italian Canadian Community Centre, 613-667-4632

Anne Traise, Opera Lyra, 613-233-6200 x 229

IL POSTINO

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY MRS. MARIA ANGELA FERRARI CHUMAK!



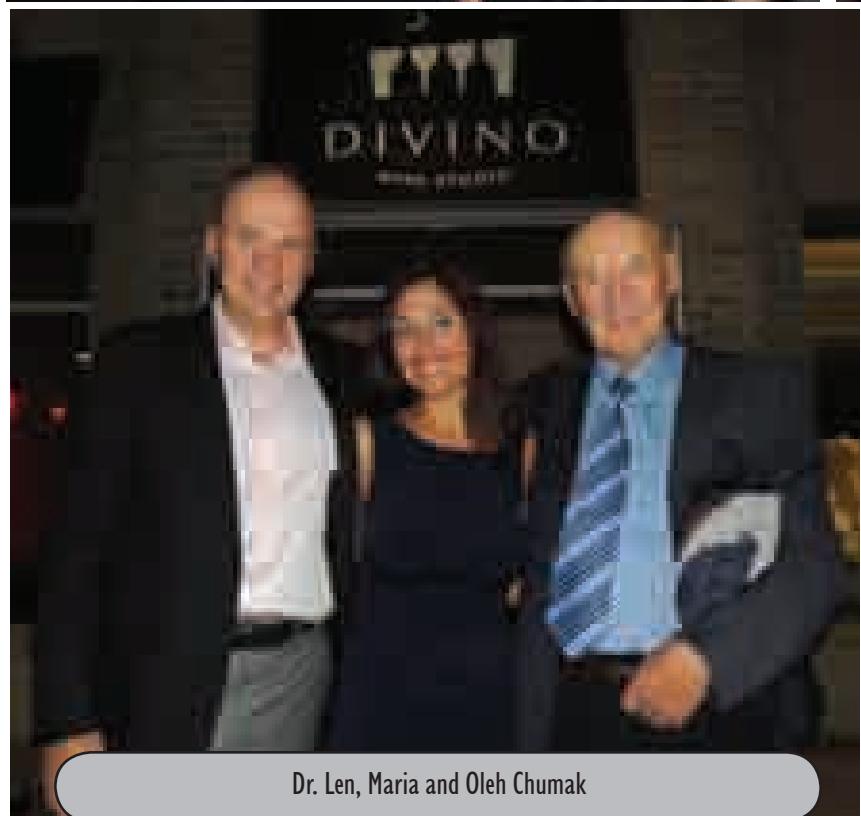
Rina Filoso, Bina Shah, Vereonica Tabouzo Goulet, Mrs. Carol Reesor, Dr. Len Chumak, Maria Angela Ferrari Chumak, Mrs. Elizabeth Ferrari, Dr. Gabriella Lewin, Mihaela Mirauta, Annieliza Sarcia, Dr. Berne Reesor, Lu Korte, Don Husereau



Il Divino Staff



Phillip Ferrari, Giovanni Ferrari, and Maria Angela



Dr. Len, Maria and Oleh Chumak



Rina, Dr. Berne Reesor and Maria Chumak

HISTORY

Invest Ottawa Update

By Mayor Jim Watson

When Invest Ottawa opened its doors in February of 2012 it signaled a change in Ottawa's business climate.

Ottawa is known to many as a government town but we have a vibrant business community with the potential for significant growth. We boast the most educated workforce in Canada with 61% of our workers having a post-secondary degree. We also have the highest concentration of scientists and engineers in Canada.

In August, Ottawa received the first-place ranking among 61 cities from around the globe in three key measurements of economic development: Technology, Talent, and Tolerance and a fourth measurement - Quality of Place.

This honour from the Martin Prosperity Institute is well-deserved and we need to use it as a launching pad for even greater success. We need to do even more to let investors and job creators, both inside and outside of Ottawa, know what a great place we are to do business.

With the advent of Invest Ottawa that is exactly what we are doing and the results are impressive. 2013 marks the first full year for Invest Ottawa and below are some

of its accomplishments to date:

- 654 jobs facilitated
- 4047 workshop attendees
- 2365 consultations and inquiries
- 6912 advisory hours provided
- 77 companies helped to grow globally
- 26 resident companies in the accelerator program
- 21 visiting foreign delegations to Ottawa
- 15 investor sessions
- 10 missions to foreign markets
- \$26 million in investments attracted by the startup portfolio
- \$25 million in foreign investment attracted
- \$3.1 million in market analysis intelligence reports provided for free to Ottawa's businesses

This is remarkable progress and under the leadership of President and CEO Bruce Lazenby, Invest Ottawa is poised for an even stronger 2014.

We know there is more work to be done to support Ottawa's established businesses and startups and to attract new business to our city. Invest Ottawa has shown in less than two years that it is up to these tasks and I look forward to seeing what more they can do for our city in the rest of this year and in 2014.

For more information about Invest Ottawa please visit www.investottawa.ca



Invest Ottawa



Investir Ottawa



Centro Comunitario Italiano-Canadese di Ottawa

Italian-Canadian Community Centre of Ottawa

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Remembrance day at St. Anthony's Church, 427 Booth Street, Ottawa for the Italian Canadian Community, Sunday November 3rd, 2013 at 10:00 a.m."

Ottawa September 12, 2013

The President of the Italian Canadian Community Centre, Mr. Angelo Filoso, and the Pastor of St. Anthony's Church , Father Felix , invite you to the Remembrance day Ceremony and Mass on Sunday November 3rd 2013 at St. Anthony's Church 427 Booth Street, Ottawa.

The following draft program shall be implemented:

- 9:45 a.m. Arrival of guests at St. Anthony's Church
- 10:00 a.m. Celebration of Mass
- 10:45 a.m. Procession from the Church to Front of the Church to unveil the Statue of the Madonna
- 10:50 a.m. Blessing of the Madonna by the Priests of St. Anthony
- 10:55 a.m. Procession to Piazza Dente
- 11:00 a.m. Laying of the memorial wreaths at the Internment Memorable Wall to honour and remember our Italian Canadian Soldiers who died in the line of duty; Ottawa Police; Preston Street Bis; ICOC; Alpini
- 11:10 a.m. The Playing of the National Anthems by the Ottawa Firefighters Band
- 11:20 a.m. The Blessing of the wreath Father Felix
- 11:25 a.m. The Playing of the Last Post OFFB
- 11:30 a.m. The Playing of a Canadian Military Tune OFFB
- 11:35 a.m. The Playing of Va Pensiero OFFB
- 11:40 a.m. Closing Remarks by the President of ICOC
- 11:45 a.m. Reception of Public for Coffee in the Church Basement
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch at Sala San Marco tickets available at the Church

For More Information:

Angelo Filoso
President
Italian Canadian Community Centre
613-567-4532

Father Felix
Pastor
St. Anthony's Church
613-236-2304

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