

Italian Heritage



Society of Indiana

L'ITALIA

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

NEWSLETTER OF THE ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY OF INDIANA

Founded in 1993

Mission Statement

The Italian Heritage Society of Indiana (IHSI) seeks to preserve, promote and share the Italian values and culture which its members inherited from their ancestors: Religion, family, history, art, music, food and camaraderie. It reaches out to everyone of Italian ancestry and welcomes others who share our appreciation of the Italian culture.

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www.italianheritage.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RALPH TAMBASCO

Saluti ai soci e amici della società'

As this is the final Society newsletter for 2016 I wanted to express my gratitude to all those who gave their support to IHSI in on form or another over the past year. Your support and commitment as a member is essential in helping the Society to stay the course with it's mission.

Since the Society's creation out of the Columbus Quincentennial Commission in 1993 we have seen some wonderful events and functions celebrating Italian culture and heritage. This has including partnering with other non profit groups such as the Indy Opera Co. which has allowed show casing a traditional Italian art for, the Monza Sister City group with it's cultural ties to Indianapolis and even the Indiana State Fair which gave us a means to share what we value so much. It certainly could not have happened without member dedication and Enthusiasm for what we do. We owe a great deal to those men and women who created the organization and led the way by their example in keeping the heritage alive beyond just words. Their generosity with their time, talent and resources was just extraordinary.

I'm proud to have been an IHSI member, board member and officer over the past twenty-three years. I have not only made new friends but gained and extended family which has meant so very much to me. Sadly, as with any family we eventually begin to lose some of those who were so dear to us. We will always keep those founding members no longer with us in our hearts as they gave us what we have today. These would include people as Pietro Ferri, Aldo Mina, Salvatore "Sol" Petruzzi, Nino Morone, and Ralph Forni to mention only a few. There were also thos special and unforgettable people such as Connie Qazi whose culinary talents kept us happy and whose strength of conviction kept us sharp.

As we approach the Society's twenty-fifth (25th) anniversary in 2018, let us always look to these individuals for continued inspiration and to those dedicated people of the present to move us into the future in building a greater and stronger organization.

I ask that you all join me in congratulating the 2017 board of directors and officers of the Italian Heritage Society of Indiana who will be installed at the annual IHSI Christmas party to be held on December 4th at the Knight of Columbus Hall located on Delaware St. Indianapolis (see

additional details in the newsletter) also see the Bio of the new Board of Directors 2017 elsewhere in the newsletter.

A special acknowledgment to past president Jim Divita chair of the nominations committee and the committee members who worked on giving us an enthusiastic and dedicated board for 2017. Mille grazie.

It will also be at the December 4th Christmas party that we will recognize the IHSI scholarship recipient whose names appear in the newsletter. Also honored will be those members who have distinguished themselves within the Society and the Italian American community as a whole. These distinguished individuals will receive the following awards for 2016.

Sol Petruzzi Italian American Award:

Mary Grace Pennella

Italian Heritage Society of Indiana President's Award:

Ronald Frazee

Italian American Business Person of the Year:

Andrea Bettini of Bettini Pasta

Auguri a tutti.

In addition to its many activities, IHSI has also been actively seeking contributions to the Italian earthquake relief in central Italy. As has been done previously it is the hope that each of you will make such a contribution at the annual Christmas party on December 4th for this cause.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as president of the Italian Heritage Society of Indiana and thank all of you for being part of it. Please continue to support the Society with your membership. If you have not yet paid your dues, please do so and take the opportunity to renew that membership on December 4th.

Raffaele "Ralph" Tambasco

President 2016

Italian Heritage Society of Indiana

www.italianheritage.org



IHSI NEWS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 4, 2016

5:00 pm

Knights of Columbus Hall

1305 N. Delaware

Indianapolis, In 46202

BOOK CLUB

Friday, December 9, 2016

12:30 pm

Silvana Martini Schuster's home

9269 Spring Forest Dr.

Indianapolis, In



JANUARY

IHSI BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 9, 2017

6:00 pm

Holy Rosary Church Board Room

CINEMA SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday, January 15, 2017

12:30 pm

Capri Ristorante

FEBRUARY

**SAVE THE DATE
FAMILY CELEBRATION
CARNEVALE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017**



IHSI NEWS

**ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY OF INDIANA
CHRISTMAS PARTY**



WHEN

December 4, 2016

WHERE

Knights of Columbus Building
1305 N. Delaware
Indianapolis, In 46202

TIME

5:00 Gather
6:00 Dinner
7:00 Business meeting

FOOD

Main entrée plates, utensils, water and coffee will be provided by the Italian Heritage

PITCH-IN,

please bring a family favorite appetizer, salad, or dessert to share and you can BYOB



Chairman

Joe & Diane Giacoletti

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
2017
BUON NATALE E FELICE ANNO NUOVO 2017**

IHSI NEWS

CHRISTIMAS IN ITALY NATALE IN ITALIA



Christmas in Italy is rich in traditions that have, for most part a religious history, with the celebration centered on the nativity scenes in churches and home. Italian customs and traditions add so much to the beautiful celebration of Christmas in America for families of Italian heritage had help teach the younger family members about the value of their Italian heritage.

The Christmas season in Italy includes is **Festa di San Nicolo'** which is celebrated on December 6th and la **Festa di Santa Lucia**, also known as "the Festival of Lights" which is celebrated on December 13th.



Il presepio is the nativity scene featuring the *Holy Family*, *I pastori (shepherds)*, *I Re Magi (the Three Kings)*, and angels that is seen in the homes and churches in Italy on Christmas time. *St. Francis of Assisi* created the first *Presepio*.

Presepio vivente: On Christmas Eve many small towns of Italy celebrate with tradition of a live nativity scene to act out the birth of Jesus just as *St. Francis of Assisi* did in 123 A.D. Complete with live animals, children play the roles of the Holy Family with a newborn baby Jesus.

Christmas carols originate in Italy with *St. Francis of Assisi*. The classic Christmas carol of Italy include **Tu scendi dalle stele**, and **Caro Gesu' Bambino**.



I zampognari and the shepherds who live in the mountains and come to town at Christmas time to play their traditional bagpipes and sing characteristic shepherd song. They dress in traditional vests, leggings and leather trousers.



Ceppo is an old Italian tradition known as the "Tree of lights" also known as the Italian Christmas pyramid, the *ceppo* is decorated with candles and holds a small manger, decorations, candy, fruit and greenery.

The meal of **la Vigilia di Natale** (Christmas Eve) is customarily meatless, popular known as the meal of **seven fishes** (for the seven sacraments), it typically consists of fish and seafood, and may include *eel*, *scungilli*, *calamari (squid)*, *vongole (clams)* and *baccala' (salt cod)*.

The Urn of Fate is an old tradition where people in Italy pick out gifts to family members from large ornamental clay jar.

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Christmas Day, is an important religious holiday and an important family celebration in Italy and America. A tradition in some families has the youngest place the figurina of Baby Jesus in the presepio to recognize the birth of **Gesu' Bambino**. The family celebration of Christmas includes Mass and traditional banquet. Traditional **dolci** (sweet) include *panettone, pandoro, pizzelle, struffoli and torrone*.

Capo d'Anno (New Year's Eve) is welcomed with optimism for the future and aspiration of prosperity and good health. *Lentils* are traditionally eaten on New Year's day in Italy as a symbol of good luck and prosperity. *Zampone or cotechino* is a symbol for abundance because is the foot of the pig, rich in fat! The celebration of New Year presents the opportunity to give the "old" by throwing old objects such as broken plate and pots out of the window on New Year's Eve.

La befana is the benevolent old woman with magical powers who brings gifts to the children of Italy on the eve of Epiphany on January 6th, to commemorate the visit of the Three Kings. *La befana* has been known to visit children of Italian heritage in America and around the world.

These are a few customs of **Christmas in Italy**. We hope you enjoyed reading about them and perhaps will celebrate this special event in your family with Italian style.

ITALIAN CHRISTMAS SONG

This is a very popular Christmas song in Italy based on the poem "To scendi dalle stelle" by Pope Pius IX (1846-1876) and set to the melody by Alphonsus Liquori (1696-1787).

TU SCENDI DALLE STELLE

**Tu scendi dalle stelle
O Re del cielo,
E vieni in una grotta
Al freddo e al gelo
E vieni in una grotta al freddo
e al gelo**

**O Bambino mio divino
Io ti vedo qui' tremar,
O Dio Beato!
Ah quanto to costo'
L'avermi amato**

**A te che sei del mondo il
Creatore,
Mancano I panni e il fuoco, o
Mio Signore
Caro eletto pargoletto,
Quanta questa poverta'
Piu'' mi innamora, giacche' ti
fece amor povero ancora.**

**Tu lasci del tuo Padre il divin
Seno
Per venire a tremar su questo
Fieno
Caro eletto del mio petto, d
Dove amor ti trasporti
O Gesu' mio, perche' tanto
Patir, per amore mio....**

IHSI NEWS

IHSI 2017 Board of Directors Officers & Board Members

President: Silvana Martini Schuster

I moved to Indianapolis in 2005 and the next year joined the IHSI. I served as the cultural chairperson for a year, participated in the planning and preparation of many social events and have organized the book club and film club for over 7 years. I was born in the far northeaster part of Italy, near Trieste, and came to USA as an 8 year old in 1951 as WWII Displaced person. I married, taught elementary school, raised a family, and participated in various not for profit organization as a volunteer. I look forward to working with every member of our society and ask every member to participate in a small or large way to benefit and honor our Italian Heritage.

Vice-President: Claudia Collins Heck

I have been a Cosmetologist for thirty-two years, in a salon for 20 years. The past 12 years, I have been teaching Cosmetology in Lawrence Township. Becoming a teacher helped me have my big Italian family.

I am married with one daughter that attends college. I am proud to say I'm first generation Sicilian. My mother is from the province of Messina Sicily. Growing up I was involved with the Italian culture, but not with the language. I feel the Italian Heritage of Indiana does a good job of trying to keep the Italian culture alive.

Secretary: Susan Lew

I was born and raised in Connecticut to parents who were both first generation Italian Americans; in 1978 I moved to Indianapolis to pursue as educational opportunity. I am a registered dietitian and have worked in a variety of positions in that capacity. In 2009 I became involved with IHSI, serving on the Membership committee for two years. The following six years I served as a member of the IHSI board, the past four of those as Cultural Committee Chairperson, I have also served on the Serata Italiana committee, and as a Vice-President this past year. Through this organization it has been my great pleasure to embrace, promote and honor the contributions which Italian Americans have made to this country, as well as to reach out and develop new opportunities in which we can all share and celebrate our wonderful heritage. I look forward to working with each of you as we nourish and promoted this heritage we hold so dear to our hearts.

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Treasurer: Louis Mestichelli

I was born and raised in the Italian neighborhood of South Philadelphia, the oldest child of first generation American born Italian American parents. My maternal grandparents were born in the province of Messina in Sicilia, my father's in the province of Ascoli in le Marche. I moved to Indianapolis with my wife and two sons in 2000. I have participated in the IHSI bocce league and the book club. I look forward to working with the other board members to contribute to the success of the Society.

BOARD MEMBERS

Mauvene Borton

I was raised in St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands. Attended school in Indiana, moved to Indianapolis over 25 years ago. Retired five years ago and spend time enjoying hobbies, visiting art museums, traveling, gardening, music, films and volunteering. I've been an IHSI member for two and a half years and became a member because I wanted to learn more about Italian history, culture, food, wine, and films. I've just completed my first visit to Italy! Viva Italia! My motto is: I came, I saw, I volunteered! And no, I'm not Italian!

Ray E. Brown

My name is Ray E. Brown Jr. My Italian connection is through my mother's family, the Ross's from area near Naples. I am a graduate of Cathedral High School and Marian University with a MA in English from Western Illinois University. Now retired, I taught high school English, U.S. History, Humanities and Theory of Knowledge for IPS. I also taught in the WED program for St. Mary of the Woods and was a past president of the Marion County Historical Society. Currently, I serve on the St. Michael Parish Council and work with several church committee. I have traveled extensively and have been to Italy several times. Our Italian book club and Italian cinemas are two of my favorite activities. No need to mention our peerless cuisine.

Kay Feeney-Caito

A 1988 Radio and Television graduate of Butler University Kay Feeney-Caito professional experience includes public and media relations, 20+ years radio and TV promotion and event management, social media marketing, consumer marketing, advertising development and copy writing.

A successful Radio career in Indianapolis began as a promotion assistant at WFBQ. Worked at Emmis Communications as Morning Show Producer. Worked at WZPL as Promotion Director. Director of Marketing/promotion for 95.5 WFMS. Corporate and Communication Dept of Indianapolis Star. Promotion Director of Radio One station. Most recently

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Was the Director of Marketing for Indianapolis Entercom Stations. Wishing to provide valuable communications experience to the small business and not for profit sectors: Feeney-Caito serves (or has served) as the Media/Marketing Consultant for different association including the annual Holy Rosary Street Festival and as a Public Relations representative of the Italian Heritage Society.

Currently Feeney-Caito serves as the Marketing Manager for Indy's Hit Toy Store Mass Ave Toys where she is responsible for proactively positioning the Toy Store to consumers and media.

Feeney-Caito has been the recipient of several communication award for excellence in broadcasting-promotions and for contributions in public relation and promotional event marketing. Including American Women in Radio and Television Promotion director of the Year, Billboard Magazine Awards, Outback Steakhouse, Mozel Sanders Media Award, Italian Heritage Society Outstanding Service President Award.

Married to IHSI Past President Joseph A. Caito

Mimi Sturiale Collins

I was born in the province of Messina, Sicily. I moved to the United States at the age of thirteen after WWII. I graduated from Shortridge High School and attended Butler University. I have four daughters and four grandchildren. I have worked as an apartment leasing agent and manager for approximately forty years. I retired in August 2012 to spend more time with my family. I enjoy gardening, reading, music, cycling and good conversation. I have been a member of IHSI for 15 years.

Carol Faenzi

Carol has served on the Board of the Italian Heritage Society since 2007. She is a writer, public speaker and leads annual excursions to Tuscany, her ancestral homeland, most notably Carrara. Her Italian marble-carving ancestors immigrated to Indiana to work in Indiana limestone. This story became the basis of her book, "The Stonecutter's Aria". In addition to her writing life, she has a private practice of coaching women in leadership development.

Maryanne Hawkins

My grandparent Antonia & Demetrio Constantino came to the United States via Reggio Calabria around 1908. I was born and raised in Indianapolis, but developed a passion for everything Italian. My first trip to Italy was in June of 1974. I fell in love! The people, the food, and the atmosphere became my personal heritage. I would go back and forth to Italy every year visiting a new city. My desire to cook and serve emerged from my many voyages to Italy. I would always try new restaurants and café. This led me to working in the family catering business Crystal Catering.

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Matthew Iaria

Born to Matthew & Santina (Bondi) Iaria, raised on the south side of Indianapolis in Holy Rosary Parish. Graduated from Sacred Heart High School. Worked in food business starting in family business Iaria Italian Restaurant. I have been with IHSI since it was implemented in 1992 and I am the chairman of the Scholarship committee.

Ashleigh Lazarus

I was born in Boulder, Colorado, owner of Consulting business, DME Consultant, INC. in Indianapolis, In. I have 3 children, my youngest will graduate from High School this year.

I am very honored to be selected as a Board member of the IHSI and I look forward to learning more about my Italian heritage. My great-grandmother, Maria Mernadene Ferrari was born in Galliate, Italy in the province of Novara in the Italian region of Piedmont, she came to America in 1908. My great-grandfather Battista Fanchini (Fancini) was born in Castelleto, Italy, also in the province of Novara in the Italian region of Piedmont, he came to America in 1909. My grand-mother Frances Louise Fanchini (Fancini) was the first generation born in America on March 12, 1916 in Silver Plume, Colorado

David Page

Angelo Piga

Born in Padria, province of Sassari, Italy. Came in Noblesville, Indiana in 1969 to get married to Caterina "Rina" Odorico. I worked as a Union carpenters everywhere in Indianapolis and surrounding counties. Now, I am retired, but still working now and then to keep myself busy. I have 4 children and two grandchildren. I have been with IHSI since 1993 and served as a Board member and helped in other events. Also I started the bocce tournament and helped build the first court. I am in the bocce league. My wife and I received the Italians of the Year award and the President's Award from IHSI. I am also a member of the Noblesville Sister Cities with the cities of Cittadella, Italy and Nova Prata, Brazil.

La Bellezza d'Italia.....NOVEMBER 2016

The Cultural Page of the Italian Heritage Society of Indiana

Submitte by Susan Santore Lew, Carol Faenzi and Silvana Martini Schuster

Italian Heritage Sociey Lectures Series

The final lecture for 2016 happened on Sunday, September 25th, "Roman Holiday" was presented by Giancarlo DiMizio, specialized language instructor.

We hope to continue the Lecture Series in 2017 and are always interested in engaging new speakers. Please contact Susan Santore Lew if you have suggestions at **317-691-0139** or email her at **Susan.lew27@gmail.com**



BOOK CLUB

When: Friday, December 9, 2016 12:30 pm

Where: Silvana's home, 9269 Spring Forest Dr.

Book: The Betrothed, by Alessandro Manzoni

This is the book that almost every Italian has read. Set in Lombardy during the Spanish occupation of the late 1620s, the *Betrothed* tells the story of two young lovers, Renzo and Lucia, prevented from marrying by the petty tyrant Don Rodrigo, who desires Lucia for himself. Forced to flee, they are then cruelly separate, and must face many dangers including plague, famine and imprisonment, and confront a variety of strange

characters-in their struggle to be reunited. A vigorous portrayal of enduring passion, *The Betrothed's* exploration of love, power and faith presents a whirling panorama of seventeenth-century Italian life and is one of the greatest European historical novels.

Our discussion will cover up to Chapter 11. The /edition translation we should read is the Penguin Classic version. To participate, please contact Silvana Martini Schuster **silvams@comcast.net**
Home....317-569-9117 Cell.....317-833-0994

**Cinema Sunday Brunch
At Capri Ristorante
Sunday, January 15, 2017
12:30 pm
Members \$20, Non=Members \$25**



This is the heart wrenching story of an Italian Jewish family torn apart by WWII. A gentle Jewish Italian waiter, Guido Orefice meets Dora, a pretty school teacher, and win her over with his charm and humor. Eventually they marry and have a son, Giosue. Their happiness is abruptly halted, however, when Guido and Giosue are separated from Dora and taken to a concentration camp. Determined to shelter his son from the horrors of his surroundings Guido convinces Giosue that their time in the camp is merely a game.

Roberto Begnini received the 1999 Oscar for his performance in the film.

Contact Silvana Martini Schuster for further information
silvams@comcast.net

Beautiful Italian Word of the Month: Riconoscenza



To be thankful
Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL



The International Festival was held on November 10-11-12 at the
Indiana State Fairground



THANK YOU, THANK YOU for coming to my rescue for the Italian Heritage Society booth at the International festival this past week. Special thanks to **Mauvene Borton, Erma Och, Silvana Schuster, Rina Piga and Mimi Collins** who helped beyond the call of duty. The Book Club group came through as always and many new members who I had the pleasure to meet.

Thank you to Jim Koss, Steve Montani, Angelo Piga, Matt Iaria, Jerry Roland, Frank & Bob Giacoletti, Michael Marciano, Claudia Heck, Ashleigh Lazarus, Dean Sandquist, Ray Brown, Ricky Spragia, Vicky Spragia, Philip Kappes.

It was a fun three days and I hope everyone enjoyed the experience as much I did in spite of the pneumonia.....the students were great!

Thank you again and Happy Thanksgiving!
Love, Ginny (Bellentini) Koss, Chairman of the Festival



Welcome

BENVENUTI

Nathan & Allison Laffler

2016 SUMMER/FALL BOCCE TOURNAMENT AND BOCCE BRUNCH



A tournament to wrap up the 2016 Summer/Fall Bocce League was held Saturday morning, September 24th at Lacy Park.

The tournament consisted of 16 competing teams, from each of the Monday-Thursday night schedules.

The single elimination tournament has the following finishes:

4th Place: Jim & John Little, from Wednesday nights

3rd Place: Beyland Roester & Sean Hillier, from Monday nights

2nd Place: John & Tom Lazzara, from Monday nights

1st Place: Bill Reid & Horst Muehibronner, from Wednesday nights

Congratulations to the winners and top finishers.....

In addition to Bocce, breakfast was served to those attending, enjoying: Jack's Donuts, Shapiro Bagels, Calvin Fletcher Coffee and Diane Giacoletti's Egg Casseroles.

Gift prizes awarded came from:

The Duggout, The Embers-Urban Eatery, Café Nonna's, Calvin Fletcher's Coffee, Milo's on "The Hill" and the Italian Heritage Society.

A new set of Bocce balls were awarded to Nate Rollings and Andy Smith. (a drawing held to award the "lower finishing" teams in the Bocce League.

"Grazie a tutti"

The next organized bocce event sponsored by the Italian Heritage Society will be the annual "Blizzard Bocce Bowl", which is held New Year's Day in Lacy Park.

IHSI NEWS
SPALDING JEWELERS

By Mario Morone

Spalding Jewelry is located at 701 Main Street in Beech Grove. Owner Frank Mascari recently mentioned how he started in the business.

"Thirty-five years ago, I took a Gemology Institute of America (GIA) course studying diamonds. I met the owner, Jim Spaulding and told me that if he ever wanted to sell this place, I would be interested in buying it. Out of the blue one day, he called me and six months later, I bought the shop in 1980," he explained. In addition to completing the GIA course, Mascari gained further knowledge through hand-on training.

Originally based at 622 Main Street next to Eckstein Shoes for five years, they moved to their current address in 1985. Bosma Dairy, a restaurant, was formerly located there.

The store has grown over three decades and sells customers multiple brands of jewelry. "In the late 1970s, Bulova was the main watch brand that we started selling, then we switched to selling Citizen Watches 25 years ago. We added Bulova back into our selection when their quality got better," Mascari noted.

He occasionally travels to find new items for customers. "We do jewelry shows around the country that are sponsored by JCK (Jewelers Circular Keystone) & RJO (Retail Jewelers Organization), but this past summer they had a show in Indianapolis, so I didn't have to travel. In addition to selling watches and jewelry, we appraise them as well.

When shopping for a diamond, he advised, "I think color is the most important. I try to sell medium and high-grade diamonds. You get what you pay for in this business. We're not of alignment with larger retail jewelry chains, but we don't have those kind of overhead costs." To learn more about diamonds, visit their diamond education link at: **www.spaldingjewelry.com**

Though luxury item sales can be volatile, Spalding Jewelry has consistently grown along with the Southeast Indianapolis area over the years. "We have had generations of families that visit the store that remain loyal customers. I was born and raised in Beech Grove. I'm the son of Gus and Ruth Mascari," he mentioned. They owned Mascari cleaners and his father owned an Italian grocery store at 960 East Street. He had 10 brothers and one sister.

"My brother, Mike Mascari, now owns the cleaners along with his son and his daughter.

My daughter works in the shop a few days a week and Jason Elias (I call him my third son) works on the bench making jewelry repairs," he said. As one of the few full-service jewelry stores inside the I-465 loop, their setting makes customers feel at home.

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Jewelry repair prices have changed with the times. "When I got started, you could get a watch cleaned for \$40. but today it cost about \$150. A watchmaker takes them apart and re-oils the parts, then put them together again. There are few mechanical watch repairs that exist today," he emphasized.

I has numerous life-long friend in the Italian community. "When my brothers were young boys, my father and many Italian fathers took us to La Scala's restaurant downtown, to the upstairs area. The group was called the Sons of Italy. My father and many other fathers all talked as kids ate pasta. We had no clue what they were talking about," he recalled.

"When I ran and won a seat on Indianapolis City-Council, David Page came knocking at the door at the Jewelry store. He was very proud that I was running. He himself had that position back in the 1970s. He said, "Don't you remember? Remember what I said? The Sons of Italy said we were going to make all of you boys politicians and we were going to run the city. I laughed and said, "I just remembered eating." I was probably 10 years old. Being on the Indianapolis City-County Council is like a second job, I enjoy being able to help people in my district that includes parts of Fountain Square, Bates-Hendricks, Garfield Park, Bean Creek and all of Beech Grove. It's a very large area. I am serving on my 5th year this year with my friend, Mayor Joe Hogsett. The City of Indianapolis budget is over a billion dollars. I chair one committee and serve on three others," he said.

"As a family run business, it has included all members of my Immediate family to help in the success of our store. With the advice and encouragement from many people that I respect and admire, " Mascari added.

Spalding Jewelry is open Monday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5:55 p.m and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Questions about their products can be answered by calling (317) 787-1745. Their website is: www.spaldingjewelry.com

Spalding Jewelry continues to be a retail gem for new and established from their neighborhood setting in Beech Grove



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Beth (Forni) Chalupa book

By Mario Morone

Noblesville Indiana resident Beth (Forni) Chalupa, recently published her first book, "Saving Meatloaf.....Through the Eyes of a Shelter puppy. Named Charlie."

Beth was born in Indianapolis, Indiana into an Italian family with five children, each of whom she mentions in her book. Her parents, Ralph (past treasurer of the Italian Heritage Society) and Angela Forni are Second generation Italians. She attended Southport High School and received a degree in dental hygiene at Indiana University School of Dentistry. She is now retired and resides in Noblesville with her husband and their two dogs, Pebbles, a 12-year old Newfoundland and recently, Charlie, a nine year old Corgi mix.

Her love for animals grew when she got her first dog almost 20 years ago. In 2007, she met Charlie when he was a puppy and had an instant connection with him. However, it wasn't until years later when their paths would cross again. What Charlie had gone through during those years inspired Beth to write his heart-wrenching story. It is written through his eyes and is based on true events and people that paved the way for "Meatloaf" to travel through his journey in life.

Beth believes both young and old will experience the gamut of emotions...tears, laughter, disappointment and frustration, while finding themselves engulfed in his adventure.

"I began writing the book in the summer of 2015 and it took me one year to finish. It's a short story, which could potentially reach a large audience," she said. There are lessons to be learned in the story. Beth explains, "if even one animal in the world is saved from a life of despair or abandonment, then my goal is accomplished."

The book is available on Amazon via Kindle and in paperback.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Caterina "Rina" Piga

Share your news, award, birth, change of address or any articles that will be of interest to the members and also any comments you might have about the newsletter.

The newsletter published by-monthly, email any articles in MS word format to: **catpiga45@gmail.com** or mail to:

**Rina Piga
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