# 55TH ANNUAL Scholarship award journal

# 74TH ANNIVERSARY OF

Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, Inc. new york - usa provincia di piacenza, valli piacentine primogenita dittalia

Sunday, October 20, 2024

RUSSO'S ON THE BAY 162-45 Cross Bay Blvd. • Howard Beach, NY 11414

# In Loving Memory of Jessica Janine Chiappelloni a young flower that now blooms in paradise.

**Roberto and Roberta Chiappelloni** 

Greetings...

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

Benvenuti! Thank you so much for joining us at our 2024 Scholarship Awards Dinner & Dance. La Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure is proud to support the educational careers of our young people with scholarships to students for over 50 years.

We are grateful for your loyalty, support, and encouragement in growing our Scholarship Fund. As of this year, we have invested in over 550 success stories and have distributed more than \$1 Million in scholarships. We hope you are as proud as we are of this extraordinary achievement!

Our work would not be possible without your support and the support of our generous sponsors and contributors. It is because of you that we are able to once again empower the next generation. Thank you for your continued support!

We are delighted to be here with you to gather and celebrate. Together, we promote our glorious culture by spreading knowledge and understanding of our Piacentino heritage, of which we are proud, as well as support those in need, regardless of their background. Thank you all, again, for being here to celebrate our 2024 Scholarship Award Recipients.

> Mark Draghi, Scholarship Chair Peter Segalini, Scholarship Co-Chair Sergio Segalini, Corresponding Secretary



# Message from the President

#### Cari Amici,

**Buongiorno!** It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to our 2024 Scholarship Awards Dinner & Dance – the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure's 55th annual event in support of our young people. On behalf of the Board, I extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our members, supporters, and donors. Our organization thrives on the dedication of our members, family, friends, and descendants of immigrants who are committed to giving back to the Italian-American community. **Your generosity makes everything we do possible** – thank you!



I am continually inspired by the remarkable resilience of our Piacentino community and deeply appreciate the unwavering support of our incredible soci (members). This evening holds special significance for me, as I once received a scholarship from this esteemed organization. As a proud son of immigrants and a product of the NYC public school system, I understand firsthand the vital role that support systems play. Being the first in my family to earn a college degree, I recognize how crucial it is to uplift one another – no one can do it alone. I am incredibly proud of our Società for stepping up to provide essential resources to students in our community and beyond.

Founded in 1950, the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that celebrates Italian culture, specifically from the province of Piacenza in the region of Emila-Romagna. Our mission is to strengthen the bonds of Italian-Americans and Italians living abroad with Italy, foster community among our people living in the New York metro area, and award scholarships to college-bound students. Since 1970, we have proudly awarded over \$1 million in scholarships to countless deserving students!

Our Piacentino community embodies the spirit of "paying it forward," ensuring that our young people benefit from your generosity. The impact we have on the lives of students is made possible through your support, as well as the dedication of our Board of Directors and volunteers. I would like to thank the incredible members of our Board, Committees, and volunteers who work so hard all year long. We also thank members Carmen and Paul Bazzini who represent our official wine sponsor **Cantina Valtidone** for their generous support. Thank you all again for being here to celebrate our 2024 Scholarship Award Recipients and to support the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure.

**Buon Divertimento!** 

Cav. Diego S. Segalini

President

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# Congratulations and best wishes to this year's scholarship recipients!

When your studies are finished and you are working in your chosen field, never forget where you came from. Never forget the generations of your family whose heritage instilled basic values of Honesty, High Integrity, Love and Respect. As you go on in life remember to support your community and the Società, so that future generations of students have the same opportunities that you had. We welcome you as a member of this great institution.

# Thank you to our past scholarship recipients!

You have honored your families' ancestors through your pride in your heritage, continued focus on future generations and ongoing generosity. It is because of you, and those members who have sponsored you that the Società has been able to support over **554 students**.

# Thank you to our Members and Friends!

You have been the constant force in supporting our commitment to our culture and our future generations. It is through your outstanding efforts that we have been able to provide **54 years** of scholarship awards.

# Let's keep helping students reach their dreams for generations to come.

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NORA CLAIRE BENAZZI STEVEN ANTHONY PAGELS TRACY BACIGALUPO WILLIAM V. REINO

> PATRICIA BOIARDI CHRISTINE FURLANI MARIA N. SPATA

KERRI LYNN FORLINI ANGELA MOSCONI GEORGE JOHN ZAVATTONI JOHN FARRO

JEANETTEE D'ERRICO CARLO PIETRO BELLOCCHIO

> MICHAEL PAGLIUGHI MARIA CINTIEMPO LISA A. MORISI

LOUIS D. SCAGNELLI STEPHEN GUGLIELMETTI FRANK M. PAGLIUGHI ROBERT FERRARONI FRANCES CORSO

LUCIA R. BOSELLI FRANCO MOSCONI DANIEL GUGLIELMETTI BARBARA ARMANI ANTOINETTE TROIANO

> ALDA ZAVATTONI GLORIA GAZZOLA KAREN SCAGLIA WALTER KIRBY THERESA CONTE

ANTHONY COSTA MARIA FERRARONI PAUL ANTHONY GUGLIELMETTI CECILIA AURILIA

FRANK CASALI, JR.

RORY CUDDY

TIZIANO SARTORI

ANTHONY TRUPIA

GIORGIO ZANAZZI

TRACY J. FORLINI

DAVID PIAZZA

LISA MARIE LONGO

STEPHEN J. VACCARO

DAVID G. RAPACIOLI

MICHELE ANN MARIE PERRE

DAVID GARZANITI

CHRISTINE TIPLADY

DAVID FRIEDMAN

JOHNNA PETROCELLI

JOY VANESSA ADAMS

ROBERT M. GUGLIELMETTI

RACHELLE MOLLICA

EMMA MAZZELLA

ROBERT GAZZOLA

GERARDO LEONARDI

SUSAN MARIE BARANOWSKI

CHRISTINA GUGLIELMETTI

JAMES JANUZZI

ROBERT SCAGLIA

ANDREA COCKBURN

CHRISTINE M. FORLINI

MARIA ANGELA GUGLIELMETTI

CAROL BERTUZZI

MARISA JANUZZI

DAVID J. BARANOWSKI

LISA CALABRESE

CHRISTOPHER ARNOLD CARISETTI

NANCY BRESCIA

ANGELA CAVANNA

LEO FERRARI SUSAN REPETTI

LAURA POGGIOLI

LINDA JANE BROWN

RITA ARRIGONI

JOHN SPERONI

**ROSANNA BOIARDI** 

GIANPAOLO MOSCONI

KEVIN GABOS

#### **1988 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

AUGUST L. SCAGNELLI, JR.

#### **1985 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

STEVEN RAPACIOLI

# **1984 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**



PAUL ZAVATTONI LOUIS FERRARONI PAUL FRIEDMANN THOMAS GREGORETTI GAIL M. LOPENA MICHAEL TROMBETTA

DIANE GUGLIELMETTI FRANCESCA GUGLIELMETTI FRANK P. BERGONZI, JR. STEPHEN FORLINI

> ANGELA COSTA ALDO H. FORLINI EUGENE L. SPERONI FRANK M. FORLINI CARL A. RAZZA

JOHN A. FORLINI MARILENA PICCA JERRY IANNECE ROBERT J. SCARAZZINI

PETER J. CALABRESE JOANNE FORLINI

MICHAEL O'KEEFE DONNA MARIE CARLI

MARIANNE HOWARD MARGARET MARY LORENZO

> RITA M. DRAGHI CLAUDIO BOIARDI

DAVID J. DRAGHI DAVID BONGIORNI

WILLIAM ABERNATHY JOHN POGGIOLI JAMES GREGORI

scholarship recipient link

#### **1980 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

LOUIS P. SPERONI MARIO GAZZOLA JOANNE REPETTI DENISE A. DRAGHI FELICE RAFFO NANDO PLATE

#### **1979 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

ALMA GRACE RICCI FRANK JOSEPH PARISI MARIA SCAGNELLI FRANCESCA MARIA RANDAZZO

#### **1978 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

PATRICIA M. KEEHNER DANNA PERSICO MICHAEL J. FRIEDMAN BRUNO PLATE DIANE CAPOBIANCO

#### **1977 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

DION JAMES ALBANESE ARNOLD E. CASOLA VALERIE CAPECE

1976 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS LOUIS MASCHI JOHN CARLI

1975 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS MARK J. DRAGHI

1974 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS CHARLES R. MORISI ROBERT FICALORA

1973 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS MONA AKADIMITZKY JOHN A. GRASSO

1972 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANDREW F. BARDUGONE ANDREW PAGLIUGHI

**1971 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS** EILEEN POGGIOLI JOSEPH FORLINI PIETRO SEGALINI DIANE GUGLIELMETTI MICHAEL POGGIOLI MARIJEAN A. CARISETTI TONI MARIE VIVONE KATHERINE BERGONZI

LAWRENCE SCAGNELLI MARIA CAMIA ANN ALLOWE

JAMES REPETTI ROBERT L. PINI JOSEPH GUGLIELMETTI ANTOINETTE DELLA CHIESA LOUIS GUGLIELMETTI

> LISA ANN DRAGHI CECILE BRAILE ELSA PLATE

VINCENT J. ADINOLFI MARY ADELE DE BERNARDI

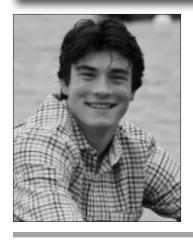
ANTHONY J. BALZANO

LORRAINE SCHIAVI

MARCEL J. PLATE

JOHN S. SBARBARO

DAVID FAIMALI FRANCIS SCAGNELLI



# **CHARLES C. ANANIA**

Charles C. Anania, son of Chris and Kim, nee Monzeglio, Graduate of Greely High School. National Honor Society, National French Honor Society, Maine National Honor Society Convention Representative, Western Maine Conference Citizenship Award, St. Michaels's College Book Award, Ranger Football Award, 1st Recipient of newly instituted Anania Award named in my honor based on exemplary leadership and values. Senior Mentor, Kyle Cares, Backpack for a Cause Volunteer, Barbara Bush Children's Hospital Volunteer, Student Council, Hyde Leadership Conference, Summer Rec Track Coach, Varsity Football, Varsity Indoor and Outdoor Track. Attending Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia.

# **ROBERT D. BERNARDI**

Robert D. Bernardi, son of Joseph and Ann, nee,McGranaghan. Graduate of James Madison High School. Attending Istituto, Marangoni, Milan, Italy.



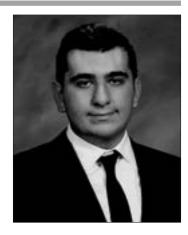


# TESSA J. BLACKBURN

Tessa J. Blackburn, daughter of John and Jennifer, nee Casazza. Graduate of Stissing Mountain High School. Honor Roll, FCCLA Vice President, Yearbook Club, Stissing Theatre Guild, Varsity Soccer, Varsity Track, Co-Captain Varsity Basketball, Volunteer Pine Plains Recreation, Town of Pine Plains Volunteer, Frankenstein's Fortress Volunteer, Dog Foster Rescue. Attending Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, Connecticut.

# JACK A. CAVANNA

Jack A. Cavanna, son of Anthony and Maria. Graduate of Eastchester High School, Video Game Club, Auto Enthusiast. Attending State University of New York of Delhi, Delhi, New York.





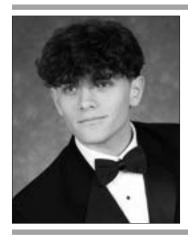
# **DEVAN J. DRACKER**

Devan J. Dracker, son of Steven and Caroyln, nee Gaccione. Graduate of Bethpage High School. Attending Farmingdale State College, Farmingdale New York.

# LOUIS P. GACCIONE

Louis P. Gaccione, son of Louis and Olga, nee Maldonado. Graduate of Oceanside High School. High Honor Roll, National Honor Society, Rho Kappa Honor Society, Best Buddies, Oceanside Department of Community Activities Counselor, Peer Tutor, SEPTA Volunteer, Teacher's Assistant. Attending Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York.





# MICHAEL F. ILLUZZI

Michael F. Illuzzi, son of Michael and Kelly, nee Buchosky. Graduate of Monsignor Farrell High School. National Honor Society, English Scholars Award, AP Literature Award, Captain of Wrestling Team, CCD Teacher, Business and Finance Institute Lecture Series, Finance Portfolio Competition, Friends of Staten Island Executive Board Member. Attending University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware.

# MICHAEL A. KLOOSTERMAN

Michael A. Kloosterman, son of Christian and Deborah, nee Segalini. Graduate of Kalamazoo Central High School. Physics Club Vice President, DECA Vice President, DECA State Champion and International Qualifier, Western Michigan University Pitch Competition Winner, National Honor Society Volunteer, Team Captain for Cross Country, Track and Field, Poverty Alleviation Initiative. Attending University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.





# **ROBERT D. KLOOSTERMAN**

Robert D. Kloosterman, son of Christian and Deborah, nee Segalini. Graduate of Kalamazoo Central High School. Team Captain of Cross Country, Track and Field, Model United Nations. Attending Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

# VICENT J. RIVELLESE

Vicent J. Rivellese, son of Vincent and Nadine, nee Rapacioli. Graduate of Regis High School. National Merit Finalist, University of Rochester Rush Rhees Scholarship, Regis Order of the Owl, Co-President Italian Heritage Club, Co-President Jazz Club, Hear n Speech Debate Team, Piano, Varsity Tennis Team. Attending University of Rochester, Rochester, New York.





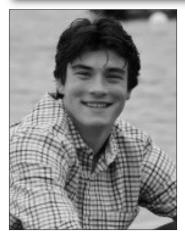
# SEAN C. WILSON

Sean C. Wilson, son of Christopher and Samantha, nee D'Alo. Graduate of Union Catholic Regional High School. National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, AP Scholar with Honors, Certificate of Honor in Academic Excellence, Medallion Award, Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Indoor Track, Varsity Outdoor Track, Team Captain, Princeton Soccer Association, Chess Club, Heroes and Cool Kids, Volunteer Soccer and Track Coach, USSF Referee. Attending Marist College, Poughkeepsie, New York.

# AVA P. ZULANDI

Ava P. Zulandi, daughter of Robert and Melissa. Graduate of Riverside High School. National Honor Society, Rowing Team. Attending James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.





# CHARLES C. ANANIA

My grandfather, Chuck Monzeglio has taught me two very important lessons that he lives by every day which are to never forget where you came from and never forget your heritage. I am lucky that both my grandfathers are Americans established in Maine and Connecticut whose parents descended from Italy. I feel a special connection to Piacenza because of the stories my Grampy tells.

It is hard to imagine how old the city of Piacenza is. Established in 218 BC it has an incredible and rich history to include thousands of wars, mass destruction and city rebuild time and again. We will never really know the many rulers and families that have come and gone just like the art, architecture, and statues. The city grew and prospered with the economic trade routes to Genoa and Milan. Today, one can only wonder what business was conducted in the buildings such as the Palazzo Gotico. Recent Piacenza is known because the President of Italy recognized the city with a gold medal for bravery for its resistance to fight the Nazi's in World War II. The city is host to football, rugby and volleyball matches today.

One day, I hope to visit Piacenza so I can experience and feel the history of my heritage. want to put into practice the Italian language I have been learning every Wednesday night. I want to sit in one of the many piazzas and enjoy the wonderful food and wine specifically the pancetta, coppa, salame, sausages, bortellina, pasta, cheeses, nuts and fruit. I want to look out over the fields and imagine my ancestors farming and building structures with their two hands with no machinery to help. I want to walk the streets and visit the church my grandfather renovated to preserve our family history.

I'm not sure where my life will take me after college, but I do know that the history and lessons of the past gives me a deeper understanding of the world we live in and who I am. I am a proud American with a rich Italian heritage.

Sincerely, *Charlie Anania* 

# **ROBERT D. BERNARDI**

My great great grandfather, Paolo Bernardi, was born on October 20th, 1862 in the small town of Curletti in the comune of Ferriere. My great great grandmother, Santina Scaglia, was born six and a half years later on February 6th, 1869 in that same town. They would marry on August 30, 1887 and raise nine children, five boys and four girls.

Paolo came to the United States through Ellis Island on May 27, 1905 at the age of 42. He was not allowed to enter the country at first because he was not able to give a specific address for his final destination; the



authorities feared he was L. P. C. (likely public charge). He was able to leave the following day. He would stay and work in New York for five years, returning to Curletti in 1910. Santina did not immigrate to the United States but four of their five sons did. One of those boys was my great grandfather Domenico Bernardi. He was born on September 29, 1889 in Curletti, the second child and second son of Paolo and Santina. He first came to the U.S. in 1906 although we are not able to find that record in the Ellis Island archives. He returned to Italy in 1910, we believe with his father, but came back to the U.S. on March 25, 1911. For a time, my great grandfather and his three brothers lived and worked in New York city. He worked for a wealthy family who had a summer house in Ridgefield, Connecticut. That mansion has become a community center and I have visited it with my father. Eventually my great great grandfather returned for good to Italy along with two of his sons. While working in America they had been sending money back to support the family. They would use that money to move from Curletti to a farm in Vigolzone in Val Nure. To this day the family still owns that land.

My great grandfather married my great grandmother Ismalie Laffont, a French woman, on March 15, 1926 at the Church of Saint Vincent de Paul in New York City. Their first son, Joseph, was born on December 7, 1928. On August 28th, 1930 they had twin boys; Albert and Robert, my grandfather. Things had gone well; my great grandparents traveled back to visit their families in France and Italy. Eventually they were able to buy a four-unit apartment house in Brooklyn. Unfortunately, my grandfather and his twin brother would become orphans in 1940 upon the death of their father, Domenico. The plan was for a young female cousin to travel to New York to raise the boys. But World War II was going on and it was not safe to make the trip across the Atlantic. So my great grandfather's brother, Carlo, who now lived in South Glastonbury, Connecticut, took in my grandfather and my great uncle. There are many families from the Piacenza area that live in Glastonbury today.

Sincerely, *Robert D. Bernardi* 

# **TESSA J. BLACKBURN**

Piacenza is a beautiful city located in the Emilia-Romagna region and in the heart of northern Italy. The city boasts a rich tapestry of history and culture that stretches back centuries. Piacenza has been shaped by a diverse array of influences, from its ancient Roman roots to its vibrant Renaissance period.

The history of Piacenza can be traced back to ancient times, with evidence of settlement in the area dating back to the Neolithic period. Although during the Roman era Piacenza truly flourished and became an important hub for trade and commerce. Piacenza was located along the Via



Aemilia, a major Roman road that connected the cities of Rimini and Piacenza. This strategic spot helped to contribute to Piacenza's prosperity and importance within the Roman Empire.

During the Middle Ages, Piacenza continued to thrive as a center of trade and culture, even while facing periods of conflict and instability. The city was ruled by various noble families and became a flourishing center of art and learning during the Renaissance. This period saw the construction of many iconic landmarks, including the stunning Piacenza Cathedral and the imposing Palazzo Farnese, which now houses the Civic Museums of Palazzo Farnese.

The rich cultural heritage of Piacenza's is also reflected in its culinary traditions. The region is renowned for its delicious cuisine, which includes food such as tortelli piacentini, a type of stuffed pasta, and coppa piacentina, a cured meat similar to prosciutto. The city's markets and trattorias are filled with the sights and smells of fresh produce, local cheeses, and artisanal wines, making dining in Piacenza a true gastronomic delight.

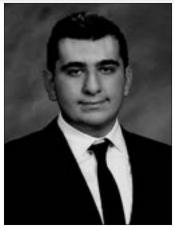
In addition to its historical and culinary attractions, Piacenza is also home to a vibrant cultural scene. The city hosts numerous festivals and events throughout the year, celebrating everything from music and art to food and wine. One of the most famous events is the Settimane Musicali di Stresa e del Lago Maggiore, a prestigious music festival that attracts renowned performers from around the world.

Despite its rich history and cultural heritage, Piacenza remains a city that is firmly rooted in the present. Today, Piacenza is a bustling metropolis with a thriving economy and a diverse population. The city is home to a number of industries, including manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism, which contribute to its vibrant atmosphere and dynamic character.

In conclusion, Piacenza is a city with a rich history and culture that continues to thrive in the modern world. From its ancient Roman roots to its vibrant Renaissance period and beyond, Piacenza has been shaped by a diverse array of influences that have left their mark on its architecture, cuisine, and traditions. Whether exploring its historic landmarks, indulging in its culinary delights, or immersing oneself in its vibrant cultural scene, Piacenza offers a truly unforgettable experience for visitors and residents alike.

# JACK A. CAVANNA

Piacenza was founded as a Roman colony in 218 BC. Initially known as Placentia, the city served as a strategic military outpost, guarding the vital trade routes of the Po River, of which the Val Trebbia and Val Nure flow into. Moving forward 2000 years, my grandpa and grandma were born in Piacenza. My grandpa, Giuseppe Cavanna, was born on July 12th, 1943 in Negri. My grandma, Silvana Cavanna (Rapacioli), was born on August 30th, 1946, in Casa Delle Donna.



In 1966, my grandpa travelled to the United States in search of a better

life and to follow "the American Dream". He arrived in New York, and was met by his uncle and aunt, Pietro and Concetta Scagnelli. After arriving, he began working at Forlini's Restaurant in Little Italy, Manhattan. He started as a dishwasher, while at the same time attending drafting school, with the hopes of making a career in that field. But while working at Forlini's for several years, he learned how to be a cook. And that was to be his calling. After Forlini's, he went to work as a cook at The Brussels, which was a restaurant in Midtown. He worked there for 10 years, further honing his trade. After that, he went to work as head chef at Emilio's Restaurant in Harrison, New York. He worked there for almost 20 years. Finally, with his brothers-in-law, Renzo and Jimmy Rapacioli, he opened Binelli's Restaurant in the Bronx. He continued there until he hung up his apron and retired as a chef.

My Grandma, Silvana Cavanna (Rapacioli), was born on August 30th, 1946, in Casa Delle Donna. She came to the United States to attend high school in 1960 with her mother Giuditta Rapacioli and three siblings. They were met by their father, my great Grandpa Guido Rapacioli, and three brothers that had immigrated to New York a few years earlier. She graduated high school in 1963. After high school, she first had a job as a typist. She later worked in the coat check at Forlini's Restaurant., and it was there in 1969 that she met my grandpa. They were married soon after, in July of 1970. They lived in the Bronx, two doors down from great grandma and grandpa, and in a neighborhood with many Piacentini. They went on to have three children, Anthony, Lisa, and Eric, each of them previous scholarship winners. When her kids were in school, she started to work in an insurance office. She started as an agent, but studied and eventually become a broker. She worked as a broker for 20+ years, before finally retiring herself.

During the holidays, I enjoy going to visit my grandpa and grandma, to enjoy the food. My Grandpa has taught me how to make all different kinds of homemade pasta. I enjoy polenta, coppa, salami and the pumpkin ravioli that my grandpa makes. I have seen pictures of the valleys and the mountains from when my dad has visited, and I hope to visit Piacenza sometime soon to enjoy the culture of my family.



## **DEVAN J. DRACKER**

The rich cultural fabric of Italy, a country recognized for its historical significance and cultural assets, is exemplified by Società Val Trebbia. Società Val Trebbia traces its roots back to the early 20th century in the picturesque region of Piacenza, nestled in the heart of Italy. Founded in 1950, the society emerged as a beacon of cultural preservation and community engagement. At its core, Società Val Trebbia sought to celebrate the rich heritage of the region while fostering camaraderie among its residents.

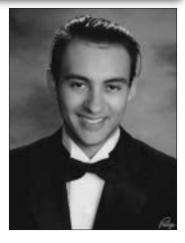
My grandfather, Louis Gaccione, adopted the values advocated by Società Val Trebbia, realizing the importance of preserving heritage for future generations. In the course of Italian history, Piacenza, a city with an interesting history dating back to the Roman era, is of particular significance. Piacenza, which is located in

the beautiful Po Valley, once a bustling center for trade, the arts, and culture. Its magnificent past continues to exist in the architectural wonders of the Palazzo Farnese and the Cathedral of Piacenza. Beyond its natural beauty, Piacenza is also distinguished by the fortitude and perseverance of its citizens, who have endured innumerable adversities. My great-grandmother left this bustling city to travel to the New World, taking with them aspirations for a better life and a brighter future for their children. My grandfather was brought up in a family with strong traditions and convictions regarding religion, and he continued on the values of his parents' tenacity and willpower. Growing up in the busy streets of Manhattan, he maintained a strong sense of Catholic beliefs and a strong connection to his Italian background. From his active involvement in the church to his membership in the Knights of Columbus, his unwavering commitment to his faith was visible in every aspect of his life. He was an inspiration to everyone around him and an important member of the community, embodying the values of generosity, unity, and brotherhood.

The influence of my grandfather transcended the walls of our home, leaving an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of crossing his path. He imparted upon me not only the significance of cherishing Christian principles but also the profound importance of embracing and celebrating my Italian heritage. Through his words and actions, he instilled within me a deep-seated appreciation for the enduring values of tradition, community, and family, igniting a passion within me to uphold these ideals throughout my life's journey. His teachings have resonated deeply within my soul, serving as a guiding light amidst life's challenges and uncertainties, a constant reminder of the profound impact of honoring one's heritage and the timeless principles that shape our character. He emphasized the importance of prioritizing family above all else, imparting the invaluable lesson of cherishing and nurturing the bonds of love and kinship. Even in his physical absence, his teachings continue to reverberate through my actions and choices, a testament to the enduring legacy of his wisdom and compassion. Indeed, my grandfather's presence was a blessing not only to me but to all who were fortunate enough to bask in the warmth of his love and guidance. In summary, the intricate tapestry of my family's history is intricately woven with the threads of my grandfather's journey from Italy to Manhattan, the cultural institution of Società Val Trebbia, and the rich heritage of Piacenza. Each thread contributes to the vibrant narrative of our lineage, imparting invaluable lessons about the enduring significance of community, culture, and faith. From the tales passed down through generations, I have gleaned insights into the profound impact that these elements have on shaping identities and fostering resilience in the face of adversity. My grandfather, a stalwart embodiment of these values, served as my guiding light, imparting wisdom and instilling in me a deep reverence for our Christian traditions, cultural heritage, and the sanctity of family bonds. As I embark on my own journey, I am committed to preserving his legacy by embracing these principles and using them in my own life, thereby honoring my family's past while forging a path towards a future imbued with purpose and meaning.

# LOUIS P. GACCIONE

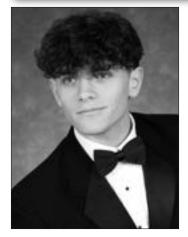
Piacenza may be thousands of miles away from where I live, but it still resonates close to me. Part of my family's ancestry traces back to here; my great-great-grandparents, Maria Castellani and Giuseppe Maruffi lived in Piacenza. Around 1912 they migrated to New York City. Their daughter, Helen Maruffi, the mother of my grandfather, Louis J. Gaccione, who was the first person in my family to become a member of Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure. He is sadly not with us today, but his life-story embodies the Italian culture that he passed down to multiple generations. My grandfather was born on April 28,



1941. He lived his childhood in the lower east side of Manhattan. He always used to say how where he grew up was like a small town, because everything you needed to buy on a day to day basis was within walking distance. My grandfather made a noticeable effort to get Italian food whenever he could, whether it be something simple like pizza, or a dish like risotto with porcini mushrooms or chicken cacciatore. Later in his life, he loved to make Italian dishes from scratch. This was something that was inspiring to me as a little kid watching him prepare entire meals for the entire family by himself, along with some assistance from his grandchildren at times. He made a conscious effort to keep our holidays following Italian traditions, like having 7 fishes during Christmas.

My grandparents were frequent visitors of Italy themselves; they loved to go back to their roots whenever they could. Their culture was something they were extremely proud of and were always looking to share it with my younger brother and me. Some of the memorable things they showed us were their custom paintings they had of some of the places they dined at in italy, or my great-grandfather's ring that has been passed down for generations, that I now possess. It is one of my most prized possessions, and one of the many things my grandfather left behind for me after his passing. Of the last four generations, the first boy in each family have all had the same name, "Louis Gaccione." The ring is a golden ring with our initials on the face of it, so as time has moved forwards, the ring has been passed on as well. My grandfather was a very successful person also; he was a skillful hunter, and also was a grandknight for the Knights of Columbus for many years. Despite his many accomplishments, he was never one to boast or brag, and was a very down to earth person, which is another trait of his I've tried to carry on.

Despite only getting to know him for 11 years before he passed, My grandfather was able to truly instill his Italian culture in me. I am truly proud to be an Italian because of him, and am proud to have been his grandson. Whether it was just catching up with him every time I saw him, or the friendly banter with his Yankees and my dad's Red Sox, he was somebody who I aspire to be like for the way he held himself and to continue his legacy forwards.



## MICHAEL ILLUZZI

The Province of Piacenza is located in the Emilia-Romagna region of Italy. This particular province is filled with fascinating history and culture. Throughout history, Piacenza has had many different influences that had large affects on both the people who have lived there in the past, and the people who live there currently. The province of Piacenza dates back to near the end of the stone age but did not start to thrive until the Roman era.

When the Province first began to flourish, it was originally meant to be a military colony all the way in 200 BC. This is evident as the archaeological findings in that area leads back to the Romans. A bit after this, the Province emerged as a center of trade and commerce due to its placement between

prominent trade routes. Piacenza emerging as a trade center helped to further its diverse culture, bringing in a variety of goods, religions, and traditions.

Among these many things, the culinary aspect of the Piacenza culture remains the most prominent. Unlike many other places in Italy, Piacenza makes use of horse and donkey meat. Why is this? Scholars speculate that this odd choice in meat can be attributed to the provinces' history as a military colony/outpost.

Throughout the history of the colony, the rich and poor were often separated by the foods they had access to. While the rich were caught eating fancy meats, cheeses, and drinking the best wines, the poor and less fortunate had limited choices when it came to the day-to-day cuisine. One of the most common dishes for the less fortunate and for "peasants" was called Pisarei and Faso. This dish was extremely easy to make and obtain, as it is only a mix of dumplings and beans, cooked with a tomato sauce. Peasants were sometimes given the leftovers of the rich or whatever was not wanted. Since this was a less popular dish in Piacenza, peasants had easiest access to it.

Something particularly interesting about the culinary history of Piacenza is that many of their foods were limited to certain seasons. For example, the dish called a rice bomb is made up of rice, mushrooms, and pigeon meat. This was typically made in the summer, close to August as the meat was softest during this time. The Former queen of Spain, Elisabeth Farnese was said to have been very fond of this dish.

Finally, one of the most influential aspects of the Piacenza cuisine is their wine. Growing grapes is an extremely large profession in Piacenza. Grapes are one of the primary argicultural products made from Piacenza. Many families have made a living out of owning vineyards and producing their own precious wine. In fact, in 1987 Piacenza was awarded the title of "International City of Vines and Wines". Historically, the wines of Piacenza have been enjoyed and appreciated by many prominent figures in history including Pope Paul III Farnese and King Philip V of Spain. Michelangelo, the famous Renaissance artist, was also known for enjoying Piacenza wines. Some of the most common wine making valleys on Piacenza include Tridone, Trebbia, Nure and Arda. Across the entire province, there are approximately 3,000 vineyards that combined, produce about 60,000 tons of grapes. Most of these vineyards produce their own grapes, however not all grapes which are produced are made into wine. For many families, making wine has become a bit of a tradition and has become an enjoyable thing to do in free time or on vacation. It was not always like this, as making wine at your home vineyard used to be much more common and for many, it was their livelihood.

The Province of Piacenza has an extremely rich history, its culture and traditions are like no other. One of the most prominent aspects of history in Piacenza is their culinary culture. Most notably, their wine making traditions are extremely important and have been passed down for generations. The provinces' history as a military colony has had a huge impact on its culinary culture as well. From the most unique dishes to the finest wines, the history of food and drink in Piacenza never disappoints.

# MICHAEL A. KLOOSTERMAN

In the countryside of Italy's Emilia-Romagna region lies the province of Piacenza. Piacenza is a province in Italy that is rich in culture and has withstood the trials of time. From its ancient origins as a military center for the Roman Empire to its modem presence as a cultural hub, Piacenza's story is one that repeatedly shows the enduring strength of its people.

Piacenza dates all the way back to the second century BC. Back then, Piacenza was known as Placentia and was initially founded as a Roman colony along the Via Aemilia, a crucial road connecting Rimini to Milan. Additionally, Piacenza was a confluence of the Po and Trebbia Rivers which

contributed to its importance, making it an important location for trade and commerce. Over the centuries, the rest of the world saw major changes as the Roman Empire collapsed and new powers arose in Italy. During the middle ages, Piacenza flourished as a center of art, culture and learning with its renowned architecture such as the Cathedral of Piacenza and the Palazzo Comunale, standing as testaments to its grandeur. Through the roughness of medieval Italy, Piacenza was a crossroads of competing city-states and diplomacy. Through it all, the resilience of its people remained unshaken as they were determined to preserve their way of life.

My great-great grandfather, Frank Segalini, came to New York from Ponte dell'Olio. His son, Anthony Segalini, Was born in New York but was later sent to be raised in Ponte dell'Olio with his sisters Lena and Florence. Back in Ponte dell'Olio, Anthony married Maria Margalli. Soon after their marriage, they migrated to New York City in hopes of a better life. In New York City, my grandfather, Sandro Segalini, was born with two other brothers, Frank and Henry Segalini. My grandfather, Sandro, worked really hard and eventually it started to pay off. He tested into Stuyvesant High School-a magnet school specializing in math and natural sciences. From here, he received a scholarship to play football at the University of Rhode Island. After his time at University, Sandro got hired at General Motors. He eventually earned an opportunity to oversee operations abroad where he was assigned to Rome, Italy. Unfortunately, Sandro passed away when I was of a young age, but he still remains a prominent part of my life as his story is one of true inspiration. Hearing my mom and aunts talk about him, one thing about him is clear; he never forgot who he was and where he came from. His journey took him back to Italy and in Italy he was able to really learn where he came from. On my nightstand I have a picture of my grandfather and on the back is a poem that he wrote. A line from the poem that really grounds me is "Clap at sunsets; Wow at Dawns. Talk Along the wind ... The Snow ... The Wave". This line always brings me back to reality. Wherever I may be stressed or feeling any sort of strong emotion, I read this and remember that the world is beautiful and that there is always light somewhere even on the darkest nights. He then goes on to finish that poem with "Say hello to your shadow and say: It's me again". This always brings me back to his virtue of never forgetting who you are.

Sandro always found beauty in this world and just like him, I have a great sense of pride when it comes to my roots and family. Following in his footsteps, I aim to preserve this view of life, the view that accepts the world around us, just like Sandro did, and just like the people of Piacenza did.





# **ROBERT D. KLOOSTERMAN**

Piacenza, located in the heart of Emilia-Romagna, boasts a deep and alluring history. Its picturesque surroundings and cultural richness have made it a captivating destination for centuries. From its ancient roots to its present-day charm, Piacenza boasts a rich and alluring history with its importance within Europe.

Piacenza has a long history, with evidence of settlements from the Neolithic era. It became especially prominent in Roman times.

Founded as Placentia in 218 BC as a Roman military hub to protect against the Gauls, its importance grew due to its location on the Via Emilia, a key Roman road facilitating commerce and expansion.

After the fall of Rome, Piacenza went through centuries of chaos and conquering as different groups fought for control. In the Middle Ages, it became a thriving trade hub, attracting merchants from all over Europe. It was in Piacenza where the Council of Piacenza declared the First Crusade. During this period, Piacenza also built important landmarks like the grand Palazzo Gotico and the impressive Piacenza Cathedral, which are reminders of its medieval grandeur.

During the Renaissance, Piacenza experienced a cultural renaissance. The Farnese family generously supported the arts, turning the city into a hub for artists and scholars. Piacenza's impressive art and architecture, showcased in masterpieces like the Farnese Palace, stand as a testament to this period of cultural brilliance.

Over the subsequent centuries, Piacenza flourished as a hub for commerce, enterprise, and the arts. Yet, it faced incursions, conflicts, and political turmoil. During the 1800s, France annexed Piacenza under the Napoleon campaign across Europe, however, later in the century Piacenza actively participated in the Italian unification movement, eventually integrating into the United Kingdom of Italy in 1860. Many stolen artworks that were plundered by the Frech remain in French museums to this day.

Piacenza's journey, from its establishment as a Roman outpost to its flourishing as a modern-day province, showcases the unwavering spirit of its inhabitants. Through preserving its cultural roots while embracing advancements, Piacenza keeps evolving, creating a vibrant history that will continue to captivate hearts and minds in the years to come.

### VINCENT J. RIVELLESE

### Nonno Jimmy - By Vincent Rivellese

My Nonno, Giacomo (Jimmy) Rapacioli was born on August 14, 1939 in Morfasso, Italy in the province of Piacenza. He was one of nine children born to Guido Rapacioli and Giuditta Binelli Rapacioli. In January 1959, Jimmy traveled from Genoa to New York by ship with his parents and two older brothers, Celeste and Franco. Silvio Schiavi, a fellow Piacentini and good friend of my greatgrandfather, helped the family by sponsoring their immigration, and assisting them to find jobs. When they arrived, they found a small apartment in Harlem. The rest of the children stayed back in Italy in Casa Delle Donne for about a year while the family saved enough money to reunite in America.



The morning after his arrival in New York, Nonno started work as a dishwasher at Laurent Restaurant in Manhattan. He would spend his entire career there. He met my French grandmother, Eliane, at Laurent while he was a waiter. They married on January 28, 1967. In 1968, James Rapacioli became a naturalized American citizen (and changed his first name). He received a letter from Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller for the occasion. In 1970, their only daughter, my mother Nadine was born. They lived in the Bronx, close to the rest of the Rapaciolis, until 2005. In 1973, Nonno partnered with his childhood friend and Societa Val Trebbia e Val Nure member, Natalina Arrigoni, to become owners of the Laurent. It was a renowned restaurant, but it closed long before I was born.

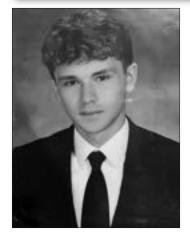
My grandfather taught me how to properly set a table, and I inherited his love of good food. Prosciutto di Parma, salami, Parmigiano-Reggiano, and polenta with cotechino are some of my favorite foods. At Christmas, Nonno would always make sure I had a torrone in my stocking and roasted chestnuts in the oven. He would retell the story of his childhood Christmases, when he would get an orange and walnuts in his sock, and his godfather would give him a torrone. To this day, more than five years after his death, we always leave a piece of torrone out for him on Christmas Eve.

After he got sick, my grandparents moved back from Pennsylvania to live with us. In my backyard, Nonno taught me how to tie the tomatoes, grow and harvest cucumbers, and plant basil and rosemary. We would water and watch the garden grow throughout the summer. He would send me out to pick vegetables and fresh herbs for the dinner salads.

One of my fondest memories is playing bowling together on the Wii. Though he was sick for most of my life and couldn't do many active things, his spirit never left him, and it really shone through during our competitive Wii marathons. It gave me a sense of what he was like as a child in Piacenza. When he told me that he escaped on a horse the day he was supposed to start at the seminary, I was not at all surprised. Nonno also taught me how to play rummy and bocce. Even in his last months, when he could no longer walk, we played tabletop miniature bocce together.

My Nonno was a proud member of the Societa, which he joined shortly after its founding. Although he was never educated beyond fifth grade, he was very proud when my mom first graduated from college and then got her law degree. Because he thought getting an education was important, he devoted time to raising money for the Societa's scholarship fund. He reached out to friends, family and business contacts far and wide for contributions to the journal, and made sure they got a copy of the journal book after the event. Even when I was very young, he would insist that I go with him to the Scholarship Dinner. I remember I would come downstairs in my dress clothes, and he would tell me how handsome I looked as he put on his tie. I never liked getting dressed up, but I would do it for him (and for the cotechino). He would proudly carry or walk me around to the tables, introducing me to his old friends. We also never missed a Father's Day picnic, where we would play bocce and cards, have lots of food, and hope to win something in the raffles.

While Twas never able to travel with my Nonno to Italy, I hope to make it there this summer and see my Zia Rina, his sister, who still lives in Borgotaro in the Province of Parma.



## SEAN C. WILSON

Piacenza is the westernmost of the nine provinces that make up the Emilia Romagna region of Italy. Being located in Northern Italy, 3⁄3 of the landscape of the province is defined by mountains. Throughout history, Piacenza has been known for its delicious foods and religious connection, with it being home to a number of famous churches/basilicas. However, in the 20th century another subject of interest, one that is shared by most of Italy, left its impacts on Piacenza. The subject in question is of course soccer, the national sport of Italy.

In 1919, Piacenza earned the privilege of having a professional soccer team of their own for the first time. Piacenza Calcio affiliated itself with the Italian Football Federation in this year and took the name Piacenza Football Club. The

team known as the Biancorossi, or Papaveri (a nickname they would earn), traveled all over Italy proudly representing the province of Piacenza. Piacenza Football Club slowly climbed the ranks of Italian Professional Soccer to the point where they played in Serie A for a number of years. Piacenza Football Club would become a soccer team known worldwide and represented a small provincial team that was not afraid to challenge the giants of the sport. At their height, Piacenza Football Club was a true underdog story that brought respect and honor to the region.

Piacenza Football Club proudly calls the Leonardo Garilli Stadium home. The stadium is named after Leonardo Garilli, who died on December 30, 1996. Garilli was a former president of Piacenza Football Club whose dedication helped the club achieve their greatest successes. The stadium was originally built in 1969. At that time it only had a capacity of 12,000 and was named The Galleana, after the city where it is located. However, when Piacenza Football Club earned promotion to Serie A they required a larger stadium to compete in Italy's top division. Given this, in 1993 the stadium underwent major renovation, upgrading the capacity to 21,668 in the process. On various occasions, the stadium has even been the host for Italian National Team games.

Unfortunately in the early 2000s, Piacenza Football Club faced some major hardships. The club went from just missing out on the Serie B promotion playoff to being relegated two consecutive seasons, thus forcing them to play in the Serie D division, which is the fourth division of Italian soccer and not even considered professional. The lack of success of the team correlated with financial challenges that would force the club to file for bankruptcy in 2012. This however was not the end of the club.

The Gatti family took over the club with a promise to rebuild it. Under the new ownership, the team had to play their first season with new owners under the name Lupa Piacenza in the Eccellenza division. In their first season, they would win the Eccellenza earning promotion back to Serie D and earning the rights to use the Piacenza Calcio 1919 name. In the 2015-2016 season, Piacenza would win their group of Serie D and earn promotion to Serie C, thus rejoining the ranks of professional soccer teams in Italy. The 2016-2017, their first season back as a professional team under the new ownership, would see the team finishing sixth in the Girone A division of Serie C. The team finished that season with seventeen wins, ten draws, and eleven losses.

Since then, the goal of the club has been to return to Serie B through earning promotion. Unfortunately, that has not gone to plan as the team is currently playing back in Serie D. However, they are currently winning Group B of Serie D. For the season, they have nineteen wins, six draws, and seven loses with six more games left to play. Hopefully the team can earn promotion to Serie C this season and one day return to their previous glory as one of the top soccer teams in all of Italy.

# AVA P. ZULANDI

I have heard many stories of the city of Piacenza from my grandfather, but I never realized how rich in culture the city is. The city is situated in the northern part of Italy in the Emilia-Romagna region, Piacenza serves as a fascinating historical city that offers a unique blend of cultural heritage and agriculture. It is nestled at the confluence of the Po and Trebbia rivers, the city boasts a rich history that dates back to ancient times.



Founded as a Roman military colony in 218 BC with the name 'Placentia',

Piacenza was strategically important for its position on the Roman Via Aemilia. The city played a crucial role in ancient Roman military logistics, serving as a gateway between northern and southern Italy. Throughout the centuries, Piacenza endured numerous invasions, from the Lombards to the Franks.

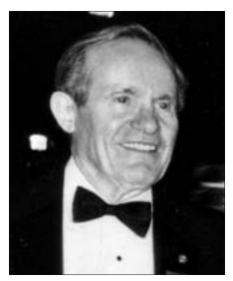
Piacenza's rich history is shown within its diverse architectural landscape. The city's heart is marked by Piazza dei Cavalli, home to the equestrian statues of Alessandro and Ranuccio I Farnese, which are masterpieces of Baroque art. Another rich part of the landscape is the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta and San Giustino. It was built in the 12th century and features a stunning facade of Romanesque architecture and houses precious artworks, including frescoes and sculptures that narrate the city's religious and artistic history.

Some of the culture that has always interested me is that Piacenza has such a vibrant hub, with numerous theaters, galleries, and museums that celebrate its heritage and arts. The Municipal Theater, Teatro Municipale, built in the 19th century, is a central venue for opera, music, and ballet performances, reflecting the city's rich musical legacy inspired by figures such as Giuseppe Verdi. Today it is still running fan favorite operas and ballet shows that anyone can go see and enjoy.

Piacenza is also renowned for its culinary prowess, being part of Italy's Food Valley. The region is famous for its Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) products, including salumi like pancetta, coppa, and salame Piacentino, as well as many cheeses such as Grana Padano and Provolone Valpadana. These delicacies reflect the rich history that this city has and all that it has to offer. I am lucky to say that my Great Great grandfather owned an Osteria within the city. He owned a family style restaurant that would serve home cooked meals to the families of Matera. Many nights of the week he would gather everyone for card games and other games for the children while serving them a variety of delicacies that everyone would enjoy.

Piacenza is a city that proudly preserves its historical and cultural identity while continuously evolving. Its architectural splendors, vibrant cultural scene, and exquisite culinary traditions make it not just a city to visit but an experience to relish forever. I am very lucky and proud to say that I have come from a descendant of this beautiful city.

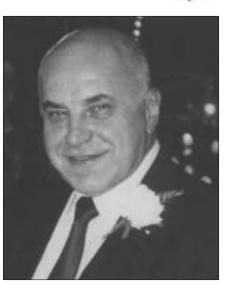
# Societá Val Trebbia e Val Nure, Inc.



Frank Forlini

# Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure Scholarship Fund 1969 - 2024

55 years ago two caring men recognized the importance of education in their community. Their heritage, culture and family values were the motivation for them to give back to those in need, by nurturing and providing educational assistance to the next generation.



Paul Draghi



Little did they know that what they proposed, during a Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure meeting, would be overwhelmingly approved by the members and that those and future members, would for many years support, in any way possible, the noble goal of awarding scholarships to our youth. No one knew if it would succeed or how long it would last but thanks to the leadership of the co-founders, **Paul Draghi** and **Frank Forlini**, their vision has been fulfilled for 55 years and is ready to support a third generation of students! We thank these caring men for supporting our children and our children's children, for leading us down a path of giving and for persevering in their quest to give life to the Societa Val Trebbia e Val Nure Scholarship Fund.

God bless **Paul and Frank,** 

co-founders, members and valued friends.

### 2023 Scholarship Gala

























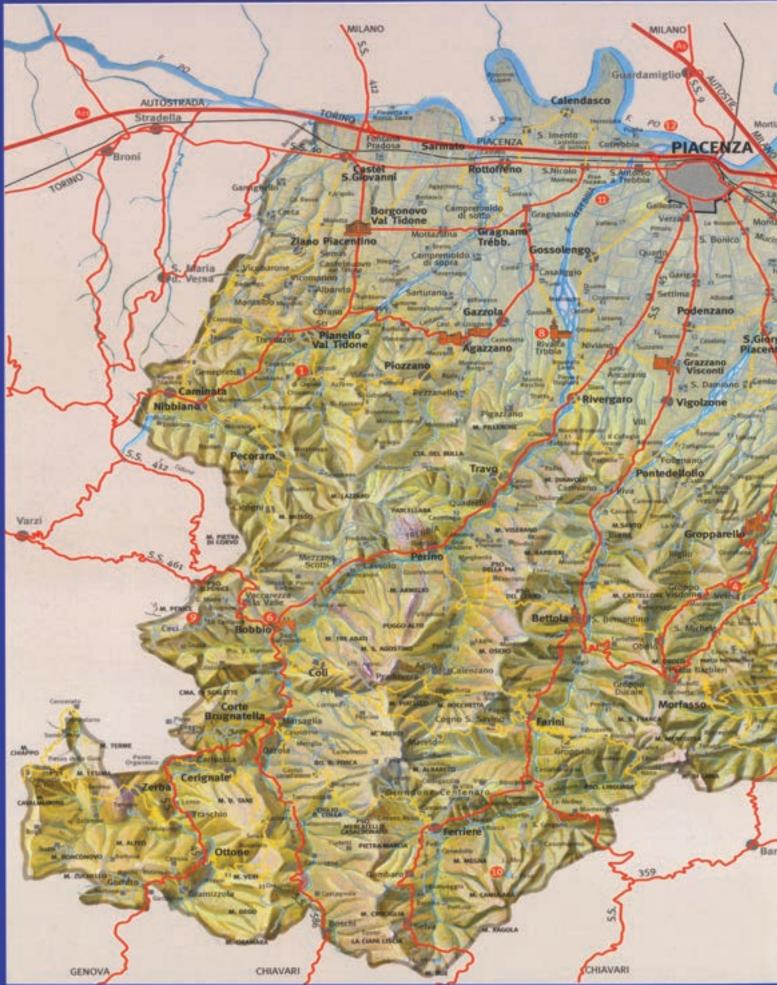




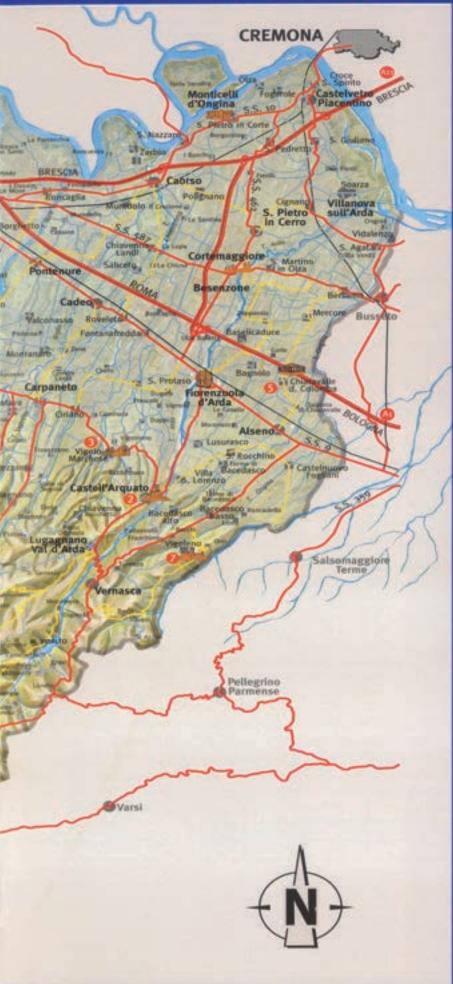




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# 2023 Scholarship Gala







































2023 Christmas Party











































2024 Ski Trip













































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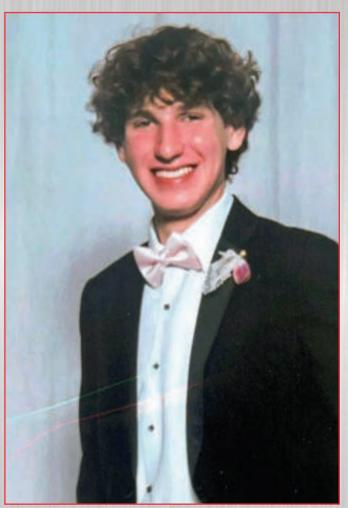






## Congratulations Vincent! NONNO & NANA WOULD BE SO VERY PROUD.





love, *Mom* 



#### Congratulations to All Scholarship Recipients

# Domenica & Cesare Guglielmetti and Family



#### Congratulations to **Michael Frank Illuzzi** and **Each of The Scholarship Recipients**

"All you need is faith in God, an undying passion for what you want to do and a relentless drive to do whatever it takes to be successful".

-Stephen Curry

On the mat, on the court and at your desks, each of you have already hit it out of the park!



Keep up the great work! We'll be cheering from the stands!

Love,

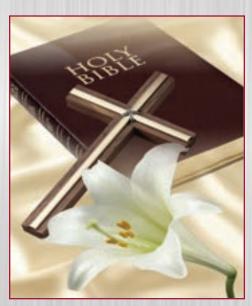
Grandma Marie, Grandma Kathy, Aunt Dorothy, Uncle Tony, Aunt Karen, Uncle John, Aunt Joan, Natalie and all your Cousins!





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# of charles and arcolina monzeglio



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#### Congratulations to my grandson

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Nonno Chuck and Family

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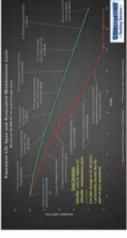
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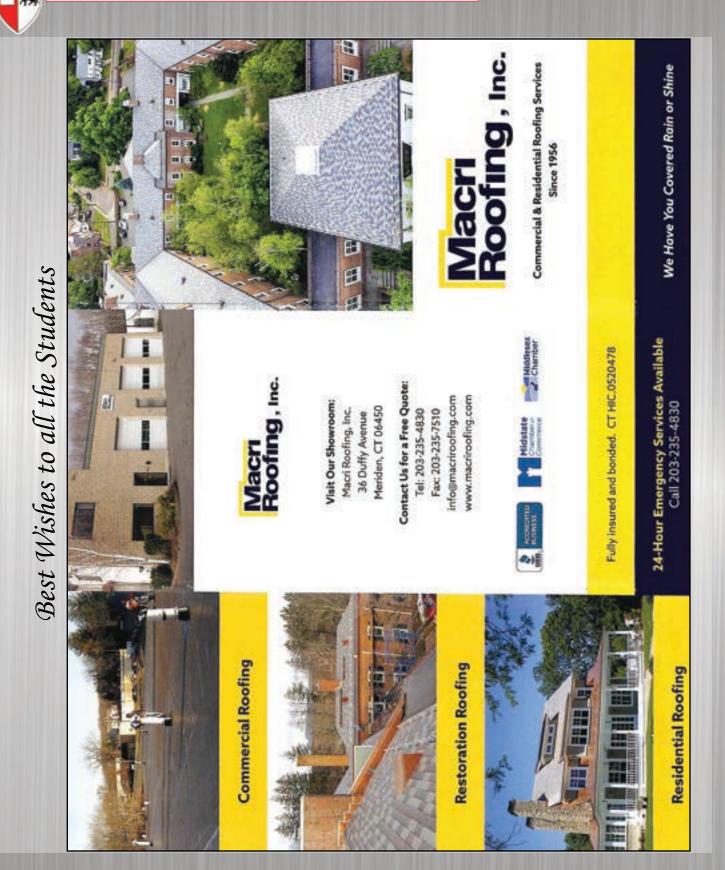
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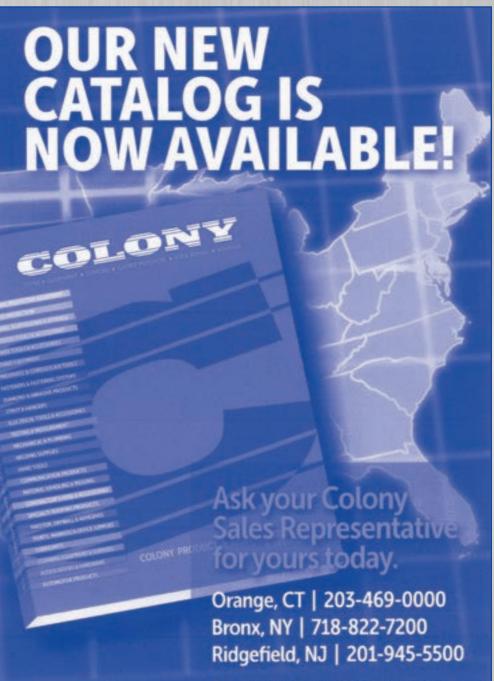
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We carry your sweet memory in our hearts each day.



With much love, Your Family



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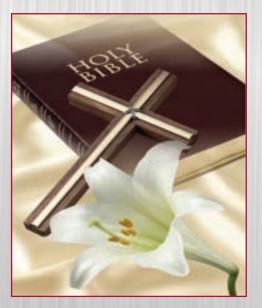
#### of

OUR GRANDPARENTS

# paul & catherine draghi

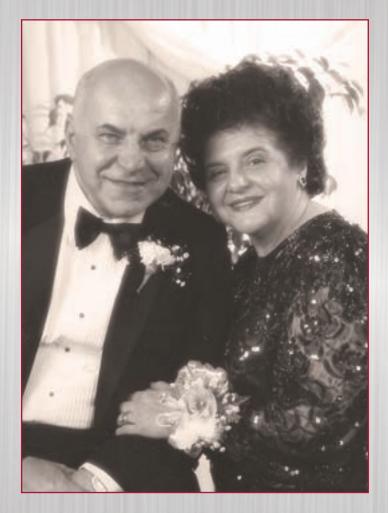
#### YOU MADE US LAUGH AND TAUGHT US HOW

TO LEARN AND GROW.



WE MISS YOU, YOUR LOVING GRANDCHILDREN, MARC, CHRISTINE, CHRISTOPHER, PAUL, ERIC, CRAIG, STEPHEN, NICHOLAS, JENNIFER, KIMBERLY AND DAVID

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS PAUL & CATHERINE



You are our strength, our compassion and our courage, We will always love you and the heartfelt memories you have given us,

Your adoring children, we miss you very much. David, Rita, Mark, Lisa, Nancy and Diane

ייייר

### IN MEMORIA di ERNESTO E LINA GAZZOLA



#### I Figli, Nipoti e Pronipoti Ricordano

Congratulations to All the Students and Best of Luck in the Future

# IN LOVING MEMORY OF... LINDA JOYCE GAZZOLA



from The Gazzola Family Gianfranco, Marc, Anna, Carl, Vanessa and Sofia

The day starts with thoughts of you The day ends with thoughts of you



# We miss you and love you Franca, Fabio, Cristina, Seth and Jack

Best wishes for a bright future to all the students

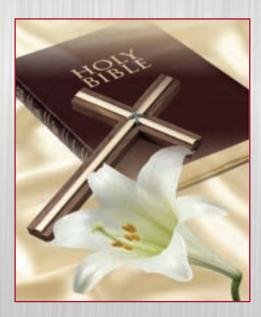
#### Best Wishes to the Students

#### in memory

#### of

# fr. louis scagnelli

#### YOU ARE ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS.



#### CHUCK MONZEGLIO AND FAMILY

# In loving memory of secondo Boletti caterina Boletti lucia Boletti Gagliardo



Congratulations

to All the Scholarship Winners

### **Enrico Boletti**







We are so incredibly proud of you! Every day you continue to amaze us with your talent and determination. Stay kind, stay funny, and most important stay you.

Love Always, Mom, Dad, and Sa



# **congratulations Jack & Vincent**

Make a Splashl,

Cousins Iim, Ien & Rose LaBarbera Zio Renzo & Zia Lucretia 2024



Congratulations to our Grandson Jack! We are so proud of all your accomplishments. Love, Grandma & Grandpa 

Congratulations Vincent! Best of Luck in College. Love, Zia Silvana & Zio Pino

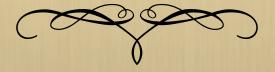




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Congratulations and Best Wishes to All The Students

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Louis Covati & Son



## Best Wishes

to All The Students



## Associazione Nazionale Alpini Sezione di New York

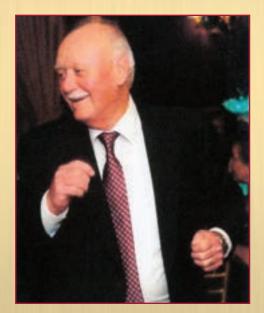
150-46 10th AVENUE WHITESTONE, N.Y. 11357 Tel.: (718) 767-1599

> Alpini and Amici



# In loving memory of My Husband Claudio and My Daughter Laura

A life that touches others goes on forever You will be forever missed





Love you always, your Wife and Mom **Josephine** 

## Remembering Many Wonderful Years Forlini's Restaurant 1943-2022







Congratulations to the All of the Scholarship Recipients The Forlini & Solano Families

Congratulations to all the 2024 Scholarship Recipients IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR "SUPERMAN" JOSEPH S. FORLINI



Though you were taken from us too soon, there is not a day that goes by that we don't miss you dearly.



Thank you for always watching over our growing family.

All our Love, Lisa, Paul, Kristen, Stephen, Tara, Nicholas, Zina, Jennifer "Little" Joey, Johnny and Leonardo

## Congratulations to Stephen and Tara

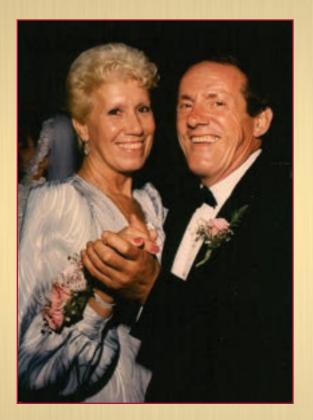


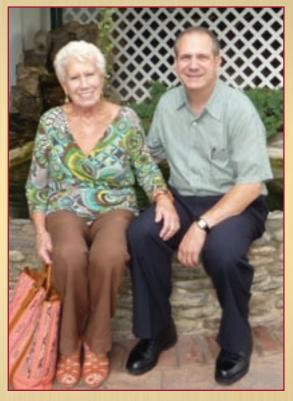
on the birth of their son, Leonardo Stephen Forlini. & Nicholas and Zina



on your wedding engagement. Cheers to many years of love and happiness. **Love Always and Forever, Mom** 

# IN LOVING MEMORY of MY HUSBAND hugo and My Son JOEY





YOU ARE DEEPLY MISSED LOVE, YOUR WIFE & MOM **ANDREINA** 

## in loving memory of hugo forlini

YOU LEFT BEHIND SOME ACHING HEARTS THAT LOVED YOU MOST SINCERE WE NEVER SHALL AND NEVER WILL FORGET YOU AND YOUR LOVING SMILE



YOUR LOVE WILL BE PART OF OUR LIVES FOREVER. WE MISS YOU AND LOVE YOU VERY MUCH,

YOUR CHILDREN,

JOEY, LISA, ALDO, STEPHEN, ANN MARIE, CAROLINE & QUINNY

AND

YOUR GRANDCHILDREN,

PAUL, STEPHEN, NICHOLAS, JENNIFER, ANDREA, JOE, SUZANNE, QUENTIN, ANDREINA & DANIEL

## IN MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED BROTHER & UNCLE JOSEPH S. FORLINI



YOUR KINDNESS AND LOVE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN WE MISS YOU AND LOVE YOU VERY MUCH,

ALDO, STEPHEN, ANN MARIE, CAROLINE & QUINNY

and

ANDREA, JOE, SUZANNE, QUENTIN, ANDREINA & DANIEL

# In loving memory of ... agatha & filippo BUZZONE



ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS.

WITH LOVE, STEVIE & ANN MARIE, ANDREA, JOSEPH, JULIANE AND SUZANNE

ກາກ

God saw you were getting tired And a cure was not to be, So He put His arms around you And whispered come to me. With tearful eyes we watched you And saw you pass away. Although we loved you dearly, We could not make you stay. A precious heart stopped beating; Hard working hands at rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.



## Lorraine

Your courage, fight and determination is an inspiring example of how we should live our lives...Live, Love, Laugh You will be forever missed.

> Love, Diane, Mark and Family

# in loving memory of... REGINA ARMANDO



#### Mother's Hands

Hands that rocked the cradle From the moment of my birth, Their tender touch remembered By those still on this earth.

Soft as silk those hands That taught me how to pray, Banishing childhood fears; They soothed each one away.

When I grew much older And troubles came my way, Those hands caressing mine Did more than words could say.

Mother's hands were gentle, They're missed so very much, I'd give the world to feel once more Their warm and tender touch.

Those hands were full of comfort Now they lie at rest, But memory holds them close To the ones they served the best.

We will miss your gentle touch **Diane, Mark and Family** 

## in loving memory

## of our

## **BELOVED PARENTS**

# Bartolomeo & Giovanna picca



WITH ALL OUR LOVE, MARIA, ROSA, BENNY & JOE



## in loving memory of...

THE MEN WHOSE EFFORTS, LIFE EXPERIENCES, AND WISDOM MADE ME THE MAN I AM.

lodovico ferrari **GIOVINI BERGONZI** pete costa pete Garilli nono paul Bonfiglio equo franciso ferrari livio minelli frank forlini

ercole gazzola GIACOMO GIANNICO agostino lattinelli gianguido schavi JOE CAFARO nunzio fera hugo forlini enrico speroni carlo lattinelli

Many thanks for your patience, and caring,

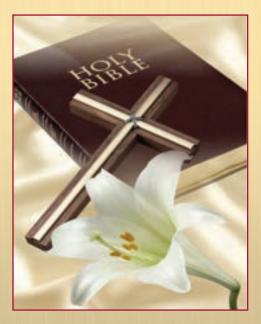
PAUL FERRARI

# In loving memory of our nonna, **Rosa pagliughi** and uncle, **pietro pagliughi**



## WITH ALL OUR LOVE, MARIA, ROSA, BENNY AND JOE

# IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR ENRICO AND MARIA SPERONI Also IN MEMORY OF MY BROTHERS JOHN AND EUGENE SPERONI



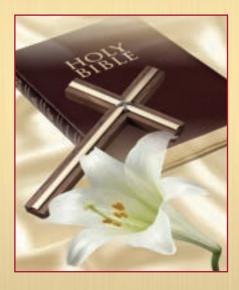
Always in my Heart, with all my love, Louis Speroni

## in loving memory

## of

## OUR PARENTS

## frances & mario cella AND ethel & lodovico migliorini

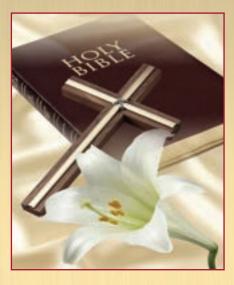


## ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS, JOHN & LORETTA CELLA

and

FAMILY

## In loving memory of GIOVANNI BERGONZI



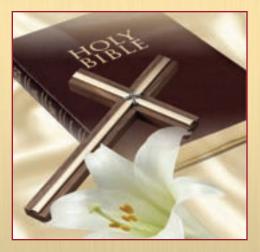
## angiolina ferrari bergonzi

We miss your loving smiles, your loving eyes... We miss all of you...

From all of us that you have touched, encouraged, embraced and enriched our lives, we thank you and we love you.

Your adoring CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN, FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

# in loving memory of albert, mez G peter taffurelli



ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS, Albert & Virginia and Family

MaryEllen and Family

# In honor of our Father and Mother Antonio and Grace GREGORI





Love,

**James Gregori and Family** 

## BERNARÓ DOMENICO CAMIA

JULY 26, 1935 – JULY 11, 2024

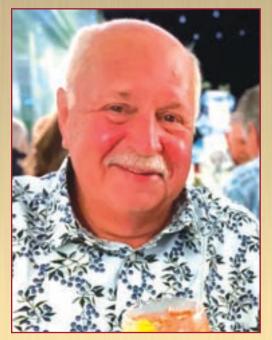


Bernie was a dear friend and a very important Life Member of our Societa'. He was a mainstay at our meetings and at our functions and his advice was invaluable. He cared very much that our club move forward in a positive direction and attract new generations of members. He was proud that three of his grandchildren became members.

Moe i Ka Maluhia (Rest in Peace). You will be missed by all of us.

## Members of The Societa' Val Trebbia e Val Nure

## In Memory of Our Fellow Member



# eugene l. speroni

#### 1960-2024

Beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend, Gene loved growing up in Brooklyn. His neighborhood and community there shaped his life in so many wonderful ways. He met and married his wife, Janet, in Brooklyn. They were married for over 40 years, and together for over 48 years.

Gene was a meticulous and passionate accountant who was always giving every ounce of knowledge to help a friend. He had a long career doing what he loved. Between accounting, the New York Jets, and his family, he shaped a life he was proud of. He was a determined and generous man.

Gene was an adored father to Melissa and Juliana, a respected father-in-law to Tom and Ilan and a fun and goofy grandfather to Genevieve, Avery, James and Nicholas. Gene's memory will live on through his family and all who knew him.

#### Members of The Societa' Val Trebbia e Val Nure



## Need a Page

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND TO THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE



## Andrea, Joseph & Suzanne Forlini

Congratulations to all the 2024 Scholarship Recipients, Especially to our great nephew Sean Christopher Wilson

Wishing you all the best at Marist!

We Love You

Aunt Ri, Uncle Herb and Uncle Joe



## IN LOVING MEMORY OF... JAMES & ELAINE RAPACIOLI



Love,

## Nadine & Vincent

CONGRATULATIONS

to Jack Cavanna

and All the Students

Best Wishes, Nadine & Vincent Rivellese

## GOD BLESS ALL THE STUDENTS

# Giuseppe Ciregna e Famiglia

## Michael Illuzzi

We are so proud of you, for your unwavering commitment to your education and personal growth. Your hard work and determination are truly inspiring!

As you set your sights on achieving your dreams, we want to encourage you to continue striving for excellence. The future is bright, and we believe in you every step of the way.

## Love, Mom, Dad and Grace



## Piacenza nel Mondo Festa A Morfasso (PC)



**Foto:** Patrizia Bernelich nuova eletta Presidente di Piacenza nel Mondo cosegna a Gianfranco Gazzola il premio Piacentino Benemerito.

Auguri a Gianfranco Gazzola, che quest'anno e' stato Premiato da Piacenza nel Mondo a Morfasso (PC) per il suo impagno di portare avanti le usanze e valori piacentini a New York come socio e officer dell'Associazione Val Trebbia E Val Nure.

Nato settantatré anni fa in una frazione di Travo, si è trasferito a 17 anni a New York con la famiglia. Nella Grande mela, dopo aver lavorato nel noto ristorante "Laurent" e aver concluso gli studi tecnici, ha vinto un concorso per la città diventando responsabile di diversi settori, da quello dell'acqua a quello dell'inquinamento. Dal 2017, in pensione, e ogni anno trascorre in Val Trebbia le vacanze.

## LIBERTA

#### A NewYork emigrati insieme sulla neve e insegnano a fare "turtei" e crostata che Giovanni Piazza, già presiden-pano, ma pure nuove famiglie che

Tra le iniziative della Società Valtrebbia Valnure corsi di cucina, serate di canzoni e giochi

Da Villa Mosconi di New York la Società Valtrebbia Valnure annunciail programma di attività del 2024. Nei giorni scorsi una quarantina di soci si sono ritrovati nell'assemblea dell'associazione, riuniti dal consiglio direttivo guidato-dal presidente Diego Segalini, la cui famiglia è originaria di Bettola, L'incontro, che si tiene una volta al mese da settembre a maggio, unisce la convivialità alla programmazione, indispensabile per mantenere vivi i rapporti tra le famiglie di origine piacentina e la cultura del nostro territorio anche oltreoceano.

Alla riunione ha partecipato an-

tedi "Piacenzanelmondo" e componente della Consulta degli Emiliano Romagnoli, collegato da Parigi dove si trovava proprio per un impegno della Consulta.

La Società Valtrebbia Valnure conanche figli e nipoti nati negli Usa e che vogliono rimanere legati alle radici anche in questo modo. Nell'ultimo anno -informa il presidente Segalini - abbiarno dato il benvenuto a una dozzina di nuoví soci; la metà sono giovani e questo è bello perché danno alla Sodi 70 anni ed è bello vedere che ci sono famiglie di origine dei fondatori sempre atthée che parteci-

vengono a New York-

Da parte di tutti c'è il desiderio di nonfar spezzare quel filo che lega New York con il territorio piacentino. E l'impegno del presidente Segalini va in quella direzione. ta oggi più di 300 soci piacentini, «Insieme ai momenti di aggregaessi stessi emigrati a New York, ma zione e al nostro impegno di erogare horse di studio al giovani meritevoli - spiega - sto cercando di portare avanti la conoscenza della nostra cultura piacentina che altrimenti andrebbe persa. Vorrei celebrare le tradizioni e divulgarle per noi qui a New York. Sono quindi in fase di programmaziocietà una prospettiva di futuro. La ne corsi di cucina placentina, dai Società Valtrebbia Valnure ha più turtei alla crostata, una serata di canzoni e glochi (anche briscola e scopa), di degustazione di vini con la Cantina Valtidone che è il wine sponsor ufficiale della Socie-

tà. Per me è un onore portare avanti questa storia e trovare modi dimantenere e crescere la comunitk».

L'anno si è aperto con il "Winter weekend, la tre giorni sulla neve che si è tenuta dai 17 al 19 febbraio a Catskill, nellazona montana dello Stato di New York, e ha riunito tante famiglie. Il prossimo evento sarà il pic nic per la festa del papà chenegliUsasifesteggiaaglugno, dove-silincontreranno i Segalini, i Draghi, el Forlini, Gazzola, Cavanna, Guglielmetti, Segalini, Galli nari, Mosconi e Bruzzi. Non mancherknemmenonel 2024 il grande evento della consegna delle borse di studio a giovani meritevoli, già fissato per il 20 ottobre prossimo a New York.

Nadla Plucani



Famiglie Castignoli, Forlini, Segalini al "Winter Weekend" a Catskill



# zie a YouTube non perdiamo una parti E anche nella Grande Mela si tifa Piacenza

Will.

zagliardetto al presidente Polenghi La Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure di New York ha inviato un

re biancorosse dell'amato Piace e una comunità piacentina dall'altra Un gruppo di piacentini si ritrova una volta al mese in un ristoran-Niente di strano. Il locale in questione però è inserito nel Gresantidi New York. A pochi passi dal bancone addobbato con le bandiee stampe raffiguranti i simboli della nostra città, ecco le riunioni dela Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, Riusciamo a "sbirciare" dalla porte che si chiama Villa Mosconi enwich Village, uno dei cuori pulparte dell'Oceano.

gliardetto della comunità che ha in i, lo speaker del Piacenza Calcio che ha incontrato i membri della Società in un pranzo a maggio, nentre era in vacanza a New York. Merli ha omaggiato i conterranei newvorkesi di una maglia biancoossa, ricevendo in cambio un gaa principale grazie a Lorenzo Mer-



Societá Val Trebbia e Val Nure, Inc.

A sinistra, i piacentini d'America con la maglia biancorossa portata dallo speaker Lorenzo Merli e, a destra, il presidente Marco Polenghi a Piacenza con alcuni tifosi e il gagliardetto giunto dagli Usa

ne in Serie C del suo Piace, dopo seguito donato, insieme ai soci del "Vecchio Cuore Biancorosso", allo aver seguito ogni gara grazie a Youabbiato per la mancata promoziostesso presidente Marco Polenghi Fra le storie dei "piacentini d'America", arriva quella di Carlo Gazzoa, originario di Perino e ancora arube. Poiil presidente dell'associa-

ne e Pippo Inzaghi alla sua città di zione Diego Segalini, che da lontano, insieme a papà Peter, rimase abbagliato dalla grande squadra di centini) negli Usa, che ormai non si stupisce più di quando gli statunitensi associano i nomi di Simo-Ma anche di Paul Bazzini, distribu tore di vini italiani (soprattutto pia-Gigi Cagni promossa in Serie A.

provenienza. E infine di Sergio Segalini, organizzatore degli eventi mento. Un altro tifoso del Piace che si fida della società guidata da Polenghi ed è soddisfatto del ritorno della comunità e punto di riferiche negli Statese, se il Piacenza Cal-Le notizie di Libertà arrivano andi De Vitis in società.

con una quota del 10% circa. Per il degli imprenditori legati a questo club di New York sarebbero stati noranza nella società di via Gorra, Paolo Borella pronti ad entrare come soci di mi-Piace a stelle e strisce bisogna ancora aspettare, per ora accontentiamoci di un angolo di piacentini à nel cuore della Grande Mela.

cio fosse rimasto in Serie C, alcuni

# I piacentini di New York tornano nelle loro valli

I fratelli Gazzola e Segalini si sono incontrati l'altra sera alla festa di Villanova di Bettola

#### BETTOLA

 Un pezzettino di New York è arrivato nelle nostre valli. Sono tornate infatti alcune delle famiglie americane, newyorkesi in particolare, originarie di Valnure e Valtrebbia.

Si sono ritrovati l'altra sera, a Villanova di Bettola, nella festa di paese, i fratelli Segalini e i fratelli Gazzola. I primi sono originari di Vidonico di Bettola, mentre i secondi sono nati a Spinello, nel comune di Travo. Il loro ritorno è sempre una festa e lo sarà ancora di più quest'anno perché Gianfranco Gazzola sarà uno dei due piacentini benemeriti che riceverà il riconoscimento di Piacenza nel Mondo venerdì 16 agosto nella 28esima edizione dell'incontro provinciale delle comunità piacentine nel mondo. Con lui sarà premiato anche Renzo Inzani da Londra.

Gianfranco Gazzola, 73 anni, per 30 anni impiegato del Comune di New York nell'ufficio dedicato all'ambiente, è nella sua Valtrebbia con i fratelli Giorgio (e sua moglie Eleanor), Giuseppe e Mario, l'ultimo dei fratelli ancora in



I fratelli Gazzola e Segalini si sono incontrati a Villanova di Bettola ROTO PLUCANI

attività (avvocato di diritto internazionale), emigrati a New York nel 1968 con i genitori. Alla premiazione di Gianfranco Gazzola ci saranno anche Peter Segalini ed il figlio Diego, rispettivamente past president e attuale presidente della Società Valtrebbia e Valnure, il sodalizio istituito ne-

Gianfranco Gazzola sarà premiato da Piacenza nel Mondo

Con lui anche Renzo Inzani tornato da Londra gli anni '50 per celebrare e sostenere gli immigrati americani originari delle due vallate piacentine.

Ritornerà invece domani in New Jersey, dove vive, Sergio Segalini, fratello di Peter, dipendente di un'azienda di autonoleggio con autisti, recentemente candidato sindaco del suo paese, segretario della Società Valtrebbia e Valnure.

Sergio e Peter domenica sera non hanno voluto mancare all'appuntamento del Lions Club Bettola Valnure per applaudire e ringraziare Roberto Boiardi ed il suo instancabile lavoro di ricerca e di divulgazione dell'Italia nel mondo. \_NP



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#### NOW AVAILABLE IN THE U.S.!

Cheers to all of the **2024** scholarship recipients & to the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure for this time-honored tradition!

> Sole U.S. Agent: Paul Bazzini paul@bazziniwine.com | 516.721.5984