

# 56TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD JOURNAL



75TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF

Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, Inc.

NEW YORK - USA

PROVINCIA DI PIACENZA,

VALLI PIACENTINE

PRIMOGENITA D'ITALIA

*Sunday, November 23, 2025*

**RUSSO'S ON THE BAY**

162-45 Cross Bay Blvd. • Howard Beach, NY 11414

*In Loving Memory*  
*of*  
*Mark Draghi and Peter Segalini*  
Champions of Education and Community



Two outstanding leaders  
who will always be remembered.

With deep appreciation,  
Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure Members and Friends



## *Greetings. . .*

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

Benvenuti! Thank you so much for joining us at our 2025 Scholarship Awards Dinner & Dance. The Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure is proud to support the educational careers of our young people with scholarships to students for over 55 years.

We are grateful for your loyalty, support, and encouragement in growing our Scholarship Fund. As of this year, we have invested in over 560 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 2025 Scholarship Award Recipients.

*Marc Draghi*, Scholarship Chair

*Joe Bernardi*, Journal Director

*Sergio Segalini*, Corresponding Secretary



## *Message from the President*

Cari Amici,

**Buongiorno e Benvenuti!** It is a true honor to welcome you to our 2025 Scholarship Awards Dinner & Dance – the 56th annual event of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, and a very special occasion as we celebrate **75 years** of our organization. On behalf of the Board, I extend heartfelt gratitude to all our members, donors, and volunteers who make our work possible year after year. Your support keeps our traditions alive and ensures that our values of education, service, and community endure for generations to come – **thank you!**

Today, we celebrate not only our community's incredible legacy, but also the bright future of our young scholars. I would like to congratulate each and every one of our **Scholarship Award Recipients**, as well as our **Lifetime Honorees: Arleen Forlini Dunn Carragee and Paul Ferrari**. Their contributions and dedication to our organization are greatly appreciated by all of us.

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 Emilia-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!

This evening also holds deep personal meaning, as we honor the memories of two pillars of our community: my father, **Peter Segalini**, our immediate past President, and **Mark Draghi**, our longstanding Scholarship Chairman. Their dedication, friendship, and love for our community continue to guide and inspire us all.

I'm so proud of the remarkable resilience of our Piacentino community and deeply appreciate the unwavering support of our incredible soci (members). This evening is always particularly meaningful to me, as I once received a scholarship from this very 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.

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, Trustees, Councilors, Committees, and volunteers who work so hard all year long. We also thank members Carmen and Paul Bazzini who represent our official wine sponsors **Cantina Valtidone** and **Cantina Monteverdi** for their generous support.

Thank you all again for being here to celebrate our 2025 Scholarship Award Recipients and to support the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure.

**Buon divertimento e viva la nostra Società!**

*Cav. Diego S. Segalini*

President



**SOCIETA' VAL TREBBIA & VAL NURE INC.**

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501(c)(3) of the I.R.S.

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Assemblea legislativa

Consulta  
degli emiliano-romagnoli  
nel mondo

Bologna, 20/10/2025  
Protocollo: *vedi segnatura.XML*

*Alla Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, Inc.  
New York (USA)*

**Oggetto: 75° Anniversario Dinner & Dance della società Val Trebbia Val Nure (New York)**

Carissimi,

A nome mio e di tutta la Consulta degli Emiliano-Romagnoli nel Mondo, porgo i più sentiti e calorosi auguri alla Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure di New York in occasione del 75° anniversario dalla sua fondazione.

Un traguardo che testimonia l'impegno costante e appassionato, vostro e di chi vi ha preceduto, a favore della comunità emiliano-romagnola oltreoceano, attraverso numerosi progetti e iniziative che, nel corso degli anni, hanno contribuito a rafforzare i legami con le radici e a valorizzare l'identità culturale della nostra Regione nel mondo.

Sono 75 anni di storia, passione e dedizione: il vostro lavoro è una fonte di ispirazione. Che questo sia solo l'inizio di un futuro ancora più luminoso e pieno di successi.

Cari saluti a tutti voi,

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*Il Presidente della Consulta degli  
emiliano-romagnoli nel mondo  
cons. reg. Matteo Daffadà*



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**COMUNE DI PIACENZA**  
*Il Sindaco*

Cari Amici,

con grande gioia partecipo idealmente alla festa per la 75° edizione della Scholarship Dinner & Dance: un anniversario importante per un evento che è simbolo del vostro impegno nel mantenere saldo e profondo il legame tra passato e futuro, valorizzando una tradizione dalle solide radici e al tempo stesso coltivando e dando nuova linfa al talento delle giovani generazioni.

A nome dell'intera comunità piacentina, sono onorata di condividere, in questa circostanza, il ricordo commosso di Peter Segalini e Mark Draghi: due figure indimenticabili, che hanno rappresentato il fulcro della vostra attività e un esempio prezioso per tante persone. Proprio per questo sono certa che la loro testimonianza e la loro eredità morale sia stata raccolta con altrettanta responsabilità e dedizione, facendo sì che la vostra Associazione continui a essere un punto di riferimento insostituibile, un vero e proprio ponte che unisce al di là delle distanze chilometriche, abbracciando generazioni diverse nel nome dell'amore condiviso per la nostra terra.

Spero che questo breve messaggio vi porti, al di là delle parole scritte col cuore, la forza di un sentimento che attraversa l'Oceano: Piacenza, con affetto sincero, vi sente sempre vicini.

Congratulazioni vivissime a voi tutti!

***Katia Tarasconi***



Carissimi Amici della Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure vi giunga il mio più affettuoso saluto e un sentimento di profonda ammirazione per l'importante anniversario che andrete a celebrare il 23 novembre.

Complimenti per le significative finalità dell'associazione che rende onore al cuore generoso e sensibile dei Piacentini, in qualunque parte del mondo si trovino.

Lo spirito di collaborazione e del sostenersi vicendevolmente vi ha reso una grande famiglia su cui anche i Piacentini d'Italia possono contare.

I sacrifici che avete affrontato nello stare lontani dalla patria d'origine vi ha permesso di aprire il cuore agli altri manifestando sempre sincera amicizia.

Coloro che ricorderete perché volati in cielo, hanno costruito le fondamenta solide e sicure di uno stile di vita che ora tramandate alle nuove generazioni.

Un caro abbraccio da me e da tutti i Piacentini.

Patrizia Bernelich, presidente di Piacenza nel mondo.



## COMUNE DI BETTOLA

Bettola, 10/10/2025

Alla Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure

### **Oggetto: Lettera di congratulazioni**

Egredi Presidente e soci,

a nome dell'Amministrazione Comunale e di tutta la comunità di Bettola, desidero esprimere le più sincere congratulazioni per il traguardo di quest'anno la Vs. società raggiunge, con i 75 anni di attività, suggellati dal ricordo di Peter Segalini e Mark Draghi. La Vostra dedizione e il Vostro impegno hanno permesso di mantenere legami indissolubili con le comunità della nostra Valle.

Vi auguri ogni bene per il futuro e che possiate continuare a raggiungere traguardi sempre più importanti.

Cari saluti a tutti voi,

*Paolo Negri*

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Sindaco di Bettola  
**dott. Paolo Negri**



## COMUNE DI BOBBIO

Bobbio, 4/10/2025

Alla Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure

Carissimo Presidente Segalini,

e un carissimo saluto a tutti i Soci della Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure. E' con enorme piacere che Vi scrivo questo messaggio nell' approssimarsi della Vostra Festa annuale del 23 novembre p.v. che rappresenta il 75° Anniversario Scholarship Dinner & Dance, un traguardo importante e pieno di momenti significativi per i piacentini residenti negli Stati Uniti. Purtroppo non posso partecipare perché coincide con le celebrazioni del nostro Santo Patrono S. Colombano.

Quest'anno è stato terribile per la scomparsa di due membri attivi della Vostra Società, Peter Segalini già Presidente della Società e Mark Draghi. Due grandissime persone che hanno dato tantissimo alla Società e legate alla nostra terra piacentina. Peter originario del comune di Bettola, ogni anno tornava per vivere momenti spensierati nella terra d'origine insieme a parenti ed amici, l'ultima volta nel 2024 con la partecipazione alla festa di Villanova in Val Perino. Mark di origini Bobbiesi in quanto il papà Paul Draghi era nativo di Bobbio e alla sua scomparsa la Città di Bobbio gli aveva dedicato un via alla presenza della moglie, dei figli e dei nipoti. Mi piace ricordarli per come li ho conosciuti, grandi uomini che mancano certamente a Voi, a tutti i famigliari ma anche a me e a noi con i quali abbiamo passato momenti importanti quando siamo venuti a New York con il Coro Gerberto qualche anno fa.

Vi porto l'abbraccio mio, di mio figlio Marco, delle nostre famiglie e di tutti i bobbiesi che sono legati da affetto con la Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure augurandoVi che il momento conviviale con la distribuzione delle borse di studio ai giovani più meritevoli possa essere anche un momento per rinverdire i legami con la terra d'origine.

Un grandissimo abbraccio a tutti Voi con la speranza di poterci rivedere nei prossimi anni.

Cari saluti a tutti voi,

*Roberto Pasquali*

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Sindaco della Città di Bobbio  
**Roberto Pasquali**



## COMUNE DI FARINI

Farini, 20/10/2025

Alla Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, Inc.  
New York (USA)

**Oggetto: 75° Anniversario della Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure (New York)**

Carissimi,

vi mando i miei saluti da oltre oceano unitamente a vividi complimenti per quanto avete realizzato sino ad oggi, sino al festeggiamento di questo importante traguardo.

settantacinque anni non sono certo due giorni: si sono viste susseguirsi storie e personalità differenti, così come le abitudini e le esigenze sono mutate, ma la vostra origine vi ha mantenuti uniti e credo fermamente che continuerà a farlo.

Con grande dispiacere non riesco a raggiungervi, ma mi unisco spiritualmente a voi nel fare memoria di quanti oggi non ci sono più ed ancor prima di coloro che hanno vissuto, come il mio trisavolo, la migrazione sulla loro pelle; ma anche nel festeggiare questo importante anniversario con gli occhi ben rivolti al futuro.

Certo che il gorgoglio del trebbia e del nure vi manterrà saldi nell'amore per l'amata terra piacentina, mi congratulo e vi saluto con i migliori auguri.

Cari saluti a tutti voi,

*Marco Paganelli*

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Sindaco di Farini  
**Marco Paganelli**



Bettola, 28/10/2025

Alla Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure

**Oggetto: Un pensiero di vicinanza e memoria**

Carissimi,

La nostra piccola Associazione “Bettola nel Mondo”, da sempre vicina a tutti i figli della nostra terra che nel tempo sono emigrati in cerca di un futuro migliore per sé e per le proprie famiglie, desidera rinnovare il proprio abbraccio a tutti loro.

La nostra Associazione, impegnata nella valorizzazione storica e culturale delle radici bettolesi e della Val Nure, è vicina anche agli amici della Associazione Val Trebbia Val Nure, che condividono con noi lo stesso spirito di affetto per le proprie origini e di memoria verso chi parti.

Nel ricordare le tante vicende di emigrazione che hanno segnato le nostre comunità, non posso non pensare alla mia famiglia, che conobbe anch’essa la lontananza e la speranza di un nuovo inizio: mia nonna Bensi Clementina, emigrata a New York nel 1905, attraversò la celebre Ellis Island, simbolo di sacrificio e di coraggio per milioni di italiani.

A lei, e a tutti i nostri emigranti che con fatica e dignità hanno onorato le nostre valli nel mondo, dedico questo ricordo e invio a tutti voi un caloroso saluto e un affettuoso abbraccio.

Cari saluti a tutti voi,

*Roberto Boiardi*

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Presidente, Bettola nel Mondo  
**Roberto Boiardi**



Consolato Generale d'Italia  
New York  
Il Console Generale

New York, 7 novembre 2025

Gentile Cav. Segalini, *Caro Diego*

In occasione del 75° Anniversario della Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, porgo le più sentite felicitazioni a tutta la comunità.

Questo traguardo non celebra solo la longevità di un'istituzione, ma la forza di un legame indissolubile con l'Italia e con i valori delle Valli di origine. Onorando la memoria di figure chiave come l'amico Peter Segalini e Mark Draghi, e investendo al contempo sul futuro dei giovani attraverso le borse di studio, la Società dimostra una vitalità straordinaria.

All'intera Società, ai premiati e a tutti i presenti, giungano i miei più sinceri auguri per un futuro ricco di altrettanti successi, nel segno della cultura e dell'amicizia che uniscono i nostri due Paesi.

Con viva stima,

*Un grande un bacio di Diego  
per Peter*

Fabrizio Di Michele

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Cav. Diego R. Segalini  
Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure  
President  
[segalini@gmail.com](mailto:segalini@gmail.com)



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\*Deceased



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Cavanna, Silvana	Gazzola, Carl	Piccirello, Ralph	Zulandi, Ava P. (S)
Cella, John	Gazzola, Eleanor	Pidoriano, Joseph	Zulandi, Robert
Cella, Loretta	Gazzola, Gianfranco (L)	Poggioli, Joseph	Zulandi, Robert M.
Cheever, Cristina	Gazzola, Giorgio (L)	Porcello, Joe (L)	Zwilling, Herb (L)
Chiappelloni, Roberto (L)	Gazzola, Giorgio E.	Prati, Raymond	Zwilling, Jennifer A. (S)
Cipollina, Brian	Gazzola, Giuseppe (L)	Preli, Asa	Zwilling, Maria
Cipollina, Joanne			



# Best Wishes to the Class of 2025 Scholarship Contributors

Congratulations to the Class of 2025. . . . .	Charles F. Monzeglio, Jr. . . . .	\$1,250
Congratulations to the Class of 2025 . . . . .	Charles I. Monzeglio. . . . .	\$1,250
In Memory of Peter Segalini . . . . .	Diego, Daria and Giulio Segalini. . . . .	\$1,000
In Loving Memory of Frank and Louise Forlini . . . . .	Dr. John and Joanne Cipollina . . . . .	\$750
Congratulations to La Societa on your incredible milestone! . . . . .	Arleen and Mike Dunn . . . . .	\$750
Marie and Celestino Bruzzi. . . . .		\$500
In Memory of Mark Draghi . . . . .	David and Nancy Draghi . . . . .	\$500
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**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 **566 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 **56 years** of scholarship awards.

*Let's keep helping students reach their dreams  
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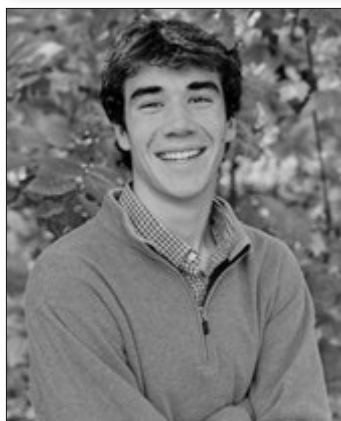
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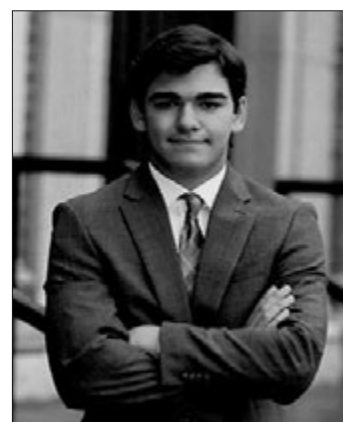


## SAMUEL CHAMBERLAIN ANANIA

Samuel C. Anania, Son of Chris and Kim. Nee Monzeglio. Graduate of Greely High School, High School Diploma; weighted GPA 95.766 AP Scholar Member of National Honor Society Member of Spanish National Honor Society St. Lawrence College Book Award for academic achievement and social conscience. Member Active Minds / Kyle Cares, Senior Mentor Greely High School freshman group, Can WE Project, JV/Varsity Soccer State Champions & All-Academic Team, Captain Varsity Track Indoor & Spring, Backpack for a Cause and Best Buddies Friendship Walk Fundraisers, Voices of Hope Documentary, Volunteer Bigs & Littles 1st and 3rd graders. Attending Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA.

## SAM JOSEPH CAVANNA

Sam J. Cavanna, son of Anthony and Maria, Nee Micela. Graduate of Eastchester High School. I Love History Award, Wrestling Team 2-time captain All Section and All County, Unified Sports, Partner Athlete for Athletes with disabilities, Eagle Scout BSA, Attending Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI.



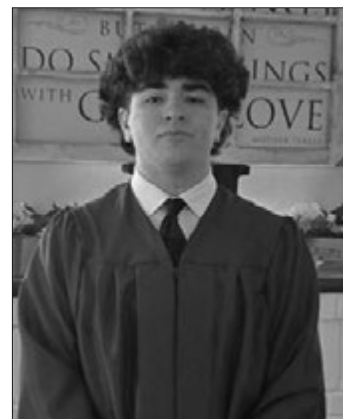
## GRACE GUGLIELMETTI

Grace Guglielmetti, daughter of Massimo and Audra. Graduate of Immaculate Heart Academy, National Honor Society (Vice President), Italian National Honor Society (Vice President), and Science National Honor Society. AP Scholar, Distinguished Honors, Italian Award, Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass Award (University of Rochester), KariAnn DellaPenta Award, Soaring Eagle Award, and Presidential Service Award. Co-President of DECA and competitive dancer. Attending Indiana University's Kelley School of Business in Bloomington, IN.



## MARK JAMES MANFREDI

Mark J. Manfredi, son of James and Gisele, Nee Valenzisi. Graduate of Monsignor Farrell High School. Freshman Baseball and JV, Flag Football, School Ambassador Service Awards 4 years. E-Sports competitive gaming, WFBN TV Studio, Sate Textbooks, Intramural Basketball, Holy Name Society. Attending The College of Staten Island.



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.  
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**



**LUKE PAUL PEDRETTI**

Luke P. Pedretti, son of Paul and Cindy. Graduate of Walt Whitman High School. High Honor Roll, Member of the Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society, English Honor Society, World Language Honor Society, National Honor Society, Varsity Volleyball, Varsity Badminton, High School Jazz Band, Business Honor Society. Attending Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA.

**DANIEL RAYMOND SOLANO**

Daniel R. Solano, son of Quentin and Caroline, Nee Forlini. Graduate of Monroe Woodbury High School. Tri-m Music Honor Society. High Honor roll for four years. Souza Scholarship recipient 2023 and 2025. Music Boosters Maestro Award 2022, 2023, 2025. Attending Wagner College Staten Island, NY.



**DANIEL RAYMOND TANGREDI**

Daniel R. Tangredi, Son of Raymond and Lisa, Nee Zaccarini. Graduate of Yorktown High School. High Honor Roll, Principal's List, Taekwondo Third Degree Black Belt, Track and field, Volunteer Love in action Non-Profit, Member of SADD and Law Enforcement Club. Attending SUNY Cortland, NY



# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

## SAMUEL CHAMBERLAIN ANANIA

During the Middle Ages, the city and province of Piacenza served as a vital area for political autonomy, conflicting against the feudal control of the Romans. It was located in the middle of trade routes, allowing it to develop economic and political power, modeling how to be self-governed to other provinces in northern Italy.

As a strong economic province, Piacenza was able to find its political independence from the Roman Empire. As it began to grow and grow rapidly, it commonly challenged the Romans and began to shift the political status in Italy. Ultimately, Piacenza's bravery in stepping up to be politically autonomous against the Romans led to the creation of the Lombard League. This league was a collection of cities that joined together to create an alliance and break away from the Roman Empire. These other cities and states were Milan, Bologna, Florence, and many more. Piacenza's history is a vital example of the power and importance of self-government. Many other countries around the world have been influenced by Piacenza.

Piacenza was also at a strategic location in between trade routes amongst neighboring cities and states. Being close to the Po River Valley, it was able to intersect these trade routes, making it easy for goods to be transported using water. Piacenza was also built along the famous Roman-built road, the Via Emilia. This road had good transportation as far as Ravenna and Bologna and allowed Piacenza to capitalize and become stronger economically. Being so close to the water, Piacenza was able to maintain agriculture, growing grapes and wheat, but also is known for their craft goods and food. Controlling natural resources like stone in the surrounding hills also played a vital role in their economic growth.

Piacenza's significance in the Middle Ages played a vital role in the growth of modern northern Italy. By being brave and stepping up to become politically autonomous and being in such a central location allowed them to have a significant impact on the country of Italy.



# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



## SAM JOSEPH CAVANNA

Piacenza is a beautiful city known for many things, including its rich artistic heritage, famous food, wine, and other local delicacies but that is not how I know it. I don't know much about this place where the Val Trebbia and Val Nure flow. What I know it for is where my grandparents grew up. I also know that it is the reason why I get to go to my favorite event, the Father's Day picnic, and hangout with my dad, grandma and grandpa every year. The city's heritage was so rich it impacted the journey of two kids, my grandparents, who brought the heritage of Piacenza with them to the United States.

One of my two grandparents who were born from this city is my grandfather, Giuseppe Cavanna. He was born on July 12th, 1943, in Negri, a small hamlet in the province of Piacenza. In 1966, he left Italy in search of the American Dream. Shortly after arriving in New York, he was met by his uncle and aunt, Pietro and Concetta Scagnelli, who helped him get started. He began his journey in America as a dishwasher at Forlini's Restaurant in Little Italy, Manhattan, while attending drafting school. Although he aimed for a career in drafting he slowly fell in love with the restaurant. Over time, his work in the restaurant sparked a love for cooking, and it became his true calling as an aspiring chef.

Giuseppe honed his craft at The Brussels, a midtown Manhattan restaurant, for ten years. From there, he became the head chef at Emilio's Restaurant in Harrison, New York, where he remained for nearly two decades. Eventually, alongside his brothers-in-law Renzo and Jimmy Rapacioli, he opened Binelli's Restaurant in the Bronx. He poured his heart into the kitchen until he finally hung up his apron and retired.

My other Grandparent was also from the city of Piacenza. Silvana Cavanna (Rapacioli), was born on August 30th, 1946, in Casa Delle Donne, in San Michele, township of Morfasso, Piacenza. Her early life was shaped by the strength and unity of her large family. Her parents, Guido Rapacioli and Giuditta Binelli, worked hard to provide a better future for their children. After struggling to build a life in post-war Italy, her father immigrated to the U.S. in 1959 with several of her older siblings. A year later, in 1960, Silvana, her mother, and her younger siblings made the transatlantic journey aboard the Olympia, arriving in New York after nine grueling days at sea.

In America, Silvana attended Yorkville Vocational High School in Manhattan, where she chose the commercial track, learning to type and studying business. Despite not speaking English at first, she excelled, graduating with honors in 1963 and immediately entering the workforce as a typist at Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Her first paycheck of \$40 per week gave her a sense of pride and independence.

It was at Forlini's Restaurant, the very place where my grandfather began his American journey, that Silvana worked coat check and met Giuseppe in 1969. They were married in July 1970 and settled in the Bronx, just doors away from her parents. Where they raised three children, my father Anthony Cavanna, my aunt Lisa, and uncle Eric. They all went on to win scholarships and achieve their own successes.

While raising her children, My grandma worked hard and moved up from being an insurance agent to a licensed broker. She stayed in that job for more than 20 years before she retired. Her strong work ethic and willingness to sacrifice came from her family and her Piacenzian roots.

Today, as her grandchild, I visit them during the holidays to enjoy the incredible food that is such an important part of our heritage. My Grandfather has shared many of his dishes with me over the years. They make sure to always come around to drop off homemade pie and raw pasta. Each dish is a piece of our history, a reminder of where we come from.

Though I've only visited once, when I was 4. I still remember getting eggs from the chickens in the morning. From the photos of the valleys and mountains of Piacenza, I feel deeply connected to it. I hope to visit again someday soon and experience the land that gave rise to such strength, courage, and love in the people who came before me.

# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

## GRACE GUGLIELMETTI

### **A Piacentino Legacy: Honoring the Past and Building the Future**

The story of my family is intertwined with the fabric of Piacenza—its resilience, its tradition, and its unshakeable commitment to family. Though I was born and raised in the United States, my identity has always been rooted in the "Colli Piacentini." My paternal grandparents, Cesare and Domenica Guglielmetti, are from the neighboring parishes of Pradovera and Cagno San Bassano. They were born and raised in the tiny villages of Maradina and Blucchi, respectively. They arrived in the United States separately—my nonna, alongside my great-grandparents Celeste and Teresa Maruffi and great-aunt Franca, left everything she knew behind in pursuit of opportunity and the celebrated "American dream." They settled in a typical Italian-American neighborhood in Brooklyn.



As most Italian immigrants experienced, their journey was not without hardship, however. My nonno Cesare never met his father until the age of three because of World War II. As a baby, he was hidden in a rabbit hutch and a beehive by my great-grandmother Adele ("D'lu" in Piacentino dialect) —an act of desperation to protect him and other village children from Nazi soldiers. Years later, prior to immigrating to the U.S., he joined the Italian army and then worked as a mason building homes, stables, and other structures with his father, Luigi. My nonna Domenica's childhood was more pastoral. One of my favorite stories is of how, as a little girl, she would hold on to the tail of her favorite cow and fall asleep while being led up the mountain to pasture—because the cow knew the way.

Though immigrating to America separately, my grandparents married and moved to Bensonhurst, Brooklyn. Limited with the English language, my nonna worked in a bakery while my nonno worked long hours as a cement mason in and around New York City. Together, they gave my father a strong foundation, emphasizing education, and teaching him the virtues of sacrifice, work ethic, and pride in where you come from.

One of the most meaningful ways we've stayed connected to our roots is through the Società. My nonni, my father, my zia, and her children Cristina and Fabio are all members of the Società. I've grown up attending the annual dinner dances and Krucker's Father's Day picnics, surrounded by the laughter, language, and traditions of our people. I remember grinning with pride as a little girl to be part of something so vibrant and deeply rooted in our shared heritage. Seeing cousins and extended family at these events is a constant reminder this community spans both generations and oceans.

The Società is more than just a tradition—it is a living link to our homeland and our identity as a community. It celebrates the strength and perseverance of the Piacentini people and honors the sacrifices our ancestors made both here in the U.S. and back home in Italy. My father received this very scholarship, and it would be the greatest honor to continue that legacy as I pursue my education at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business. There, I'll be studying finance, accounting, and business analytics with the same determination and passion my grandparents carried across the Atlantic. I am proud to be bilingual in Italian, and though my speaking skills are still growing, I can read, write, and understand the language—and especially love hearing the Piacentino dialect from my grandparents. Our holidays are steeped in Italian tradition, and no celebration is complete without polenta with cotechino or anolini, two of my favorite dishes that connect me to my family's table in Italy.

I've been fortunate enough to visit Piacenza twice already and will be returning this summer to reunite with relatives and reconnect with the place that shaped so much of who we are. This opportunity means more than words can express. It is a way to honor my family's sacrifices, continue our place in the Società's story, and carry forward the values that were born in the hills of Piacenza and nurtured through generations.

# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



## MARK JAMES MANFREDI

### Discovering Piacenza by Mark Manfredi

Even though my own roots are in the south of Italy, my grandfather from Calabria and my grandmother from Messina, I've always been curious about the regions of Italy beyond my family's heritage. My grandmother was actually born in Lyon, France, where her parents had immigrated from Messina in search of better opportunities. So even within my own family, there's a blend of Italian and European experiences that shaped who we are.

Recently, I found myself drawn to Piacenza, a province in the Emilia-Romagna region in northern Italy. I'm not from there and I don't have relatives in the area, but learning about it has helped me understand how rich and diverse Italian culture really is.

Piacenza has an impressive history that stretches all the way back to ancient Rome. It was founded in 218 BCE as Placentia, a military outpost meant to secure the northern frontier of the Roman Republic. Its location, along the Via Aemilia and near the Po River, made it a hub for movement and trade for centuries. I was surprised to learn that Piacenza wasn't just a quiet northern town, it actually played a major role in resisting imperial control during the Middle Ages as one of the founding members of the Lombard League.

What stood out to me even more than its history was its unique cultural identity. The architecture alone is like a walk through time. The Piacenza Cathedral is a stunning example of Romanesque style, and the massive Palazzo Farnese shows how much power and influence the city once held. I think part of what makes Italian culture so special is how each region carries its own artistic and historical identity, and Piacenza is no exception.

And of course, I couldn't look into Piacenza without coming across its food. Even though southern Italy is famous for bold flavors and fresh seafood, Piacenza has its own claim to fame with its cured meats. It's the only Italian province that has three DOP-protected meats: Coppa Piacentina, Salame Piacentino, and Pancetta Piacentina. These aren't just products, they're pieces of local heritage, shaped by generations of tradition. As someone who grew up hearing stories about the pride my grandparents had in southern Italian food, I can really respect the pride Piacenza takes in its own culinary roots.

Learning about Piacenza has reminded me how layered Italian identity is. While I'll always feel a personal connection to the south through my family, discovering regions like Piacenza helps me appreciate the incredible variety within Italy. It's like each province adds a different color to the larger picture. And even if it's not a part of my own story directly, Piacenza has given me a deeper sense of what it means to be Italian.

As I look ahead to visiting Italy someday, I'm filled with excitement, not only to reconnect with my family's southern roots but also to explore regions I've never seen before. Piacenza is definitely on my list. I'd love to walk through its historic streets, taste its local specialties, and experience firsthand the culture I've only read about so far. It's one thing to study a place, but something entirely different to be there, and I can't wait for the chance to do both.

# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

## LUKE PAUL PEDRETTI

The Province of Piacenza boasts a rich history and culture, including Roman foundations, medieval architecture, and Renaissance influences. A key aspect is its strategic location in the Po Valley, which has shaped its history and continues to influence its economy. One significant aspect of the province of Piacenza's history is its strategic location within the Po Valley and its role as a crucial crossroads for trade and military activity.

To begin, the first topic to be discussed is about Po Valley and its significant role as a crossroads for trade, agricultural use and military activity. The Po Valley, also known as Pianura Padana, has a rich history spanning from ancient times to modern Italy. It played a crucial role in Roman trade, the Renaissance, and World War II, and continues to be a major industrial and agricultural area. When the valley was first inhabited by different Greek and Indo-European tribes, the land was used as a form of agriculture. The main reason for this is because within the Po Valley, there is a fertile river also known as the Po River, which was used by early tribes for irrigation and the domestication of many different crops and animals. This form of agriculture has left the tribes in Po Valley as a huge hub for agricultural products and would eventually lead to urbanization of the area in the future. Additionally, the area has grown into a huge trade hub because of the mass production of agricultural goods, allowing for more immigration into the area and increased urbanization of the valley into a bigger village. The trade was influenced more heavily when the Roman Empire was formed, allowing for it to be one of the central trading hubs and agricultural producers in the empire. During the Renaissance era, Cities along the Po River, like Turin and Ferrara, flourished as cultural and economic hubs during the Renaissance. Ferrara became an intellectual and artistic center, attracting Renaissance artists, leading to the artistic culture and baroque influence on the town. Fast forward to more modern history during World War II, the Po Valley Campaign was a major battleground in the Italian campaign during World War II. The Po Valley Campaign was a significant Allied offensive aimed at forcing Italy out of the war and diverting German troops from the Eastern Front. The final Allied attack in Italy, codenamed "Operation Grapeshot," led to the surrender of Axis forces in Italy by May 2, 1945.

The Po Valley in present day history is crucial to Italy's economy, agriculture, and infrastructure. It is Italy's most productive agricultural region, producing wheat, rice, fruits, and vegetables, and supports major industrial centers. The Po River itself is essential for transportation, hydroelectric power, and water supply to these areas. The Po Valley in the Province of Piacenza is very important not just for the economy but also for modern Italian culture. The valley's cultural heritage includes culinary traditions, artistic expressions, and a unique history of river navigation and land reclamation. The Po Valley is home to major cities like Milan, with iconic landmarks such as the Duomo and Teatro alla Scala, which are significant for Piacenza's musical and artistic traditions and expressionism. Ferrara, a UNESCO World Heritage site, exemplifies the Renaissance concept of the "ideal city" with its planned neighborhoods. Finally, The region's artistic heritage includes the Sacred Mountains in Lombardy and prehistoric rock paintings in Valcamonica. Therefore, Po Valley in the Province of Piacenza started out as a small agricultural town, and has since grown to fame by influencing Italian culture, promoting cultural values, and participating as a central hub for trade during many different time periods.



# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



## DANIEL RAYMOND SOLANO

My grandfather, Hugo Forlini, was born on October 8, 1930, in the village of Pennulla. Pennulla is located in Farini, a town within the province of Piacenza. He was the youngest child of Giuseppe and Caterina Forlim. He had two older brothers, Frank and Alfred, as well as two older sisters, Grace and Julia. They lived on a farm on the rugged mountainside, tending to animals and laboring in the fields to sow and harvest wheat by hand. In the face of hardship, Hugo's father journeyed to America to work and provide for his family back in Italy. Once he established himself in New York City, he called for his wife and children to join him. However, Caterina was unable to come to America at that time. The older children went ahead, but Hugo, only six years old, did not want to leave his mother. He stayed behind, helping her on the farm and going to school when he could. In 1948, when Hugo turned 18, his sister Grace returned to Italy to bring him to America. He went to work for his father at the family's Italian restaurant at 5 Baxter Street, working alongside his brothers and sisters. The restaurant was very successful

and became a place where many Italian immigrants would gather upon arriving in New York City. Giuseppe and his children made them feel at home, as if a small piece of their homeland had followed them to the United States. They would sing Italian songs and cook traditional dishes from their home country of Italy. It was there that many of the enduring friendships among members of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure began and continue to this day.

In 1956, Hugo's older brothers, Frank and Alfred, left the business at 5 Baxter Street to open their own restaurant at 93 Baxter Street. Hugo stayed behind to work with his father. In 1958, Giuseppe retired and sold the business to Hugo and his cousin, Joe Forlini. The restaurant thrived until 1962, when the city ordered the demolition of the building at 5 Baxter Street. It was then that Frank and Alfred asked Hugo to join them at 93 Baxter Street, and together, the brothers built one of the most remarkable family partnerships, one that blossomed into the thriving and celebrated Forlini's Restaurant.

In 1956, Hugo met Andreina Garbarino, an immigrant herself from Genova, Italy. The two began a wonderful relationship filled with love and kindness, and they married in 1957. They had four children, three boys Joseph, Aldo, and Stephen, and one girl Caroline. Caroline is my mother and a first-generation American. It's truly inspiring to learn about my grandfather, "Poppy Hugo," and the many others who bravely migrated to this country in search of a better life and greater opportunity. Poppy Hugo was very proud of his heritage. He joined the Società Val Trebbia, which became one of his favorite pastimes. He attended every meeting, supported scholarships and the community, and always rallied his friends together to sing Italian songs. He spoke Italian around the house and sang often. He loved being with family and friends, and when he wasn't working, he frequently invited them over for dinner, to play cards, and to sing. Sadly, my grandfather, Poppy Hugo, passed away from cancer in 2006, just one year before I was born. My mother and Nonna often tell me stories about him so I can understand what a wonderful man he was and all the great things he achieved in his life. He was warm, kind, and always giving.

Although I never got to meet my Poppy or experience the great man he was, I like to believe that everything I pursue is part of his legacy. Ever since I was a little boy, I've always enjoyed singing and dancing. My Nonna tells me that I got my passion for music and dance from Poppy Hugo. I always hear stories about how much he loved to sing and how he wished there were a performer in the family. Now, as I prepare to pursue musical theatre in college, I feel like I'm helping fulfill that dream. I wish my Poppy were here today to see that I will continue his legacy and love of music. But deep down, I know that every time I perform and sing, he is right there with me. I can still remember some of my scariest moments on stage, thinking I am not alone. I have my Poppy here beside me. Although I never had the chance to meet him, I carry a deep sadness but an even greater pride in the remarkable legacy he left behind for our family. I wish he were here so I could tell him myself.

I am incredibly proud to be of Italian descent, and I feel so fortunate to have the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure here today so I, too, can continue learning about my heritage and embrace the culture my grandfather and others brought to this country. I hope to share all of this with my own children someday. I am excited to become a member of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure and help ensure that our Italian heritage and culture live on for generations to come.

# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

## DANIEL RAYMOND TANGREDI

Two eggs, toast, hashbrowns and coffee that's what my grandfather always ordered for breakfast. It didn't matter who he was with or where we were, growing up, I knew him as my Nonno, full of stories about his early years as a strong young, handsome, Italian man working hard, "not like you kids today" he would say. I heard about his difficult journey across the sea to the new land, his hardships living in....his making his way...

As a child in elementary school, he would tell me about his old life in Italy and the donkey he would take to school. He would talk about the animals he raised and food his family would grow and eat. As a kid, I found these stories almost funny because of the contrast to how I grew up. Eventually, he and his family would leave their old life behind in search of a better one. They would eventually arrive in Canada and my Nonno and his father would work long hours to achieve their dream. This was the extent of his life I knew. I would later learn how much harder he really worked.

As I grew up, I always watched him leave everyday to take care of various properties and go to his real estate office. Everyday, like clockwork the school bus would pick me up and his car would not be there when we drove past the house. I knew that he worked hard but I didn't truly know what he had to do to get where he was later in his life. He would always tell me to work hard and study so I can later go in to higher education and be a successful person. He wanted me to be successful so I would not have to struggle like he did. I didn't understand what he meant until I learned what he went through in achieving his dream of being able to give his family a comfortable life.

Eventually, I would move on from elementary and middle school and officially be a freshman in high school. This is where I would truly learn the hardships he experienced. I began to learn that he worked long hours doing construction making very little money. Eventually, he worked in a factory for Canadian Tire. He worked his way up and got his father a job there as well. Eventually, this would not be enough. He would move to the United States from Canada and work in New York. Freshman year for me was not easy. Going in I didn't realize how much of a shift it was from middle school with the increased workload and studying. However, this is what has made me successful.

As I began high school and the work began to get harder I realized that being successful didn't only affect me but also the people who helped me along the way. Whenever I would start to lose focus or become frustrated I realized that my perceived struggle of homework and studying was nothing compared to him working in a factory all day. Looking back, many things have changed but one thing that hasn't is the two eggs, toast, hashbrowns and coffee my Nonno still orders for breakfast.



# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **ALEXIS RAPACIOLI**

Dear Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure,

My name is Alexis Rapacioli. I am a 2022 scholarship recipient, and for that I am eternally grateful. I sit here drafting this story in the library at Cornell University in my final year of undergraduate. Although I study Food Science, a discipline that encapsulates all things food from farm to plate, I have received an education that has the utmost breadth. I have been pushed to harness curiosity and problem-solving in niche classes, such as the History of Television, that I would not get the chance to take otherwise. And I have fundamentally grown as both an academic and an almost functioning adult.

Interesting enough, my major aligns with my Piacenza-based heritage. Who are Italians without talking about food, cooking, or simply just eating? The Rapacioli family has food pulsing through our veins. My grandfather, Charlie Rapacioli, took his passion for feeding others to the next level when he opened the family deli. The Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure's support has also allowed me to explore world, including Italy. I studied abroad last spring in Dublin, Ireland. I took classes at University College Dublin and spent some time traveling. The highlight of my time in Europe was seeing my Zia Rina for Easter. Although the concept of aperitivo (including my first Aperol Spritz) were a life changing, I fondly look back on my time because of how close it brought me to my ancestry. I began ordering in Italian, understanding cultural norms, and seeing old pictures of the Rapacioli family.

Now as I wrap this letter up, still in the library at Cornell University, I look optimistically at the once ominous precipice called my future. I have applied for my PhD in Cornell's dairy microbiology lab with an emphasis on food safety and quality. I want to ensure people trust our food system and relish in the dairy products that provide happiness, nutrition, and familial connectivity.

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## **CHRISTINA GALLINARI**

In 2005, I was honored to receive a scholarship from the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure – an organization built on community and shared values that my family has been proud to be a part of for generations. Receiving support from this community made the scholarship especially meaningful, as it wasn't just financial assistance, but a reminder that I was part of something larger than myself.

The award opened the door to my education at Georgetown University, where I began to build the foundation for my professional life. Following my graduation from Pace Law School, I began a rewarding career as a civil defense attorney, and today, I am privileged to serve in a senior Professional Development role at a major global law firm, where I mentor and train young lawyers as they begin their own journeys. Every time I help a new attorney find their footing, I am reminded of the support and encouragement that helped me find mine.

Looking back, I realize that this scholarship did far more than contribute to my education – it helped shape the course of my life. I owe my successes to the limitless generosity of the members of the Società, who are family in every sense of the word. The values of dedication, service, and connection that guided my grandparents and parents continue to guide me today, and I carry them forward with immense gratitude.

Thank you for believing in me and for continuing to invest in the next generation. Your support changes lives – mine is proof of that.

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **ERIC CAVANNA**

Receiving the scholarship from the Society Val Trebbia e Val Nure was a pivotal moment in my life – one that not only eased the financial burden of higher education but also ignited a journey of personal and professional growth. With the support of this generous award, I was able to pursue and complete my associate's degree at Westchester Community College, a milestone that laid the groundwork for my career success.

The scholarship came at a time when I was determined to further my education but faced the very real challenge of affording tuition, books, and other academic expenses. The funds I received allowed me to focus on my studies without the constant worry of financial strain. I was able to enroll in the courses I needed, dedicate time to learning, and take full advantage of the resources available to me on campus.

More than just financial assistance, the scholarship represented a vote of confidence from a community that values education, heritage, and perseverance. Knowing that the Society Val Trebbia e Val Nure believed in my potential gave me the motivation to push through obstacles and stay committed to my goals. It reminded me that I was not alone on this journey—that others were invested in my success.

Earning my associate's degree was a transformative achievement. It opened doors to new opportunities, from internships to job prospects, and gave me the foundational knowledge and skills I needed to thrive in my chosen field. The discipline, resilience, and sense of purpose I developed during my time at Westchester Community College continue to guide me in my career today.

I am deeply grateful to the Society Val Trebbia e Val Nure for their support. Their investment in my education has had a lasting impact, not only on my career but on my confidence and sense of direction. I carry their generosity with me as a reminder of what's possible when a community comes together to uplift and empower its members.

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## **LAUREN GALLINARI**

I am deeply grateful to the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure for the vital role it has played in my life, both personally and professionally. With my father born in Val Trebbia and my mother in Val Nure, this organization represents not just my Italian heritage, but also the very heart of my family's story. In 2007, I was honored to receive the society's scholarship, which helped me pursue my college education and set the foundation for my career.

Beyond the financial support, the society has been a community for me since childhood, where I've grown up surrounded by events, traditions, and people who celebrate our shared roots. My parents have always been proud champions of this organization, and through their example, my own love and appreciation for our culture has only deepened.

Today, as a professional in the oil industry, I carry that same pride and gratitude, and I remain committed to honoring and supporting the mission of this wonderful society. I just wish Piacenza was a big oil exporter—though I suppose I'll have to settle for the extra-virgin kind!

Congratulations to this year's recipients! I hope you not only make great use of this scholarship, but also carry with you the knowledge that you are joining a proud and enduring tradition—a true family that has supported generations before you and will continue for generations to come.

Auguri!

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **JOLIE AVIGNONE**

My name is Jolie Avignone and if you had asked me during my senior year of high school where I thought I'd be three years later, I'm not sure I would've had an answer. So much has changed since then – I've grown, traveled, studied hard, and experienced opportunities I never imagined possible.

I earned my Associate's Degree in Fashion Business Management from the Fashion Institute of Technology and will be graduating with my Bachelor's Degree in Advertising and Marketing Communications in Spring 2027. This past spring, I had the incredible opportunity to study abroad in Milan, Italy, where I immersed myself in the culture, embraced the language, and gained a deeper understanding of the European fashion landscape. Over the summer, I interned at a fashion public relations agency and am now pursuing my dream internship as a Fashion Assistant at V Magazine. Through these experiences, my passions and vision for the future have become clear. I'm exactly where I would've hoped to be, and I hope those who believed in me from the start are proud.

Next spring, I'll be attending the London College of Fashion through an exchange program to study fashion journalism. Studying abroad and exploring unfamiliar places has pushed me out of my comfort zone, helping me grow not only as a student and professional, but as a person. I can truly say I'm the happiest, most excited, and inspired I have ever been. As I reflect on these past few years, I feel a deep sense of gratitude for the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure and their support. Through their generosity and belief in me, I've been able to pursue my education, explore the world, and continue turning my dreams into reality.

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## **JOSEPH AVIGNONE**

My name is Joseph Avignone and I attend Loyola University Maryland. Right now, I'm just a junior college student trying to figure out the next big step. I'm juggling classes for international business and finance, which honestly, keeps me pretty busy. It's a lot of work, but I enjoy learning how the world connects through money and trade.

The big question for this summer is what to do with my time. I'm spending a lot of effort applying for internships, hoping to get a real feel for the business world outside of textbooks. It would be great to see if the stuff I'm learning actually works in an office. But then there's this other idea: going to Prague to study abroad. It sounds incredible. Instead of sitting in an office, I would be in a whole new city, meeting different people, and just experiencing life somewhere else while still getting credits.

So, Where am I today? I am kind of in limbo, really. I'm dreaming about travel and worrying about my resume all at the same time. It's that tricky stage where every decision feels huge and I am just hoping to land on the right one. It's about finding an experience that feels right and helps me grow, whether that's in a corporate high-rise or a historic European city. I am just trying my best to map out a cool future for myself.

I want say Congratulations to the Societa Val Trebbia e Val Nure on your 75th Anniversary. As a 2023 scholarship recipient, I want to say how incredibly grateful I am for the scholarship opportunity you've given me. It means a lot to know that I have this support to move forward in life to pursue my goals.

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **NADINE RIVELLESE**

My name is Nadine Rivellese (nee Rapacioli). The Societa has been a part of my life as long as I can remember, and I was a proud recipient of a scholarship in 1987. I attended Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA for my undergraduate degree, and received my J.D. from American University in Washington D.C. I started my legal career at the NYC Law Department, and then spent 18 years working in various roles at Con Edison. In 2021, I joined the NYC School Construction Authority as General Counsel, and recently also took on the role of Vice President of Human Resources. The SCA is responsible for designing, building and reconstructing public schools throughout the City of New York. My son Vincent was a scholarship recipient in 2024, and has just completed his first year at University of Rochester. I am grateful to the Societa not only for their generous and unwavering support of education, but for helping to maintain the traditions and heritage of our common ancestors here in New York. I am thrilled to celebrate the Societa's 75th Anniversary and thank everyone who has been a part of making it successful for so many years.

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## **JACQUELINE AVIGNONE**

My name is Jacqueline Avignone, and I am one of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure's 2021 Scholarship recipients. After graduating a semester early in December 2024, I travelled across Italy in January as a way to take a break from my academic pursuits and reconnect with my cultural and ancestral roots. My mom and I travelled to Milan, Florence, Venice, Parma, Rome, Bologna, and Piacenza with just our backpacks and a yearning to learn and experience all that Italy has to offer. Piacenza was truly a hidden gem that I was honored to visit, as this city has a true, authentic charm that is rare to find in Italy's popular tourist areas. I learned a great deal about the rich history of Piacenza while exploring the Piazza dei Cavalli, Piacenza Cathedral, Palazzo Farnese, and Basilica di Sant'Antonio. Sadly, I was only able to stay for the day in Piacenza, and now I wish to go back so that I may take my time to appreciate further the rest of Piacenza's allure, such as its scenic countryside.

Now in the United States, I work as a paralegal at Zgheib Sayad, PC, which is a law firm that practices vaccine litigation, a niche type of law that is a mix of personal injury and malpractice law. The firm is small, so I have stepped up to take on many responsibilities such as obtaining and analyzing medical records, filing electronic court files and dates for proceedings, keeping up to date on paying invoices, consistently contacting our clientele to stay informed about any changes in their medical history, tracking leads for potential cases, and writing petitions and affidavits. The experience I am getting at this firm is invaluable, as my biggest aspiration is to become a lawyer in the malpractice field. While working full-time, I am studying for the LSAT so that I can apply to law schools in New York City to begin classes in the Fall of 2026.

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **FRANCESCA GALLINARI**

Dear Members of the Societa,

In 1971, I was honored to be one of your very first scholarship recipients. Your generosity gave me the confidence and education I needed to begin a wonderful career journey – from my first “real” job as an Executive Secretary at a major law firm to becoming Assistant Director of Human Resources at a leading commodity trading firm.

After welcoming my children, I devoted myself to being a full time Mom, working as a Medical Assistant in Pediatrics for over 33 years and simultaneously becoming a Real Estate Broker (and still active today as a team with my husband, Dante, affectionally known in the business as the “Dynamic Duo!”) Both roles have brought me great joy, especially helping children, families, and my community.

Now retired, I’m proud that my two adult children are also forging their own paths with the help of the Societa’s scholarships. Today, I am also proud to serve on the Board as your Co-Cultural Director, helping to preserve the beautiful Piacentini traditions and the spirit of the Val Trebbia e Val Nure community for future generations.

To all leaders, volunteers, donors, and members—thank you for believing in me so many years ago and for carrying forward the mission of celebrating our heritage and supporting our children’s education. It’s a true honor to stand alongside you!

Francesca (Scagnelli) Gallinari

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## **ROBERT BERNARDI**

The scholarship from the Società helped me to realize a lifelong dream: to move to Italy and study fashion. Today I am in my second year at Istituto Marangoni in Milan.

I think of the Società often since I am just up the road from Piacenza, Val Trebbia and Vale Nure. I know my remaining three years will go by quickly and then I will be on my way to a career in fashion. And I have the Società to thank for that.

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **MICHAEL BERNARDI**

I received my scholarship in 2019. Since then I have been working and going to school, recently completing my Associates degree. I plan to enroll in school again in the Fall. I am grateful to the Società for helping me continue my education.

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## **ERIKA DISCALA**

My name is Erika (Forlini) DiScala, and I was a 2004 scholarship recipient. I attended L.I.B.S. Learning Institute for Beauty Sciences, now Empire Beauty School, in NYC. By 2006, I became a certified makeup artist and a licensed cosmetologist. I worked for MAC Cosmetics, local beauty salons, and I travelled all over the tri-state area, as a hairstylist and makeup artist for countless weddings, proms, and special events. In 2017, I became the co-owner of a salon with my childhood best friend. Then in 2020, I opened my own salon, and I started a cosmetic line. I built my business by word of mouth, referrals, nurturing good relationships with everyone I met, and continuing education in my field. This journey allowed my husband Joey and I the opportunity to turn our attention to real estate as we became landlords to our second property. It also opened doors for me to become a part-time content creator and a reseller of vintage and second-hand items, while focusing on my cosmetic line that has since branched out to selling upcycled and handmade accessories. Today, we live a quiet life in the suburbs with our two dogs, Roxy and Dolly, where we grow our own fruits and vegetables and we both work from home. In 2024, Joey and I became members of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure at the recommendation of our aunt Arleen Forlini Dunn Carragee and our uncle Mike Carragee. As no surprise, we were accepted with open arms. A few things that becoming a member has reinforced for me to know is true, is that no matter what path you choose in life, the most important thing you will ever experience are the people you meet along the way. You can leave a lasting impression on others, no matter how brief your encounter. Education will look different for everyone, but it is one of the most important things you can invest in, for yourself and future generations. And lastly, we can only preserve what we are willing to share with others. Since becoming members, Joey and I have made an effort to learn the Northern Italian dialect. We also incorporate Northern Italian cooking at home, thanks to past and present members who shared their family recipes in the 1998 Mangiamo Con Gusto cookbook. I am so thankful for the opportunities I have had and for those I have met and/or reconnected with through the Società. I look forward to meeting more people, hearing more stories, nurturing quality relationships, and doing my part in preserving what was important to those who started the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure 75 years ago. Providing opportunities, cultivating community and safeguarding traditions for future generations.

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **DAVID JOHN DRAGHI**

I received my scholarship in the second year of the Società's program. Attending NYU for several years, I obtained an entry level position at Merrill Lynch, where I rose through the ranks until I eventually became the manager of Computer Operations. At Merrill Lynch, I met Nancy, who would become my wife. We moved to Morristown, New Jersey and eventually welcomed the birth of our son David. I became active in the Boy Scouts, serving as an Assistant Den Leader, Troop Quarter Master and a Commissioner for the Patriots Path Council. When my father, Paul Draghi, passed away, my brother Mark encouraged me to become a member of the Val Trebbia e Val Nure. Somehow I became vice president of the club under the newly elected President, Hector Morisi. When Hector retired from his position, Peter Segalini became President and I assumed the role of Corresponding Secretary, a position that my father held for many years, which I was honored to perform. During this time, I looked for ways of bringing the club's communication into modern times, utilizing Facebook and e-mail, and creating a club website with the help of Marc Flory. After 33 years, my tenure with Merrill was cut short with the 2008 Financial Crisis and I held some positions at St. Peter's Hospital in North Brunswick and at UBS Financial Services. I later took on some consulting assignments and eventually retired in 2016. Since then Nancy and I left our home in Morristown and settled into our small condo on the Jersey Shore, where we spend our summers while wintering in our condo in Naples, Florida. I keep active as the vice president of our condo board in New Jersey.

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## **DAVID EMMANUEL DRAGHI**

I received my scholarship in November 2016, and went on to graduate from Gettysburg College in 2021 with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. I was recruited by the FBI in the same year. I served the FBI for 4 years working as an Evidence Technician and later as a Security Specialist where I worked on countless cases of all different subject matters. I left the FBI in January 2025 and after 6 months of rigorous training in Brunswick, Georgia, I was sworn in as a Deputy United States Marshal in July of 2025. I am currently assigned to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia where I carry out orders of the federal court system in managing federal prisoners, conducting fugitive investigations and providing security to the members of the federal judiciary. As the only grandchild of Paul Draghi who followed in his footsteps by going into a law enforcement career, the opportunity provided to me by the Società Val Trebbia Val Nure is incredibly meaningful to me.

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **RITA DRAGHI**

I received my Bachelor of Fine Arts from Brooklyn College, immediately followed by a 2-year certified program at Berkeley College in Architecture and Interior Design. Soon after, I became a 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Departmental Teacher at St. Agatha Elementary School in Brooklyn. Moving on, I found my passion as an Art teacher at St. Saviour Elementary School in Park Slope. At that time, the School Sisters of Notre Dame populated both the grade school as well as the high school. When the high school principal was looking for an art teacher, the sisters teaching in the grade school recommended me. I was called for an interview, hired, and am now in my 40th year at St. Saviour High School as the Art Department Chairperson, and teaching Art, Art History, Introduction to Architecture and Interior Design as well as AP Art. I am also the Director of Fundraising, Alumni Relations, International Travel (taking students on world-wide tours for 27 years) while coaching our Step Team for almost three decades. Working in a Catholic school is not a profession, but a vocation. I love the work that I do, however, a vocation doesn't necessarily pay the bills. Being connected to my Piacentini roots gave me the privilege of working for both the Forlini and Mosconi family restaurants. At one time I held a third job simultaneously working as a Color and Image Consultant for the Color Workshop Corporation out of Lebanon, NJ.

Lucky enough to have the privilege of serving the monthly meetings of the Società at Forlini's Restaurant for almost twenty years, I witnessed first hand the dedication and devotion these men held for their homeland. Influenced at an early age by my parents, Paul and Catherine, e i miei nonni, Angela and Guiseppe Draghi and Maria And Giuseppe Macellari, I knew the importance of family, heritage, devotion and hard work - all traits I still strongly believe in today. In 1982 a small group of the wives got together and established the Ladies Auxiliary. I quickly became a member, and was proud to serve as the President for a number of terms. A huge task on the first agenda was bringing back the Annual Picnic of years gone by. Only now, the women insisted that they did not want to cook for days, nor drag the coolers, charcoal and grills. Instead we were to find a location where everything was already there and at the membership's disposal. Happily, our Annual Father's Day Picnic has been going strong again (with the exception of Covid) for the past 43 years. Now in the 21st century, the Men's Club has opened its doors and welcomed women members as well. Though there were skeptics at first, this decision has made the Società even stronger. I am so grateful, and proud, that the Founding Fathers' dream has sustained itself for 75 Years. Here's to our future generations and 75 more!

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## **MARC JOSEPH DRAGHI**

After transferring twice in order to follow my major in Information Systems, I finished at Centenary College in 2007. Throughout my college years, I interned at New York Life Insurance Company, and with that experience, started full time at the company immediately upon completion at Centenary. I am still working at NYL today. In those 18 years I have progressed through Desktop Support, Service Desk Support, Field Office Support, Process and Metrics, Configuration Management, and today, I manage the Asset Management area (unintentionally following in my father's footsteps!) I married my high school sweetheart, Christine, in 2008, and together we have three daughters: Penelope, Natalie, and Felicity. We started out two towns over from our parents, and moved back into town in 2016. Today we enjoy the luxuries of living close to family, having our children go to school in the district my wife teaches, and myself, being able to be around for all my children's moments by working from home. I recently became more active as a member of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, taking on the Scholarship Committee Chair, as my father Mark, and grandfather Paul, did before me.

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## **CHRISTOPHER DRAGHI**

Through the generous support of the Val Trebbia Scholarship Fund, I was able to pursue my educational goals and earn degrees from both Centenary University and Seton Hall University. This scholarship not only eased the financial burden of higher education but also allowed me to focus on academic excellence and professional growth. At Centenary, I built a strong foundation in business and finance, which I later expanded through advanced studies at Seton Hall. The opportunities made possible by the Val Trebbia e Val Nure Scholarship helped me develop the skills and confidence needed to succeed in a competitive industry. Today, I am proud to serve as a Director at AM Best, where I work within the property and casualty market of the credit rating agency world. My journey stands as a testament to how meaningful support and education can transform potential into achievement.

# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## ERIC DRAGHI

I received my Associate Degree in Computer Aided Design from Penn-State College of Technology, and my Bachelors in Business Administration, with a concentration in Management, from Centenary University. While earning my degree at Centenary I worked as a mechanic for a local repair shop. I went on to use the knowledge I acquired and my passion for troubleshooting by becoming an IT Analyst at World Wide Supply. Two years of experience at my position helped to project my career forward as I am currently employed as Senior System Analyst for nine years at Frazier Industrial. This position held me responsible for many facets of the company systems, financial technology improvements and data analysis reporting. I found my ties to my roots bring me pride not only in my work ethic, but in how I live my life. Both my father Mark, and my grandfather Paul, taught me that "If you're going to do something, do it as if your name is on it". Their words always inspired me and I have never backed down from a challenge, nor do I plan to back down from anything life throws me. I was honored to have received the scholarship from the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure, which helped me pursue the education needed for my career. I hope that I have done the club proud.

Today, I am happily married to my loving wife Mia, and the proud father of Maggie, Evie and Nicholas.

## CRAIG DRAGHI

I earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with dual concentrations in Management and Finance from Centenary University. Throughout college, I explored various career paths through roles in construction, retail, information technology, and business. After graduation, I joined AM Best—the world's largest credit rating agency specializing in the insurance industry—as part of a two-and-a-half-year associates program. There, I shadowed financial analysts, learned to assess the financial strength of life and health insurance companies, and engaged with C-suite executives to understand the operations of different insurers. Upon completing the program, I was promoted to Financial Analyst, managing my own portfolio and providing financial strength recommendations. After two years, I transitioned to the Systems Operations team, where I've spent the past seven years leading system design and development efforts. Now serving as Associate Director and Product Owner of the primary ratings system, I lead a cross-functional team of business analysts, developers, and quality assurance specialists to enhance operational and analytical efficiencies. I take pride in my work, which combines problem-solving, critical thinking, and collaboration to advance AM Best's mission of delivering accurate, timely, and comprehensive insights into the creditworthiness of insurance companies. On a more personal note, the last several years have also been very meaningful. In 2020, my wife and I bought our first home in Middlesex, New Jersey. We later adopted a sweet little puppy named Riley, who's brought a lot of joy and energy into our lives. In 2023, we celebrated another milestone when we got married. Thank you to the Società for helping me get started!

## LISA DRAGHI-FORLINI

In 1977, I had the honor of receiving a scholarship from the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure. I am grateful for your support in helping me achieve my educational goals.

During my high school and college years, I worked at Forlini's Restaurant, where I truly learned the value of hard work and gained a deep appreciation for my Northern Italian roots. It also became a second family to me when I met my husband, Joe Forlini, son of Hugo. While I was working, I attended Pace University in New York City, where I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting Information Systems.

After graduation, I began my career at Merrill Lynch within the CMA Department located in NYC. I was responsible for providing financial reporting and analysis directly to the department manager. When the CMA Department moved to NJ, I transferred to the Merrill Lynch Advanced Office Systems Group working directly for the Group Manager. Not only did I continue to use my financial skills, but I was able to finally utilize my knowledge of systems and technology which was my focus in college. After several years my job relocated to NJ again. Having a one-year-old and expecting again, I decided the best thing to do was to take the severance package and become a stay-at-home mom. My focus became raising my four children and supporting my husband in running a local dry-cleaning business allowing him time to work at his other jobs. Those years were full and rewarding, and they molded the future lives of my children.

In 2016, my husband passed away, and I needed to return to the workforce. I was offered a job at Dr. Cipollina Orthodontics managing front desk responsibilities such as appointments, payments, insurance and patient services. After nearly ten years, I retired so I could devote my time to my greatest joys—my children Paul and Kristen, Stephen and Tara, Nicholas and Zina, Jennifer and my grandchildren Joey, Johnny and Leo.

Seventy-five years ago, along with other founders my father Paul Draghi started the Società. Their vision was to preserve their Italian heritage within their community by giving back and helping others and future generations. Both my father and my uncle Frank Forlini established the importance of education by giving students the opportunity to receive scholarships for higher education. All my four children have received the scholarship, and I am very proud of their career successes. Though my father did not see his grandchildren receive their awards, I know he would be extremely proud of all their accomplishments. One day I hope I may get the privilege to see my grandchildren receive a scholarship as well.

Since my father passed in 2003, I want to thank everyone who has kept his vision for the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure alive. Through your continued support and dedication, we will preserve our family traditions and strengthen the community that celebrates our Italian heritage for generations to come.

# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## PAUL JOSEPH FORLINI

In 2006, I was honored to receive a scholarship from the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure – an opportunity that helped shape the course of my education and career. I went on to attend Iona College in New Rochelle, NY, where I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Accounting in 2010 and my Master of Business Administration in 2011.

I've spent the last 15 years building my career in Information Technology in the Managed Services sector. This has given me the chance to build and manage high functioning teams that support the IT infrastructure for various companies across many industries including legal, financial, insurance, automotive, distribution, and education. I am currently Associate Director of Support for a company that specializes in serving financial services firms. I am grateful to lead the entire New York territory of support engineers and client technology managers. I love solving new and complex problems every day, being able to support my team, and helping them do their best to help our clients and to grow themselves both personally and professionally.

My success has been rooted in the idea of helping others, and building strong relationships with both coworkers and clients alike. I think back to the importance of communication which I remember is something my grandfather Paul had always stated was so critical to solve issues and building trust with others. He also always proclaimed the idea of having the right tool for the job, which in my world is surprisingly not always obvious or easy to achieve. This has inspired me to grow into a creative problem solver, which allows me to solve problems correctly and efficiently, often under pressure. These ideas and values are part of my core, and I get the chance to share them with my team every day.

Though I am proud of my career, I am most proud of the life I have and the family I have made with my incredible wife Kristen. We are approaching our 10-year anniversary year, and are blessed to be raising our two young sons Joey and Johnny in a small town in Bergen County New Jersey. Life is full, busy, and deeply meaningful. Spending time with our family is greatly important to us. We hope that our children will grow to have amazing lives and be better off than ourselves, and those who came before us. I am grateful to continue the legacy of my grandfather's Hugo Forlini and Paul Draghi.

I'm sincerely grateful to the Società for the support that helped launch my path. Thank you for investing in students like me and for continuing to celebrate the importance of education, heritage, and family.

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## STEPHEN MICHAEL FORLINI

In 2008, I was honored to receive the Founders Scholarship in the name of my grandfather, Paul Draghi, from the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure. The award helped my family with tuition during my studies at Manhattan College, where I earned both my Bachelor of Science in Finance and my MBA. That support served as a reminder of how our Club uplifts the next generation and keeps our shared Italian heritage alive and thriving.

My family's roots trace to the Piacenza region, Forlini on my father's side and Draghi on my mother's, and I quite literally owe both the restaurant and the Club for bringing my parents together, joining the Forlini and Draghi families with a little help from my uncle, Mark Draghi. The Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure has always represented the Italian spirit of cultural inclusion and hospitality, qualities that make its home in New York City especially fitting.

That same spirit defined my upbringing at my family's renowned Forlini's Restaurant in Lower Manhattan. For decades, Forlini's welcomed guests from every background to enjoy Northern Italian cuisine, friendship, and laughter. I held countless small gatherings there with coworkers and friends, introducing them to our cuisine and the warmth of Italian hospitality. One of my most meaningful memories was hosting dinner for my South Korean colleagues on the restaurant's final night of service. It was a bittersweet evening where two cultures came together over a shared meal, and I felt both pride and sadness knowing that this incredible meeting place of Northern Italian tradition would soon close its doors.

The lessons I learned from watching my father in that environment shaped my sense of community, connection, and the importance of shared experiences, and those values have carried directly into my professional life. My career began at Morgan Stanley, where, with the guidance and support of my uncle Aldo Forlini, I became a Procurement Manager and helped lead major projects across the United States, including the purchase of the stock tickers in Times Square. I later joined LG Electronics as a Procurement Manager, contributing to several large-scale investments including the construction of the company's new headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, and a one-million-square-foot manufacturing plant that became the largest washing machine factory in the country.

Today, I serve at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, where I oversee procurement for warehousing, logistics, and supporting more than four billion dollars in construction initiatives across Westchester, New York, as well as international projects such as a recent office construction in Milan, Italy. Having spent my entire career in procurement, I like to think negotiating comes naturally to us Piacentini; maybe it's in our DNA!

Above all, I am grounded by family. My wife, Tara (née Orfei), whose family hails from Turin and Ancona, and our young son, Leonardo, continue the same Italian traditions of heritage, hospitality, and heart that have shaped every part of my life. Leonardo eats his Parmigiano Reggiano cheese every day, just as his Nonno Joseph Forlini loved to do. I also enjoy keeping our culinary traditions alive by making seven-layer cookies and polenta with Munster and Gorgonzola cheese.

# **SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

## **NICHOLAS HUGO FORLINI**

In 2010, I was deeply honored to receive a scholarship from the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure that contributed to my educational journey. After earning my Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the College of Mount Saint Vincent in 2014, I began my professional journey at White Plains Hospital, advancing from Nursing Technician to Registered Nurse and Charge Nurse in the ICU Step-Down Unit.

Later, I worked as a travel nurse, caring for patients across Phoenix, Arizona; San Diego, California; and Syracuse, NY. These opportunities broadened my clinical expertise and strengthened my leadership in diverse healthcare environments. I went on to become a respected Charge Nurse in Ambulatory Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital, where I chaired several professional councils. While at Lawrence, I answered the call to serve my community during the COVID-19 pandemic, dedicating countless night shifts and long hours to caring for critically ill patients in the COVID ICU.

In 2024, I earned my Master of Science in Nursing in Advanced Clinical Management and Leadership from Columbia University and was promoted to Perioperative Service Clinical Manager at NewYork-Presbyterian Weill Cornell. Today, I serve as the Assistant Nurse Manager of the Surgical Access Unit at Morristown Medical Center in NJ, overseeing the care of more than 100 patients daily.

The Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure has always been an important part of my family's story. I'm honored to be the grandson of two of its distinguished members—founder Paul Draghi and fellow prominent member Hugo Forlini. My grandfather Paul, together with my great-uncle Frank Forlini, established the Scholarship Committee, which has supported countless Italian Americans in pursuing higher education and achieving success. As a proud member of the Forlini family, I also had the privilege of managing the social media pages for our family's beloved restaurant, Forlini's. From an early age, I witnessed compassion through my family, which inspired me to pursue a nursing career dedicated to helping others. I saw this compassion in my Grandpa Paul, an NYPD First Grade Detective who served his community with pride, and in my father Joseph and my Nonno Hugo, who devoted themselves to serving countless patrons at our family's restaurant – sharing hospitality and Northern Italian cuisine with New York City.

Now residing in Clark, NJ, with my wife, Zinamaria, we enjoy cooking, tennis, the beach, and visiting wineries. After marrying in June, we celebrated our honeymoon in Italy – honoring our heritage and love for family and tradition. Together, we look forward to our next chapter: planting roots and starting a family.

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## **JENNIFER CATHERINE FORLINI**

In 2012, I was honored to receive a scholarship from the Val Trebbia e Val Nure Società, a gift that helped shape the foundation of my professional journey. With the generous support of Società, I earned my Bachelor's degree in Radiologic Technology from Concordia College, which launched a rewarding career in healthcare. My years at Concordia included playing in the NCAA Division II CACC conference for Soccer and Basketball which was an achievement my father Joseph joyously witnessed in his final years. My parents instilled their values in me, and guided me to pursue a career where I could take care of others. I spent a semester after graduation working as a Clinical Instructor to help mold the next cohort of licensed technologists. At that time I also began my work in healthcare facilities at CityMD Urgent Care in White Plains as a Medical Technologist before joining NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence as a Radiologic Technologist. In my first year working in the hospital, I found myself on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic—performing one of the first x-rays on patient zero in NY. The experiences in the next two years strengthened my determination and ultimately led me to NYP Columbia, where I had the privilege of leading nearly seventy employees as a Radiology Supervisor. My three years there were transformative, allowing me to help rebuild the department, contribute to a culture of excellence, and develop as a leader. My reputation as a leader in a prestigious institution opened many doors and granted me the opportunity to return to Westchester to take on a new role as a Senior Technologist. Today, I am proud to continue my work in Radiology at the beautiful new White Plains Hospital Outpatient Imaging facility in Scarsdale, NY.

Working closer to home has also allowed me more time to spend enjoying live music, creating art, and staying active playing soccer with local men's and women's groups. None of this would have been possible without the encouragement of my family and mentors who inspired me to work hard and give back to my community. I am especially grateful to my parents, Joseph Forlini and Lisa Draghi Forlini, whose unwavering guidance and example have led me and my three brothers toward successful, fulfilling futures. My aunts, uncles, and grandparents have also been amazing role models who have shown me the value in working towards professional advancement and sharing all the positive aspects of my life with my family along the way. I also extend my deepest thanks to the Val Trebbia e Val Nure Società for their belief in my potential and for their continued commitment to supporting and celebrating Italian-American success stories like mine.

# SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## JORDAN K. WILSON

In Spring of 2023, I graduated Summa Cum Laude with Honors in Marine Science from Rider University, earning a B.S. in Marine Science and minors in Biology, Criminal Justice, and Earth and Environmental Science. I also completed a Certificate in Leadership and participated in both the Baccalaureate Honors Program and Bristol-Myers Squibb Science Honors Program. During my undergraduate years, I was a three-time Andrew J. Rider Scholar, one of the university's highest academic distinctions, recognizing the top 1% of students within each college. I was also inducted into several national honor societies, including Omicron Delta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Delta, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. I completed independent research projects in both criminal justice and marine science. In 2022, I presented my work on the effects of benzalkonium chloride, a common disinfectant, on freshwater plankton assemblages at the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting, a multi-national professional conference.

Following graduation, I joined the School of Atmospheric and Marine Sciences (SoMAS) at Stony Brook University, where I am currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Marine, Atmospheric, and Sustainability Sciences. My doctoral research has thus far focused on the effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on aquatic organisms, including *Mercenaria mercenaria* (hard clams) and *Cyprinodon variegatus* (sheepshead minnows). Last week, on November 19th, I presented on the effects of various PFAS and mixtures on survival of larval *C. variegatus* and *Menidia beryllina* (inland silversides), as well as on hatching and survival of embryonic *C. variegatus* hatching, at the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) North America 46th Annual Meeting.

---

## DOM BELFIGLIO

I am profoundly honored to be one of the previous recipients of the club's scholarship, having received the award in 2000. It means a lot because it recognizes my heritage and the unique stories and perspectives that come with it. The club shares more than just cultural backgrounds; it is the tapestry of experiences, values, and traditions that shape who we are all today. The scholarship was instrumental for me since it alleviated the financial burden of higher education. This scholarship reminds me of my ancestors and the rich traditions that have been passed down through generations. It serves as a reminder of the importance of honoring those who came before me while forging my own path.

My father was born in Farini, Emilia-Romagna and my mother's family is from Pretoro, Abruzzo. My Italian heritage has always been a great source of pride in my life. The scholarship award helped me attend Villanova University for my undergraduate studies. Following that degree, I served in the U.S. military and earned my master's and doctoral degrees. Currently, I work as an investigator with Homeland Security Investigations and as a professor of counterintelligence at Rider University. My investigative work focuses on crimes such as narcotics trafficking, financial crimes, human trafficking/smuggling, violent gangs, and fraud. I have been doing that for approximately 10 years now, following 5 years working as an intelligence analyst in several different cities around the world.

Thank you for investing in students like me who strive to continue their education and make a meaningful impact on our world.



**Frank Forlini**

**Società Val Trebbia  
e Val Nure  
Scholarship Fund  
1969 - 2025**

56 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 56 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 Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure Scholarship Fund.

God bless  
**Paul and Frank,**  
co-founders, members and valued friends.





2024 ANNUAL GALA







# 2024 CHRISTMAS MEETING





# WHERE OUR ANCEST



# ORS CAME FROM



- 1 Rocca d'Olgisio
- 2 Castell'Arquato
- 3 Vigolo Marchese
- 4 Veleia Romana
- 5 Chiaravalle
- 6 Bobbio
- 7 Vigoleno
- 8 Rivalta
- 9 Monte Penice
- 10 Lago Moo
- 11 Trebbia
- 12 Po
- 13 Villa Verdi
- 14 Grazzano Visconti

## I COMUNI DEL PIACENTINO

- AGAZZANO
- ALSENSO
- BESENZONE
- BETTOLA
- BOBBIO
- BORGONOVO
- CADEO
- CALENDASCO
- CAMINATA
- CAORSO
- CARPANETO
- CASTELL'ARQUATO
- CASTEL S. GIOVANNI
- CASTELVETRO P.NO
- CERIGNALE
- COLI
- CORTE BRUGNATELLA
- CORTEMAGGIORE
- FARINI
- FERRIERE
- FIORENZUOLA
- GAZZOLA
- GOSSOLENGO
- GRAGNANO
- GROPPARELLO
- LUGAGNANO
- MONTICELLI
- MORFASSO
- NIBBIANO
- OTTONE
- PECORARA
- PIACENZA
- PIANELLO
- PIOZZANO
- PODENZANO
- PONTE DELL'OLIO
- PONTENURE
- RIVERGARO
- ROTOFRENO
- SAN GIORGIO P.NO
- SAN PIETRO IN CERRO
- SARMATO
- TRAVO
- VERNASCA
- VIGOLZONE
- VILLANOVA
- ZERBA
- ZIANO P.NO



2025 CROSTATA MAKING CLASS









2025 PICNIC





2025 PICNIC





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NIECE AND COUSIN,  
**RECIPIENT OF THE 2025 SCHOLARSHIP.**  
YOUR JOURNEY TO GREATNESS HAS JUST STARTED.  
KEEP ON BEING GREAT AND ENJOY!  
**GRACE GUGLIELMETTI**



LOVE YOU AND WISH YOU GREAT SUCCESS  
**ZIA FRANCA**  
**COUSINS FABIO, CRISTINA, SETH & JACK**

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
**ALL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**



**Grace,**

We are immensely proud of all you've achieved over the past four years, both academically and personally.

You've blossomed into a remarkable, compassionate, and driven young woman. We can't wait to see where the next four years at IU Kelley will take you!

Congratulations to all of the scholarship recipients as well!

Love,

**Mom, Dad, Lia**

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Congratulations to Societa' Val Trebbia e Val Nure  
on their 75th Anniversary!

Thank you for continuing to keep our wonderful  
heritage alive for future generations.



In honor of our beloved parents, grandparents,  
and great-grandparents:

**frank and louise forlini**

We carry your sweet memory in our hearts each day.

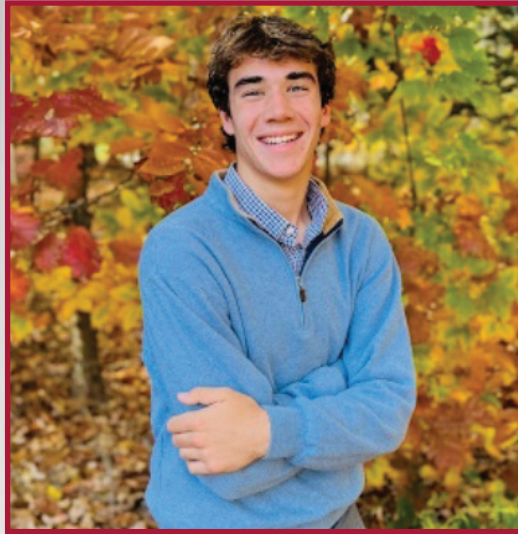
With much love,  
**Your Family**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

## **Sam Anania**

We are so proud of your hard work and determination.



To the next generation of leaders!



Love,

**Mom, Dad & Charlie**

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Congratulations  
**Michael and Robert**



We are so proud of the young  
men you have become.

We look forward to your next adventures.

**Mom & Dad**



SOCIETÁ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

*Congratulations*  
*to*  
*All the*  
*2025 Scholarship Recipients*

**Marcel and Rosalind  
Plate**



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Congratulations  
**La Societa' Val Trebbia e Val Nure**  
on your  
**75th Anniversary Celebration!**

We respect and honor the devotion and dedication of its founders, those who have passed and ongoing volunteers who continue to support the values and principles of our heritage, the organization and its scholarship fund!

Your time and energy are truly appreciated!

Much good luck to the students, their accomplishments and all future endeavors!

God's Blessings

*Arleen and Mike Carragee*



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

Congratulations  
to the  
**Società on their 75th Anniversary!**

From a family with two generations of scholarship recipients,  
we wish continued success to the Societa and the future  
generations of scholarship winners.

We celebrate the spirit of our Italian heritage –  
a love of family, a passion of learning, and a deep  
commitment to giving back.

May you always remember where you come from,  
carry your heritage with pride, and continue  
to inspire others with your determination and heart.

**Anna  
Philippe & Rita  
Bryan & Stephanie  
Marc & Melissa**

The future generation of scholarship recipients –  
**Julien, Genevieve and Charlotte**

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in memoria  
di  
ernesto e lina gazzola



I Figli, Nipoti e Pronipoti  
Ricordano



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

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**

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Congratulations Scholarship Winners!!

Best of Luck in the future

**in memory of...**



**ernesto and lina gazzola**



**frank and julia plate**

**Gianfranco Gazzola & Family**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

Best Wishes to the Students  
in memory  
of  
**fr. louis scagnelli**  
YOU ARE ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS.



**CHUCK MONZEGLIO  
AND  
FAMILY**

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*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*



SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

in memory of...  
**BOB BERNARDI**

August 28, 1930 – July 12, 2000

**AL BERNARDI**

August 28, 1930 – April 30, 2013



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We share Mary and Freddie Forlini stories daily and miss them deeply!  
Seventy-five years ago, they began a journey with loving hearts  
and even through difficult challenges...They found laughter!



We applaud their resilience and we're truly grateful for teaching  
us patience, compassion, kindness, understanding, commitment,  
and respect! Today...Their experiences serve as a constant reminder...  
"It's the simple moments in life that make the most precious memories"  
We were blessed to have them and hope they always feel our love  
and admiration!

**Arleen and Mike Carragee, The Forlini, Dunn,  
Henderson, DiScala and Passaniti Families**



SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

in loving memory  
of  
**SECONDO BOLETTI**  
**CATERINA BOLETTI**  
**LUCIA BOLETTI GAGLIARDO**



*Congratulations*  
*to*  
*All the Scholarship Winners*

**Enrico Boletti**

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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**



SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

in memory  
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**

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## in loving memory of my beloved husband

To my Mark: I was so blessed to have you in my life for 52 years. You made me a better person and made me feel whole. With you by my side, you gave our family an amazing life; a life full of wonderful memories that can never be erased. They will always be cherished.



*“Love is stronger than death” – St. Paul*

My life will never be as full without you.

All my love, always and forever,  
until we are together again, your **Diane**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

Our uncle Mark the rock of the family.  
We are so proud to have been your nieces.

You shared your wisdom, humor, loyalty  
and most of all your love with us.  
We are forever grateful. Your legacy will live  
in our hearts forever and we will remember  
everything about you always.



We love you always and forever.  
**Danielle and Dawn.**

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in memory of  
our grandfather,  
**mark**

You doted on us, taught us, made us  
laugh, and gave us memories most  
grandchildren could only dream of.

From cotton candy machines  
at the beach...

...to 16 foot Christmas Trees  
in a home  
meticulously decorated  
for the holiday,  
we could not have asked  
for a better “Pop Pop.”

We love and miss you.

Your adoring grandchildren,  
**Penelope, Natalie, Maggie,  
Evie, Felicity, and Nicholas**





**SOCIETÁ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

in loving memory of...  
our father,  
**mark**



You gave us the tools to succeed, the drive to want to use them, and the wisdom to know when to either push through the finish, or pull back and enjoy what you've built with those you love.

We'll do our best to honor your legacy and follow your lead of loving through work and working for the sake of love. We'll use the wonderful memories you gave us to fuel the next chapter.

Your devoted children, who miss you more than words can express.

**Marc, Christine, Christopher, Eric, Mia,  
Craig, Danielle, Kimberly, and Steven**

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*In Loving Memory of our Dear Family Friend*



*Pietro (Peter) Segalini*

*Peter brought passion, persuasion, and dedication to  
perpetuating the heritage of the Piacentini.*

*His tireless devotion truly sustained the dreams of the  
Founding Fathers of the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure.*

*Peter, for that reason alone, we are forever grateful.*

*Along with their Families...*

*David, Nancy, Rita, & Diane Draghi & Lisa Draghi-Forlini*



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

in memory of our mother and nonna

ada



You were the most loving, humble, compassionate, understanding, family-orientated, hard-working woman and one of the most beautiful souls one could ever meet. We are going to miss you so much. Thank you for the memories and lessons you taught us that we will pass on to generations to come.

With love,

**Pietro, Maria, Sergio, Raynette, Diego, Daria, Giulio, Valentina, Rita,  
Salvatore, Melissa, Leonardo, Antonio, Alexandra and Amanda**

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in loving memory  
of  
**pietro "peter" segalini**

Beloved husband, father and grandfather



FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

With love,

**Maria, Diego, Daria, Giulio, Valentina and Rita**



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*to*  
*All the Students*

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*from*

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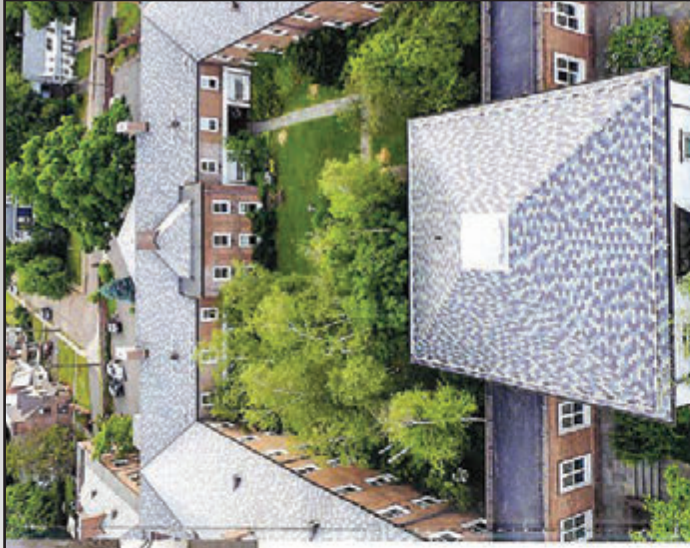
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Congratulations  
to  
**Grace Guglielmetti**  
and  
**All the 2025 Scholarship Recipients.**

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*Anna Maria, Giorgio,*  
*Cosmo, Caterina, Isabella*  
*e Giuliana*





SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

in loving memory of ...  
**agatha & filippo**  
**BUZZONE**



ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS.

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

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*Class of* **2025**



*Congratulations*  
**Sam Cavanna**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

Congratulations to our son  
**Daniel Raymond**  
on your  
High School Graduation



We are incredibly proud of you and your achievements  
academically and in the performing arts.  
Your hard work, positivity and determination inspire us every day.  
Dream big, work hard and most importantly, stay true to yourself.  
Can't wait to see what amazing things the future holds for you!  
Good luck at Wagner College!

We love you,  
**Mom, Dad, Quentin and Andreina**

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Congratulations to our  
**Grandson Sam!**



We are so proud of all  
your accomplishments.

Love,  
**Grandma & Grandpa**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**



**Dad, Mom and Anna**



**Dad, Jimmy and Anna**

**Congratulations to the  
Students and the Societa' on its 75th Anniversary**

**James Gregori**

**PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS**



***Congratulations to the Società Val Trebbia E Val Nure  
on your  
Remarkable Legacy***

To the esteemed members and leadership of the Society,

On behalf of all who have been touched by your incredible work, it is our sincere honor to extend heartfelt congratulations on reaching two extraordinary milestones:

**75th Anniversary** as an organization **and the completion of 56 years** of continuous success in awarding college student scholarships. The enduring legacy you have built is a testament to unwavering commitment and belief in the power of education. For over half a century, you have not only witnessed but actively shaped the futures of countless students, transforming potential into reality and helping to build a more educated and vibrant community. May your 75th year be a time of joyful celebration and reflection on the immense good you have achieved.

Here's to many more decades of success in empowering students and building a brighter future.

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

**Mark James Manfredi & all the 2025 Scholarship Recipient**

Best Wishes!

**The Avignone Family Joe, Brenda, Jacqueline, Jolie and Joseph**



*in memory of...*

## **peter segalini and mark draghi**

This year, we said goodbye to two of our cherished childhood friends, Peter Segalini and Mark Draghi. Their dedication, loyalty, and love for the Società and our heritage will never be forgotten.

Peter and Mark tirelessly devoted themselves to the Società community, proudly continuing the legacy of their predecessors by serving as President and Scholarship Chair and enriching our Piacentini heritage. We will always remember the friendship we shared and the legacy they left behind.

May they rest peacefully.

**The Scagnelli and Gallinari Families**



in loving memory  
of my  
Dear Friend  
**peter segalini**



I will never forget our discussions  
on the value of a good education!

God bless, never to be forgotten

**Paul J. Ferrari**



**SOCIETÁ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

*In Loving Memory of  
Our Dear Brother, Mark*



*Right from the very start, now and forever...*

*...Always in Our Hearts!*



*With Love, Pride, and Admiration  
David, Nancy, Rita, and Lisa*

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*Congratulations to the Societa Val Trebbia E Val Nure  
on your  
75th Anniversary*



**in loving memory  
of  
MARK DRAGHI AND PETER SEGALINI**

whose leadership, wisdom, and friendship  
left a significant impression on us all.

Their belief in the power of education and their dedication  
to our mission, taught us the value of perseverance,  
integrity and community strength.

Their foresight, vision, passion and dedication are  
the reasons both the Societa and the Scholarship fund  
continue to thrive today. Their legacy lives on through  
all the lives they touched, creating a lasting  
impact on all of us...and their spirit lives on  
in every scholarship recipient..

They will be forever missed, but never be forgotten.  
May their beautiful memories forever be a blessing  
and a source of strength for all of us.

With Caring Thoughts,

**The Avignone Family**  
**Joe, Brenda, Jacqueline, Jolie and Joseph**



SOCIETÁ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

in loving memory  
of  
MY HUSBAND **hugo** AND MY SON **JOEY**



YOU ARE DEEPLY MISSED

LOVE,  
YOUR WIFE & MOM  
**ANDREINA**

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## **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***



SOCIETÁ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

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*

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



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



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

CONGRATULATIONS

## **Daniel Raymond Solano**

May your future be filled with success and happiness



All our love,

**Nonna**

**Aunts & Uncles,**

**Aldo, Lisa, Steve and Ann Marie,**

Cousins

**Andrea, Joseph, Juliane, Suzanne, Paul, Kristin, Stephen, Tara,  
Nicholas, Zina, Jennifer, Joey, Johnny & Leo**

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in loving memory  
of our  
dear friend  
mark joseph draghi



*YOU WILL ALWAYS BE "FAMIGLIA" TO US  
AND WE WILL MISS YOU VERY MUCH,  
ANDREINA, ALDO, STEPHEN, ANN MARIE, CAROLINE & QUINNY  
and  
ANDREA, JOE, JULIANE. SUZANNE, QUENTIN, ANDREINA & DANIEL*



SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

in loving memory  
of our  
BELOVED PARENTS  
**BARTOLOMEO & GIOVANNA  
PICCA**



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

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in loving memory of  
OUR nonna,  
ROSA pagliughi  
and uncle,  
PIETRO pagliughi



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



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

Congratulations to the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure on its  
75th Anniversary and all the 2025 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, Zinamaria, Jennifer,  
“Little” Joey, Johnny, and Leo*

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*Kristen Forlini*

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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**



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*



SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

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**

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in loving memory of...

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

LODOVICO FERRARI

ERCOLE GAZZOLA

GIOVINI BERGONZI

GIACOMO GIANNICO

pete costa

agostino lattinelli

pete garilli

gianguido schavi

nono paul

JOE CAFARO

BONFIGLIO EQUO

nunzio fera

FRANCISO FERRARI

hugo forlini

livio minelli

ENRICO SPERONI

frank forlini

carlo lattinelli

Many thanks for your patience, and caring,

**PAUL FERRARI**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

in loving memory  
of  
BONFIGLIO and LOUISA FERRARI EQUO  
NUNZIO FERA and MOM GENNIE  
AGOSTINO, DOMENICA, JOHANNA  
CARLO LATTINELLI and MARY ANN

Always in our Hearts and Prayers



Santina, Philip and Carol-Ann Fera  
and Caroline Equo

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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**



SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

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.**

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in loving memory  
of  
OUR PARENTS  
frances & mario cella  
AND  
ethel & lodovico migliorini



ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS,  
JOHN & LORETTA CELLA  
and  
FAMILY



SOCIETÁ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.

in loving memory  
of  
BELOVED AUNT  
**louise guglielmetti**



May You Rest In Peace

Thank you for all of your love, kindness  
and generosity to each of us for all these years!!

We love you and miss you very much!!

With much love from your nieces and nephews!

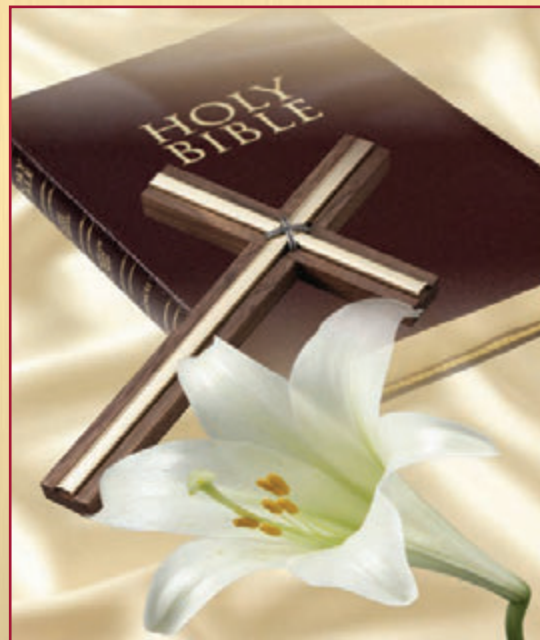
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in loving memory  
of our

BELOVED SISTER

**LOUISE**



**John, Tina, Paul, Frances**



**SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC.**

in loving memory  
of our  
PAST PRESIDENT  
**peter segalini**



Our Membership will profoundly miss him  
and he will always be in our thoughts and prayers.

**National Council of Columbia Associations in Civil Service, Inc.**



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TO ALL THE STUDENTS  
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*to*  
*All The Students*

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



*Andrea, Joseph & Suzanne  
Forlini*

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CONGRATULATIONS  
to  
*Sam Cavanna*  
and  
*of the scholarship recipients!*

*Nadine Rivellese*  
&  
*Vincent Rivellese*



SOCIETÀ VAL TREBBIA E VAL NURE, INC. 

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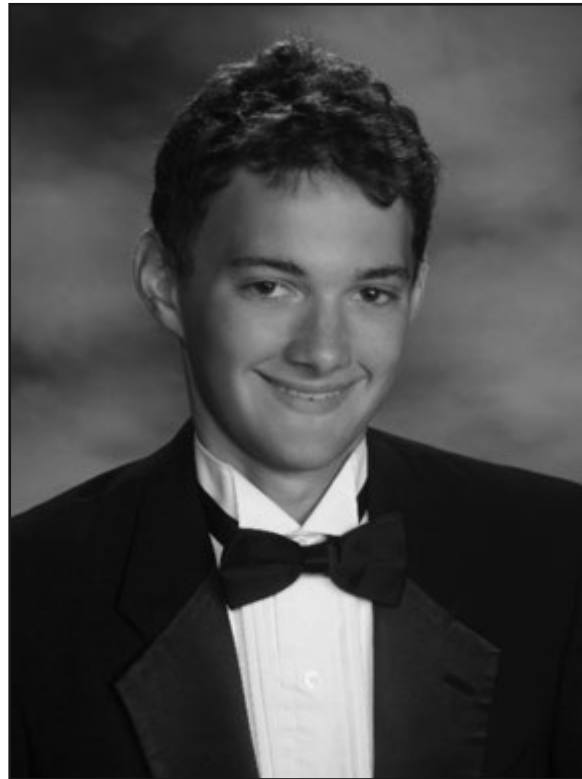
# Luke Pedretti

We've been blessed to watch you grow into a remarkable young man.

Your passion for learning and your perseverance has always inspired us.

As you embark on this next chapter, know that we will always be  
your biggest supporters!

Receiving this scholarship is a testament to your hard work and to the support of so many who believe in you. Thank you to the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure for your generous investment in his future.



You make us very proud and we love you very much.

**The Pedretti (Nonna, Mom, Dad, Rose, Ava, and Zia Nanda), DelColle  
(Uncle John, Brianna, Alexa, Carissa and Enzo) and Mazza  
(Grandma, Grandpa, Uncle Sal, Michael) Families**

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# La diocesi a New York dai piacentini d'America

## PIACENZA

● Un pellegrinaggio nella Grande Mela con la diocesi di Piacenza-Bobbio. Si terrà dal 14 al 19 novembre prossimi e oltre a toccare le attrazioni turistiche tradizionali cercherà di scoprire alcuni dei luoghi dello spirito della metropoli nonché di incontrare i migranti piacentini che a New York vivono ormai da generazioni. «Ci ha dato spunto la presenza degli Scalabriniani nel cuore di Manhattan - spiega Valeria Perini, referente dell'Ufficio pellegrinaggi -, nella chiesa parrocchiale Our Lady of Pompei (Nostra Signora di Pompei) dove avremo modo di partecipare alla messa di domenica 17.



Our Lady of Pompei a New York

Alloggeremo in una struttura di suore, gestita da laici, sempre nel cuore della Grande Mela». Sarà Giovanni Piazza, già presidente dell'associazione piacentini nel mondo, a guidare ad organizzare gli incontri con i piacentini d'America. [fri](http://fri).

Pagina : 25



Peter Segalini, a sinistra, con il figlio Diego, il nipote Giulio e la nuora Daniela al parco provinciale di Morfasso nell'agosto 2024 per la festa dell'emigrante



Peter e Diego Segalini, attuale presidente della Società Val Trebbia e Valnure, davanti con gli altri componenti il consiglio direttivo dell'associazione

Libertà - 18/04/2025

## Addio a "Peter" bandiera dei piacentini a New York

Pietro Segalini era emigrato da Vidonico di Bettola nel 1966. Guidò la Società di Valtrebbia e Valnure nella Grande Mela

Nadia Plicani

● È morto improvvisamente nella sua casa di New York, a 72 anni, Pietro Segalini, emigrato dalla sua natia Bettola, emigrato negli Stati Uniti d'America dove ha costruito la sua carriera e la sua famiglia, mantenendo legami con l'Italia anno dopo anno. Nello scorso 2024, ha guidato la Società di Valtrebbia e Valnure di New York, organizzazione no-profit di 75 anni che ha assegnato oltre un milione di dollari in borse di studio a studenti italo-americani. Ne è stato anche presidente, rafforzando ulteriormente l'amicizia tra le comunità italiane in Italia, Inghilterra, Francia, Canada e Sud America. Segalini è morto lunedì 14 aprile, stroncato da un infarto. Lascia la moglie Maria, il figlio Diego, attuale presidente della Società, la figlia Valentina e i suoi adorati nipoti. L'annuncio della sua scomparsa è stato dato dal fratello Sergio, sindaco di Bettola, e dal nipote Diego, attuale sindaco. Entrambi sono stati a Bettola nel mese di marzo, dove erano stati accolti ufficialmente anche dal sindaco Paolo Negri. Nato il 27 ottobre 1952 a Vidonico, frazione di Bettola, Peter si trasferì negli Stati Uniti con la madre Ada, il padre Salvatore e il fratello Sergio nel 1966, all'età di 13 anni. Crebbe nei quartieri di Little Italy e Chinatown, nella parte bassa di Manhattan. Durante gli anni del liceo e dell'università fu attivamente coinvolto in organizzazioni culturali, ricorrendo al ruolo di presidente dell'Italian Club, e giocò a calcio con diverse squadre nell'area del

tre Stati. Lavorò con diverse aziende private prima di entrare a far parte dell'amministrazione delle Risorse umane/Dipartimento dei servizi sociali di New York nel 1985, affrontando le sfide del servizio pubblico nella sua nuova città. «Nel corso della sua carriera, Peter e i suoi colleghi del servizio pubblico hanno risposto alla chiamata in alcuni dei momenti più difficili per New York - ricorda il fratello Sergio - Dopo gli attacchi dell'11 settembre, lui e i suoi team sono stati invitati a installare computer e sistemi di telecomunicazione in

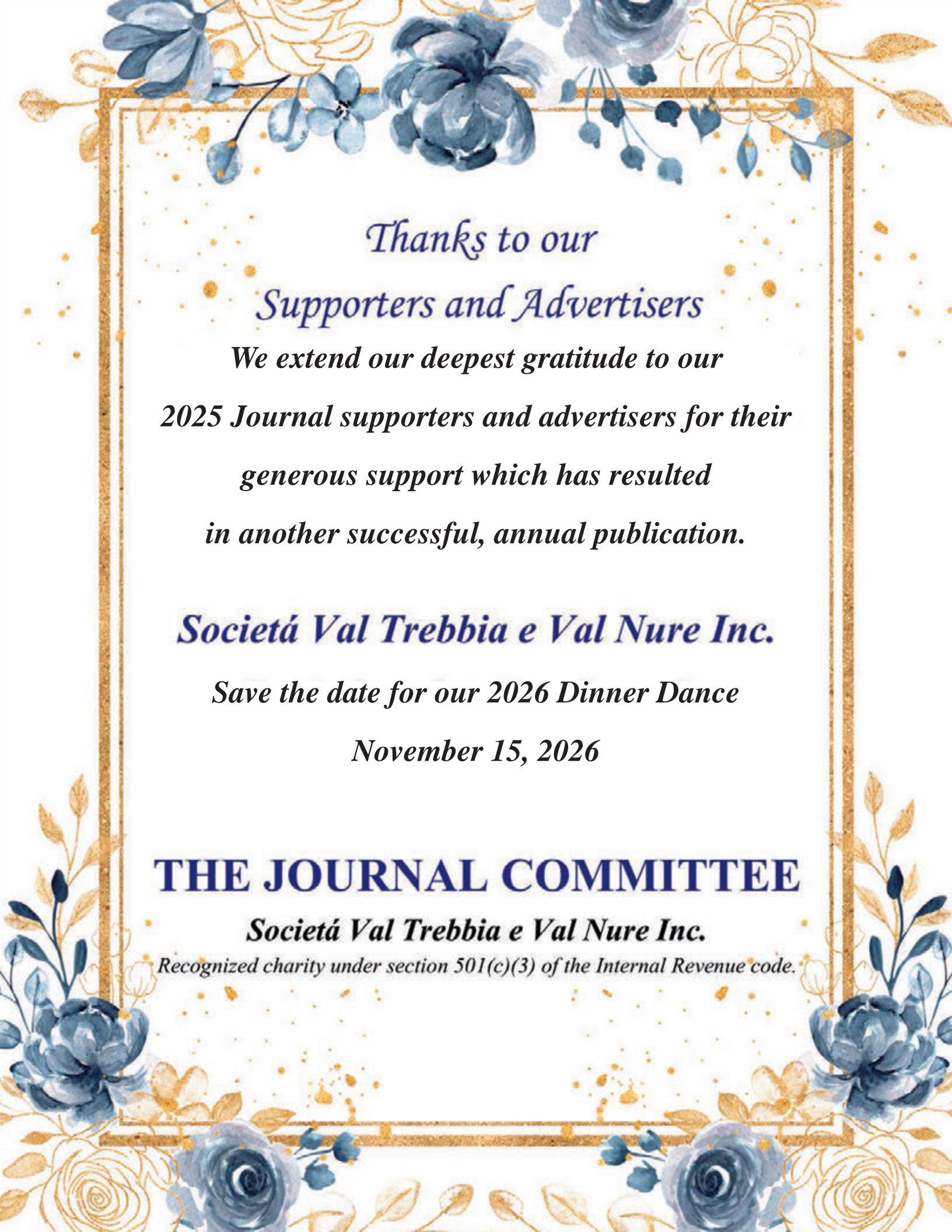
tutta la città per fornire supporto, distribuire assistenza pubblica e raccogliere dati critici. Ha inoltre svolto un ruolo fondamentale durante la pandemia di Covid, contribuendo a donare oltre 18 mila dipendenti degli strumenti necessari per lavorare da remoto e supportare i newyorkesi vulnerabili... Nel 2009 Peter ha ricevuto il riconoscimento dei Piacentini nel Mondo conferito dalla Provincia di Piacenza. Ed è diffuso, e sentito, il cordoglio dei piacentini per la sua scomparsa. Segalini riposerà nel cimitero di Brooklyn, New York.

Aprile 18, 2025 8:32 am (GMT+4:00)

kslaD6tqVQ

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in another successful, annual publication.*

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*Save the date for our 2026 Dinner Dance*

*November 15, 2026*

**THE JOURNAL COMMITTEE**

*Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure Inc.*

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*Cheers* to the 2025 Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure scholarship recipients—Here's to new horizons, shared roots, and the beauty of discovery.

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# MONTEVERDI

*Congratulations to the Società Val Trebbia e Val Nure on seventy-five years of celebrating heritage, community, and the pursuit of learning. Your devotion to preserving our Piacenza roots continues to connect generations across continents.*

From the hills of the Val Nure, Monteverdi Winery continues a family story that began in 1796, when Angelo Maria Monteverdi crafted his first wines with heart and patience. Today, each bottle carries that same spirit of family, authenticity, and the timeless beauty of our Italian homeland.



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