



ITALIAN
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Preserving Our Culture. Serving Our Community.

SINCE 1916

Il Messaggero

NEWS & UPDATES FROM ITALIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Cari Amici,



As Yogi Berra is reported to have said, “it’s Deja-Vu all over again.”

When my father entered the US Navy in 1918 he was quarantined for the Flu for two weeks at Mare Island in Vallejo before reporting to what was then called “Goat Island” in the middle of the Bay for Boot Camp. At that time, the Italian Board of Relief had just completed its first full year of service to the San Francisco Italian Community.

As Pietro reports in his message we are “back to the future” more than a century later, actively responding to the needs of the Bay Area Italian Community in a time of quarantine. We are proud to be able to do that because of the dedication of Pietro and his staff, dedicated volunteers and the moral and financial support of people like you. Thank you for helping us to help others.

Donald G. Parachini

Donald G. Parachini
President

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear community members,



I hope this newsletter finds you healthy and staying indoors. In these uncertain times, Italian Community Services has become a voice of hope and inspiration for our Bay Area Italian/Italian-American community. In early March we began operating remotely; despite some initial challenges, we continue to serve our community. Today, instead of hosting weekly socializing activities, presentations, concerts, cultural events and catered meals, we are working around the clock to provide telephonic wellness checks to hundreds of community members. When an urgent errand is needed such as a pharmacy run, we coordinate to have this done. We have also initiated a care-package tradition where every two weeks we bring our seniors some fresh organic produce, informational materials on the pandemic, foods from Italy, and recipes from our very own Viola Buitoni. Our community’s younger population has also been hit very hard. Many of them find themselves applying for unemployment or have had their hours significantly reduced and we are dedicated to providing them the support they

need to navigate through this difficult time.

To be more inviting, we have removed the language “Welfare Agency” and created new materials to provide a fresh image (especially for those who frequented Fugazi years ago). A special thanks goes to Frank Billante (board member and owner of Home Instead Senior Care) and Sharon Meagher for making available to Italian Community Services a virtual platform that is rich with programming. This way you can stroll through the Uffizi or see an opera at the MET from the comfort of your own home. Visit our website and give it a try!

Social and physical isolation is one of the greatest ills of this pandemic. We thank La Scuola International and the middle school for teaming up with Italian Community Services for a cross generational Pen Pal program.

On May 2nd we had our debut in the Wall Street Journal. The article is available on our website under the “news” section. Thank you to Gio Gelati for collaborating and delivering gelato to our most isolated members.

I encourage members of every Italian and Italian-American organization to participate in one of our initiatives. It takes a village and in working together our efforts can have a lasting effect. So far, we have enjoyed teaming up with

members of San Francisco The Italian Athletic Club, La Scuola International, Le Donne D’Italia, Italian Cultural Institute, Italian Consulate of San Francisco, the Italian Catholic Federation, Next Village and Italian Community Services Auxiliary. My commitment is to engage at least one member of each Italian/Italian-American organization to participate in one of our initiatives.

Lastly, I thank all our donors for their generosity. I invite more readers to donate. You can donate via check, via our website, or on Facebook. Since the outbreak we have tripled the people we are serving and we anticipate this growth will continue through the summer. If you cannot donate financially, we also need hardware items such as laptops, computers, tablets and handheld devices. We will use this equipment in our future computer lab to help our seniors stay connected.

Grazie infinite,

Pietro Bonnano

Pietro Bonnano
Executive Director

Our Mission

Italian Community Services provides Bay Area Italian-American individuals and families with trusted resources to help them live healthy, independent and productive lives. We are committed to honoring and preserving the Italian language and culture, with an emphasis on the strength and support that come from family, community, education and goodwill.

ANNUAL APPEAL DONATIONS FROM DECEMBER 1, 2019 to APRIL 30, 2020.

Grazie mille to everyone who donated.

Alida Morzenti
Amelia De Bono
Ann Frasco
Ann Newlin
Antonette Macchi
AR Jeanson
Arthur and Joan Costamagna
Associazione Liguri Nel Mondo
Barbara Lambert
Bernadette Festa
Beverly & Joanne Desmond
Carla Anne Silva
Ceclia Beltrame
Charlotte Mastrangelo
Christina Sauvageau
David Romano
Denise Cullinan
Diana Bacigalupi
Diana Marano
Diane Shannon
Donati Gina and Mario
Edwina Hyson-Webb
Eleanor E Pieretti
Emilia Nutini

Ernestine Campagnoli
Esther Tofahi
Fides Bernard
Francis and Audrey Molettieri
Frank Ginotti
Fredrick Tealdi
Freida Applegate
Gaspare Ingargiola
George Sacco
Gerald Stoffolino
Gina Roja
Giovanni Savio
Grace Gagliardo
ICS Auxilary
James Giovannoni
Janette R Barroca
Jennifer Baker
Jennifer Consalvi Hodges
Joe and Laura Ostarello
Jon Cereghino
Joseph Riccio
Josephine Lucchesi
Joyce Busch
Karen Hicks

Ken Borelli
Le Donne D'Italia
Leonardo Da Vinci Society
Liana Figone
Linda Cozzarelli
Lorette Berton
Lori Viti
Louise Cuneo
Maria Pignati
Marlene Cristanelli
Marlene Presenti
Mary Romeo
Michael Petrone
Michael Raddie
Nancie DeRoss
Nancy & Fred Cline
Nina Cimarelli
Nina Palmira
Pam Gatti
Paul Lucchesi
Rae Sansa
Ray Piva
Riccio Family
Richard Armanino

Richard Cuneo
Richard Moresco
Richard Petrocchi
Rita Rapicavoli Neumark
Rita Webb
Robert Finley
Robert Murray
Roberto Barone
Sandra and Edward Baumgarten
Sandra D'amico Ehrhorn
Sandra Fontana
Savio Giovannini
Serra Falk Goldman
Silicon Valley Community Fdn.
Terri Conlin
Theresa Baldini Figone
Tony Rando & Maria Gloria
Victoria Galluzzi
Walter Schivo
Yola Ferralis
Yolanda Statham

BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

ELENA GUMINA ANGELI
ALESSANDRO BACCARI
SANDRA BAUMGARTEN, *Auxiliary President*
FRANK BILLANTE
ROMANA BRACCO
FEDERICO BROCCO
RICHARD CUNEO
MATTEO DASTE
RONALD J. DERENZI, *Treasurer*
MARIO DONATI
ELISABETTA GHISINI
DAVID T. GIANNINI
LEANA C. GIANNINI
JOE LEVERONI
STEPHEN E. LEVERONI, *Vice President*
STEVEN D. MARTINI
MARK MICHELI
TIMOTHY J. PADOVESE
MARIO G. PAOLINI, JR, *Secretary*
DONALD G. PARACHINI, *President*
VYRIA PASELK
CLAUDE PERASSO
MARIA FASSIO PIGNATI
LUIGI E. PINOTTI, *Chairman*
BARBARA RIZZI
JOSEPH P. RUSSONIELLO
ILIA SALOMONE-SMITH
DENNIS STRAZULO
PAUL D. TONELLI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PIETRO J. BONANNO



Alida in her garden with her favorite vegetable- Artichoke!

Alida is a San Francisco native, lover of all things Italian (especially Alfa Romeo) and supporter of the arts. Her family originates from a small village in the Alps of Lombardy, in Northern Italy. She is still very close with her Italian cousins who now live mainly in and around Bergamo. She grew up in North Beach and attended grammar school at Sts. Peter & Paul. While growing up, she spent her summers on her grandparents' ranch outside of Santa Rosa. She is a very active member of the broader Italian community. Her time is di-

vided between North Beach and her Santa Rosa ranch where she tends her vineyards and farm. I cannot thank Alida enough for her recent generosity to Italian Community Services. As the agency continues to refresh its image, Alida purchased furniture for both the waiting room and the soon to open library/archive room. Visitors can now sit in comfort while waiting to be assisted or while reading one of our rare books. Most recently, she donated funds to support our extensive care package initiative. Grazie!

COMMUNITY IMPACT SINCE MARCH 15TH IN NUMBERS

2200 Wellness Checks



1500 care packages delivered

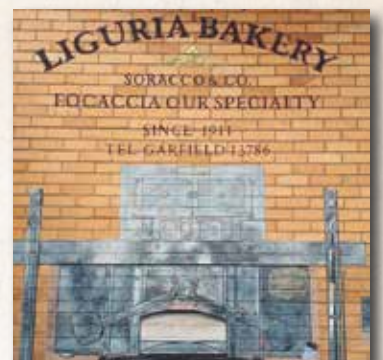


103 supermarket runs



45 families receiving essential financial assistance

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS



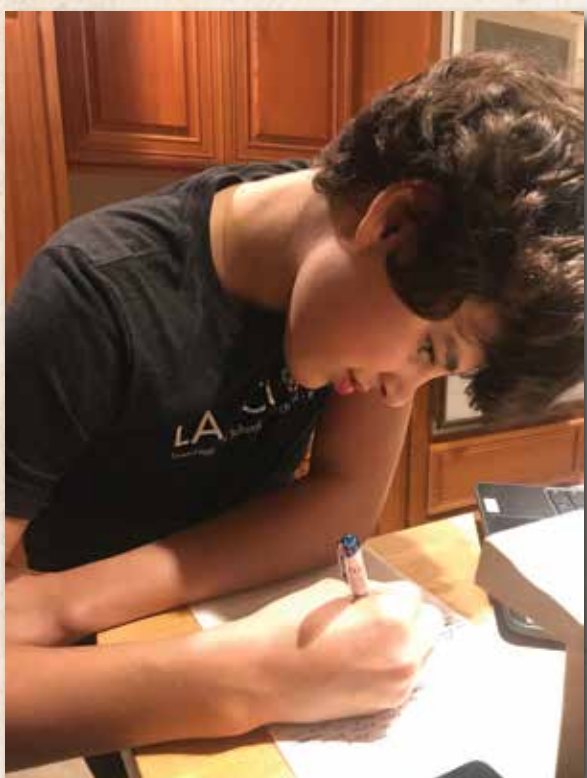
Bringing the Community Together



In collaboration with Gio Gelati we delivered this sweet treat to our most isolated members.



Volunteers work together, pre-social distancing, to prepare the Emergency Care Package with vital essentials.



Pen Pal program with La Scuola Students – generational differences disappear as middle schoolers and our seniors begin their Pen Pal journey.



During Easter and Passover we delivered festive care packages. Club Fugazi slowly fills up with completed care packages.



Restaurant 54Mint prepared hundreds of meals to be delivered to our community members.



Francesca Alderisi, Italian Senator, presented to the Italian Senate Archive Committee our gift from her recent visit to San Francisco. We gifted her an original newspaper "L'Italia" from 1906. There is a piece of Italian Community Services now in Rome.



Volunteers stand in front of Club Fugazi. On average, each care package run needs 15 volunteers in addition to our staff to run smoothly.

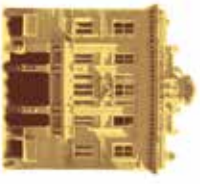


ITALIAN
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Preserving Our Culture. Serving Our Community.

678 Green Street
San Francisco, CA 94133

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PERMIT NO. 11882



ITALIAN
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Preserving Our Culture. Serving Our Community.

Casa Fugazi

678 Green Street, San Francisco, CA 94133

Tel: 415-362-6423 Fax: 415-362-3565

info@italians.com

www.italians.com

*If you would like to receive your newsletter and notices
via email please contact: lana.tornatore@italians.com
501 (c) (3) Organization
TAX EIN 94-1196199*



*For Mother's Day Italian Community Services delivered
over 100 orchids to isolated mothers.*

POSTPONED EVENTS DUE TO COVID-19

Caring for our SENIOR community is not our only focus.

We host cultural, musical and educational events for all ages.

Due to Covid 19 the following events have been postponed:

- **Welcome to the Bay Series**- This series is designed for those that have recently moved to SF and need crucial integration tips to navigate Bay Area living.
- **Volunteer Recognition Dinner**- Volunteers are essential to our mission. Each year we honor our volunteers by hosting a dinner to recognize each of them for their valuable commitment.
- **Field trips to Walt Disney Museum and Legion of Honor**. We believe museums provide inspiration to our community. Each month we visit a museum, in March we planned to visit the Walt Disney Museum and in April the Legion of Honor.
- **Opera Guild Performance**-The San Francisco Opera Guild has a rich calendar of operas performed by children. Attending is a community favorite.
- **Comites Panel Discussion on the "New American Dream"**. Comites San Francisco had the idea to compare the "American Dream" of the past with that of the present.
- **Easter/Passover Brunch**- Each spring we have a beautiful brunch to honor Easter and Passover. This is a favorite for our seniors.
- **InterComites Annual Conference**
- **Italian Au Pair- integration presentation and dinner-social**. San Francisco Bay Area has over 100 Italian Au Pairs. We welcome these vital members of our community, give them the tools to feel at home and support their needs. We even help their parents from Italy get situated when they visit San Francisco.
- **Casino trip with Italian Athletic Club and Salesians**. Our last Casino trip was a success. Graton Casino is the perfect place for a day trip. It is beautiful to see members of three communities come together.
- **Bocce Tournament with ICA Cristo Rey**. Each year Italian Community Services and ICA Cristo Rey Academy host a golf tournament. This year we also planned to have a bocce tournament in San Rafael.
- **Italian Music in Golden Gate Park**. The first Saturday of June has always sounded sweeter because Italian Community Services sponsors an Italian music concert in Golden Gate Park.