



## THE ITALIAN TIMES JR.

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The College Endowment Association  
Community Enrichment Since 1890

This is the final month for CEA - The College Endowment Association's sponsorship. We appreciate the last three months of sponsorship of the Italian Times, Jr. and hope that it has shed some light on the Association and what they offer to the community. A special thanks to Amy Domagalski for selecting the Italian Times, Jr. to highlight the Association.

### **Membership Update**

The Membership Team has been working diligently to update the membership software. Notices have been sent to those members who are on the "inactive" or "lapsed" list. If you have any concerns about your membership status, you may call the ICC Office, at 414-223-2180.

### **Italian Language Classes**

The first session of the Italian Language Class, taught by Sabrina Lupoli, has come to an end. Details for another 8-week session, as well as possible children's classes, are being finalized. Contact the ICC Office for more information.

### **Clue: A new Comedy**

Tickets are still available to see Clue the Comedy at the Marcus Performing Arts Center on March 13th at 7:30 in Uihlein Hall. Members will receive a 48% discount on the tickets with code ICCTICKETS. Go to ICCMKE.com on our Event Page for the ordering link.

### **Message from the ICC President**

We're less than 100 days from embarking on our exciting return to the Henry W. Maier festival grounds. As many of you have heard me say in meetings, our primary focus is producing a quality Festa with optimal revenue potential.

I've also pledged to share facts. For decades, the best interests of the ICC were often set aside to appease and support other interests. There's no denying the precarious position this put us in including having to sell some of the most valuable real estate in the city. While the Italian Community Center is presently in stable financial condition, the Italian Conference Center could very well become insolvent sooner than later. The loss of parking revenue since COVID has not been replaced, and the Conference Center relies primarily on revenue from Bartolotta's as outlined in the contract with them. There's been additional Conference Center loss of revenue over the years and to date from societies and organizations requesting the waiving of applicable Bartolotta room fees. This has a direct impact on the financial health of the Italian Conference Center of which the Italian Community Center is a stakeholder. As much as we want to support other groups in our community, the Italian Community Center and Italian Conference Center cannot be viable entities if we continue to subsidize other interests without reciprocity. The building's monthly utility costs and property taxes are expenses not offset by revenue from its use granted to others. I'm pleased to report that Joe Vella, Conference Center President, and I are working together to assure fiduciary responsibility is being executed going forward for our mutual sustainability. We are here for the purpose of serving the ICC and Conference Center. Please feel free to always bring your questions and concerns to me. I look forward to seeing you all at our next general meeting.

BE WELL!



Sandy Winard  
President-ICC  
Executive Director-Festa Italiana

## **Festa Update**

The Festa Advisory Committee (FAC) continues to work hard in planning Festa 2024 to be held on May 31, June 1 and June 2 on the Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds. Currently, the Committee is meeting with the Managers of the various areas to ensure that their needs, wants and wishes are heard. The FAC was recently informed of exciting news that the pavilion formerly known as Johnson Controls or Generac (home of the Cucina Showcase) is now being sponsored by Aurora Health and is undergoing some refurbishments and revitalizations. Work will be done by the week of Festa – Milwaukee World Festival promised!

Booking of entertainment, food vendors and beverage vendors continues as FAC promises to make Festa 2024 the best it can be!

Little “hints” of what will be offered will appear in this newsletter as plans are finalized.

## **Festa Volunteers Needed**

Tracy Balistreri has posted on the ICC website the form for volunteer signups. Please visit [FestaMKE.com](http://FestaMKE.com) to sign up. Part of the success of Festa depends on the food and entertainment offered, but more importantly, Festa relies on its volunteers for success! Give hours or days. We’ll have a spot for everybody.

## **Carnevale 2024**

The February 10th event was enjoyed by many – starting with hors d'oeuvres and champagne, followed by a delicious Mediterranean buffet, and ending with a spectacular sweets table. Guests dressed in costume paraded in front of the Re and Regina, Bill and Jessica Stocks. Cash prizes were awarded to the winners. A silent auction and booze pull were part of the festivities.



*Chairperson Sarah Carini Kissinger shared a moment with special guests.*



*Monday night bocce was well represented in the costume category!*



*After a fun-filled night, the Re and Regina head home. “It was truly an honor” said Re Bill Stocks. Bill and Jessica want to thank all those who helped make it a special night for them.*

## Benvenuti Bambini - Children's Workshops

The second workshop was held on February 18, 2024. There were 27 kids who participated in the fresh pizza making and arts & crafts workshop – more than twice as many as the first class! The children loved making the pizza. Each child was given pizza dough to take home. Susie Christiansen and Lisa DeSanctis assisted the children. The instructor's pizzas were baked and devoured at the conclusion of the workshop. The next workshop will be held on Sunday, March 17th. Bubagalova (egg inside a large cookie) is on the menu, along with Easter egg dyeing. This is a fun (and delicious) way for your children to learn the traditions of their ancestors. Registration per child is \$12.00, or \$8.00 if their parent is an ICC member. Pre-registration is required and the deadline is the Sunday before the workshop.



*The kids were taught how to make the savory pizza dough from scratch.*



*Our very own Vince Balistreri demonstrated the art of “throwing” the pizza crust, and the children were given practice doughs to try their hand at tossing dough!*

## ICC Movie Night

The Friday March 8th movie is *Risen*. Thank you to our sponsor, MKE Life Church. Concessions will be available for purchase, and the featured food item will be Pasta Alfredo.

The film *Risen* retells the story of Jesus' resurrection and ascension through the fictional Roman tribune Clavius, who supervises both Jesus' crucifixion and a Roman's soldier's search for Jesus' body following His resurrection and the investigation into what happened to his missing body.

Doors open at 6:30, and the movie starts at 7:00 pm.

## **This and That:**

This is a new feature in The Italian Times, Jr. Just some tidbits to share with members.

A 100 year old home located at 1606 N. Jackson Street bursts with love and tradition as 5 generations of the Cefalu family gather each Christmas to celebrate – a tradition started by Mary Cefalu. Frances Goff is the oldest living relative and has spent 77 years celebrating, while Lilly, age 2 is the youngest of the Cefalu clan.

Jannik Sinner is the first Italian Australia Open men's singles champion. Yeah Italy! This news flash was shared by Ann Zambito.

Joe Emanuele has been chosen Citizen of the Year by the Unico Foundation. More information will follow.

Avanti has a new Chairperson – Rachel Travia.

Membership's new chairperson is Maria Megna-Scarano.

April 19th is Gallery Night. Artists who are members of the ICC will be featured.

## **Unico Scholarship Reminder**

Hurry and get those applications in by Friday, March 29th for the \$1,000.00 Scholarships given by the Milwaukee Chapter of UNICO National and Milwaukee Ladies of Unico for high school students of Italian descent graduating in 2024. Applications are available online. For more information go to: <http://www.unicomilwaukee.com>.

## **Bringing A Smile to Your Face**



Instead of the John I call my  
bathroom the Jim!  
That way it sounds better when I  
say I go to the Jim first thing  
every morning!!!

## **In Memory of:**

*Mary Caminiti* from

Jimmy & Linda Spataro

*Paul Iannelli* from

Joanne Czubek

Jimmy & Linda Spataro

Rosemary DeRubertis

Christine Conley

## **With Heavy Hearts**

Former ICC President and Executive Director of Festa Italiana, Paul Iannelli passed away peacefully on February 17, 2024 at the age of 95 years, reported daughters, Paulette Zizzo and Nancy Agnello. Paul was a prominent fixture every year at Festa Italiana. Paul, along with others, were instrumental in bringing Festa Italiana to the Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds. Anyone and everyone who had anything to do with Festa knew Paul. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.



From the staff of the Italian Times, Jr., the ICC Executive Officers and the ICC Board of Directors.

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