



Villa Charities 2



Serving the community since 1971

# villa charities newsletter

Summer 2012



Villa Colombo 4



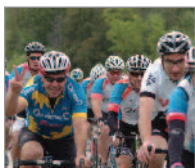
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## Giro di...2012

Giro, Villa Charities Foundation's annual cycling fundraiser, took place on Sunday, May 27, 2012, starting and ending for the first time in Vaughan.

The 6th edition of Giro was another success and we cannot thank the participants enough for their support in this year's ride. The idyllic weather set the stage for a great day filled with fun, food and fundraising – *all' Italiana!* (It was serendipity that just as our Giro event finished this year, Canadian Ryder Hesjedal won the *Giro*



L-R: Silvio Guglietti, Giro 2012 Co-Chair; Anne Simone, Executive Director, Villa Charities Foundation; Pal Di Iulio, President and CEO, Villa Charities; Nick Sanci, top fundraiser of Giro 2012 (from Team Rosehaven); Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor of Vaughan and Honourary Chair of Giro 2012

*d'Italia*.) Approximately 160 cyclists participated in Giro, riding one of two routes – GranFondo (100 km) or MediaFondo (60 km) – both starting and finishing at Eagles Nest Golf Club. This fun-filled charitable event had something for everyone, from serious riders looking for a unique cycling experience to recreational riders who love to explore the

country side. Giro 2012 raised over \$109,000. *Grazie e auguri* to the riders and event committee!

In the spirit of the *Giro d'Italia* (Continued on pg. 14)

## Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens: Memories of World War II Exhibit Now Open

On May 31, Columbus Centre hosted over 300 guests for the opening reception of its permanent exhibit, *Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens: Memories of WWII*. The project, which is funded by the Community Historical Recognition Program (CHRP) – Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), began in the summer of 2010. In addition to the exhibit, the project also produced an academic publication, *Beyond Barbed Wire* (co-published with the Association of Italian Canadian Writers), and a user-friendly website, [www.ItalianCanadianWW2.ca](http://www.ItalianCanadianWW2.ca). The commemorative project educates the public about the internment of Italian Canadians during WWII – a little-known event in Canadian history.

The event, which took place in the Joseph D. Carrier Art



Children of internees at the ribbon cutting ceremony with the unveiling of the commemorative wall

Gallery, began with welcoming remarks by Pal Di Iulio, President and CEO of Villa Charities, followed by an address by Karen Manarin, Chair of the Columbus Centre Board of Governors, and acknowledgements by Lucy Di Pietro, Project Director. Honoured guests – families of internees/enemy aliens who shared their stories

and objects with the project – were presented with framed certificates highlighting their contribution. These individuals who attended the event represent stories of internment from Toronto, Timmins, Sudbury, Hamilton, Ottawa, Montreal, Vancouver, Sydney, and New Waterford.

The unveiling of the commemorative wall (remembering the estimated 600 internees and many others who were detained) was (Continued on pg. 19)

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## IC Savings Pledges \$1 Million to Humber River Regional Hospital

Italian Canadian Savings and Credit Union has joined the effort to rebuild a local community hospital and pledged \$1 million towards the construction of the new Humber River Regional Hospital, which is underway at Keele Street and Wilson Avenue in Toronto. The hospital has been serving the community for decades (through the York-Finch, Humber Memorial, and Northwestern locations) and will continue to do so in an expanded 656-bed institution which will be among the largest in the GTA.

The pledge, announced by IC Savings President and CEO Fausto Gaudio, is among the very first gifts to the hospital's capital campaign, which aims to raise \$225 million for what is already billed as the first fully digital hospital in North America. People of Italian origin account for over 60 per cent of the population served by the hospital; Humber River Regional Hospital is the closest hospital which daily offers assistance to our Villa Colombo residents.

"This pledge is a reflection of our commitment to our members, neighbourhoods, and the entire community," says Gaudio. "We set



L-R: Roy Scaini, Vice-Chair, HRRH Foundation Board of Governors; Sam Ciccolini, Board of Directors, IC Savings; Frank Petti, Chair, IC Savings Board of Directors; Fausto Gaudio, President and CEO, IC Savings; Jack Kay, Chair, HRRH Capital Campaign; Rueben Devlin, President & CEO, HRRH; Heather Hurst, President & CEO, HRRH Foundation; Eddy Battiston, Chair, HRRH Foundation Board of Governors.

out to create a community banking institution that could make a difference locally, not only in our members' lives directly, but in the community at large."

IC Savings has a mandate of community involvement. In 2011 alone, IC Savings, together with the IC Savings Foundation, gave approximately \$400,000 in charitable donations and sponsorships to benevolent community projects.

IC Savings has many ties with Villa Charities and is an active benefactor of the organization.

Every year, IC Savings helps raise over \$100,000 for VITA Community Living Services/Mens Sana Families for Mental Health, for which Gaudio has been a longtime Board member. IC Savings has also been delivering on a pledge of \$200,000 to Villa Colombo Vaughan and donates over \$20,000 annually directly to Villa Charities organizations. IC Savings also participated with Villa Charities in the Abruzzo Earthquake Relief Fund, to which its contribution amounted to approximately \$100,000.

### Errata Corrige

In the spring issue of the Villa Charities newsletter, a painting mentioned in the article on Alberto Di Giovanni's retirement was credited to artist Ken Danby. The painting should have been credited to Ken Kirkby. We regret the error.

## Diamond Jubilee Medal

On June 17, 2012, in the rotunda of the Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery at Columbus Centre, a number of staff members, volunteers and supporters of Villa Charities received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Each of the honourees was nominated by Senator Consiglio Di Nino, in recognition of each individual's dedicated service to their peers, their community and to Canada. (Little did we know that this was to be the Senator's final public act before announcing his retirement from the Senate.)

The award was created to mark the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne.



Featured in the photo (L-R) are: Paul Flumian, Lou Santonato, Gina Pillon, Grace Battiston, Toni Dell' Aquila, Concetta Cosco, Tony Astri, Daniela Fiacco, Senator Consiglio Di Nino, Agatha Graci, RCMP Guard Constable Daniel Kim, and Domenica Bevacqua. (Photo credit Enzo Di Mauro)



## Auguri, Consiglio!

After 22 years in office, Senator Consiglio Di Nino announced his retirement from the Senate effective June 30, 2012 – almost a year ahead of his mandatory retirement. Appointed in 1990 by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Di Nino made culturally significant initiatives, such as Pier 21, a reality. (His goal was to make Pier 21 a national museum and today it stands as just that, one of Canada's national treasures.)

Di Nino has always been an active member in the Italian Canadian community, and was instrumental in garnering an apology from Mulroney to Canadians of Italian descent for the internment of all those deemed "enemy aliens" during World War II. In 2009, Di Nino also made it a priority to aid the individuals living in L'Aquila, Italy, who experienced hardships due to the major earthquake that took place there. Over a four-year period, large donations were raised through the Abruzzo Earthquake Relief Fund (AERF); with constant support from donors and the provincial government, he and AERF were able to purchase important scientific equipment for the University of L'Aquila, thus helping reestablish the



educational institution, a vital part of the town.

Di Nino is a past Chair of Villa Charities, as well as a past President of the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association, Harbourfront Corporation, and Scouts Canada, Greater Toronto Region.

In his farewell speech announcing his retirement, given in the Senate Chamber on June 27, 2012, Di Nino thanked his fellow

senators for the opportunity to realize some of his dreams for Canada, and left his audience with some thoughts for the future. He said, "... be inspired by Elie Wiesel's words, and I paraphrase: When you witness an injustice and you just stand by, you are also culpable. As well, remember that to have lived a successful life is when you leave this place a little better than you found it. Thank you very much."

Senator Di Nino, Villa Charities would like to thank you for your many years of service in the Senate, with Villa Charities and in the Italian Canadian community. Consiglio, good health and best of luck in your future endeavors! *Auguri!*



## Master of the Opera

On June 3, Columbus Centre sponsored the Ermanno Mauro Opera Masterclass 2012 Gala Dinner & Concert, which took place in the rotunda of the Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery. The evening featured operatic arias of popular semi-classical selections by composers such as Puccini, Verdi, Bizet, and Dvorjak. Many talented vocalists performed at the gala, including Maestro Ermanno Mauro, Sara Papini, Michael Ciufo, and Joey Niceforo, accompanied by musical director Maestro Adolfo De Santis. Special thanks are extended to Anthony Fusco, who acted as advisor and special supporter of the event.

## In Memoriam

The Villa Charities family is sad to announce the loss of a beloved longtime supporter, Mrs. Domenica Di Luca. Domenica passed away unexpectedly on April 2, 2012, at the young age of 71. She is survived by her husband Primo and her two sons James and Paul. The Di Luca family has long had an affiliation with Villa Charities, with two generations of the family, Primo and James, involved with our Boards and fundraising events. A strong, quiet woman, Domenica was renowned for her cooking and hosting skills. She will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by all of her family and friends. Villa Charities sends its deepest condolences to the Di Luca family in its time of mourning.



Villa Charities Newsletter is a publication of Villa Charities Inc.

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## Meaningful Recreation

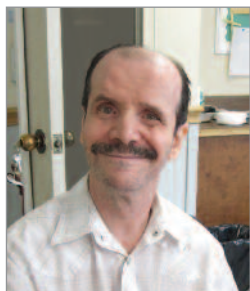
Villa Colombo works hard to facilitate meaningful, culturally sensitive programming for residents. Tasks that people may consider “chores” are activities that residents often enjoyed doing in their own homes. Now, Villa Colombo – their new home – strives to offer residents activities that provide them with the same sense of pride, purpose, and normalized lifestyle. Some residents participate in a laundry folding program, in which they gather together to fold the dietary aprons for the laundry department. For last year’s Valentine’s Day party, a group of residents baked more than 250 waffles; and most recently, another group of residents made fresh pasta for *Carnevale* festivities.

Recreation staff members know the true value of these programs. As the residents work, they not only interact with one another but they also use and refine their fine motor skills. They get a sense of pride and appreciation from their work, and those who exhibit restlessness find comfort and relaxation in these activities. Recreation isn’t always about music groups or games: recreation can be whatever a person enjoys doing. Villa Colombo strives to provide the most meaningful, diversified recreation possible.

## President’s Choice

President of the Residents’ Council is a position of great honour and importance at Villa Colombo. As the position had been vacant for a short time, staff at Villa Colombo quickly organized an election. The three nominees were:

Giovanni Costanza, Maria Di Marco, and Gerardo Polsinelli. During the campaign, an event was held at which the nominees explained why they wanted to be elected. Election Day took place on May 3, 2012. A total of 213 votes from the residents



were placed – a 55 per cent turnout. It was a close race, but

Giovanni Costanza was named the new President of the Villa Colombo Residents’ Council. Costanza has lived at Villa Colombo for 12 years, and has served in the role in the past. Maria Di Marco will take the position of Vice-President. All of the candidates will continue to do great work representing the Villa Colombo residents by sitting on the Resident Council. Congratulations to our new President, Mr. Giovanni Costanza!

## Musica Maestro: A Class(ical) Act

On July 10, 2012, an audience of nearly 300 people came together in Sala Caboto for a special concert by the National Arts Centre’s (NAC) wind quintet in honour of Maestro Mario Bernardi.

In 1968, Maestro Bernardi was named the first conductor of the NAC orchestra, and helped create a 45-member orchestra featuring talent from around the world. He began his career with the Royal Conservatory Opera School at the University of Toronto, and conducted the Canadian Opera Company before joining NAC. After leaving NAC in 1982, he became the principal conductor of the CBC Vancouver Orchestra and followed that in 1984 with a stint as the music director of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra.

The 45-minute concert was held at Villa Colombo as the maestro currently resides there. Maestro Bernardi’s relatives and friends from the world of music, NAC members, and Villa Colombo residents were in attendance, and enjoyed the classical music performed by Joanna G’froerer (flute), Charles Hamann (oboe), Kimball Sykes (clarinet/clarinetto), Christopher Millard (bassoon/fagotto), and Lawrence Vine (horn/corno). It was obvious to all that Maestro Bernardi was moved by the music: his wife, Mona, spoke after the performance, saying that her husband’s eyes lit up with joy two months ago, when plans for the concert were first mentioned to him.

Maestro Bernardi will forever be known as one of Canada’s greatest conductors.



Mona and Maestro Bernardi

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## VCLA

*The VCLA promotes Family, Food, Fun, Faith and Fundraising for the ultimate benefit of the residents of Villa Colombo.*

The VCLA Board 2010 to 2012 completed its term with the 23rd annual golf tournament held on May 30, 2012, at Carrying Place Golf and Country Club. The event was an outstanding success, breaking records in the number of golfers who participated, funds raised and new corporate sponsorships obtained. At the tournament, outgoing VCLA President Frances Gratta said, "Luisa [Dobilas, the golf committee Chair], you and your team have mastered this event to a T. As a result of your strong commitment to our seniors, the VCLA golf committee grossed approximately \$76,000.00." Gratta went on to personally thank and congratulate Dobilas, Co-Chair Rita Rotundo, the entire VCLA Board, and volunteers Silvia Caravaggio, Sarah Dobilas, Ron Ma, and Dina Muia. Dobilas thanked Gratta for her leadership and guidance.

Those who attended the tournament enjoyed ideal golfing weather, a beautiful and challenging course and a delicious meal. Carmen DiMauro, CEO of Villa Colombo Toronto, remarked, "Wow! I don't think I have ever had such a good time at a tournament. Congratulations VCLA, and special thanks to the golf committee for a job very well done." The golf tournament netted a profit of over \$57,000.00 for the seniors at Villa Colombo Toronto.



Frances Gratta (L), Past President, passes the gavel to Rita Rotundo, newly elected president of the VCLA Board of Governors.



The VCLA presented a cheque to Villa Charities Foundation for \$44,960. This was matched by a donation from Edward Sorbara for a total contribution of \$100,000.00 to refurbish the fifth floor dining rooms.

The VCLA has partnered with Villa Charities Foundation in raising funds for the refurbishment of the fifth floor dining rooms at Villa Colombo Toronto. At the VCLA annual general meeting on June 13, 2012, the VCLA presented a cheque to Villa Charities Foundation in the amount of \$44,960.00. This was in response to Edward Sorbara's Mother's Day challenge of matching donations up to \$50,000.00. The combined amount of \$100,000.00 raised will be enough to complete the selected project.

Join the Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary and be part of a dynamic group of dedicated volunteers who share their time and love, fundraising for Villa Colombo.

Please call our office at 416.789.2113 ext. 2260, or visit us at [www.villacharities.com](http://www.villacharities.com).

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## Service and Retiree Award Ceremony

On May 16, the staff at Villa Colombo gathered in Sala Caboto to enjoy a well-deserved break, snacking on hors d'oeuvres and sweet treats from the chocolate fountain as they relaxed. The snacks were just a bonus to the real reason everyone met that afternoon: to support their colleagues in celebration of their years of service at Villa Colombo. The recognition ceremony is an annual, well-attended event for Villa Colombo staff, put on by the centre's S.T.A.R. committee. This year, staff members who had reached their 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 year milestones were celebrated, and a total of 63 staff members received pins. When you add up their years of service, it totals 715 years of employment – a real demonstration of the Villa Colombo staff's commitment to the organization, and most importantly, to the



Members of the Recreation Department at the Service and Retiree Award Ceremony, supporting their colleagues and friends

residents and clients that they work with daily. Nine staff members who retired in 2011 were also feted at the event. Heartfelt congratulations and thanks are extended to all of the award recipients at this year's Service and Retiree Award Ceremony!

## Five Years of Service at Villa Colombo Vaughan



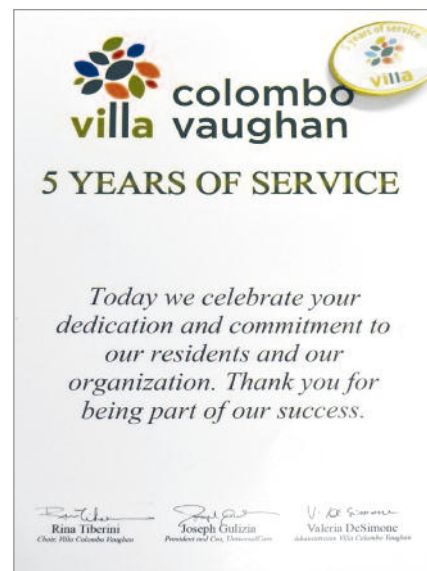
Villa Colombo Vaughan Board Members, staff and residents commemorate the hard work and dedication of the centre's staff members

On February 29, Villa Colombo Vaughan Board Members, staff and residents joined in celebration to acknowledge and celebrate the staff members who have dedicated five years of service to the residents and home. Each of the staff members is a caring, passionate and hard-working individual who truly makes

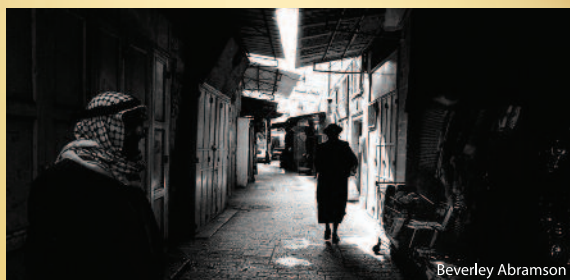
Villa Colombo Vaughan a great *casa* for its residents.

Joseph Gulizia, President and CEO of UniversalCare, and Quinto Annibale, a Villa Colombo Vaughan Board Member, presented each staff member with a recognition pin and a congratulatory

card. The evening's celebrations continued with food, cake, and coffee being served to everyone in attendance. Congratulations to all the staff members for their five years of service; everyone wishes you many more great years! Auguri e grazie di cuore!



## Saluti a Jerusalem



Beverley Abramson



Neil Dankoff

Join Our Italian & Jewish Communities For a Spectacular Evening of Food, Art, Music & Wine

Meet celebrity chef David Rocco

### Festa Culinaria

Featuring delights from Ristorante Boccaccio, Fieramosca Trattoria, Grano, Mistura, Paganelli's Risotteria, and Pantry Foods & Catering (COR)

"Where Two Worlds Meet" a photographic journey of Italy and Israel

by Beverley Abramson and Neil Dankoff

Wednesday, September 12, 2012 7:30 p.m.  
JOSEPH D. CARRIER ART GALLERY

\$250 per person (Tax receipts will be issued for the maximum allowable amount)

To purchase tickets please contact the Jerusalem Foundation of Canada, 416.635.5491 [ileventhal@jerusalemfoundation.ca](mailto:ileventhal@jerusalemfoundation.ca)  
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villa charities

Villa Charities Foundation  
89337 0767 RR0001



## Three Cheers for Volunteers!



*Mille grazie to the Villa Colombo Vaughan volunteers!*



Joseph Gulizia, the Villa Colombo Vaughan Management Team, and Board Members enjoy the celebration

Volunteers do their best to guarantee that their work ensures community building by helping Villa Colombo Vaughan residents and adding to their quality of life. On April 19, in honour of National Volunteer Week, Villa Colombo Vaughan celebrated and recognized its volunteers at Desserts Plus Ristorante & Pizzeria. Volunteers enjoyed a delicious meal as they were entertained by musician and singer Claudio Santaluce. On April 20, the residents and staff at the centre recognized the volunteers and enjoyed an afternoon social with

espresso and cake. In 2011, Villa Colombo Vaughan signed in 7,240 volunteer hours; from January to May 2012, volunteers have contributed approximately 6,764 hours. Thanks are extended to all of the Villa Colombo Vaughan volunteers for continuing to support the residents and the home.

If you would like to join the Villa Colombo Vaughan volunteer team, please contact Maria Morra, Resident Program Manager, at 289.202.2222 ext. 316 or [mmorra@universalcareinc.ca](mailto:mmorra@universalcareinc.ca).

## Universally Culturally Sensitive!

On April 26, Joseph Gulizia, President and CEO of UniversalCare, hosted the annual Universal Gala of Care for several charities, including Villa Colombo Vaughan.

Those who attended the event, which took place at Richview Manor, enjoyed a five-star experience with valet parking, a delicious meal prepared by Executive Chef Tamara Coleman and her culinary team, and entertainment by Carlo Coppola.

Over \$25,000 was raised for Villa Colombo Vaughan, allowing the home to continue to provide and enhance the care and services for its seniors. With such funds, the home ensures that the residents are afforded the opportunity to live in an environment that promotes and celebrates their Italian heritage and retains their cultural traditions.

*Grazie, UniversalCare!*



Joseph Gulizia, President and CEO of UniversalCare, presents funds raised for his facility Partners

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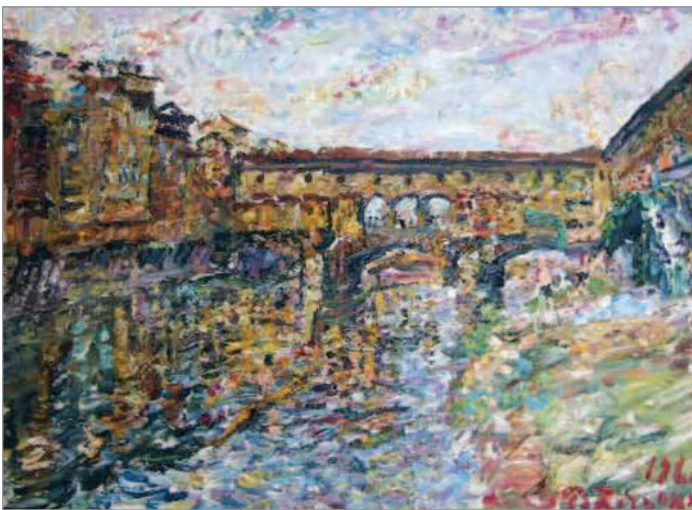
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## Vintage Moto Collection: A Journey Back (1948-1970)

From June 7 to July 4, 2012, the Carrier Gallery was home to 24 vintage motorini direct from Italy. Motorini were a hit from when they were introduced after the Second World War; Vespa and Lambretta – two of the brands featured in this exhibit – were the first companies to launch the vehicles. The show at the Carrier Gallery was the brainchild of father-son team Mario and Glen Pestrin. During a recent visit to his hometown in Northern Italy, Mario visited a schoolmate, Vinicio Fabbro, and

saw his incredible collection of more than 50 vintage motorcycles and motorini; he quickly decided to share the beautiful machines with the public back in Toronto. The opening night for *Vintage Moto Collection* acted as a fundraiser for Villa Charities and The Sick Kids Foundation. Thanks go out to Mario and Glen Pestrin and all of the sponsors of the event. For more information on motorini and the exhibit at the Carrier Gallery, visit [www.vintagemotos.ca](http://www.vintagemotos.ca).



## Viva Vitalità

On Friday, June 8, 2012, this showcase of Italian and Italo-Canadian art opened at the Carrier Gallery in celebration of Italian Heritage Month. The exhibit, which ran at the gallery until July 3, 2012, promoted the work of six artists: Guido Borgianni, Gigino Falconi and Roldolfo Marma from Italy, and Antonio Caruso, Joseph Cusimano and Silvio Mastrodascio from Canada. The featured works were a stunning mix of surrealism, frescos and pointillism. A special thank you goes out to Marcello Tarantino for coordinating the show.

## Made in China

This exhibit, a collection of works by 20 students and two professors from Humber College's Creative Photography program, was featured at the Carrier Gallery from May 3 to June 4, 2012. The photographs were taken in May 2011, when the group – under the direction of professor Neil Fox – embarked on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to China. The exhibit explored the breathtaking landscapes and traditional culture of the country. The photographs presented an array of styles and genres seen through the eyes of the 22 photographers who took the trip, and brought to life the essence of China for the spectators of the show. The exhibit at the Carrier Gallery was part of the 2012 Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival.





## For the Masses: A Photographic Pilgrimage

From May 3 to June 4, 2012, the Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery was home to this photography exhibit by James Swartz. During a pilgrimage to Northern France in 2011, Swartz was captivated by the beauty of the churches there. The exhibition at the Carrier Gallery included select photos of France and Italy, and focused on the centre of the communities of Normandy and Paris – the church. Images of the Romanesque frescoes and murals from the 12th and 13th century are just a few examples of the vibrant pieces that were part of the show at the Carrier Gallery. Swartz has long been intrigued by urban, rural, and industrial landscapes: his imagery explores the intricate link between society and nature. Swartz currently lives in Toronto, Ontario, and works as a professional visual artist. For more information on Swartz's work visit [www.jcswartz.com](http://www.jcswartz.com).



## Sylvia Starkman: Her Spirit Shone Through Her Art

This exhibit of watercolours, which showed at the Carrier Gallery from June 7 to July 20, 2012, was a tribute to what would have been artist Sylvia Starkman's 100th birthday. The show was orchestrated by Starkman's daughter Cheryl Lefton, who wanted to share her mother's works and passion with the public. Born in Toronto, Ontario, Starkman graduated in Occupational Therapy from Harbord Collegiate. Her passion and talent for painting evolved through the many art classes and field trips she took throughout her life. The vivid landscapes featured in the show displayed her unending enthusiasm for art and travel. Starkman was the winner of numerous Artpark competition awards.



## Upcoming Exhibits

### Where Two Worlds Meet

Photography exhibit by Neil Dankoff and Beverley Abramson

September 6 – October 1, 2012

Opening reception:

September 12, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Full Carrier Gallery

### Bina Cole

October 4 – November 4, 2012

Upper Gallery

### Lucio Diodati

October 4 – November 4, 2012

Atriums A and B

### Purely Pastel

by the Pastel Society of Canada

October 5 – November 4, 2012

Lower Gallery

### Toronto Watercolour Society

November 6 – 19, 2012

Upper Gallery

### Lois Dierlam

November 6 – December 3, 2012

Atrium A

### Bruno Capolongo

November 6 – December 3, 2012

Atrium B

### Mary Corelli

November 7 – December 3, 2012

Lower Gallery

### Luis Ramirez

December 3, 2012 – January 28, 2013

Upper Gallery

### Colour and Form Society

December 6, 2012 – January 28, 2013

Lower Gallery and Atrium B

### Reynaldo Aguila

December 6, 2012 – January 7, 2013

Atrium A

For more information on upcoming or past exhibits or to purchase any works, please contact Rosa Graci, Carrier Gallery, 416.789.7011 ext. 300 or [rgraci@villacharities.com](mailto:rgraci@villacharities.com).



### Italian Heritage Month

On June 4, to mark the start of Italian Heritage Month, a gathering of 1,500 elementary school students took place on the grounds of Columbus Centre. The boys and girls are part of the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the York Catholic District School Board, from schools that offer the International Languages program in Italian. They gathered to perform skits, poems, and songs in Italian. Also providing entertainment were local talents Claudio Santaluce, Anthony and Paula Brancati, and Janelle Yausif, as well as the Leoncini d'Abruzzo brass band direct from Italy. Pizza Nova generously donated the pizza lunch for all the guests.

The highlight of the day was the presentation of prizes to winners in the Centro Scuola *Concorso Letterario*. This year's topic was "*L'Italiano è la lingua di Dante, Petrarca, Boccaccio ma è anche la mia lingua.*" Congratulations to all of the participants and winners!

### A Broad Education

From May 19 to June 2, a group of university students sponsored by the Region of Abruzzo visited Toronto to have a taste of life in Canada with activities organized by Centro Scuola. All 10 students had studied English since elementary school but wanted to improve their language skills in an English-speaking environment. Every morning began with a three-hour class, taught in English, to introduce them to various aspects of Canadian culture. The students learned about Canadian writers, including Nino Ricci and Margaret Atwood; artists Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven; the vast geography of this country; and aspects of Canadian sociology. The Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir offered free tickets to its concert on May 25; the students from L'Aquila thanked the musicians for their concert in 2009, which assisted the Abruzzo Earthquake Relief Fund (AERF).

### Summer Credit Courses

The Summer Credit Courses in Italy remain as popular as ever. "We know the students enjoy the experience of studying in Italy, especially if they can connect with family members and family history from the region," says Domenico Servello, the Director of Centro Scuola.

The Italian and Classical Civilizations programs in Serra San Bruno (Calabria), Atri (Abruzzo), and Roseto degli Abruzzi (Abruzzo) were at capacity. Also included this year is an art history and studio class in Spoleto (Umbria). The partnerships with the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the York Catholic District School Board provide the Ontario-certified teaching staff and administrators for the credit courses. Students begin with one week of classes in Toronto or York Region, followed by three weeks of classes in their Italian host cities. Supervised excursions are planned for each group of students. The history, art and languages lessons come to life when the students visit Rome, Florence, Pompeii, the Amalfi Coast, and other destinations included in their itinerary.

Alberto Di Giovanni, the founding Director of Centro Scuola, retired from fulltime work in March, yet he retains a strong attachment to the Summer Credit Courses in Italy. His "retirement" plans include spending the summer in Abruzzo, where he can visit the students and teachers from time to time. It would hardly be summer in Italy without his presence!



# Think Carefully About Creating Your Will

Planning a will is something most people do not think about. But careful thought and timely actions now can keep your will up-to-date and provide you with a way of managing your assets in the future. Taking these steps will ensure that your loved ones are cared for and your assets are properly distributed. It also gives you a chance to consider creating a legacy gift for organizations that are important to you.

## Make It Definite

It is amazing how many people believe they do not have sufficient assets to bother making a will. Most people also believe that whatever they do have will automatically go to their spouse. This is not always the case, so it is best to take the steps to be definite about what you wish to have happen once you pass away.

## Suggestions for Effective Estate Planning

**1)** Leave your RRSP and RRIF funds to your spouse, rather than to your estate. If either one goes to your estate, the funds are first included as part of your taxable income in the year of your death. However, these funds can be moved tax-free into your surviving spouse's RRSP or RRIF, and he or she can make withdrawals as needed. Should you decide to split the income from an RRSP between your spouse and another beneficiary(ies), the amount left to those people will be taxed on your final T1.

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- 2) If you leave an annuity to your spouse, leave the entire amount. If you leave part of the annuity to your spouse, and part to another person, the cash value of your annuity will go into your estate and be included in your taxable income. If your spouse receives the entire annuity, he or she will pay tax only as he or she receives the annuity payments.
- 3) Put your assets in joint names with your spouse. This will simplify the administration of your estate and minimize probate fees.
- 4) Periodically update and review your will. If you marry or re-marry, your will automatically becomes invalid. Tax laws and family circumstances change over time. Many lawyers recommend reviewing your will at least every three years.
- 5) Be sure to take the time to understand how to minimize the taxes that your estate will have to pay. Simply leaving everything to your heirs can leave your estate exposed to paying substantial taxes. Remember, these taxes are paid prior to your heirs receiving any benefit from the estate. An easy and effective way to offset taxes is to provide a charitable gift to an organization in the amount that will help eliminate what your estate will have to pay. Your accountant or financial planner can help you to determine the amount you should leave so that you reduce taxation.

## Plan Your Will to Ensure Your Legacy

When planning your will, your first step should be to ensure that you provide for your family and loved ones. Although leaving a lump sum to your heirs is practical and convenient, it may not always be the best thing to do. Your heirs may have different skills in managing money.

It is possible to create a will that takes all the circumstances of your heirs into account. When properly planned, your will can also ensure that you create a legacy for the future by creating a gift for an organization that has been important to you or your family.

Taking the time to understand the legal aspects of how your estate is distributed is a way to better plan your estate to maximize the amount

your heirs will receive and reduce – or, in some cases, eliminate – the taxes your estate will have to pay. By being

thoughtful in how you wish to ultimately have the assets and property you have spent a lifetime building up distributed, you will ensure that taxation is minimized. Your lawyer and your financial planner can help you understand the steps available to you.

## Understanding an Estate Trustee's Role Makes It Easier to Appoint One

It takes a sound mind to make a will and a methodical mind to carry out the directions in it. Since the testator – the person who left the will – won't be around to explain what is to be done, care should be taken when choosing an executor who will attend to the many details involved in selling an estate.

The Estate Trustee's role may be straightforward, or quite complex if there are several beneficiaries, trusts and sizable investments to be managed. Estate Trustees can go through all the personal papers of the deceased to discover what assets and debts exist and to identify and locate all possible beneficiaries. They are obligated to protect the assets of the estate for the beneficiaries and they have the power to sell off some of the assets to pay debts.





## In Simple Cases

If winding up an estate is fairly simple – arranging the funeral, paying outstanding debts and income tax, gathering the assets and distributing them – then a spouse, child (of legal age) or other family member can be appointed executor. If a spouse is the sole beneficiary, he or she is usually appointed.

If an estate is more complex, a testator might want to appoint a number of Estate Trustees, each responsible for a specific part of the estate. For example, if a trust has been set up to manage a minor's inheritance, it is wise to appoint someone who knows the child.

A business partner is often the logical choice to ensure the continuing profit of a business. Of course, Estate Trustees are expected to make business decisions in the best interests of the estate and not for their own benefit. Lawyers, accountants, or anyone with sound business experience might be appointed executor specifically to deal with an investment portfolio.

A trust company is an ideal Estate Trustee for an estate large enough to absorb the costs of managing it, and where determining what is best for the family is not an issue.

Appoint an Estate Trustee(s) who is capable of doing the job and wants to take on the responsibility. No one can be forced to be an executor – they can resign. It's a good idea to name an alternate if only because an executor might pre-decease a testator.

It is not a bad idea to make a provision in your will allowing an executor to hire expert advice, paid for by the estate. Estate Trustees can charge for their services but family members or friends often choose not to ask for a fee.

For a FREE copy of A Guide for Estate Trustees, please contact:

**Jean Jarvis**  
**Senior Development Officer**

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Readers are advised to consult their own professional advisors to determine the applicability of the information and opinions in this newsletter in any particular circumstances. This newsletter is provided with the understanding that it does not render legal, accounting, or other professional advice.



Family Estate Planning





## New For You.....

Villa Charities Foundation is pleased to offer you a selection of cards when making a gift. To select a card please go online at

[villacharities.com](http://villacharities.com), select the type of gift and follow the instructions. There are two ways to submit your gift – online or by printing a copy of the form and mailing it to:

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*Thank you for your support!*



The Memorial Donation Card above (in English and Italian)  
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# charities villa foundation report to donors

Summer 2012

## Isabel's Story

My name is Isabel Raven.

My husband, Kevin, and I adopted our daughter, Lisa, when she was eight months old. She was a beautiful baby, and easy to care for. But it wasn't until she was six years old that we accepted that her "developmental delay" was a permanent intellectual deficit. We had to adjust our hopes and dreams for our daughter.

Lisa attended special classes in three of Etobicoke's public schools. This seemed to me, a former teacher, a better alternative than her sitting in a corner of some regular class doing puzzles with a Teacher's Assistant. It was a good decision.

We were retired and my husband had a heart condition when MCSS [Ministry of Community and Social Services] offered the Options pilot project. We were able to obtain funding which we presented (along with two other families) to VITA Community Living Services. VITA set up the Lynnford group home for our three daughters in 1988. The young women moved in that October. My husband died the following spring.

Because the Lynnford home has provided for the better part of Lisa's needs, I've had the strength to play a happy and vital role in her life. As old age and death inevitably follow [for me], Lisa has her care and happiness ensured; a situation that gives me great peace of mind.

*We would love to hear how Villa Charities has touched your life or the life of a loved one. Share your story or quote using the pre-addressed, postage paid envelope provided in this newsletter, or email it to us at [jjarvis@villacharities.com](mailto:jjarvis@villacharities.com).*

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## Dreams do come true...

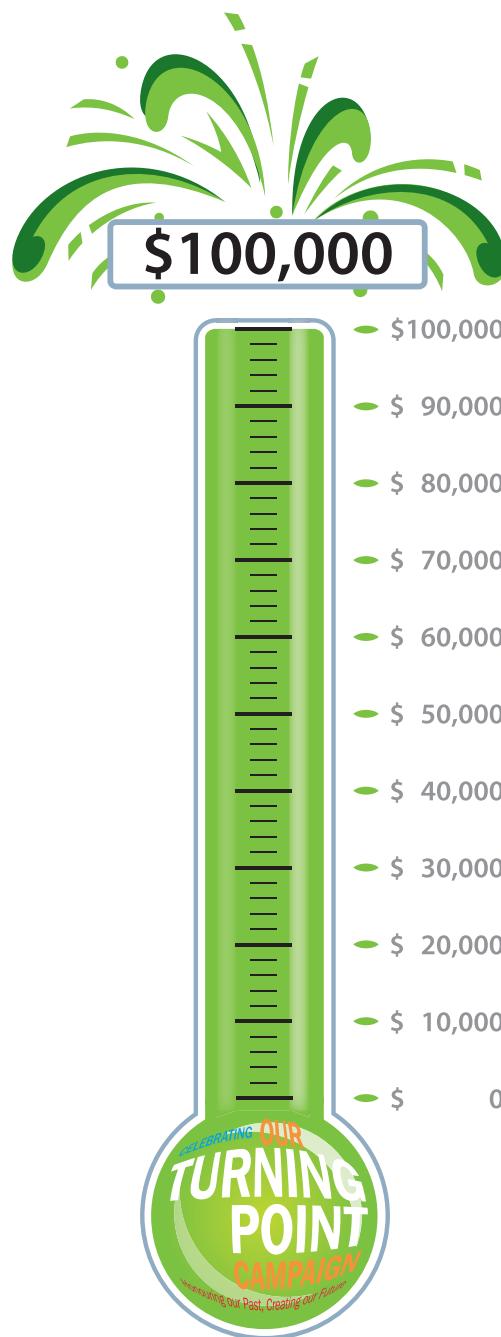
Edward Sorbara and his daughter Christina co-chair the Turning Point Campaign, a \$12 million campaign that provides for the renewal and regeneration of Villa Colombo and the entire Dufferin and Lawrence campus.

On May 13, 2012, Edward Sorbara reintroduced the fundraising tradition held on Mother's Day at Villa Colombo. As part of this initiative he was committed to matching all donations up to \$50,000.00.

Thanks to the families of Villa Colombo residents, the Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary, and Edward Sorbara, \$100,000.00 was raised. The proceeds are designated for the 5th floor dining room renovations at Villa Colombo which will be completed this fall or winter. A public reveal and presentations will take place once the renovations have been completed.

Edward Sorbara's vision to continue with this Mother's Day tradition is his dream coming true. Thank you to everyone for your generous donation which truly makes a difference to the residents of Villa Colombo. *Mille grazie!*

If you would like to learn more about the Turning Point Campaign or to make a donation, please visit [www.villacharities.com/TurningPoint](http://www.villacharities.com/TurningPoint) or contact Jean Jarvis at 416.789.7011 ext. 321 or [jjarvis@villacharities.com](mailto:jjarvis@villacharities.com)






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# Villa Charities Golf Classic 2012



Golf Classic 2012 Co-Chairs Paul Marsala and Joseph Fusco flank committee members Mark Di Vito, Brian Naraine and Joe Angellotti



Gabriele Torchetti (far right) of Dinner Sponsor Lady York Foods with other members of Team Lady York Foods, including daughter Vanessa who won the Women's Closest to the Pin contest

The Villa Charities Golf Classic has proven to be one of the Foundation's most popular events – so much so that this year's event sold out! (This was the first time it's done so.) The tournament, in its 36th year, took place at Eagles Nest Golf Club in Vaughan, Ontario, on May 26, 2012. Thanks to the generous support of the participants and sponsors, this event was *un gran successo!*

Golfers enjoyed an Italian themed brunch before the game, on-course food stations and special activities stations, a cocktail reception and a sit-down dinner with a special appearance by NHL star Dennis Maruk. Back by popular demand, there were also several on-course skills challenges that put golfers to the ultimate test.

"Once again, a heart-felt thank you goes out to our superb event Co-Chairs Joseph Fusco and Paul Marsala and all the committee members, who are passionate and committed to the shared vision we have at Villa Charities Foundation," says Anne Simone, Executive

Director of Villa Charities Foundation. "They have generously given their time and energies to help us meet our fundraising goals for this very special and worthwhile cause."

Proceeds raised at the golf tournament assist the Villa Charities family of organizations in continuing its 41-year legacy of delivering culturally sensitive programs to seniors, individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or mental health issues, and the general community. With your support Villa Charities is able to ensure that its special brand of care continues into the future.

On behalf of the thousands of people supported by Villa Charities, *grazie* to all of the golfers, sponsors and volunteers for making this fundraising initiative so successful. The Foundation looks forward to hosting everyone again at next year's event, so be sure to mark your calendars: see you on the greens on Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at Eagles Nest Golf Club!

## GRAZIE TO OUR SPONSORS!

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(Continued from front cover) tradition, the *Maglia Rosa* (pink jersey) was presented to Nick Sanci, the top fundraiser, by Anne Simone, Executive Director of Villa Charities Foundation. Sanci raised over \$16,000 for the cause. Congratulations and thank you! Edward Sorbara, the event founder, received the same honour as the very first top fundraiser for Giro 2006.

Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor of Vaughan, acted as Honourary Chair of Giro 2012 and was an actual participant in the event. His Worship offered his support and encouragement to everyone participating in the event, which for the first time took place in the city of Vaughan. "These are physically

challenging rides and I am inspired by the people who took up the challenge to benefit a very worth cause – Villa Charities," says His Worship. "As the Honourary Chair I want to thank everyone involved for making this a successful event."

"It takes successful people who are committed and passionate to come on board and we are thankful for Giro Co-Chairs Jim De Gasperis and Silvio Guglietti and all the committee members who have generously given their time and energies to help us not only meet, but also surpass, our fundraising goals for this very special and worthwhile cause," says Simone.

Proceeds raised through Giro will go towards the culturally sensitive programs offered by Villa Charities and its affiliates to seniors, individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or mental health issues, and the general community. With your support, Villa Charities is able to ensure that its special brand of culturally sensitive care continues tomorrow.

We look forward to having another successful event next year. Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 26, 2013, once again in Vaughan, for Villa Charities Foundation's annual fun-filled salute to the famous *Giro d'Italia*!

# Giro

**Sunday, May 26, 2013**

Villa Charities salutes the legendary cycling event, *Giro d'Italia*! Join the Giro team and ride for Villa Charities – "turning lives around one pedal at a time."

Giro riders will test their endurance and skills on one of two courses: the Granfondo 100 km route or the MediaFondo 60 km route. The course starts and ends at Eagles Nest Golf Course, 10000 Dufferin Street in Vaughan. Along the way, they will refuel at the many Italian-themed food and beverage stops.

Every registered cyclist will receive an official Giro cycling jersey.

Experience the unique excitement that only an event like Giro can offer!



**Tuesday, June 25, 2013**

It's the 37th Annual Golf Fundraiser!

Aside from a good game of golf, the 2013 Villa Charities Golf Classic promises to provide excitement for all those who participate. The 2013 Golf Classic will take the game to a higher level: more planned activities on the green, more skill challenges geared to rev up the participants and, of course, mangiare e bere all'italiana!

Don't miss out! Come join our team and golf for Villa Charities at Eagles Nest Golf Club located at 10000 Dufferin Street in Vaughan.

For more information and registration details, contact 416.789.7011 ext 242.



# Grazie to our Giro 2012 Sponsors



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Food & Event Support Sponsors

## The Past Empowering the Future

Calling all young women entrepreneurs! We have an event for you that's not to be missed! If you're a young woman who values the work Villa Charities provides our community and want to carry the torch, then you're our woman.

If you're already involved with Villa Charities and are interested in mentoring, then you're our woman. We need women with your experience in the work our Foundation provides our community to show the ropes to up-and-coming young ladies.

Mark your calendars! Thursday, November 22, 2012. Stay tuned for further details, or for more information contact Rose Vecchiarelli at 416.789.7011 ext. 242 or rvecchiarelli@villacharities.com.

## Day of Caring

When VITA/Mens Sana was first approached by the United Way in York Region to participate in its “Day of Caring,” staff members were told that volunteers would come out for one day and complete any tasks required by the organization’s programs. Knowing that VITA/Mens Sana needed assistance in some matters, one of the organization’s homes in York Region was submitted for consideration.

On May 17, six volunteers from BMW in Richmond Hill arrived at the house to complete the following tasks: cut the grass, and paint the living room and two members’ bedrooms.

The volunteers cut the grass of both the front and back yard, shaped the flowerbeds, and purchased mulch using their own personal funds. The result was amazing – as if professional landscapers had completed the job! This is important to note since, as part of a community, VITA/Mens Sana wants its property to look as nice as all the others in the neighborhood. Although the organization has landscapers, their main responsibilities are to cut the grass and deal with urgent



issues such as cutting and disposing of dead trees. In most cases, staff members who work at the VITA/Mens Sana homes do not have the expertise or the time to do the extensive work that the volunteers did.

The volunteers also painted the three rooms that required the attention. Since VITA/Mens Sana has so many homes, it can take some time to get this sort of work done. The volunteers painted the rooms with the colours picked out by the members, and completed the task quickly and with great patience. The members’ gratitude and pleasure seemed to be reward enough for the volunteers who

completed the painting.

Quite some time ago, the home had purchased a console that required extensive assembly. As the members and volunteers were waiting for the first coat of paint to dry in the rooms mentioned above, one of the volunteers noticed the console in a box. He then went to his car, took out his toolbox and assembled it, out of his own good will.

“Day of Caring” was a huge success! Warm thanks are extended to the volunteers who gave selflessly and made a difference in the lives of the individuals who reside in the home.

## Rally for VITA

Preparations for the second annual Rally for VITA are presently under way. Sponsors and riders alike are anxiously looking forward to September 16, 2012; riders and motorcycle clubs have begun registering for the big day.

Rally for VITA is organized by a group of seasoned like-minded riders who are committed to safety and enjoyment on the open road. Road captains ensure that the ride route selected is gratifying for novices and veterans alike, and includes a family friendly lunch stop.

Rally for VITA’s sense of adventure, its style, and feel, is enhanced by the cause it stands for: to advocate on behalf of, and to support, the highest priority needs at VITA Community Living Services/Mens Sana Families for Mental Health, a charitable organization that supports individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or mental health issues.

Last year’s rally raised over \$25,000 towards the purchase of an MV-1, the first ever vehicle specifically designed with the mobility needs and social inclusion of wheel chair users in mind. This vehicle was presented to VITA on February 28, 2012, at a function attended by the Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor



of Ontario.

The event organizing committee is working diligently to make the second edition of Rally for VITA bigger, better, and more exciting for all riders, regardless of their experience on a bike.

The 2012 ride will continue to support VITA/Mens Sana and advocate for the mobility needs of those with physical disabilities. Registration and donation are centralized through Villa Charities Foundation, and is primarily electronic via [www.rallyforvita.com](http://www.rallyforvita.com).

For more information please visit [www.rallyforvita.com](http://www.rallyforvita.com) or [www.vitacls.org](http://www.vitacls.org).



## VITA/Mens Sana Welcomes Kim Lenahan

On June 4, Kim Lenahan joined VITA/Mens Sana as its new Executive Director. Lenahan brings over 25 years of progressive leadership in the health care and related areas, and most recently served as Vice President, Patient Care, at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute. The VITA/Mens Sana Board of Governors undertook an extensive search for this position, which became vacant after the sudden passing of former Executive Director Manuela Dalla Nora, and considered a number of potential candidates



from both inside the organization and from external agencies. The Search Committee was impressed with Lenahan's dedication to quality of service and her desire to see VITA/Mens Sana continue to grow and develop its reputation for fine, ethical-based service. Brian Naraine, President of the Board of Governors, says, "I believe that the future continues to be bright for VITA/Mens Sana, and we are all excited to work with Kim as she takes over the reigns of the organization."

## Next Stop, Sundance?

For one day, the boardroom at VITA/Mens Sana's head office became a movie set. Colleen Abbott, Skye Monaghan and Erica Piché – three students from La Citadelle International Academy of Arts & Science in North York – shot a short documentary on the bullying and teasing of people with intellectual disabilities. The teens chose this project for their entry into the school's annual Tech Fair. The girls were professional from the start: contacting VITA, outlining the project, and working with staff to arrange for interviews with both members and staff.

Ryan and Andrew, both VITA members, were on hand the day of the shoot to assist the filmmakers. Ryan's own experience of being bullied at school was hurtful and he wants to ensure that others don't experience the same thing: he welcomed the opportunity to talk about it in a film that he knew would be shown to school kids. Andrew had strong opinions about how people with disabilities experience prejudice when applying for jobs, and he willingly described how employers always saw his disability, and not his skills, first.

Three VITA staff members also participated in the project: Ann, as the facilitator of the rights group, described VITA and its goals and mission; Domenic answered questions about pride and prejudice; and Dave spoke on how society devalues those with disabilities.

After the filming, the students edited the footage into a short movie in only a few days, to be ready for the Tech Fair. (They also sent a copy of the finished documentary to VITA.) They premiered the video at the fair, where it took first place! The piece was well received and it started a discussion amongst the parents and students who saw it, prompting the hope that it could lead to social change.

VITA/Mens Sana has made it a policy to participate with those wanting to do research in the area of disabilities. Several people have their Masters degrees because of research they've done in cooperation with the organization's staff and members. This video project marked the first time that VITA/Mens Sana received a call from high school students, so staff and members were more than willing to offer assistance.

These three students won first place because of their great work, but also likely because they were sharing a very important message: that everyone deserves respect. The title of their project is *It's Not Right!*, a clear statement that people should live free of bullying and prejudice.

To view the award-winning video, visit [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5gnuq1\\_eM&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5gnuq1_eM&feature=player_embedded).

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On March 21, 2012, a plaque honouring Manuela Dalla Nora, the late Executive Director of VITA/Mens Sana, was unveiled at the organization's head office. The plaque commemorates Dalla Nora's 25 years of leadership, service and care with VITA/Mens Sana. Featured in the photo are (L-R): Pal Di Iulio, Fausto Gaudio, Paul Bottos, Dunja Monaghan, Wilma Cesario, Lorne Glass, and Brian Naraine.

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Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery



## Kiddie Corner

Since its inception in 1977, the Villa Charities Children Centre has experienced many changes and expansions. What began as only three rooms at Villa Colombo has now grown into three separate child care locations, each with multiple rooms and programs of their own. In 1991, the daycare at Casa Del Zotto opened, catering to school-aged children. With this expansion, the Columbus Centre daycare also experienced growth with the addition of three new pre-school programs. In 2008, the third child care centre, Centro Abruzzo, opened with eight kids in attendance on the first day; today, Centro Abruzzo serves over 100 families.

The Villa Charities Children Centre boasts 40 fulltime qualified RECE instructors, with Daniela Fiacco, Director of Children's Programs, at the helm of it all. The daycare provides full use of the Columbus Centre grounds, including the pool and gym, offers 20 minutes of Italian class daily, and makes subsidized family programs available where needed. Serving families from all over the GTA, the Villa Charities Children Centre provides youngsters with a fun, safe, and educational environment, while imbuing parents with a sense of security. For more information on the daycares, visit [www.villacharities.com](http://www.villacharities.com).

## La Befana 2013

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 6, 2013 – we're celebrating our La Befana brunch once again! Stay tuned for further details, or contact Bridgette Elias at 416.789.7011 ext. 240 or [eliasb@villacharities.com](mailto:eliasb@villacharities.com) for more information!

To receive information about Columbus Centre Athletic Club classes, programs, and special promotions, email us at [fitness@villacharities.com](mailto:fitness@villacharities.com). (Our member database is kept confidential.)



## Merchant of Tennis!

The game of tennis originated sometime in the nineteenth century and is now enjoyed by millions of people around the world. While it hasn't been a part of the Columbus Centre Athletic Club for quite that long, over the years, tennis has become an integral part of the club. Aside from private and group lessons for adults, the tennis program has expanded into summer camps and daily clinics held during the spring and summer months for kids. Lawrence Grecchi is the Head Tennis Pro, and has worked at Columbus Centre for 11 years; in that time, over 1,500 kids have registered for tennis camp. According to Grecchi, a number of graduates from past tennis camps have become certified instructors who now work at the centre, and a few students, such as Alex Gravina and Marissa Tassone, have been deemed competitive national players by the Ontario Tennis Association.

The daily tennis camps educate children on stroke development and player strategies, as well as provide them with social games to keep the learning fun. The instructors ensure that the importance of a healthy, active lifestyle is imparted to the participants. The camps, which are open to kids between the ages of six and 16, maintain a 10-to-one student-to-instructor ratio at all times. The children's safety is the instructors' top priority: on rainy days the students are brought inside to play squash, and on extremely warm days, although the classes are still held outdoors, action is taken to keep the children cool and hydrated.

The Columbus Centre Athletic Club tennis program offers everyone the chance to learn the game: not a summer day passes when the courts are not in use. The courts at the centre have become a social hub for individuals to socialize, stay fit and enjoy the outdoors, all while learning the great sport of tennis. For more information on the tennis program, contact 416.789.7011 ext. 231.

## RISTORANTE BOCCACCIO 2012 THEME NIGHTS

**TERRONI E  
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SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

**CALABRIA**  
OCTOBER 19, 2012

**PIEMONTE**  
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### SPECIAL EVENTS

**FESTA DEL  
TARTUFO**  
NOVEMBER 2012  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE  
DINNER**  
DECEMBER 31, 2012

For more information or to  
make reservations,  
please call  
416.789.5555





## A Tribute to Dance

On June 15, 2012, the Columbus Centre School of Dance presented *Tribute 2012*, the company's year-end performance. The show, which was held at the Toronto Centre for the Arts, featured routines set to popular songs, like Tina Turner's *Proud Mary*, and music from movies such as *Grease* and *Annie*. Audience members

were awed by the talent demonstrated by the dance students. The past year has been one of the most successful for the group, with students placing in competitions in Niagara Falls, Collingwood and Kitchener. Special thanks and congratulations for *Tribute 2012* go out to all of the parents, volunteers, teachers, and especially the students, for producing such a spectacular show.



On March 29, Franco Perlasca, the son of Giorgio Perlasca, was in town for a presentation honouring his father. During the Second World War, Giorgio pretended to be a Spanish diplomat and took actions to try to end anti-Jewish persecutions. In so doing, he was able to save the lives of more than 3,000 Hungarian Jews. While Franco was in Toronto, he visited Columbus Centre and took in Samuel Bak's exhibit *Icons of Loss*, based on the artist's experiences of the Holocaust.

(Continued from front cover) attended by a special few: 12 children of internees. The two eldest from the group, Mary Thornton (née Gioberti) and Aldo Bacci, cut the ribbon together.

Many of the children of internees, now in their 80s and 90s, shared tears and laughter as they were reunited with old friends, their bond tighter now with the launch of this project. The project not only allowed for these individuals to express feelings which had been bottled up for 72 years, but also permitted them to tell their story in their own words.

The permanent exhibit focuses on the story of internment, but additional themes explore immigration and early life in Canada, other internment examples, and Italian Canadians today. The exhibit includes: text panels with large visuals; artwork created by internees; family photographs and letters; government records; and quotes from government officials and internees and their families.

The exhibit is interactive: a touch-screen video monitor invites visitors to watch interview clips pertaining to the events that occurred on June 10, 1940 – the day Italy declared war on Great Britain and her allies. As well, a computer station allows for easy

access to the official website, showcasing all 86 interviews and the more than 800 digitized photos, objects, and documents. Lastly, a feedback wall and three silhouette blackboards urge visitors to leave comments.

The exhibit can be viewed from Monday to Friday (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) in the former Dante Room on the second floor of the Carrier Gallery.

Complimentary copies of *Beyond Barbed Wire* can be requested by emailing [info@italiancanadianww2.ca](mailto:info@italiancanadianww2.ca). (Offer available while quantities last.)

For more information on the project, visit the website ([www.ItalianCanadianWW2.ca](http://www.ItalianCanadianWW2.ca)) or follow us on:



Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens:  
Memories of WWII



@ItCanWWII



Italian CanadiansWWII



## Music to our Ears

Longtime Columbus Centre Athletic Club member Salvatore Brancaccio celebrated his 85th birthday in June with friends on the Caffé Cinquecento patio. Brancaccio, also a longtime supporter of Villa Charities, has been a member at Columbus Centre for almost 30 years. An avid mandolin player, Brancaccio recently teamed up with some fellow musicians to play a few songs in the caffè every now and then. What started off as a simple musical treat has turned into a weekly acoustic concert for a faithful, growing crowd. Join Brancaccio and other Columbus Centre friends every Friday morning in the caffè for traditional live music that is sure to get your weekend off to a great start!

# The Venetian Ball™



*Your magical evening begins on*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2012**

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Building  
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Join us in celebrating an evening of  
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Sponsorship packages and individual tickets  
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**CALL NOW!**

Jean Jarvis: 416.789.7011 ext. 321 or [jjarvis@villacharities.com](mailto:jjarvis@villacharities.com)  
or register at [www.villacharities.com](http://www.villacharities.com)



**DONATE NOW** using the accompanying form or **ONLINE** at [villacharities.com](http://villacharities.com)



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**YES!** I would like to support the Villa Charities Foundation. Enclosed is my gift of: ☐ \$40 ☐ \$140 ☐ \$400 ☐ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

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Please check one: ☐ I wish my name to be listed in the Annual Report ☐ I wish to remain anonymous (Gifts over \$100)

An official tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$20 or more.



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## Support the Villa Charities Tree of Life

The Tree of Life, magnificent bronze and brass sculptures, stand tall in the lobby of Villa Colombo Toronto, allowing individuals to pay tribute to family members and friends. For a gift of \$1,000, a leaf will be inscribed; for a gift of \$3,000, a star will be inscribed; or with a gift of \$5,000, the name will be inscribed on a rock.

Official tax receipts issued for donations over \$20.

For more information, contact the Villa Charities Foundation office at 416.789.7011 ext. 307.

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**Thank you for your support!**