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Serving the community since 1971

# villa charities newsletter

Fall/Winter  
2012-13Buon  
Natale

## Message of Hope Villa Charities Hosts the 19th Annual Venetian Ball

Excitement was in the air from the moment the guests arrived at the front door and stepped onto the red carpet – each guest knew that a spectacular evening that embraces the true spirit of Venice's *Carnevale* awaited them.

As they descended the escalator their eyes were drawn to the stilt walker and live statues that were part of this exotic atmosphere. At the pre-dinner cocktail reception, the guests were entertained as they mingled and enjoyed delectable delicacies: they were captivated by magicians, captured by photographers, and had the opportunity to witness the Venetian-inspired works of an artist as she painted them, to name a few of the delights in which they partook.

Completing the scene were the guests themselves who donned beautiful masks, glamorous ball gowns, and black-tie attire.

Co-chairs Rudolph P. Bratty and Edward Sorbara reinstated the traditional Ball by welcoming over 800

guests to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Saturday, October 13, 2012, for an evening celebration of Venetian-style festivities.

Guests were led into the glamorous dining *sala* to feast on a memorable dinner. While there they participated in a live auction – which included tickets to the 70th Venice International Film Festival and the 55th Annual Grammy Awards – and danced the night away.

Rick Campanelli, host of ET Canada, sent his regrets via video, as he was unable to emcee the evening because he was on an urgent mission in London, England, to cover the 50th anniversary of the James Bond film franchise. In his stead, with

suspenders and all, Kevin Frankish of Breakfast Television hosted The Venetian Ball.

Following a performance by Toronto's own Simply Grand, Kevin Frankish was joined on stage by Canadian impressionist André-Philippe Gagnon, (Continued on pg. 16)

The 2012  
Venetian  
Ball™

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## A Tribute to Jane Sacchetti (April 11, 1942 – August 26, 2012)

The Villa Charities family was saddened recently by the sudden passing of Jane Doubell (Mehlmann) Sacchetti, longtime employee of Villa Charities and a resident of Casa Del Zotto. Fiercely loyal to her boss and mentor of 25 years, Pal Di Iulio, Jane profoundly enjoyed her role as his Executive Assistant, and cherished her volunteer work among the Villa Charities affiliates.

Away from the office, Jane had many interests and loved adventure. She was an avid outdoors-woman, an active member of the Ontario Archaeological Society, a longtime volunteer with the Tolkeeper's Cottage, and gave her time and expertise to many event committees and organizations that reached out to her.

My favourite memory of Jane was watching her plan her famous "Women's Night Out" events. What started out slowly as a casual evening spent with friends and guest speakers became an annual sold-out celebration of the arts. As the organizer, emcee, talent scout, ticket agent and public relations team all rolled into one, Jane's passion and enthusiasm were infectious, and her joy at how well the events were received was evident to all.

Jane's family lived in Europe, and included brothers Nicholas and Benjamin Chaloner of England, and Martin Mehlmann of Germany, as well as sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews and cousins. She often spoke of travelling to visit them all: she missed them so much.

By all accounts Jane was having a great 70th year. She had taken on a part-time job, and had even gone

travelling, enjoying a stay in St. Maarten. She made sure to spend time reading (her favourite genre was suspense novels), and even talked of doing some writing of her own.



Then came the diagnosis of cancer.

All through her treatment, she kept friends and family updated with emails, and remained positive: she'd been told she would be better by Christmas.

The last time I spoke with her, she was preparing for an operation and we promised to get together once she was well. If she had been angry or resentful or bitter about her condition, I would have understood. But I didn't hear that. All she knew – and all I heard – was how very grateful she felt for the concern and kindness shown to her. She would say

over and over how unprepared she had been for the outpouring of care and compassion shown to her after her diagnosis. From the friends who stayed with her at the hospital and those who cooked for her, to those who just called to check in and those who bought her groceries, she was profoundly touched by it all. As she looks down on us now, I know she would want me to thank each and every one of you who made her feel special and so alive her last few months. And maybe she left us with a lesson: for all of us to slow down our busy lives and take a few moments to reach out to those who need us most and let them know we care.

Goodbye Jane. You are missed and you will be remembered.

By Agatha Pezzi

## Jackie Rosati Awards

On October 23, the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association celebrated 60 years of community service by paying tribute to its founding past president, Jackie Rosati, with the establishment of the Jackie Rosati Awards of Excellence. The dinner event, held at Le Parc Concord and with over 300 people in attendance, also recognized seven Italian Canadian women in their respective fields of expertise for their contributions to worthy causes. This year's award recipients are (L-R, with Jackie Rosati (fourth from the right)):

Laura Tonelli (Business & Entertainment), Camille Mainelli (Jackie Rosati Award), Linda Di Genova (Community), Laura Albanese (Politics), Andrea Trentadue (Media), Viviana Laperchia (Arts & Culture), and Gianna Patriarca (Literature). *Auguri* to Jackie and to all!



Photo courtesy of Enzo Di Mauro - Panorama Italian Canadian



## Volunteer Extraordinaire

Now in her first year at York University, Catherine Spagnuolo graduated from Loretto Abbey Catholic Secondary School in Toronto at the top of her class, with a 100 per cent overall average. This is an incredible accomplishment in its own right, but when one considers that she managed this while being a member of her school's Italian Club and cross-country team, as well as a trumpet player in the jazz/concert band, and a math and music tutor to her peers, it becomes something akin to an unimaginable feat. Aside from her current scholastic and social activities, Spagnuolo also volunteers weekly at Villa Colombo and Mount Sinai Hospital, and plans to volunteer throughout her university career. When asked how she copes with all her various activities and responsibilities, Spagnuolo responds with words of wisdom that can be applied to all avenues of life. "My advice would be to do what you love and are passionate about because then it will not seem like work," she says.

Spagnuolo has volunteered at least once a week at Villa Colombo in Toronto since December 2011.



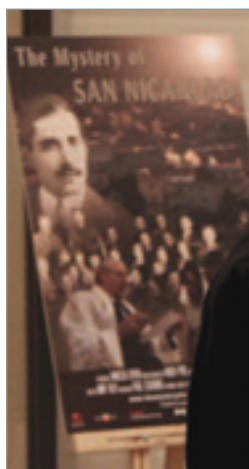
Responsible for leading the Bingo game every Friday evening along with her sister, the 18-year-old feels there is no greater satisfaction than bringing a smile to the faces of the home's residents. The idea of

helping others in need of care – which has really hit home for Spagnuolo since she started with Villa Colombo – has solidified her ambition to attend medical school and pursue a career in health care.

Volunteers make a huge difference to an organization and community, and can inspire others to want to make a difference as well. "Volunteering is important because it is a great way to give back to

the community," says Spagnuolo. "Donating one's time freely to an organization or institution is the greatest gift one can give."

Villa Colombo and Villa Charities are extremely proud of their volunteers: it is people like Catherine who help ensure that the organization can continue to provide the superior care for which it is known. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at Villa Colombo, contact Domenica Bevacqua at 416.789.2113 ext.2217 or bevacqua@villacolombo.on.ca.



## The Mystery of San Nicandro

On November 14, a CBC-funded documentary entitled *The Mystery of San Nicandro* premiered at Carrier Gallery, in advance of its airing on the network's Documentary Channel on November 18.

The film focuses on how the visions of Donato Manduzio, a cobbler from San Nicandro, influenced a group of Italian Roman Catholics in the small village in Fascist Italy to undergo a mass conversion to Judaism. (Over a period of 20 years of observing Jewish practices, these people left Italy and emigrated to the new state of Israel in 1949.) Manduzio's efforts to bring back Old Testament Judaism spawned a whole generation of Italian Jews in Israel and Southern Italy today: the film, produced by Vanessa Dyllyn, also details individual contemporary stories of renewed Judaism in Southern Italy.

For more information on the film, visit [www.themysteryofsannicandro.com](http://www.themysteryofsannicandro.com).

## In Memoriam

The Villa Charities family is sad to announce the passing of Manlio d'Ambrosio on October 14, 2012, at the age of 91. Manlio was an extraordinary supporter of those in need and a pillar of Toronto's Italian Canadian community. He was President of both the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association and the Canadian Italian Development Association. He also created – and served on the board of – the Frank Iacobucci Centre for Italian Canadian Studies at the University of Toronto. Manlio's children all continued in his tradition, serving as volunteers at both Villa Colombo and Columbus Centre. On behalf of the Villa Charities family, we would like to thank Manlio for all of his contributions to our community and also wish to express our deepest condolences to his family during its time of mourning.



Villa Charities Newsletter is a publication of Villa Charities Inc.

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## Cardinal Collins Celebrates with Villa Colombo

On August 26, His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, came to Villa Colombo to celebrate Holy Mass. Residents from Villa Colombo Toronto and Villa Colombo Vaughan gathered in the gardens together with relatives and members of the community to participate in this very special occasion. The residents eagerly await this annual event and showed up in large numbers for the mass, despite the hot weather. Giovanni Costanza and Maria Di Marco, President and Vice President, respectively, of the Villa Colombo Toronto Resident Council, presented His Eminence with a ceramic nativity set, painted by residents, as a gift to thank him for coming to Villa Colombo. Residents and community members alike look forward to his next visit.

## Volunteer Picnic 2012

On July 31, the Villa Colombo Volunteer Department held its Annual Volunteer Picnic at the picturesque Fogolaris Country Club in Oakville. Three Villa Colombo buses took 42 volunteers to the beautiful park, where everyone enjoyed an abundance of sunshine, fresh air, and great food and service. The guests enjoyed a barbeque prepared by the drivers, and other delicious treats prepared by the Villa Colombo kitchen staff. Many of the volunteers also participated in the activities that had been organized for the day, such as swimming, nature trail walks, a bocce tournament, and the card game Buraco. There was even a game of Charades, with prizes allotted to each participant. The Annual Volunteer Picnic is just one of the many fun events Villa Colombo volunteers enjoy throughout the year.

On November 22, an Appreciation Luncheon was also held for the volunteers, to recognize them for their dedication of time to the seniors at Villa Colombo. To end the year, on December 18 the Volunteer Christmas Party was held, at which volunteers enjoyed an afternoon of great entertainment, delicious food, and friendly company. If you are interested in joining the team of volunteers at Villa Colombo, please contact the Volunteer Department at 416.789.2113 ext. 2216 or [bevacqua@villacolombo.on.ca](mailto:bevacqua@villacolombo.on.ca), or visit the Volunteer Office at 40 Playfair Avenue in Toronto.



## Making Memories

Together with Volunteer Toronto, Villa Colombo has hosted many corporate sponsorship events. These events are extremely important, as they introduce members of the community to opportunities to volunteer. Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) has participated in the corporate sponsorship programming with Villa Colombo in the past, and the team returned on September 13 to host a scrapbooking event for the residents. This program was unique because it focused attention on approximately 20 residents who were able to create a scrapbook of their own personal photos and mementos, both gathered from their rooms and contributed by their relatives. OMERS staff helped the residents create their scrapbooks, while talking and reminiscing with them about their past, their life achievements, and the amazing obstacles they have overcome in their lives. Each resident was able to take their scrapbook back to their room to share with their families and friends. We are sure that the OMERS staff took away lasting and special memories from the event, and we hope to see them back at Villa Colombo to volunteer in the future.

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## VCLA

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



VCLA Board of Directors 2012-2014 (Top row, L-R: Rita Rotundo, Rose Greco, Denise Padovani, Connie Vella-MacKay; middle row, L-R: Maria LaMarca, Jan Grossi, Lucy Zampiero, Maria José Silva, Anna D'Aquila, Carmela Marchese; front row, L-R: Josie Cuda, Olivia De Miglio, Frances Magliocchi, Melina Zeppieri, Frances Gratta, Toni Di Placido; absent: Mary Venditti)

## The women behind the VCLA events... dedicating their time and skills to make a difference.

As the winter season is upon us, the VCLA is busy regrouping and planning fundraising events for the upcoming year. The goal is to raise funds for projects that will benefit the residents of Villa Colombo Toronto. Your continued support and participation is needed to make every event successful. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events. Simply call the VCLA office at 416.789.2113 ext. 2260 for more information or to reserve your tickets.

Help us make a difference.

## 2013 VCLA Events

### Pasta Bingo

February 27, 2013 and  
April 2013 (Exact date TBD)  
Sala Caboto, Villa Colombo

### Annual Golf Tournament

May 29, 2013  
Carrying Place Golf and  
Country Club,  
Kettleby, Ontario

### Annual General Meeting

June 19, 2013  
Sala Caboto, Villa Colombo

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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Ida Reia

## Cent' anni and More!

Villa Colombo's Centenarian Club continued to grow, with two new members inducted this fall. Ida Reia and Maria Internicola celebrated their birthdays with residents, families, and friends on September 17th and October 17th, respectively. Entertainment for each event was provided by *Insieme*, a band known for playing classic Italian music which the residents always enjoy. The parties included a blessing by Father Celestino; a speech given by relatives and/or staff members, which highlighted the life achievements of each birthday celebrant; and cake and snacks for all in attendance. The residents and staff at Villa Colombo wish Ida and Maria a wonderful birthday, and good health and happiness for the coming year!



Maria Internicola





L-R: Lydia Myshevich, RN; Valeria De Simone, Administrator; Maria Cherbel, Director of Clinical Services; Nadia Greco, Nurse Practitioner; and Helen Huh, President of MediSystem Pharmacy

## Improving Care Through Partnership, Growth, and Innovation

In recent years, the long term care industry has gone through a major transformational change in how it cares for seniors. Villa Colombo Vaughan has embraced this challenge by seeking out new ways to more efficiently deliver care. With the amazing commitment from the Board of Directors, the home's internet service is now completely wireless, creating many new opportunities for everyone.

With this new technological capacity, UniversalCare was able to expand its computerized documentation system, allowing all staff and physicians to electronically track resident care at the

bedside. This is possible through the use of electronic tablets located on medication/treatment carts, as well as through computers located in key areas throughout the home.

This innovated technological advancement in long term care is unique and we are grateful to MediSystem Pharmacy for its dedication and leadership in this new and exciting opportunity/partnership. This is another example of how effective partnerships between all parties create new and exciting opportunities.

## Spiritual Care for our Seniors

With the generosity and support of Father Raffaele Bruzzone, the residents, family members, volunteers and staff at Villa Colombo Vaughan gather in the Cappella San Nicola to celebrate Sunday Mass at 10:00 a.m.

This new tradition builds upon the residents' spiritual wellbeing, allowing them to stay connected to God and the weekly religious traditions that many of them are accustomed to. As the residents exit the chapel, Fr. Raffaele greets them and provides them comfort in continuing to live their lives with prayer.

Fr. Raffaele is very supportive and encourages residents and family members to participate during the mass, whether it is with singing of the hymns or bringing the offertory up for communion. The response has been terrific and Villa Colombo Vaughan is incredibly grateful to him.



Father Raffaele Bruzzone celebrates mass in Cappella San Nicola at Villa Colombo Vaughan

## 6th Annual Lago Tournament



Jim DeGasperi, Chair of the Construction Committee, presents Rina Tiberini, Chair of Villa Colombo Vaughan, and her team the coveted Lago Tournament Bocce Trophy.

For the sixth year in a row, the Villa Colombo Vaughan Construction Committee team, led by Jim DeGasperi, challenged teams of residents and members of the Board of Directors to a game of Bocce. The early afternoon affair starts with a great barbeque prepared

by the centre's staff and volunteers, followed by an intense Bocce tournament.

This annual tradition is always welcomed with anticipation by all participants, allowing the winning team to boast for a full 12 months. This year, the Board of Directors team – made up of

Rina Tiberini, Lorraine Bortolussi, Ed Mancinelli, and Stephen Shulman – won the tournament and have had their names inscribed as the 2012 Bocce Champions.

Thanks are extended to all who participated in this wonderful annual challenge.



The Bocce tournament offers a day of multi-generational fun



One of the Bocce teams works on its game strategy

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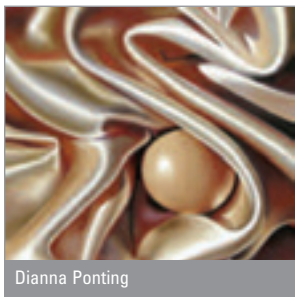
Guo Yue Dou



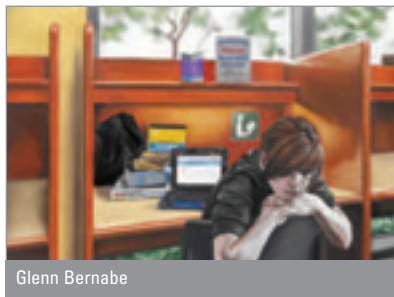
Kim Martin

## Purely Pastel

This 21st Annual Open Juried Exhibition by Pastel Artists Canada was on display at Carrier Gallery from October 5 to November 4, 2012. Juror Liz Haywood-Sullivan was present for the opening reception and silent auction on October 11, and ultimately awarded the Ursula Reece Grand Prize to Judith Martin, for her work entitled Snow Queen's Realm. Pastel Artists Canada (PAC) was founded by a small group of individuals in Burlington, Ontario, in 1989, and has grown to over 200 members who display their work in galleries throughout Canada. The group's aim is to "promote public appreciation of the renaissance in dry pastel, to improve the skills of artists working in this fine art medium and to promote fellowship among pastel artists." The Carrier Gallery exhibit showcased 56 paintings from 44 artists from across Canada, including one from the United States. For more information, visit [www.pastelartists.ca](http://www.pastelartists.ca).



Dianna Ponting



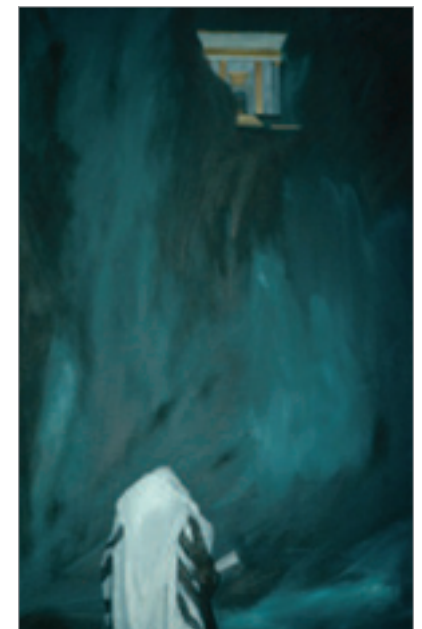
Glenn Bernabe



Frances Obie

## Out of the Blue: A Father's Inspiration

Bina Cole's exhibit not only displayed her own talents, but also paid homage to the work of her father, Murray Wortsman, who passed away in 2011. "About five years ago, out of the blue, I received a package in the mail," says Cole. "When I opened it, I nearly fell off my chair. It was filled with black and white sketches that my father had done. He had never done a painting or drawing before: art was the domain of my sister and I. My father and I had a beautiful connection to each other through our art. This is a show that connects a father to his daughter." Wortsman was a member of Columbus Centre, and looked on it as his second home; many of his canvases hang in the centre. Cole studied Fine Arts at Seneca College; Wortsman was a self-taught artist and is an inspiration to his daughter to continue with her painting. This exhibit was on display at the Carrier Gallery from October 5 to November 5, 2012. For more information on Bina Cole, visit [www.binacole.com](http://www.binacole.com).



## Harlequin and Other Stories

Artist Lucio Diodati brought this colourful exhibit of paintings to the Carrier Gallery from October 4 to November 2, 2012. Born in Popoli, Italy, in 1955, Diodati has been delighting the world with his works of human landscapes for more than 32 years. His shows are well-received wherever they're displayed, be it Italy, Spain, Scotland, Dubai, or the United States, to name just a few of the locales in which he's exhibited. Diodati displays irony and amusement in his artwork, depicting and transforming the human character through late-expressionism; however, his pieces tend to defy categorization, which gives an added thrill to his audiences. For more information on this artist, visit [www.luciodiodati.com](http://www.luciodiodati.com).







L-R: Ian Leventhal, Executive Director of the Jerusalem Foundation of Canada, Cathy Bratty, Rudy Bratty, Anne Simone, Executive Director of Villa Charities Foundation, and Pal Di Iulio, President/CEO of Villa Charities

## Saluti a Jerusalem

Inspired by the historic ties and longstanding friendship which have bonded the Italian and Jewish communities worldwide for centuries, on September 12, The Jerusalem Foundation of Canada (JFC) and Villa Charities hosted the fundraiser *Saluti a*

*Jerusalem*, an evening of food, music, art, wine, and fashion, at the Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery.

The more than 300 attendees experienced *Where Two Worlds Meet*, a photographic journey to Italy and Israel by Neil

Dankoff and JFC board member Beverley Abramson. Guests were blown away by the vocal talents of young South African-Canadian opera singer Lauren Segal, and a MaxMara fashion show with 12 professional models descending the stairs of the Carrier Gallery to celebratory drum beats and shofar blowing.

Celebrity chef David Rocco shared with the audience historic recipes from the ghettos of Jewish Rome. Rocco was joined at the event by some of Toronto's favourite Italian and Kosher eateries in *Festa Culinaria*, a food sampling which also showcased some of the best wines of Israel (courtesy of Paul Wynn of Vin Israel).

The evening was part of a cross-cultural series held at Columbus Centre of academics speaking on the connection between the Italian and Jewish peoples. The speakers included: Dorion Liebgott, curator of Beth Tzedec Museum (September 5); Roy Doliner, author of



L-R: Joseph Gottdenker, Lori Tafuro, Cosima Tafuro, and David Rocco

*The Sistine Secrets* (September 6); Eli Rubinstein, author of *An Italian Renaissance: Choosing Life in Canada* (September 19); Beverley Abramson and Neil Dankoff on their exhibition *Where Two Worlds Meet* (September 20); and Dan Bahat, chief archeologist of Jerusalem (September 24).

Funds raised from *Saluti a Jerusalem* will go towards the creation of an Italian-Jewish friendship garden, *Giardino Canadese*, at Canada House, a community centre which will offer key educational and employment resources for all of Jerusalem's young adults, opening in May 2013.

"It was a wonderful event," says DJ Schneeweiss, Consulate General of Israel in Toronto. "Great spirit and atmosphere and a true expression of the natural affinity between the two communities and the value of working together to achieve common objectives."

## Upcoming Exhibits

### Colour and Form Society

December 6, 2012 – January 25, 2013

Lower Gallery and Atrium B

### Rey Aguila Retrospective

December 6, 2012 – January 7, 2013

Atrium A

### Miriam Ben-Zeev

January 9 – February 4, 2013

Upper Gallery

### Organic Alterations by Ian Alter

February 6 – March 4, 2013

Upper and Lower Galleries

### Acrylics by Nick Biagini

February 6 – March 4, 2013

Atrium A

### Janos Gardonyi

February 6 – March 4, 2013

Atrium B

### Abstracts by Eunah Cho

March 7 – April 1, 2013

Upper Gallery

### Fine Art Photography

by Jack Gilbert

March 7 – April 1, 2013

Lower Gallery & Atrium B

### Watercolours by Marilena

Isacescu Carlea

March 7 – April 1, 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).



## Centro Scuola Awards Night 2012

To mark another successful year of classes and programs, on October 12, 2012, Centro Scuola hosted its annual Awards Night at Montecassino Place Banquet Hall in Woodbridge. The evening gave the students, their families, teachers, coaches, and friends an opportunity to reunite after the good experiences in Italy on the trips and in all other programs organized by Centro Scuola. The event also provided the opportunity for Centro Scuola to honour the outstanding athletes and students who distinguished themselves in their respective classes or programs.

Awards of Excellence were given for achievement in the following categories:

### **GIOCHI DELLA GIOVENTÙ**

#### **Victor Angelosante Award**

Quinn Cannella

#### **Phil Riddell Award**

Zachary Waslenko  
Celina De Carolis

### **MARCH BREAK**

#### **David D'Alimonte Scholarship**

Celina Cercone

### **ABRUZZO - TORONTO SUMMER**

#### **Italian Canadian & Savings**

#### **Credit Union Scholarship**

*Italiano – Livello 2*

Melissa Perruzza

Christina Terminesi

*Italiano – Livello 3*

Catherine Benvenuto

*Italiano – Livello 4*

Martina Di Sabatino

*Classical Civilization*

Cassandra Cervi

Tyler Henderson

Ashley Nasso

Alanna Cianfarani

### **ABRUZZO – YORK SUMMER**

#### **LIUNA – Local 183**

*Italiano – Livello 2*

Massimo Forgione

*Italiano – Livello 2*

Alessandro Cairo

*Classical Civilization*

Robert Teseo

*Art-History*

Alessandra Pozzuoli

### **SEMESTER PROGRAM**

**Toronto – Associazione**

**Molisani nel Mondo Scholarship**

Emila Mosher

**York – Associazione Molisani**

**nel Mondo Scholarship**

Jessica Dowlinski

### **SATURDAY ITALIAN CREDIT**

**Sam Primucci Scholarship**

Elisa Paganelli

### **CALABRIA SUMMER**

**David D'Alimonte Scholarship**

*Classical Civilization*

Alessandra Ciraco

- Sport, at the Giochi della Gioventù
- Italian Language Classes – Secondary School Level
- Classical Civilization
- Instrumental Music Program
- Vocal Music Program
- Athlete of the Year
- Student of the Year

Centro Scuola is pleased to announce the names of all the winning students and athletes. Congratulations to them all!

#### *Classical Civilization*

Julia Giancola

#### *Classical Civilization*

Paul Marchetta

#### *Classical Civilization*

Luca Zulliani

#### **Prof. Gianrenzo Clivio Scholarship in Memoriam**

*Italiano – Livello 1*

Daniella Tarsitano

#### **Prof. Julius A. Molinaro Scholarship**

*Italiano – Livello 2*

Victoria Zeppieri

#### **Michael Carnovale Scholarship in Memoriam**

*Italiano – Livello 3*

Alexandra Quindamo

#### **Ambassador Award – Calabria**

Austin Brum

Enza Marie di Vizio

Nicholas Saponara

Christine Amico

Joseph Belcastro

Joseph Kaehne

Kristen Tassiopoulos

Rosamaria Pagani

#### **Atleta dell'Anno**

Rachael Springer

#### **Gino Ventresca Scholarship**

Julia Saraceni

#### **Studiante dell'Anno – Abruzzo**

*Alberto Di Giovanni*

*Scholarship*

Amanda Giancola

#### **Studiante dell'Anno – Calabria**

*Domenico Servello Scholarship*

Anthony Marchese

#### **Alberto Di Giovanni Special Scholarship**

Tatiana Selepiuc

Alessandra Sarra

Angelina Gulla

Jessica Scarlato





Your reply to this letter would be appreciated.  
Your response will make a difference!

*Did you know...*

- VITA/Mens Sana operates 33 group homes, 31 apartment units and 7 day programs across the GTA, supporting more than 400 people annually.
- Villa Colombo Vaughan serves the needs of seniors in Canada's fastest-growing region, where 21% of the population will be 65 or older by 2036.



Season's greetings dear friend!

Chances are, as you read this, you're busy making plans to get together with friends and family, over the holidays. This is, after all, the time of year – more than any other – when we celebrate the people who are close to us, and who make our community special.

Villa Charities is part of that community – and we are there for you not just at Christmas or Chanukah, or Diwali or Kwanzaa, but all year long, providing everyone in the Villa family with diverse, much-needed programs and services, all in a warm, caring environment.

**You make it possible.** Through donations from people like you, we can continue to care for – and celebrate – our entire, far-reaching family through support in the form of...

...Assisted and long-term care provided by facilities like Villa Colombo, Caboto Terrace, Casa Del Zotto, Casa Abruzzo and the Villa Colombo Vaughan Di Poce Centre, all of which are vital to helping older members of our community live rewarding, active lives

...VITA and Mens Sana, which support people with intellectual disabilities and mental health needs, giving them help, hope, dignity and independence

...Fitness, educational, cultural and culinary services offered through the Columbus Centre, enriching the lives of thousands of people who pass through its doors every year

In the spirit of the season, we're asking you to give generously and ensure that this ever-expanding array of programs and services continues to serve you and your family for many years to come.

**GIVE FROM THE HEART THIS HOLIDAY**



☒ YES! I want to ensure a strong Villa community for many years to come.

☐ \$100   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$20   ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ My cheque payable to Villa Charites Foundation is enclosed

➡ Monthly Giving. See reverse for more details

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ P/C: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my gift to: ☐  ☐  ☐ 

Credit Card Number: I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_ I \_

Expiry: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
M M Y Y

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Charitable Registration No. 893370767 RR001

## Did you know...

- Every year more than 300 children participate in our summer camp programs – and the demand keeps growing.
- The Columbus Centre alone sees 100,000 visitors a year, 5,000 of whom are members who regularly use its fitness and aquatic facilities.



Villa Charities Inc. (1971)  
Villa Colombo Services for Seniors (1976)  
Villa Colombo Ladies Auxiliary (1976)  
Columbus Centre (1980)  
Caboto Terrace (1984)  
VITA Community Living Services (1986)  
Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery (1987)  
Villa Charities Foundation (1990)  
Casa Del Zotto (1991)  
Villa Colombo Vaughan Di Poce Centre (2003)  
Casa Abruzzo (2004)  
Mens Sana (2005)

You've supported these services in the past, so you know how important they are. And the changing demographics of our community mean that the demand for our unique, culturally-sensitive programs and facilities will only continue to increase. (You can learn more about what we do at [www.villacharities.com](http://www.villacharities.com))

A donation to Villa Charities could be one of the most important gifts you make this year. It is a gift that will keep giving after the holidays are over. And if you give \$20 or more, postmarked on or before December 31, 2012, you'll receive your year-end tax receipt!

So please give what you can – it only takes a moment, and it makes such a difference to the many people who depend on it. For over 40 years our growing family has helped support yours; let's make sure that support is always there, whenever you need it.

From all of us at Villa Charities, our warmest wishes for peace, happiness and health, now and in the year to come.

Happy Holidays, Buon Natale!

Anne Simone  
Executive Director  
Villa Charities Foundation

Pal Di Iulio  
President and CEO  
Villa Charities Inc.

P.S. We make holiday giving easy! Simply cut along the dotted line below and mail your cheque in the prepaid envelope **OR** donate securely online at [www.villacharities.com](http://www.villacharities.com). And be sure to donate by December 31st 2012 to get your year-end tax receipt!

P.P.S. Please consider monthly giving – it's fast and simple for you, and it gets your gift working faster!

### JOIN OUR MONTHLY GIVING PROGRAM

You can support vital Villa Charities services and programs all year long by becoming a monthly donor. Your ongoing contribution will help ensure we can continue to be there for you and your loved ones whenever you need us. Monthly giving is the most cost-effective way to donate. You can change or stop your monthly donation at any time by calling us at: 416.789.7011 ext. 321.

Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity!

☒ **YES, I would like to support the Villa Charities Foundation Monthly Giving Program**

Each month, I would like to give:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$15 (50¢ a day) ☐ \$20 My Choice \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your donation will be processed on the 15th day of each month or the next business day.

This donation is made on behalf of:

☐ an Individual ☐ an Organization

PAYMENT OPTIONS BELOW:

Credit Card:



Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Villa Charities Foundation respects your privacy, and does not rent, trade or sell its lists. The information you provide will be used to keep you informed and up to date on the activities of the organization. If you would like more information about donor privacy, or if at any time you wish to be removed from our list, please call Jean Jarvis at 416.789.7011 ext. 321.



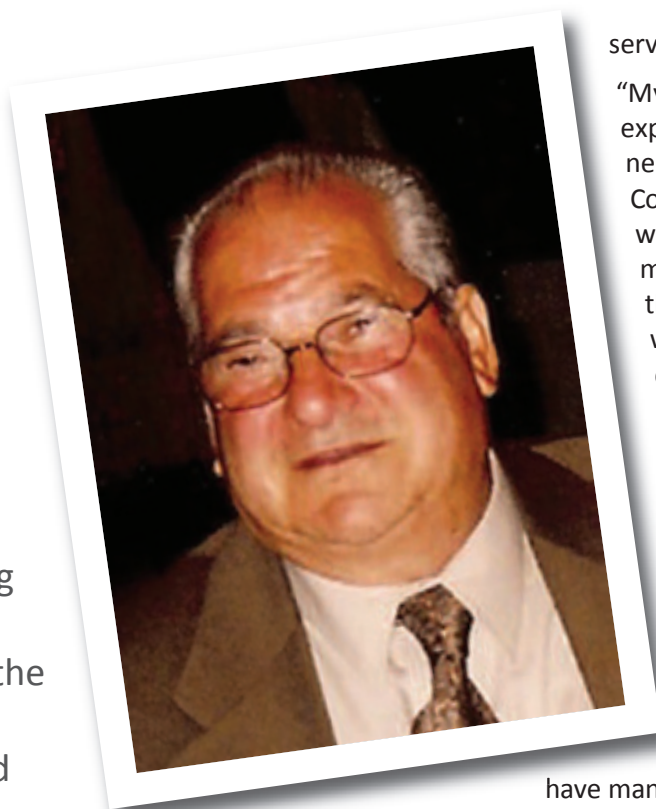
# A FAMILY GIFT

Domenico Magnifico originally from San Vincenzo La Costa, Italy spent his life taking care of people and places. For his family he cared for them in his adopted home of Canada by providing a caring home. For the clothing factory where he worked, he provided the caring service of a committed janitor and employee.

So, when he came to a stage in his life where he required someone to care for him, his daughters turned to Villa Colombo Vaughan to provide him with the comfort he had spent a life-time giving to other people.

"The nurses and staff were wonderful," says Mr. Magnifico's daughter Emma speaking about her family's experience. "They showed that they really cared. They were always accommodating when we had questions. When he was ill and was taken to the hospital for medical treatment, one of the nurses called me at home to see how he was doing; this showed how much compassion they had for him."

It was the care their father received from nurses and staff at Villa Colombo Vaughan that led his children and grandchildren to provide a gift to help support the



services provided to the community.

"My sisters and I wish we knew the experience of Villa Vaughan before we needed it," says Emma. "Villa Colombo Vaughan was there when we needed it and we are trying to make our relatives and everyone in the community understand that it was through donations and community support that Villa Colombo Vaughan is possible."

One of the most important aspects of the Villa Colombo Vaughan experience was the fact that Emma and her family were connected with what Mr. Magnifico was going through.

"They got us involved with his activities," says Emma. "That was so wonderful because we have many memories to cherish."

It was this caring that led his children and grandchildren to take steps to make a donation to support Villa Colombo

Vaughan so that it will be there for the next person and the next family that would need it.

"We experienced this wonderful place that was created by the philanthropy of others and we knew dad's name needed to be honoured there too," says Emma of the gift to support Villa Charities Foundation in honour of their father and grandfather. "It was his home at the end of his life. We had to do something to thank them. What led us to make this gift was the inspiration and necessity to say thank you. It's that simple. They made his life so much better near the end

when he could no longer stay in his home. It was Villa Colombo Vaughan who helped the family care for him."

Written by a member of the family in collaboration with Villa Charities Foundation



Mr. Magnifico's bench offers respite to passersby in the garden of Villa Colombo Vaughan

## Four Easy Steps to a Bequest

The steps to create a bequest gift are easy and when done properly can help to ensure your loved ones are cared for, your estate is protected and the gift you wish to make is secure.

**Step 1:** Make the decision that creating a bequest gift is the right step for you to take and come to a conclusion as to what kind of gift you wish to make (either a specific amount of money or a percentage of your estate – your financial professional can help with this step).

**Step 2:** Use the legal written name of Villa Charities Foundation.

**Step 3:** Call your lawyer and request that they include a codicil in your will that establishes a gift for Villa Charities Foundation. Provide your lawyer with the legal written name and then your lawyer will handle the remaining details. Many lawyers will include this codicil in your will without cost.

**Note:** if you don't have a lawyer, we can direct you on how to use the Law Society's legal referral service to find one.

**Step 4:** If you feel comfortable, contact us to let us know when your gift has been created. This will allow us to add your name to our list of donors who have told us they will be remembering Villa Charities Foundation in their estate plan and give us an opportunity to say thank you. It will also allow us to ensure that we understand how you wish us to use your gift to support the work of Villa Charities.

## Looking for an alternative to bequests? Think of a gift of a registered retirement fund

Your Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs) or Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) can be used to create a gift for the future benefit of Villa Charities Foundation as an alternative to a bequest gift in your will.

When a person passes away, the total value of the funds in your registered retirement account must be reported as income. This income is fully taxable to your estate unless funds in the registered account can be rolled over to a surviving spouse or a dependent child.

The other alternative is to make a charity such as Villa Charities Foundation the beneficiary. This will allow for the gift to remain outside the estate, reducing probate fees while creating a gift that will provide a tax receipt for your estate. This tax receipt can be used to offset other taxes.

## Making the best decision

Knowing yourself and your circumstances is key to choosing between an RRIF and an annuity. Are you a good investor? Will you be capable of prudent investment decisions in your later years? Do you need to provide for other family members? If you suffer poor health, a self-directed RRIF may be out of the question.

In any case, it is wise to seek out one or more financial advisors who can best determine whether an RRIF or annuity is best for you, what kind you should choose, and where you can obtain the best rate of return.

Making a gift of registered retirement funds can benefit you by:

- providing a tax receipt to your estate for the value of your gift, resulting in a tax credit that will help to offset tax owing on the funds by your estate
- providing relief from probate fees that would have to be paid if the investments passed through the estate
- providing an easy way to make a no-cost future gift to Villa Charities Foundation

For more information about making a charitable gift to Villa Charities Foundation, please contact:

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

Villa Charities Foundation  
901 Lawrence Avenue West  
Toronto, Ontario M6A 1C3  
Tel.: (416) 789-7011 ext. 321  
Fax: (416) 789-9387  
E-mail: [jjarvis@villacharities.com](mailto:jjarvis@villacharities.com)

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share your stories

**Your stories touch the hearts of our readers!** There are many untold stories that should be shared with our readers on how Villa Charities has touched your life or the life of a loved one.

**Submit** your story **now** in English or Italian for the Spring Newsletter. **Don't let this opportunity pass you by. Your story needs to be shared...** but if we don't hear from you, then this page will have to be discontinued.

Please submit your story **today** in the postage paid envelope provided in this newsletter, or email it to [jjarvis@villacharities.com](mailto:jjarvis@villacharities.com)

**Let's save this page for the many untold stories out there...**

# Villa Charities Foundation

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Venetian Ball 2012 Co-Chairs Rudolph P. Bratty and Edward Sorbara share their opening remarks

(Continued from front cover) who delighted guests with his extraordinary renditions of favourites such as Mick Jagger and Maroon 5. Villa Charities' own Angelica Di Castro then captivated the audience with her powerful voice.

The Venetian Ball is well known for its Mystery Performance. It is a well-kept secret at Villa Charities – not even CIBC, the Entertainment Sponsor, had

knowledge of the Mystery Performers. For the 2012 Ball, original teen idols Frankie Avalon, Lou Christie, and Fabian took the stage for a notable performance in which they sang their greatest hits.

The post-dinner cocktail reception dazzled guests further, as the scrumptious desserts on offer tantalized everyone's taste buds.

On their way out of the venue, the guests were treated royally at the Valet Lounge sponsored by Concord Adex, and each attendee received a magnificent favour, thanks to Matcor-Matsu Group of Companies.

"The Venetian Ball continues to be one of the city's most anticipated fundraising events; one that not only allows us to celebrate the passion and intrigue of our Italian culture, but helps



Original "American Italian Idols" Fabian, Frankie Avalon and Lou Christie rock the crowd with a selection of their greatest hits





André-Philippe Gagnon wows guests with his impersonations of music greats from every era



The Baldassarra family shares in the evening's festivities with their friends

fund the invaluable work of Villa Charities," says Bratty. "I am thankful for the continued support of the community, and look forward to celebrating our success as we prepare for our next major milestone, the 20th anniversary of The Venetian Ball in 2013."

Edward Sorbara also recognizes the importance of Villa Charities' signature event. "Each year, The Venetian Ball presents Toronto with a celebration of culture, arts and community," he says. "From surprise performances, to first-

class auction items, The Venetian Ball sets the bar for galas in the city. I am honoured to participate in such a worthy event."

The two Lead Sponsors for the 2012 Venetian Ball were the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers – Local 353 and The Erin Mills Development Corporation. Both deserve special thanks for their kind generosity.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of our corporate sponsors and guests of The

Venetian Ball: their dedicated support and commitment is truly appreciated. The Venetian Ball raises funds to support the important and unique work of Villa Charities, a family of organizations that has grown its mandate of providing care for seniors to include support for individuals with intellectual disabilities and mental health issues. Our unique cultural programming is the essence of our special role in our caring community.

On behalf of Co-Chairs Rudolph P. Bratty and Edward Sorbara, Thank you! Grazie!



Venetian Ball attendees take a break from the revelry to pose for our photographer



The Metro Toronto Convention Centre is transformed into a Venetian paradise

## Mille Grazie to our 2012 Venetian Ball Sponsors

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DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION



Greenpark



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Ontario Provincial District Council



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of Villa



MR. AND MRS.  
GREG SORBARA



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Villa Charities Foundation held its first-ever Women's Networking Event on Wednesday, November 28, 2012. Over 60 guests attended the launch of the event to demonstrate their commitment and passion to Villa Charities, and helped make the Women's Networking Event a great success.

The theme for the evening was: **The past empowering the future.** This event was a call to arms to recruit young women entrepreneurs who value the work that Villa Charities provides within our community and who want to carry the torch. It was also a call to arms for those already involved with Villa Charities who are interested in mentoring and showing the ropes to these up-and-coming young entrepreneurs. Seasoned Villa Charities volunteers can provide the stewardship necessary to ensure that Villa Charities' special brand of culturally sensitive care continues in the future. The evening planned was a great step in that direction.

The two Honourary Co-Chairs, Nina Perfetto, Chair of Villa Charities Inc., and Jackie Rosati, one of the founding members of the Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary, communicated the important messaging of the Women's Networking Event, which is to engage, motivate and inspire the second and third generation of young women entrepreneurs so that they may continue with the very important work that Villa Charities Foundation supports.

Karen Manarin, Chair of the Columbus Centre of Toronto, emceed the event, and as such, garnered an overwhelmingly positive response from our guests.

The Guest Speaker for the evening, Rita DeMontis, Lifestyle and Food Editor at the Toronto Sun, provided anecdotes of her *Italianità*, which resonated with our guests and touched them at their core. With her words she made the guests feel good about our heritage and our roots.

The evening culminated with the announcement of the silent auction and door prize winners.

A big thank you is extended to Barry and Deena Weinberg from MaxMara, for providing a sophisticated and intimate venue for the Women's Networking Event. Also, many thanks go out to Ristorante Boccaccio for its culinary creations. And let's not forget our committee members, staff, volunteers, and all our guests who joined us that evening: thank you all for your continued support.



Women's Networking Event Committee: (Front Row) Gina Gianfrancesco, Jackie Rosati, Karen Manarin (Back Row) Gabriella Tatangelo, Rose Vecchiarelli, Gabriella Tino, Mari Parker, Frances Gratta, Grace Eremita, Nina Perfetto, Kim Lenahan



## 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.

Seize the exhilarating opportunity to ride the challenging countryside of Vaughan! The course starts and ends at Eagles Nest Golf Club (10000 Dufferin Street, Vaughan).

Dedicated riders will push themselves across the countryside of Vaughan in a show of strength and stamina to the finish line. Along the way, they will refuel at the many Italian-themed rest stops with *mangiare e bere all'italiana*.

Sign up for the Early Bird Special and save! Fundraise to support the vital services and programs that Villa Charities provides to our community.

Sign up to be a Giro Sponsor and become part of a movement that is helping to give more *amore* and provide a special brand of culturally sensitive care.

Every registered cyclist will receive an official Giro cycling jersey.

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

For more information and registration details, contact 416.789.7011 ext. 242 or visit [www.villacharities.com/giro2013](http://www.villacharities.com/giro2013).



## Tuesday, June 25, 2013

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, improved skill challenges geared to rev up the participants and, of course, *mangiare e bere all'italiana* throughout!

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.



## Pride on Parade

Early in the morning of July 20, three members and three support staff of VITA, along with the Director of Clinical and Educational Services, set off from the VITA office for Chicago, to participate in the Disability Pride Parade. Chicago has hosted the Disability Pride Parade for nine years; it is the largest event of its kind in the world. The 2012 theme of "Today, Tomorrow and Forever" sought to celebrate the gains of the Disability Pride movement and to aim squarely at changing the future.

VITA has had a Disability Pride programme for over a year, as well as a strong and well-recognized self-advocate organization called The Rights Group. It seemed a natural fit for VITA to attend the Disability Pride Parade to learn how the event is organized and how Pride is celebrated. The parade was held on July 21 and VITA was there with banners flying. Organizers of the event said that VITA was the first Canadian organization to attend and participate in the parade.

The city had renamed the street where the parade gathered as Disability Pride Way, and people cheered as the guest speakers talked about the need for people with disabilities to feel pride in the accomplishments of the past. VITA's self-advocates marched in the parade and gave out Words Hit cards, which petition people to refrain from using the "r-word" regarding those with disabilities. The trip was a wonderful experience and all the attendees returned inspired by everything that had taken place.



L-R: Brian Naraine, President of the VITA/Mens Sana Board; Grand Marshal Darcy Tucker; Frank DeCesare, Vice-President of the VITA/Mens Sana Board

## Rally for VITA

The second annual Rally for VITA was a beautiful, great ride!

On September 16, motorcyclists from all over Southern Ontario came together to help raise awareness and funds for VITA Community Living Services. Along scenic country roads and under late summer skies, the riders made their way from

Columbus Centre in Toronto to Mercedes-Benz in Barrie.

"We would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone involved, especially our Grand Marshal, [retired Toronto Maple Leaf player] Darcy Tucker," says Brian Naraine, President of the Board of Governors of VITA Community Living Services. "It is with your support that we can continue to offer our members the best possible care."

It was decided to hold the second Rally for VITA after a very successful first year that saw the inaugural event raise funds for the purchase of the MV-1, a vehicle specifically designed with wheelchair users in mind. The rally is organized by a group of seasoned riders who have worked to ensure the ride is comfortable and enjoyable for novices and veterans alike.

VITA wishes to acknowledge the generous support and cooperation of the event sponsors and volunteers who made this year's ride a truly memorable experience for everyone.

VITA Community Living Services and Mens Sana Families for Mental Health would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Rally for VITA organizational committee – Silvano Zamparo, John Angelucci, Paul Mior, and Vince Papa – for their commitment, enthusiasm and hours of work they invested in making Rally for VITA possible!



## Canadian Connections: Alberta Comes to VITA

On October 19, a senior fact-finding team from the Government of Alberta came to VITA Community Living Services to learn more about the provision of services to people with intellectual disabilities who present complex behaviours which make service difficult. VITA has a reputation of providing specialized treatment to three distinct populations: people with Prader Willi Syndrome, people with Borderline Personality Disorder, and individuals who have Forensic Histories.

The team, headed by Brenda Lee Doyle, Assistant Deputy Minister of Services for Persons with Disabilities, who was accompanied by Shirley Peleshytyk, Acting Provincial Director, Office of the Public

Guardian, came to VITA for a short presentation about supporting and providing treatment for people with complex needs. Kim Lenahan, VITA's Executive Director, led the presentation. Several staff members – at all levels within VITA – were there to provide information to the visitors. Dave Hingsburger, the Director of Clinical and Educational Services attended the meeting by phone from London, England, as he is on a lecture tour of the United Kingdom.

After the meeting, the group – including Reshmi Majumder, Ministry of Community and Social Services

(MCSS) Senior Policy Advisor; Beth Fairley, MCSS Senior Business Analyst; Rosa Carlucci, MCSS Manager, Social Policy Development; and Karen Schweter, Program Supervisor, MCSS Toronto Region – visited one of VITA's treatment homes. Everyone was interested in the



VITA staff members, guests from Alberta, and Toronto Ministry reps take a tour of VITA.

environmental supports put in place as well as meeting with the staff and speaking with some of the members who are receiving treatment. The visit allowed the task force to incorporate what they learned in the morning presentation with real world experience. VITA's members proudly talked about how they are doing in treatment and their hopes for the future.

VITA was honoured to be able to provide this opportunity to the members of the fact-finding tour. It was also an opportunity to allow everyone at VITA – from staff to members and residents – to be able to participate in a high-level educational event. Everyone rose to the occasion and enjoyed the opportunity to shine. We are pleased with the feedback received from Ms. Schweter, who said, "Thank you so much for all your work on the Alberta visit. Your presentations were a resounding success, and the visit to your home was an excellent component and was much appreciated."

## Service, Support and Success: Educating the World

It all began by accident, in December 2011: as the holidays can be a difficult time for people who receive support, the VITA clinical team decided to write an article on how to make the holidays fun and stress free. It was sent to all staff in the agency as a means of helping them to provide the best support possible. Word got out about the article and requests for copies started pouring in; soon it was sent out to all organizations serving people with intellectual disabilities in Ontario, across the country, and around the world. It seemed that a direct support newsletter was born.

Soon to have its first birthday, *Service, Support and Success: The Direct Support Professional Newsletter* has

grown to be a respected monthly publication in service provision for people with disabilities. Several VITA staff members have contributed articles on wide-ranging topics, from dealing with grief to how to dress professionally when working in the summer. The newsletter has recently been receiving articles for publication from outside of the agency and will be publishing a piece on power from a professor at Loyalist College as well as an article on boundaries from a Master's student in Disabilities studies from Brock University. The casual nature of the newsletter has been lauded because it's fun and easy to read.

The idea behind the newsletter was that people with disabilities be served

well by staff who are well informed and who are provided with timely information. The reception to the newsletter shows that there is a huge desire amongst direct care professionals to keep educating themselves and to keep growing in knowledge.

VITA continues to strive and to be a leader in the provision of education and inspiration to organizations across the country and around the world. As *Service, Support and Success* enters its second year in publication, the hope is to continue to draw on expertise within both VITA and the sector as a whole. Articles can be accessed at [www.vitacsl.org](http://www.vitacsl.org) under the tab "Newsletter."

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Lucy Bellisario  
Marianne Corigliano-Franco  
Armando Cristinziano  
Robert Martella  
Christine Pacini  
Teresa Santoro  
Flavio Volpe

PRESIDENT & CEO  
Pal Di Iulio

ADMINISTRATOR  
Ugo Di Federico

The Columbus Centre Board is also responsible for the Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery

## Heart Smarts

We're pleased to announce that Columbus Centre recently purchased 20 new Matrix cardio machines for fitness members: six upright bikes, five recumbent bikes, seven elliptical machines and two climb mills.

You may wonder exactly what "cardio" means. "Cardio" is slang for "cardiovascular": cardio refers to the heart and vascular refers to the blood vessels. Before any discussion can take place on how much cardio exercise you should do, you should at least know why it is so important. Doing cardiovascular exercise simply means that you're involved in an activity that raises your heart rate to a level where you're exerting yourself but you are still able to talk (i.e. you are in your Target Heart Rate Zone).

Here are some reasons why cardio exercise is so important:

- It is a way to burn calories and help you lose weight
- It makes your heart strong so that it doesn't have to work as hard to pump blood

- It increases your lung capacity
- It helps reduce the risk of heart attack, high cholesterol, high blood pressure and diabetes
- It helps you sleep better
- It helps reduce stress
- It makes you feel good

Bottom line: You need cardio if you want to get your weight under control and reduce your stress to a tolerable level.

The newly purchased cardio machines will assist you in the above goals. Please ask a Columbus Centre fitness staff member to show you how to safely and effectively operate the new equipment.



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.)

## RISTORANTE BOCCACCIO 2012 THEME NIGHTS

**SERVAGGINA**

JANUARY 25, 2013

**CAMPANIA**

FEBRUARY 22, 2013

**EMILIA ROMAGNA**

MARCH 28, 2013

**SARDEGNA**

APRIL 26, 2013

**ABRUZZO**

JUNE 14, 2013

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**SAN VALENTINO**

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

**FESTA DELLE DONNE**

MARCH 8, 2013

For more information  
or to make reservations  
please call  
416.789.5555

## Cambridge Awards

On October 26, the Cambridge Food & Wine Society held its 2012 Awards of Excellence series entitled *Taste the World* at Columbus Centre. The event was co-hosted by the Multicultural History Society of Ontario and the Ontario Restaurant, Hotel & Motel Association. (The Cambridge Food & Wine Society was founded in 1988 by Professor Chef Leo Chan and Professor J.P. Micheline.) The Awards of Excellence series, now in its 24th year, recognizes outstanding service and products in the food and wine industry and community, and has presented awards to senators, community leaders, winemakers, restaurants and chefs. Eight awards were given out at the function: the

event's biggest honour, the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award, was bestowed upon Kenneth Taylor, a former Canadian Ambassador to Iran. Taylor is best known for his role in the 1979 Canadian Caper covert operation in which he coordinated with the CIA to help six Americans escape from Iran during the hostage crisis. (This historical event was most recently depicted in the film *Argo*.) Taylor's award was presented to him by Senator Pamela Wallin, his good friend and the 2011 recipient of the same award. The annual event also includes a food and wine tasting reception: this year's *Taste the World* reception offered authentic food and wines from over 20 countries.



Kenneth Taylor, surrounded by fellow award recipients and members of the Cambridge Food & Wine Society, as well as Senator Pamela Wallin (to his left).



## Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Times

Following the success of the permanent exhibit *Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens: Memories of WWII* (in the Carrier Gallery), a new travelling exhibit will tour Canada beginning January 2013.

*Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Times: Italian Canadian Experiences During WWII* continues to educate the public about the impact of the Canadian government's "enemy alien" designation of 31,000

Canadians of Italian origin, including the internment of about 600. The exhibit draws on a rich resource of interviews with those directly affected by the internment, thus giving a personal voice and human face to this historical event. The exhibit is divided into three themes (Home, Camp, and Community) and features multimedia components and graphics to replicate objects, documents, and photographs from the collection.

*Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Times* launched onsite on December 6, 2012, and was attended by members of the Italian Canadian community, educators, and historians, but most notably by families of those who were interned. Retired Senator Con Di Nino and Senator Linda Frum spoke at the event, with Frum reading remarks from MP Julian Fantino, International Co-operation Minister, and MP Jason Kenny, Citizenship, Immigration and



Multiculturalism Minister, who were unable to attend. The exhibit begins its three-year tour in January 2013 to the following venues:

- 2013** National Congress of Italian Canadians (National Capital District) at the Italian Canadian Historical Centre (Villa Marconi), Ottawa, ON  
Niagara Falls History Museum, Niagara Falls, ON  
Casa d'Italia, Montreal, QC
- 2014** Discovery North Bay Museum, North Bay, ON  
Anderson Farm Museum, Lively, ON  
Windsor's Community Museum, Windsor, ON
- 2015** Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, Halifax, NS  
Guelph Civic Museum, Guelph, ON  
Timmins Museum: National Exhibition Centre, Timmins, ON  
Italian Canadian League of Manitoba Inc. at Caboto Centre, Winnipeg, MB
- 2016** Trail & District Public Library, Trail, BC

For more information on the exhibit or to get a complimentary copy of the book *Beyond Barbed Wire: Essays on the Internment of Italian Canadians* (while quantities last), email [info@italiancanadianWW2.ca](mailto:info@italiancanadianWW2.ca).

This project was funded by the Community Historical Recognition Program, Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Follow us on: Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens: Memories of WWII



@ItCanWWII



Italian Canadians WWII

## Stations of the Heart

On October 3, Darlene Madott launched her sixth book, *Stations of the Heart*, at Columbus Centre. Madott, a lawyer, was joined at the event by luminaries including Martin Teplitsky (Order of Ontario, Q.C.), Marilyn Pilkington (former Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School), Justices Wailan Low and James Clarke, publisher/editor Barry Callaghan, and beloved family and friends, including Toni Ciccarelli, a close acquaintance of Madott's mother. Retired Justice Clarke shared the podium with excerpts from his own publication, *The Kid from Simcoe Street*, about childhood abuse, loss and reconciliation.

The linked short stories in *Stations of the Heart* follow the secular stations of a fictional Francesca at various stages of her life as she makes the choices that propel her toward her own calvary and transformation.

Madott has donated several copies of *Stations of the Heart* to the Columbus Centre library. For more information on Madott and her books, visit [www.DarleneMadott.com](http://www.DarleneMadott.com).



Ricardo Federico and Pal Di Iulio join Darlene Madott as she autographs books at the launch of *Stations of the Heart*.



**Sunday, January 6, 2013**  
10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Adults \$50 • Children 2-10 \$15 • Children Under 2 FREE

Sala Caboto, Villa Colombo  
40 Playfair Avenue, Toronto

Crafts • Face Painting • Entertainment • Photos  
La storia della Befana

TICKETS: 416 789 7011 X 240  
[labefana2013@villacharities.com](mailto:labefana2013@villacharities.com)  
[www.villacharities.com/labefana2013](http://www.villacharities.com/labefana2013)



Proceeds from this event go towards enriching Columbus Centre Children's Programs. Charitable Registration No. 89337-0767-RR0001

Join us on Sunday, January 6, 2013, as we celebrate our heritage and share with our children a long-standing tradition of Italian culture. Enjoy lively music, good food and a variety of events for children. Come for face painting, storytelling, crafts, a silent auction, and even pose for your own picture with the Befana! The Befana herself will make an appearance and give candy to all children.



# 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!*

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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)

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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.

Charitable Registration No. 89337-0767-RR0001

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