

La Nostra Voce

Sempre Insieme ~ Always Together

American Italian Cultural Society
1918 Donmaur Drive • Crest Hill, IL 60403

President's Report June/ guigno

Hello Club Members.

June is here, I'm pleased to share an update on our society's activities, progress, and upcoming plans.

Highlights

- **Membership Engagement:** We welcomed two new members last month: Emily and Ken Crockett and Josie Murray.

Facility Updates: Routine maintenance is being done. Flowers were planted out front, de-weeding of the landscape areas and spraying was done also. Cleanup to the outdoor Bocce Court has begun also. Clean-up and organization of the indoor upstairs bocce area is still to be scheduled.

June Events & Activities

- **Spaghetti Dinner:** Our regular spaghetti dinner season has come to an end. Thank you to all who volunteered to make this a tremendous success for our club. We will have a bonus Garlic and Oil spaghetti dinner on June 11 and open to the public. Contact Andrea DiVecchio, Dave Margliano or Dan Brandolino for volunteering.
- **Queen of Hearts-** Every Monday starting at 5pm. The current pot as of 6/01/26 is over \$14,362.00. We wish you luck. Food is available for purchase certain nights. Check our Facebook for the weekly menu. If you have a meal idea and would like to volunteer and help cook with one of our six kitchen managers please let us know.
- **Festa meeting:** Next festa meeting will be Wednesday June 24th, 7pm, please attend if you would like to be involved with our festa. Contact Christina Hayden or Dan Brandolino for volunteering.

AICS Scholarship- We received 11 scholarship applications this year. The committee will be reviewing them soon and announcing the winners. Good luck to all who applied. First place, \$1,500.00 a year for 4 years and second place, \$750.00 a year for 4 years.

Save the Date

June 11th Bonus Garlic/Oil spaghetti dinner, club garage sale TBD, June 20th AICS club picnic, July 12th Italian heritage night at Joliet Slammers Stadium, July 18th 80s/90s freestyle party, August 7, 8, 9th Festa Italiana, September 13th San Vittorino fest.

Administrative Notes

- **Meetings:** The June board meeting will take place on Tuesday June 2nd at 7pm. General meeting is June 25th at 7pm. Agenda items include summer event planning, scholarship updates, and facility improvements.
- **Financial Overview:** The Society remains in strong financial standing and fundraising efforts continue to support our club and its cultural initiatives. Thank you all for your time and efforts.

Volunteer Opportunities: As always, we rely on the generosity of our members. Anyone interested in helping with events, positions or chairing an event are encouraged to reach out.

A Personal Message

A HUGE THANK YOU to each and every one of you that participated with our spaghetti dinners. From prep on Monday to cleanup on Sunday, you have all done an amazing job.

We are in the process of looking into a kitchen expansion. Details will come soon with a budget for approval. One way to help fund this project is with our garage sale. Any items donated will be sold with all proceeds going to the kitchen project if approved.

If you would like to learn how to play Italian Cards or Bocce ball we will be planning to do lessons on Sunday nights. Please let Christina or I know and we will set a schedule up.

Lastly I would like to wish all the Dads a Happy Father's day. Enjoy the day.

Always Together/Sempre Insieme
Dan Brandolino
President, American Italian Cultural Society



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CLUB HOURS

SUNDAY
6:30 PM - 11:00 PM
MONDAY
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
THURSDAY
6:30 PM - 11:00 PM
SATURDAY
6:30 PM - 11:00 PM

Phone: 815-725-7450

Fax: 815-725-9074

Email office:

officemanager@americanitalian.org

Email for newsletter:

Andrea.DiVecchio@americanitalian.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



QUEEN OF HEARTS EVERY MONDAY NIGHT 5-9 PM

Cut off time to purchase a ticket for the Queen is 7:30pm, with the drawing at 8:00pm

JUN 2 - TUESDAY	BOARD MEETING	7:00pm
JUN 11 - THURSDAY	"BONUS" SPAGHETTI DINNER	11am-7pm
JUN 18 - THURSDAY	BOOK CLUB	12:00pm
JUN 20 - SATURDAY	CLUB PICNIC	12:00pm
JUN 21 - SUNDAY	FATHER'S DAY CLUB CLOSED	
JUN 24 - WEDNESDAY	FESTA MEETING	7:00pm
JUN 25 - THURSDAY	GENERAL MEETING	7:00pm

SAVE THE DATES!

JUL 12 - SUNDAY	JOLIET SLAMMERS ITALIAN NIGHT
JUL 18 - SATURDAY	80's/90's PARTY
AUG 7, 8, 9	FESTA ITALIANA
SEPT 13 - SUNDAY	SAN VITTORINO FEST
SEPT 24 & 25	AICS GARAGE SALE

BONUS Spaghetti Dinner



Have you ever wondered what the spaghetti dinner volunteers eat after working all day making and serving up pasta in red sauce? They eat Spaghetti Aglio e Olio (spaghetti with garlic and oil.) For years club member Filippo Liburdi (94 years young) and his son Lou have prepared this dish for our volunteers after a long day of looking at red sauce at spaghetti dinner. It's so delicious we decided to share it with the community. On Thursday, June 11th from 11am-7pm we will be having a "Bonus" spaghetti dinner serving Spaghetti Aglio e Olio which is open to the public. The cost of the dinner is \$13.00 and includes spaghetti, salad and bread. Instead of meatballs, we will offer Italian Sausage links available for sale. We will also be having our bake sale featuring the homemade treats from our members as well as cannoli. Please spread the word to your family and friends and we hope you will join us at this special "bonus" spaghetti dinner.

CALENDAR

June

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  Q O H	2  Board Meeting 7:00pm	3	4	5	6
7	8  Q O H	9	10	11  BONUS Garlic/Oil Spaghetti Dinner 11am-7pm	12	13
14  FLAG DAY	15  Q O H	16  National Cannoli Day	17	18  Book Club 12:00pm	19	20  Club Picnic 12:00pm
21  HAPPY FATHER'S DAY Club Closed	22  Q O H	23	24  Festa Meeting 7:00pm	25  General Meeting 7:00pm	26	27
28	29  Q O H	30				

thank you = volunteers!

Grazie Mille - Thank You to the many people who volunteered at our spaghetti dinners this season. Your dedication and smiling faces is what makes our spaghetti dinners a success. Our May dinner sold 1262 spaghetti dinners and 1334 orders of meatballs. We also sold 185 quarts of our homemade red sauce. We start up with our regular dinners again in September and we look forward to seeing you there!



EVENT INFORMATION ~ Don't miss out!

AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY
QUEEN OF HEARTS

**PLAY WEEKLY FOR
A CHANCE TO WIN**



DRAWING EVERY MONDAY
TICKETS \$1.00 EACH OR 6 FOR \$5.00

CLUB HOURS
SUNDAY 6:30 PM-11:00 PM
MONDAY 5:00 PM-9:00 PM
THURSDAY 6:30 PM-11:00 PM

1918 DAUNMAUR DRIVE CRIST HILL IL 60403

AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY
1918 DONMAUR DR. CREST HILL, IL
815-725-7450

"Bonus" SPAGHETTI
AGLIO E OLIO - OLIVE OIL & GARLIC DINNER

You love our spaghetti with red sauce, now try our spaghetti tossed in a sauce of sauteed garlic and olive oil!

**THURSDAY
JUNE 11, 2026
11am-7pm or until we run out!**

\$13.00
Dinner Includes
Pasta
Salad
Bread/Butter

Also available for sale
Italian Sausage Link \$3.00
AICS Salad Dressing
Bake Sale

Skip the Line & Order Online!
Visit our website www.americanitalian.org
or scan the QR Code to place your order
Some restrictions may apply



You're invited to our
AICS CLUB PICNIC
MEMBERS-ONLY EVENT

**SATURDAY
JUNE 20**

12 NOON
FOOD WILL BE SERVED AT 1

CLUB WILL BE OPEN FOR THE NIGHT!

AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY
1918 DONMAUR DRIVE
CREST HILL, IL 60403

Bring your family and join us for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and summer fun!

ADMISSION

FREE FOR AICS MEMBERS	NON-MEMBER SPOUSES & CHILDREN AGES 13+ \$20 PER PERSON	CHILDREN 12 & UNDER FREE
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RSVP REQUIRED
RSVP EITHER FOLLOWING THE ZEPHY LINK OR SIGN-UP SHEET WILL BE IN THE BAR.

Please RSVP by JUNE 10

SCAN HERE TO RSVP!



REMINDER

General Meeting

**Thursday
June 25, 2026
7:00pm**

Delicious Snacks will be served after the meeting!



EVENT INFORMATION ~ Don't miss out!



ITALIAN DAY AT THE BALLPARK!

SUNDAY, JULY 12

GATES OPEN: 12:05 PM GAME TIME: 1:05 PM

SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE
National Anthem Presentation
You are NOT going to want to miss this!

JOLIET SLAMMERS

200 FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Purchase your tickets now before they sell out!
Please follow link to register.

For further information, call 815-725-7450



American Italian Cultural Society

Save the Date
AICS
GARAGE SALE

Start cleaning out those closets and cabinets!
AICS will be taking donations for our garage sale.

Thursday & Friday
September 24 & 25

1918 Donnuar Dr. - Crest Hill, IL

Furniture & Décor - Tools & Outdoor Gear - Clothes & Accessories - Toys, Books & Games - Kitchen & Home Items

*Proceeds from sale will benefit the kitchen expansion project.



FESTA ITALIANA

26th Annual **Festa Italiana**

Voted Best in Will County
10 Years in a Row!

Friday, August 7, 2026 | 5:00pm-11:00pm
Saturday, August 8, 2026 | 5:00pm-11:00pm
Sunday, August 9, 2026 | 11:00am-9:00pm

FREE ADMISSION
Serving our Full Menu all three days

ENTERTAINMENT ALL DAY | SERVING OUR FULL MENU EVERY DAY | BAKE SALE | GAMES FOR THE KIDS | RAFFLES AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Friday, August 7th	Saturday, August 8th	Sunday, August 9th
5:30pm Don't Matter to Me	5:00pm Vito Zatto	11:00am Outdoor Mass & Procession
8:30pm Pearl Snap	7:30pm Cadillac Groove	12:00pm Ross Failla
		2:30pm Pasta Eating Contest
		3:00pm Jersey Girls
		5:30pm Hoodwinked

For More information visit our website americanitalian.org or scan the QR code

American Italian Cultural Society
1918 Donnuar Dr.
Crest Hill, IL 60403



2026 Festa Italiana

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

We are proud and excited to announce that we are holding our annual **Festa Italiana** event!

This year marks **twenty-six years** of celebrating the Italian culture and supporting our community!

WHEN: Friday, August 7, Saturday, August 8, Sunday, August 9, 2026

WHERE: American Italian Cultural Society, Crest Hill, IL

The "Festa Italiana" would not exist without the generosity of individuals and businesses such as yours. Your support helps us:

- Defray Event Costs
- Bring in Top-Quality Entertainment
- Create a Memorable Experience for Our Community

Be a Key Sponsor
OF THE AREA'S LARGEST ITALIAN FESTIVAL!

Please complete the form and return it with your donation no later than July 31, 2026. Know that your support of the American Italian Cultural Society "Festa Italiana" is greatly appreciated by our Festa committee and the thousands of patrons who will join us for the three-day event!

SCAN TO SPONSOR

www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-festa-italiana-sponsorship-levels

HONORING TED MICCI!



Happy 105th Birthday



Attilio (Ted) Micci was born on June 25, 1921 in Chicago Heights, Illinois. His parents, Massimo and Frances (Rotaloni) Micci emigrated from Marche, Italy and settled in the Hungry Hill Italian neighborhood of the city. It typical Italian fashion, his maternal grandparents lived across the street and numerous aunts and uncles lived down the street. He grew up surrounded by family and large Sunday dinners.

After graduating high school he worked as an apprentice electrician until joining the Army Air Force in October 1942. Ted completed basic training and airplane mechanic school in Texas. He worked as an airplane mechanic until he volunteered to become a radio operator. He received his training in Wisconsin and began flying with B-17 (Flying Fortress) bomber groups.



Ted was stationed at the Chelveston air base in England with the Eight Air Force. They flew in formation over Norway, Belgium, Holland and Germany, targeting strategic areas such as oil refineries, ball bearing factories, airplane manufacturing plants and mineral mines. The crew and Ted had several close calls with their plane the Thundermug. Planes were lost on every mission. The Thundermug was riddled with holes, but it was always able to stay in the air and did not lose any men. "We lucked out," Ted says. Ted manned a gun and assisted the crew. He completed his last mission on December 22, 1944 over Berlin. He flew 25 missions and that was the max at the time. He returned to the States in April, became a radio instructor at Lowry Field in Denver and married Esther Buccarelli in December 1944 while on leave. Ted was discharged in October 1945 with the rank of Tech Sergeant. Ted and Esther had four children, eight grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Esther passed away in 2013. She and Ted were married for 68 years.



Ted is a decorated veteran. Among his decorations are a Distinguished Flying Cross and an Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters. He is featured in the American Air Museum in Britain and is a member of the Joliet Stone City Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2199. He flew with Honor Flight Chicago in 2011, has been honored by the American Legion Band as well as being featured in many newspaper articles over the years. On May 20, 2026, he was interviewed by Jim Selzer of the Palm Springs Air Museum in association with the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. His full story and interview will be placed in the National Registry. You can view Ted's recent interview by searching "Ted Micci" on YouTube. AICS will be showing the interview on our club big screen and celebrating Ted's birthday on Monday evening, June 15th. Please stop by to wish him a Happy Birthday and thank him for his service.

ITALY'S CARABINIERI - Over 200 years old



Italy's Carabinieri is just over 200 years old - it's older than the country itself. But why does Italy have two police forces and what is so special about this one?

You may be puzzled by the fact that Italy has two police forces, although Italians don't seem to find it strange at all.

If you ask "why two?" they'll tell you, the Polizia are the regular state police while the Carabinieri are a part of the Armed Forces along with the Army, Navy and Air Force.

The real reason is a quirk of history. The Carabinieri are actually older than Italy itself. Their force was founded by Victor Emanuel I, Duke of Savoy and King of Sardinia almost half a century before modern Italy came into existence.

Their name comes from the carabina, the rifle they traditionally carried.

When Italy was unified, the Royal Corps of Carabinieri remained a nationwide military presence performing law enforcement duties so, in many ways, functioning as a duplicate police force.

You're just as likely to hear an Italian threaten to call the Carabinieri as the Polizia. For one you dial 112, for the other 113 - but most Italians don't know which is which, even though it says 112 on the side of the Carabinieri's cars.

And just like the police, they're loved and loathed: hailed for acts of courage, condemned for excessive violence.

A carabinieri station can be found in the smallest of mountain and rural communities. There are 4,605 of them throughout Italy and their role is to be there for the locals. When there's an earthquake, a flood or any kind of disaster, they are the ones who provide immediate support to the local citizens.

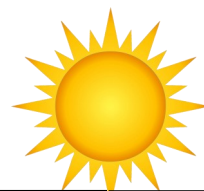
Since the mid-19th century, the Carabinieri have operated at an international level. This by virtue of their military structure and their civil police functions, capable of immediate defensive responses in cases of emergency. The Carabinieri have been involved in numerous Italian and international peacekeeping operations, autonomously supporting the reconstruction of host nation law enforcement authorities, and participating to dedicated training programs.



The Italian Carabinieri uniforms and cars are widely considered some of the coolest in the world! They wear uniforms designed by Valentino and drive Maserati's and Alfa Romeo's. Blending iconic Italian fashion with a strong, traditional military presence, they perfectly capture the sleek *bella figura* style while protecting the Italian people.



Sunshine Report



Jeanne Juricic - 5th
Bernard Lawrence - 8th
Theresa Talarico - 9th
Alexander Bonds - 10th
Willian Conte - 10th
Anthony Pacchetti - 10th
Michael Giovannetti - 11th



Jerry Capista - 13th
John Talarico - 13th
Connie Kabellis - 16th
Darrell Marquardt - 16th
Lorraine Brandolino - 19th
Amy Pacchetti - 19th
Ted Micci - 25th



Donald Brongiel - 26th
RosaLee Francimore - 26th
Jeff German - 26th
Vince Gambino - 27th
LeAnn Maland - 28th

Welcome, New Members

Emily & Ken Crockett
Josie Murray



Best Wishes to Adam Doyle and Emma Witten as they celebrate their wedding day on June 15th!

GET WELL SOON

Ted Bellos
Joe & Mimi Governale
Joann Kohlhagen
Paula Skiotes
Dominic Talarico
Paula Taylor

WITH DEEPEST sympathy

Mila Sokolowski on the passing of her mother Judith Matan. May she rest in peace.

If you are having, or know someone who is having a milestone birthday or anniversary, or know of an illness, condolence or a special congratulations for our members or if you want to be excluded from the Sunshine Report please contact
Anna Binkley (815) 342-6524 / Email: anna9108@att.net or
Robin Margliano (815) 531-9116 / Email: rmargliano@aol.com



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June



Word Search

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BUTTERFLY
FATHER'S DAY
FIREFLY
FLIP-FLOPS
GERANIUM
HAT
HONEYSUCKLE
ICE CREAM
IRIS
JUNE
LEMONADE
LIGHTNING
LILY
PEONY
PICNIC
ROSE
SANDCASTLE
SHORTS
SOLSTICE
SUMMER

P	S	T	L	R	S	A	N	D	C	A	S	T	L	E	B	K	L	T
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For more info please visit us on the web:
www.americanitalian.org
or



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Our spaghetti dinner is held the 2nd Thursday of the month from September until May every year. We are looking for more student volunteers to work in the dining room. If you can help or know any high school student who would like to work a few hours, please contact: **Robin Margliano**

815-531-9116

Did you know you can access member information from our AICS website? You can see pics from the club, download a new membership application and see copies of our newsletters. There's a member portal where you can sign up with your email.

Member access code is AICS2024
Please contact:

officemanager@americanitalian.org
for more information.

Scan to visit our website

