

Member News & Web Links

LICS Bollettino Periodico

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L'Osservatore Lancastriano

Member News

David and Betty Ferruzza's granddaughter, Lucy Ann Ferruzza, graduated from Susquehanna University this year, with a major in Music Education. Lucy will start her Masters program at West Chester University when the Fall semester begins.



John

In late May, John and Dee Viscardi's son, John, was critically ill with the Covid-19 virus. He was struggling for his life, when Matt Wooley stepped in to literally save his life. Matt had attended Manheim Township High School with Dee's children and is a family friend. After recovering from the Covid-19 virus, Matt learned of a procedure that might help other sufferers. He came back to Lancaster from Philadelphia to donate his plasma for both John and another, also fighting for their life, at LGH. The treatment worked and John is alive today thanks to prayers, the dedicated health care providers at LGH, and, especially, Matt Wooley. He truly is a hero.

Matt has donated his plasma three times since this first time and his generosity continues to help Covid-19 patients to recovery. (Submitted by Mary Cae Williams.)



John's friend, Matt Wooley

LNP Op-Ed, July 22, 2020

JAMES J. LOMBARDO, SPECIAL TO LNP

The Columbus bust in Lancaster city recognizes the legacy of the cultural, social, educational and physical contributions to this wonderful community of ours made by Italian immigrants.

The recent publicity surrounding the call for removal of the Christopher Columbus bust in Lancaster city prompts me to provide a local and historical background for having this bust created and installed here.

In the 1970s, an Italian immigrant, Antonio Palumbo, had an idea to leave a legacy of the contributions of Italian Americans to his adopted city of Lancaster. Palumbo was a naturalized citizen who served honorably in the U.S. Army during wartime. In peacetime, he was very active in helping serve his Italian American community — especially by creating a "Citizenship School" with the Donegal chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Italian American Citizens Club of Lancaster. This school held classes at Thaddeus Stevens Elementary School on West Chestnut Street and operated for several years. It helped between 50 and 70 immigrants each year become U.S. citizens and learn English.

Requests were made to the city for support to erect a statue of Columbus— not to honor Columbus himself, but to represent a legacy of all the Italian immigrant contributions to their adopted community. These included the laborers who toiled on the railroads, helped build the Griest building, laid the tracks for the trolleys, and helped build community through their tailor shops, barber shops, shoe repair shops, cafes and restaurants. Later, they became lawyers, doctors and religious leaders, fighting discrimination and bias all the way — while never giving up and remaining loyal to their community and country.

So in 1988 — in deference to Palumbo's persistent laboring for recognition of the Italian American contributions— then-Mayor Art Morris proposed an advisory committee to study the proposal for Lancaster to recognize the Italian American contributions through a statue of Columbus that would coincide with the 500th anniversary of Columbus' famous voyage.

The committee met and decided on several ways to handle this request:

1. The idea of a statue to coincide with the 500th anniversary was viable.
2. If it was authorized, no public funds would be used.
3. A bust rather than a full-sized statue would be appropriate.
4. A local company would have to be commissioned to design and build the bust. ART Research and Technology of Lancaster (an internationally acclaimed company) was selected to mold and produce the bust. (Continued on next page.)

The most significant decision, which is little known, is that the bust was made in the image and likeness of Palumbo, in recognition of his dedication and loyalty to the city, community and country. It also recognizes the legacy of the cultural, social, educational and physical contributions to this wonderful community of ours made by Italian immigrants.

Perhaps an explanation of this context on the pedestal would be in order, rather than its removal. The statue placed in Lenox Lane did help spur some additional improvements in a previously unused part of the city. The intent was to inspire an “art alley” and have other artists add local pieces — certainly not to remove and destroy this one.

This is indeed an opportunity to further our local history, understand the reasoning behind this bust and — with educated input — we could honor others by enhancing Lenox Lane with other sculptures of local history represented in one form or another.

One final note: This column is not a defense of Columbus or his recorded bad actions, nor is it intended to be confrontational in any way. It is merely a factual description of the intent this sculpture represents in Lancaster history. As an Italian American growing up in Lancaster’s 7th Ward, I experienced bigotry and prejudice directed against my neighbors and, in some cases, at me. And I would not want any of that associated with this op-ed. Thank you for understanding. (By LICS member James J. Lombardo.)

August Recipe



Zucchini Pasta Sauce (Creamy Tomato Style with Hidden Zucchini!)

A super delicious and creamy zucchini and tomato sauce for pasta. Kids won't even know they're eating zucchini!

Ingredients

- 3 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 or 2 cloves of garlic, smashed
- 1 medium sized zucchini (mine weighed 12 oz), sliced
- 1 14 oz can tomatoes (I used Mutti, crushed)
- 1 tsp salt (more or less, to taste)
- freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup (2 oz) fresh whipping cream
- 1 lb pasta to serve, I used mezzi rigatoni

Instructions

Cook the Pasta

1. Begin by bringing a large pot of salted water to the boil, and cook the pasta according to the directions on the package. As soon as you put the water on to boil, begin making the sauce.

Make the Zucchini Sauce

1. In a large sauté pan, add the olive oil and garlic and cook the garlic for a minute or so, then add the sliced zucchini. Cook until the zucchini are beginning to brown, then immediately add the tomato sauce.
2. Keep the heat rather high so that the sauce simmers nicely. Add salt and pepper.
3. Add some pasta water as needed, as you don't want the sauce to dry up too much.
4. After 10 minutes or so, the sauce should be ready. Put it in a blender and process until smooth, then pour back into the same pan over very low heat.
5. Add the cream and stir until completely blended. Taste for seasoning, and add some more pasta water if the sauce is too thick.

Combine the Zucchini Sauce and Pasta and Serve!

When the pasta is al dente, add directly to the sauce in the pan and mix well. Turn off the heat and serve hot!



Recipe by Christina. “A Scottish Italian cook living in Los Angeles, Christina is usually cooking, baking or (cr)eating something scrumptious. When she isn't in the kitchen, she loves to travel, near and far, as long as good food is involved. Christina is on a mission to save authentic Italian dishes from extinction, and is constantly promoting Scottish (and British) food as some of the best cuisine the world has to offer—one steak pie and sticky toffee pudding at a time.”

Newsletter Committee: Marian Caroselli, John Day, Rudy DeLaurentis (Editor), Mary Cae Williams.

If members have news to report, family stories, or suggestions for articles, please email them to

licsnewsletter@gmail.com. Thanks for reading!



During the pandemic, the Barnes Museum in Philly has been offering daily short talks by curators called, "Barnes Takeout". While Italian artists are not a prominent part of the Barnes collection here are a few: Giorgio de Chirico, Paolo Veronese, Amedeo Modigliani and Titian. Submitted by Marian Caroselli.

Barnes Takeout: Art Talk on Giorgio de Chirico's Mysterious Swan

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USYvWQ-lzr4&list=PLqj_NobvmUQ1bcAZrF5AnZLEp_pAyTxDB&index=19&t=0s

← Click on each image to watch the talk.



Barnes Takeout: Art Talk on The Rose Tower by Giorgio de Chirico

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiIXNokaM2U&list=PLqj_NobvmUQ1bcAZrF5AnZLEp_pAyTxDB&index=29&t=0s



Barnes Takeout: Art Talk on Paolo Veronese's Baptism of Christ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcBA5WsNTc0&list=PLqj_NobvmUQ1bcAZrF5AnZLEp_pAyTxDB&index=24&t=0s



Barnes Takeout: Art Talk on Amedeo Modigliani's Redheaded Girl in Evening Dress

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=au5oFT_zkYU



Barnes Takeout: Art Talk on Amedeo Modigliani's Portrait of Beatrice Hastings

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbkAPNzMJh0>



Barnes Takeout: Art Talk on Titian's Sleeping Shepherd

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2UldVpAQmQ>