



The Roar of the Lion

June 2026

A Word from the President

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,



June is here and summer is on its way. A very important Italian holiday takes place on the 2nd of June. Festa della Repubblica is a national holiday that celebrates the day in 1946 when the Italian people voted to establish a republic and abolish the monarchy. It's a day of celebration, parades and patriotism, much like Independence Day in the US. **Buona Festa della Repubblica!**

Please join us at our June General Assembly meeting on June 11th at 7:00pm. We'll be watching the final 30 minutes of *My Italian Secret*.

After the meeting we'll be making laurels for our scholarship awardees for our scholarship night in July.



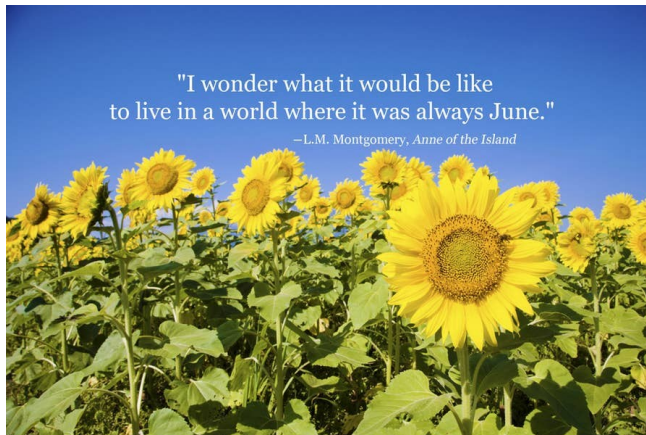
We'll also have the usual refreshments, so come join us to make laurels and/or socialize with your fellow members.

We're still looking for ideas for the first Thursdays of the month. Since the council meeting has been moved to 6:00 before the General Assembly meeting, that leaves the first Thursdays open to social get-togethers and events. If you have any suggestions or ideas, feel free to contact us.

Tanti auguri per l'estate!

Jeremy DiFilippo

Spring being a tough act to follow,
God created June.



Happy Father's Day



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EDITOR

Annette DeCarolis

2026 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Calendar

June 11 th	6:00 Council Meeting 7:00 General Assembly Meeting
July 9 th	6:00 Council Meeting 7:00 Scholarship Awards Night
August 13 th	6:00 Council Meeting 7:00 General Assembly Meeting
September 10 th	6:00 Council Meeting 7:00 General Assembly Meeting
October 8 th	6:00 Council Meeting 7:00 General Assembly Meeting
November 12 th	6:00 Council Meeting 7:00 General Assembly Meeting
December 10 th	6:00 Council Meeting 7:00 Meeting/Holiday Gathering

2026 Lodge Events

July 9th	Scholarship Awards Night Eyer Building
August 9th	Summer Picnic Quinzi Lodge, Eyer Park
September	Annual Pie Sale
October	Italian-American Heritage Dinner
November	Turkey Raffle
December 10th	Holiday Gathering Eyer Building

Italian Summer Language and Culture Camp



Camp is held at the Casa Italiana from 9:30am - 3:30pm, Monday through Friday.

- Week 1 (ages 5-7): July 6-10, 2026
- Week 2 (ages 8-10): July 13-17, 2026

Cost is \$250 for Casa members, \$300 for non members.

This week-long camp provides interactive activities to learn about the cultural heritage of Italy and study the Italian language. When they aren't practicing their language skills, children partake in Italian activities, such as Italian cooking, games, history, traditions, and cultural demonstrations, videos and more. Please email casa@naz.edu for more information.

Registration ends June 30 or when the camp is full.



**Attend meetings and events
And be a more active and informed member
of the lodge.**

Meeting ID: 886 8759 8885 and passcode is 5fejz6

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88687598885?pwd=k0Okv9fYp3llkNiaefMdbj80frcNF6.1>



6/16 Nellie DiCesare
 6/22 Carol DiNicola
 6/25 Ed Groszewski
 6/27 Louis DeCarolis
 6/30 Dominick Calisto



Sandy Meleca
 Rosita Caridi-Miller
 Nellie DiCesare
 Dawn DiGennaro's wife, Nancy
 Vince Giannantonio and Family
 Patty and Gordie Rask
 Ron Santoli

Our sympathy and condolences to all who have suffered recently with illness or loss of a loved one.

Note from Our Corresponding Secretary, Pat Bartholomew

If you have any news you'd like to share with the lodge—weddings, graduations, birthdays, illnesses/hospitalizations, passings-on, etc.— please contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.



Pat Bartholomew

Cell: 585-503-3297

Email: pattyj7586@aol.com



In the United States this year, **Father's Day is celebrated on June 21st.** It is a time to thank fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, guardians, and other male role models for their love, guidance, and support. Whether it's a quiet meal or a big celebration, **this day is all about showing appreciation for the important role fathers play in our lives.**

The idea of celebrating Father's Day started in the early 1900s. The first Father's Day celebration was held on June 19, 1910 in Spokane, Washington. By the 1930s, advertisers and retailers began promoting Father's Day as a commercial holiday, but it never get as much marketing push as Mother's Day. It wasn't until 1972 that it became an official national observance.

“A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society.” - Billy Graham

Legacy Is Built Daily: Fatherhood is not a single great moment; it is a long, sustained investment. Scripture calls fathers to lead, teach, provide, discipline patiently, model a life of faith that points their children toward God, and leave a generational impact of a faithful father. Think marathon, not sprint.

Did You Know? National surveys reveal that the #1 gift most dads want on Father's Day is simply a phone call from their children. While Mother's Day takes the crown for total call volume, Father's Day is historically known as the busiest day of the year for **collect** calls.

A meaningful Father's Day does not require months of planning. It only requires a little intentionality and a clear picture of the man you are celebrating.

Presence Beats Presents:

What dads remember is not what they received but who showed up.

Congratulations!

July 9th Scholarship Awards Night

Please help us celebrate our 2026 Scholarship Winners

\$2000 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Scholarship - Jacob DiNicola Fairport High School →
Ohio State University

\$1500 Vincent Lombardi Lodge Scholarship - Brendan Belpanno Hilton High School
→ Florida Institute of Technology



\$2000 Past Honorees Scholarship - Annabella Muratore
Aquinas Institute → Clemson University

\$1500 Past Honorees Scholarship - Isabella Hendler
Honeoye Falls High School → Pace University

\$1500 Rubé Family Scholarship in Honor of Jennifer Rubé – Gabriella Maccarone
Hilton High School → University at Buffalo

The Laurel Wreath

The laurel wreath is a classical symbol of victory, triumph, and honor. Rooted in Greek mythology and favored by Roman emperors, this evergreen crown recognized extraordinary achievements and enduring glory, a legacy that survives in our modern use of the word "laureate."



Academia: The term *laureate* (literally "crowned with laurel") denotes excellence, as seen in the prestigious **Nobel Laureate** designation. Additionally, graduating university students in Italy are traditionally crowned with a laurel wreath (*laurea*) to celebrate their academic triumph.

Arts: The title of **Poet Laureate** is used in many countries (such as the UK and the US) to recognize a nation's most distinguished poets.

Sports: Leaves and designs featuring the laurel are heavily integrated into the emblems and victory ceremonies of the modern Olympic Games.



CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

Rochester Hope was born in October 2022 to *bring caring hands to the heart of our city*. No human being should lack what they need to lead a dignified life and grow into their full potential and all human beings should be offered opportunities to serve others and in this way discover their true self and true joy. We all grow and are affirmed in our worth and dignity when we allow ourselves to encounter one another and serve one another.

Anyone in need is welcome to visit our services any Saturday 9:30 am— 3:30 pm.
All are welcome, all are served, no appointments required.

As part of our services we provide:

- ◆ **Community Breakfast** served 9:30 am—10:30 am
- ◆ **Community Lunch** served 11 am—1 pm.
- ◆ **Service Festival** 10 am—1 pm in which we have over 50 agencies that come in a rotation of about 12 each Saturday to provide free services in healthcare, education, housing, employment, youth services, addiction recovery, legal aid, etc.
- ◆ **Food Pantry** open to all zip codes in which people go through a small grocery store and take what they need assisted by a volunteer with no limits placed upon them.
- ◆ **Clothing Service** with clothing distribution every first Saturday of the month
- ◆ **Furniture Service** fulfilling requests for gently used furniture every week.

We are currently serving an average of 650 adults, 400 children and 50 seniors each week with 20,000 pounds of food distributed every week along with 1200 warm meals.



Volunteers of all ages are needed. Minors should come with their parents or guardians. We have all kinds of jobs for all kinds of personalities and skills from serving food to assisting people in getting clothing and food, to restocking groceries and sorting clothing.

We accept **donations** of food, personal care items, cleaning supplies, diapers, baby food, adult diapers, and gently used and clean clothing and shoes on **Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 9 am - 1 pm** at 869 N Clinton Avenue. Just come to the door off the parking lot with the green awning and ring the door bell.

You can make a financial donation online or send a check payable to:
Rochester Hope Inc, 80 Prince St., Rochester NY 14605.

Let's Get Together

Italian-American clubs host a variety of recurring and special events, including weekly luncheons, sports viewings, and community galas.

Key venues like the Italian American Sport Club and the Italian American Community Center anchor these cultural gatherings.



Other Upcoming Events



Thursday Luncheons at the Sport Club bi-weekly at noon.

Wednesday Luncheons at the IACC bi-weekly at noon.

Sicilian Sport Club June 11
(Rubino's Plaza) June 30

Bourbon and Beef Night
Monthly Dinner

Gaeta Society June 27

Tiella Party
(Contact Louis DeCarolis for info)



St Nicholas Society June 26

Monthly Happy Hour 5-9 PM
Dish-to-pass gatherings open to anyone looking to socialize and connect.



News from the Geneva Lodge

BINGO Every Sunday!!
Starts at 6:30 pm
Doors open at 4:30pm.

B	I	N	G	O
6	20	43	48	68
10	22	35	50	63
4	29	FREE 800 SPACE	49	75
11	16	38	57	62
2	25	32	54	73

Wing -n- Pizza Night
Every Monday in our Lounge 5pm-7pm

Dine in or Take out available
Wings @ \$15/doz. Pizzas start at \$8.00
Call 315-781-2242 for more information

Cornhole League

Join us for a non-competitive
cornhole league every Monday night

The fun kicks off at 6:30 PM
\$10 per person to participate.

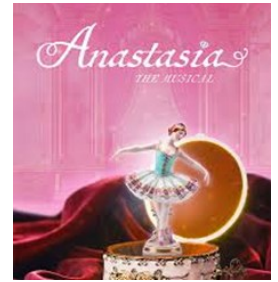


The inaugural **Ciao Ragazzi! Festa D'Italia** takes place on July 18–19, 2026, at the Spencerport Fireman's Field (75 South Union Street). The event features authentic Italian cuisine, premium beer and wine bars, live entertainment, and a special 2026 FIFA World Cup Final Celebration viewing party.

Local Theater and Music

Anastasia—May 27 - JUN 28 at GEVA

This Tony Award-nominated musical inspired by the beloved films takes us on a journey to the past. Iconic songs like “*Once Upon a December*”, “*Learn to Do It*”, and “*Journey to the Past*” transport us from the darkness of Soviet Russia to the opulence of Paris in the ‘20s, as Anya and new friends Dmitry, a handsome conman, and Vlad, a bumbling ex-aristocrat, hatch a plan to pass her off as Grand Duchess Anastasia to her grandmother, the Dowager Empress. But could it be that Anya really is the long-lost Romanov?



Concerts by the Shore at Ontario Beach Park — Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
June 3-Aug 19th

Movies with a Downtown View at Parcel 5 — June 12th 7-10 pm

All screenings are **FREE** and family-friendly. Attendees can grab a bite to eat from local food trucks and enjoy movie concession items. All Movies will be screened outdoors on an 18-foot wide, 10-foot high LED video wall. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs. A limited supply of complimentary blankets will be available at the event.



Music at the Gazebo on the Canal in Spencerport—June 14th 6:30—8:30

All concerts are held on Sunday evenings June, July, and August. Admission is **FREE!** Bring a lawn chair and the whole family.



Food Truck Fridays in Washington Square—Fridays, 11:30 - 1:30

A lunchtime series in the heart of downtown! June 5th — August 28th
Enjoy a rotating selection of local food trucks, lawn games, and **live music curated by Local Sound Collaborative.**

ROCHESTER INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL 23RD EDITION JUNE 19-27, 2026



Over nine days, more than 1,750 artists perform in 300+ concerts across 19 venues – from iconic concert halls and intimate clubs to free outdoor stages. With legendary performers, rising stars, and global talent, the Rochester International Jazz Festival delivers an unmatched mix of jazz and creative music in a lively festival setting. Our unique European-style format allows audiences to experience 18 to 20 shows each night, creating one of the most immersive and musically diverse jazz festival experiences in North America.

Enjoy the Rochester Area in June



Fairport Canal Days – celebrating our 49th year as one of the most popular arts festivals in the Northeast alongside the scenic village on the historic Eric Canal. The fun starts on Friday night, June 5th, with a Chicken BBQ before the vendors open their doors.

CASA LARGA PATIO PARTIES

The 2026 summer lineup features live music, food trucks, and specialty nights:

- **June 4:** Amanda Ashley & The Alpha G's (*Healthcare Appreciation*)
- **June 11:** The Real News Band (*Educators Appreciation*)
- **June 18:** Uptown Groove
- **June 25:** B42K (*First Responder Appreciation*)



THE 40th ANNUAL HARBOR FEST—June 18-21, 2026

The 1893 tall ship *Lettie G.* will offer dockside tours and public sails while visiting the Port of Rochester (June 19-21)

The X-SQUAD WATER SKI SHOW TEAM
will also perform for the festival on Saturday, June 20!



Wickham Farms OPENING DAY - Friday, June 19th

1315 Sweets Corners Rd, Penfield, NY 14526

All BARNYARD ATTRACTIONS are included with summer admission, HAYRIDES to the flower fields are also included and run all day until 6:30pm.

Delicious food & drink, flowers, and much more are available for purchase throughout the farm.

MUSEUM MONDAYS FOR SENIORS: JUNE 23

The Strong National Museum of Play is a highly interactive, collections-based museum devoted to the history and exploration of play. Your Childhood is closer than you think.



HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY AMERICA

JUNE 27, TOWN OF GATES

A community celebration commemorating America 250.

The family-friendly event takes place at **Gates Chili High School** (2 Spartan Way) and features a parade, festival, and community activities.

A Special Italian Pairing in Modena



Modena, Italy, is a vibrant city in the Emilia-Romagna region renowned worldwide for its prized traditional balsamic vinegar and stunning UNESCO-listed medieval architecture. The Piazza Grande, the 12th-century Romanesque Cathedral of Modena (*Duomo*), and the towering Ghirlandina bell tower together form a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Modena is not only a paradise for food enthusiasts, but it boasts a vibrant cultural scene with museums, galleries, and annual festivals celebrating music and local traditions.

The city's ties to opera and the automotive industry add to its allure and bring to mind two of its most legendary personalities: **Luciano Pavarotti** and **Enzo Ferrari**, iconic figures both born in Modena. Bound by a deep friendship, they shared a passion for speed and performance. The celebrated tenor famously owned a Ferrari F40, while the legendary automaker once aspired to be an opera singer.



Today you can visit the house where Pavarotti was born and raised and, right next door, the museum which showcases a Ferrari car collection. His restored home is now the **Casa Museo Luciano Pavarotti** and offers visitors a rare glimpse into the life of one of the most celebrated musicians of the 20th century, housing a display of costumes, several awards and accolades and a wealth of other personal belongings including his much-loved piano, letters and other memorabilia. Since its opening, the House Museum has welcomed 300,000 visitors from more than 100 countries around the world. The visit to this house will enable visitors to experience Pavarotti in the light of its most intimate and warm rooms, to approach gently to his memory knowing his daily habits, finding the man he was once behind the scenes.

Painting was one of Pavarotti's favorite hobbies. In 1986 he exhibited a collection of his own works in New York alongside many other artists from his native Modena. This one is entitled *Portifino*. His works, signed LUPA, which are on display on the ground floor of the house, reflect his love of bright colors and a spontaneous, naive style.



Museo Casa Enzo Ferrari is a museum focused on the life and work of Enzo Ferrari, the founder of the Ferrari sports car marque. On another note, Ferrari and music share a common creative framework, based on a balance between technical discipline and expressive freedom. In both fields, performance represents a central moment, whether on stage or behind the wheel.

Pavarotti and Ferrari shared a special bond and met frequently.

Despite very different career paths, they shared immense charisma and ambition, ultimately putting the Emilia-Romagna region on the map.

The Bookshelf

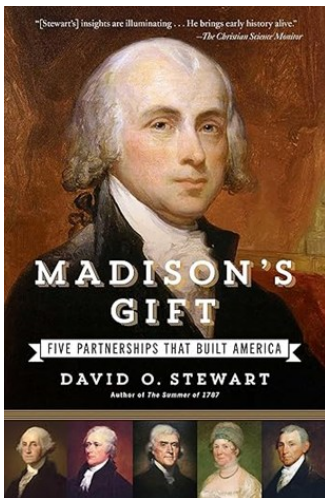
Since we're celebrating the 250th Anniversary of America in 2026, it seems fitting that we read books about our Founding Fathers.



This Month's Selections is Madison's Gift

James Madison lived in a network of intimate connections, from his large family to the most fertile political partnerships in our history, to a loving marriage that spanned four decades.

For Madison, often depicted in history as a dry creature of intellect, the core of his life was a genuine heart.



Forming key partnerships with Washington, Jefferson, Monroe, and his wife Dolley, Madison achieved his lifelong goal of a self-governing constitutional republic. Short, plain, balding, neither soldier nor orator, low on charisma and high on intelligence, James Madison cared more about achieving results than taking the credit. It was Madison who led the drive for the Constitutional Convention and pressed for an effective new government as his patron George Washington lent the effort legitimacy; Madison who wrote the Federalist Papers with Alexander Hamilton to secure the Constitution's ratification; Madison who joined Thomas Jefferson to found the nation's first political party and move the nation toward broad democratic principles; Madison, with James Monroe, who guided the new nation through its first war in 1812, and who handed the reins of government to the last of the Founders.

But it was his final partnership that allowed Madison to reach the greatest heights. Dolley was the woman he married in middle age and who presided over both him and an enlivened White House. This partnership was a love story, a unique one that sustained Madison through his political rise, his presidency, and a fruitful retirement.

Though many elements of Madison's world are unfamiliar, the human beings in it are not. We recognize immediately their feelings and thoughts, their conflicts and affections. Through his correspondence, essays, and speeches, Madison primarily addressed the public issues of his time, often similar to those of our time. In letters with Dolley and close friends, the private Madison spoke directly, with genuine feeling. His sentences could be wooden, but his sentiments and ideas are as winning today as they were to his friends.

Historian David O. Stewart restores James Madison to his proper place as the most significant Founding Father and framer of the new nation. He focuses on Madison's political and personal relationships, portraying how these alliances helped shape the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the first political party, and the nation's early governance.



The Grand Lodge of New York

Convention News



June 25-28, 2026 at the Crown Plaza Albany-Desmond Hotel

To celebrate our Italian-American Heritage and Culture, delegates and guests are asked to wear the colors of our favorite nations - Italy and America - green, white, and red or red, white, and blue. Agenda items this year include contents for the best homemade sopressata and wine.

The **representatives of the Vincent Lombardi Lodge** are the President - Jeremy DiFilippo, Immediate Past President—Marjorie Focarazzo, and two delegates: Catherine "Kitty" DiNicola and Charlene Dodgson. Also attending from our lodge is Vince Giannantonio as State Trustee for District VIII. Note: Vince's term as State Trustee for District VIII is up and Marjorie will be appointed in his place.

GRAND LODGE RAFFLE TICKETS

To support our 2026 Charitable and State Programs.

Each ticket cost \$100. Drawing at the Convention in June. Contact President Jeremy DiFilippo to purchase.

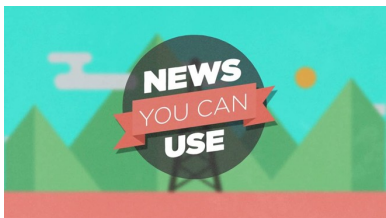
1st Prize: \$20,000

2nd Prize: \$5,000 3rd Prize: 2 @ \$2000 each

4th Prize: 3 @ \$1000 each 5th Prize: 5 @ \$500 each



Be Watchful and Aware!



Heart attacks don't always look like what you'd expect. While you might imagine a person collapsing with intense chest pain, that may not at all resemble what happens. It is true that the most common heart attack symptom for a man or woman is chest pain or discomfort that lasts more than a few minutes. But other symptoms can be subtle and—especially in women—may even be mistaken for the flu!

Pay attention and act quickly if something seems off about your loved one.

Typical warning signs

- Chest pain and/or burning sensation
- Pain or discomfort in one or both arms
- Heart palpitations
- Shortness of breath
- Feeling weak or faint

Some less-typical signs

- Pressure or tightness in the chest (different from pain)
- Pain in jaw, neck, or back
- Dizziness
- Cold sweat
- Indigestion, nausea, or vomiting
- Unusual fatigue or insomnia



OSDIA Vincent Lombardi Lodge
37 Farnsworth Road N
Rochester NY 14623

President

Jeremy DiFilippo

Vice-President

Catherine (Kitty) DiNicola

Recording Secretary

Patricia Bartholomew

Corresponding Secretary

Patricia Bartholomew

Financial Secretary

Marisa Przepiora

Treasurer

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Shirley Sculli

Phillip Dattilo*

Joseph Berta*

Joseph Rubé

Jennifer Rubé*

Vincent Giannantonio

Sandra Meleca

Marjorie Focarazzo

**Vincent Lombardi Lodge communications should be sent to:
President Jeremy DiFilippo, 37 Farnsworth Road N, Rochester NY 14623
jjd1976.osdia@gmail.com**