

Volume 1, 2015


# IL GIORNALE

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION



# COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT



Recognizing the incredible impact that our Italian heritage has had on our lives and its contribution to our individual successes, we the members of the Columbus Citizens Foundation dedicate ourselves to preserving and enhancing the culture, traditions and values we were so blessed to receive. Furthermore, we will commit to honor those that came before us by ensuring that their love of country, family and tireless work ethic are passed to our children and all future generations. We firmly commit to raise and distribute financial aid to educate children in need and pledge to extend ourselves in perpetuating the philanthropic work that has been synonymous with our Foundation. 



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's been my honor and privilege to serve as President during one of the most exciting and eventful years in the history of the Columbus Citizens Foundation (CCF).

As I look back and reflect on 2014, I am pleased to report our collaborative efforts have truly paid off for an exceptional year. My goal as President is to build upon the great work of my predecessors and bring continued changes to create a stronger organization.

My philosophy as President from day one was to be completely transparent in all my actions and have only one agenda and that is making recommendations and decisions in the best interest of the CCF and the membership. Included in my goal was to expand the outreach of the CCF to do some little things that could make a big difference in the lives of people in need.

As a result, you'll see the year was marked with many impactful events;

the Coat Drive to help those in need, the first philanthropic Family Barbecue and our largest event of the year, the 2014 Columbus Celebration, were just a few of our overwhelming successes. Through the hard work and cooperation of so many, we raised a legendary amount of money. Also, our Columbus Day Parade broadcast on WABC was one of the most watched Columbus Day Parades ever and was first in ratings for the entire three-hour program.

Our Foundation is only as good as our thriving membership and your participation. I am thrilled to report that our membership has grown to over 560 members. To continue this growth, members can now go online to our website and fill out a sponsorship questionnaire to encourage friends and colleagues to join.

At the heart of the Foundation's mission is education and scholarships. This year, the scholarship program welcomes a new face, Christine Deska as our Director of Scholarships/

Top left – 2014 High School Scholarship Recipients.



Top right – Members enjoy al fresco dining in the Townhouse backyard during the annual Family Barbecue.



Bottom - Columbus Citizens Foundation members and families show off their Italian flags and pride as they ride up 5th Avenue.



Opportunities. I hope you'll read about all of Christine's exciting plans later in this Giornale.

The Columbus Citizens Foundation has always viewed itself as a community and family. With that in mind, we initiated the opportunity for all spouses of members to participate on any of our ongoing CCF committees, which are the lifeline of our Foundation.

Building partnerships with like-minded Italian-American organizations is a key element to our success. Therefore, we have joined forces with the Organization of the Sons of Italy (OSIA)

to offer a national joint scholarship to a graduate student. We expect this to be one of many alliances moving forward.

I am very excited about the coming year. With our new expanded social media platforms, our bi-monthly newsletters and participation of all members, we will work together to build upon the great achievements of the past year.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of our members who give so tirelessly of their time to help make the Columbus Citizens Foundation a strong organization that continues to grow. I hope you find this Giornale an

“ INCLUDED IN MY GOAL FOR 2014, WAS TO EXPAND THE OUTREACH OF THE CCF TO DO SOME LITTLE THINGS THAT COULD MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN NEED. ”

inspiration to be a part of this year's successful journey. ■■

Angelo V. Vivolo  
President



THE COLUMBUS  
CITIZENS FOUNDATION  
2014 HIGHLIGHTS



*Women gather at the Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Luncheon.*

**W**inter Coat Drive: Despite a blizzard, the Foundation collected 80 coats in 2014 to help keep those warm that needed it. In 2015, among cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, members donated over 110 coats to give a helping or rather warm hand during the holidays.

**V**alentine's Day at the Townhouse: On February 14<sup>th</sup>, Cupid came to visit the Townhouse as members enjoyed a delicious dinner, live music and red roses of course, for all the ladies.

**T**he Feast of San Giuseppe Celebration: A celebratory feast and live music brought members together for the annual celebration of St. Joseph on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**C**igar Night: April 19<sup>th</sup>, Carlito Fuente headlined a culinary evening of foods & wines perfectly matched with his fine cigars. The members also celebrated his birthday with an amazing Opus X cake in his honor. Mr. Fuente is considered one of the finest cigar manufacturers in the world. Mr. Fuente and his family started the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation, which builds schools, playgrounds and hospitals to help the Dominican Republic's less fortunate. It

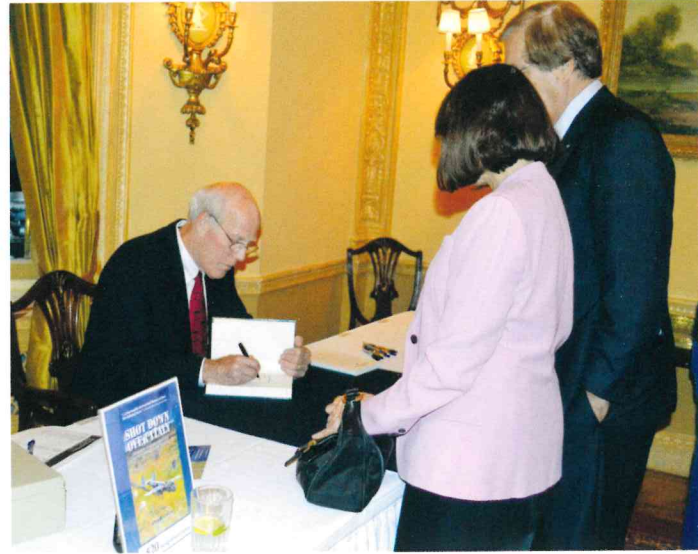
was an evening to be remembered and the 80 in attendance enjoyed meeting one of the most recognizable faces in the world of cigars.

**Y**oung Adults Auxiliary Food & Wine Pairing: The Young Adults Auxiliary brought together creativity and scholarships. On April 25<sup>th</sup>, many guests came to learn the tenets of pairing the right wine with the right food. All net proceeds were donated to the Scholarship Fund of the Columbus Citizens Foundation.

**A** Night of Sinatra and Steven Maglio: Steven Maglio, known for his regular sold-out headline big-band performances at the Carnegie Club, returned to the Columbus Citizens Foundation on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to bring his renditions of standards and Sinatra classics exclusively for members and their guests at the Townhouse. A lively, musical dinner was enjoyed by all.



*Men gather for Cigar Night with cigar legend, Carlito Fuente, Jr.*



**L**adies Auxiliary Spring Luncheon: On May 6<sup>th</sup>, a sold-out room of women dined, watched and shopped during a luncheon with a boutique and fashion show with Roam Fashions courtesy of Babe Rizzuto.

**M**other's Day Dinner: The Townhouse was home to mothers, grandmothers and children on Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, as they joined together to honor the special women in their lives. Guests feasted on a one-of-a-kind menu designed just for the day.

**J**ohn Lanza Book Signing: On May 27<sup>th</sup>, John Lanza, author of *Shot Down Over Italy*, offered members a look at his uncle's experiences of courage and survival in Nazi-occupied Italy during World War II. Among cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, guests learned about Lanza's amazing feats and harrowing experiences during the war.

**F**uturismo: The new Guggenheim Italian Futurism exhibit made its debut to members on a private guided tour on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Guests enjoyed the first comprehensive overview of Futurismo in the United States as the tour examined the Futurism movement from its inception by Italian poet Filippo Tommaso Marinetti's Futurist manifesto in 1909 through the end of World War II.

**T**ownhouse BBQ: A warm, June day in the Townhouse backyard served as the perfect backdrop for the annual family barbecue. Members kicked off the start of summer with delicious hamburgers and sausages prepared by the Foundation's own John Boden. Kids got into the act too with their very own cotton candy machine.

*left to right: CCF members sample different, exotic wines at the Food & Wine Pairing event.*

*John Lanza signs his books at the Townhouse Book Signing event.*

*Columbus Citizens Foundation's John Boden serves his signature food at the annual Townhouse Family Barbecue.*

*An ice sculpture debuts at the Italian Shore Dinner.*

*The littlest Columbus Citizens Foundation members spread holiday cheer at the Children's Holiday Christmas Party.*





**G**olf Outing: Members enjoyed a golf tournament, bocce ball, cigars, open bar and a cocktail reception at the annual Golf Outing on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Sands Point Golf Club in Sands Point, New York.

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**I**talian Shore Dinner: This 20 year old tradition started by Dr. Frank Celenza, helped celebrate summer with the Frutti di Mare, including stuffed lobster, stuffed clams and pasta with crab sauce. Members dined to the sounds of live jazz music.

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**E**llis Island Guided Tour: On September 20<sup>th</sup>, members went on a historic landmark tour of Ellis Island with renowned tour guide and author Tom Bernardin. The Tour started in Battery Park and offered an in-depth overview of the island.

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**S**pecial Opera Night in Memory of Mme. Licia Albanese: Friday November 21<sup>st</sup> was the night Opera was celebrated with an all-inclusive dinner hosted by Steven de Maio and dedicated in memory of Mme. Licia Albanese. Interviews and performances of Mme. Albanese were enjoyed by guests.

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**C**hildren's Christmas Party: From face painters to balloons, music and photos with Santa, kids were enraptured by Little People Entertainment, who brought holiday cheer to all for the 39<sup>th</sup> Children's Christmas Celebration on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

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**M**embers Italian Christmas Dinner: Holiday spirits and cheer were in the air during the annual Traditional Italian Christmas Dinner on December 13<sup>th</sup>, where guests celebrated with delicious Italian fare and cocktails.

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**N**ew Year's Eve Celebration: The Foundation rang in 2015 with a bang as revelers dined on appetizing food, drinks and dancing well past the start of the New Year.

*Guests ring in 2015 in style at the CCF Townhouse celebration.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM DIRECTOR



*Top - Angelo Vivolo, and  
2014 Young Adults Auxiliary  
Officers Leanne Spitalieri  
(Vice President), Colette  
Stango (President), and  
Anthony Massaro (Treasurer)  
Right - Scholarship Winner  
Daniel Iannello*



Thank you for your continued support of Columbus Citizens Foundation's (CCF) scholarship programs.

I am thrilled to have joined the CCF team this past November 2014. Prior to CCF, I spent almost nine years at AARP's New York State Office leading various programs, events and campaigns to help AARP achieve its critical social mission goals. I am grateful to be at CCF where I can connect with my roots and give back to my Italian-American community. My maternal grandparents, Louis and Lucia DeVito, immigrated to the United States in 1950 from Avellino, Italy.

As you know, CCF's scholarship programs are essential to the Foundation's mission. Thanks to our dedicated members and donors, we are able to support the education of Italian-American students who have the intelligence and drive to succeed in school and beyond, but lack the means to reach their full potential.

I am proud to report that in 2014, CCF committed

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Scholarship recipients flash their awards.



nearly \$2 million in multi-year scholarship grants to 180 students across our elementary, high school, college and Adopt-A-Scholar programs. This totals the students in our scholarship program to over 450 recipients. Thanks to your steadfast support, CCF scholarship recipients continue to make us proud, succeeding despite enormous challenges. This year we are pleased to have college scholarship recipients attending some of the finest institutions including Boston University, Catholic University and the University of Pennsylvania. Similarly, your support has allowed elementary and high school recipients to attend some of the best Catholic, private and preparatory schools so that students can grow from a solid

educational foundation. I hope you will take a moment to read about our featured 2014 recipients as their stories illustrate the true impact of our work.

Looking ahead to 2015, I am excited to work with you on not only growing the scholarship programs, but also putting the building blocks in place for new programs including internship and mentorship programs, a natural extension of CCF's current program offerings.



I am also eager to further build CCF's social media presence on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn through



consistent, relevant and engaging content. As a result of our efforts, our Facebook audience has already seen organic growth of over 60 percent in just six weeks' time.

In closing, I believe our programs are in a great place with ample opportunities to grow and expand in 2015. To find out more, please contact me at 212-249-9923 or [cdeska@columbuscitizens.org](mailto:cdeska@columbuscitizens.org).

Sincerely,

Christine Deska  
Director, Scholarships/Opportunities Office



*Mario Occhicone and Claudio Cotza Jr.*



*Father Jamie Gigantiello and Gabriella Tesi*



*Christopher Loiacono and Joseph Lepore*

FROM THE VOICES OF  
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

A large, semi-transparent group photograph of many people, including children and adults, is overlaid with a large, white, stylized graphic of the number '1'. The text 'FROM THE VOICES OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' is centered over the image in a red, serif font.

*Gail Guy, Alexandra Marrano and Maria Theresa Fauci*



*Father Jamie giving certificates to Gabriella, Jessica, and Gianna Trapani*



*Celeste Fisichella and Janice Galli*

### **Gabriella Tesi (Elementary)**

The scholarship money awarded to Gabriella Tesi is helping her attend Holy Family Roman Catholic School where she continues to do well and maintains an A and B+ average. Her mother said, "The scholarship money has helped me pay her tuition so I don't have to struggle. It was very important for Gabriella to attend Catholic School because it was a request of her father prior to him passing away. He always wanted her to go and receive an excellent education just the way he and his sisters did when they went and his father before him. My husband and I agree that the education Catholic schools provide is priceless. It gives children the education, discipline and guidance they need to succeed in life and be something important in society." Gabriella's favorite subject is music, because she enjoys singing and she's excited to finally become an alter server during Sunday Mass. She has wanted to volunteer since the fourth grade and is finally old enough. Gabriella's mother "Her father would be very proud of the young lady she is becoming and he will continue to watch over her and guide her in the right direction."



### **Jack Leone (Elementary)**

Jack Leone is five years old in kindergarten at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. He has overcome many hardships at his young age. Jack was born with a heart defect called an ASD, an atrial septal defect of the heart. He went through open heart surgery at 1 ½ and fortunately, his surgery was a success and his heart fully repaired. He is an exceptional child and an asset to his kindergarten class. He participates in all activities, is learning to read and is very good at math. He is loved by all his teachers and classmates. He loves his Italian heritage and loves listening to stories told by his grandparents and the history of Italy. His favorite dishes are spaghetti and meatballs and linguini with white clam sauce. He just loves when grandma makes sauce on Sunday. Jack's mother says, "Without the Columbus Citizens Foundation's scholarship, my son would not be able to attend Our Lady of Perpetual Help. After Jack had his heart surgery, my marriage failed and we were financially and

emotionally abandoned. I've been on public assistance for the past four years and without the help from your foundation, Catholic school would not be possible."

### **Joseph Lepore (High School)**

Joseph was very excited to start Monsignor Farrell High School this year. At the end of September he sustained a hockey injury while at a hockey showcase in Manchester, New Hampshire, which resulted in Joseph needing surgery on his right wrist/forearm. Joseph had to miss more than a week of school, but throughout all these setbacks, Joseph was able to maintain an excellent GPA. Additionally, Joseph plays hockey as a Defenseman for Monsignor Farrell Junior Varsity and also plays on a travel team for The Greater New York Stars where he plays in the Long Island Amateur Hockey League and also in the Eastern Junior Elite Prospects league. Joseph's parents are incredibly proud of him and say, "He is a remarkable, kind, and amazing young man and we are excited to see what his future will bring to him. The Columbus Citizens Foundation has made this all possible."

### **Celeste Fisichella (High School)**

Celeste had been an honor student at her Catholic elementary school; however her first month of high school was very discouraging. Despite long hours of studying, her grades weren't where she wanted them to be. Celeste's parents even had a discussion about whether to consider transferring her to another school. Celeste expressed that she did not want to leave Fontbonne and consulted with her teachers about how to improve. She worked hard to get her scholarship from the Columbus Citizens Foundation and wanted to live up to it. After much hard work and diligence, Celeste achieved First Honors and continues to excel in this current semester. Additionally, she qualified to be the only freshman on the Tennis team.

### **Gianluca Vasta (College)**



mother, Marina says, "...life came to a screeching halt - our lives were forever changed." Thereafter, he endured 14 different

medications/therapies/treatments for the next year and a half. Sadly, he was never able to achieve and maintain remission. After excessive pain and suffering, he was hospitalized five times from May 2011 to June 2012 and underwent four major, invasive, life-changing surgeries. Though the road to recovery has been long, extremely challenging, and difficult, he never gave up fighting for a better quality of life, academic excellence and stability/normalcy. Marina says, "We are deeply thankful and grateful for his determination, courage, strength and perseverance. We truly hope and pray for a better life and brighter future ahead."

Despite Gianluca's grave medical challenges, he graduated High School in 2014 with National Honor Society status, based on character, academic excellence, service and leadership and was accepted to Rutgers University. The Columbus Citizens Foundation scholarship will help make that dream come true. Additionally, Team Gianluca was formed, spreading awareness and raising almost \$31,000 towards a cure for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

### **Alexandra Marrano (College)**

"Nothing in life ever comes easy, this I know to be true. All of my life I have worked extremely hard in order to achieve all of my accomplishments. This includes being accepted into the Culinary Institute of America that I am forever grateful to the Columbus Citizens Foundation for their support. However, the accomplishment that I am most proud of is working at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, a five star diamond hotel in South Carolina over the summer, as a member of their pastry team. This meant that I had to pick up and move to South Carolina and work in the hotel's Jasmine Porch Restaurant. Before this, I had never set foot in a restaurant kitchen let alone worked in one. Along the way, I stumbled quite a few times, but I never gave up and was dedicated to working long hours every day. It was difficult not seeing my family for several months, but now I can proudly say that I was able to run the entire pastry department for Jasmine Porch Restaurant! I am truly blessed to have been given that opportunity and cannot wait to see what else awaits me in my career."





## FORDHAM PREPARATORY SCHOOL

441 East Fordham Road • Bronx, New York 10458-5175  
Tel. (718) 367-7500 • Fax (718) 367-7598 • www.fordhamprep.org

Dear Ms. Deska,

My name is Gino Galella and I am a sophomore at Fordham Prep. I live in the Bronx New York with my mother, father, dog, and sister. Without your assistance I would never be able to attend my, now second home, Fordham Prep. I wanted to thank you so much for this amazing opportunity and let you know that not a day goes by that I don't know how blessed and lucky I am for you guys giving me this money. It is not taken for granted. I study very hard for my classes to achieve great grades and train hard to succeed in my sports. Thank you so much and God Bless!

Sincerely,  
Gino Galella

Dear Columbus Citizens Foundation,

Receiving this scholarship has changed my life. It is an amazing feeling to be acknowledged for ones perseverance, but receiving your donation has really touched my heart. The inspiration that comes from knowing someone else has put trust in you and thinks so highly as to invest in you is like no other. Your endowment has given me a chance to follow my heart and broaden my horizons while challenging myself to achieve more and excel further. Your benevolence and generosity will never be forgotten and I speak on behalf of my family as well when I say that I genuinely thank you from the bottom of my heart.

With deepest gratitude,  
Stefanie Angeli

*Stefanie Angeli*

Good morning,

I'm a junior at Wagner College. You may or may not know my story. I was born with a disability called phonological dyslexia. It's the way sound is processed in my brain. So everything is harder for me but I have learned not to let anything stand in my way. After studying here at Wagner I have decided to become a special education teacher and help kids like my self.

I am very grateful for the scholarship and trying to do my best to make you all proud of me. I will help others and show them the way. If ever I can do anything for the foundation please do not hesitate to ask. My sister will be applying this year for your scholarships and I hope she gets the same opportunity that I have. Her name is Christina and she sings and wants to go into musical theater.

Happy Holidays and Thank you for the bottom of my heart for your generosity.

Orazio "Rocky" Iannacone

*Orazio Iannacone*

## Emily Barrett

684 Jennings Avenue • West Hempstead, New York 11552 • Phone: 516-507-8529  
E-Mail: emily9barrett@gmail.com Web: www.belmonte.net/emilybarrett

January 26, 2015

Gail R. Guy  
Chair College Scholarship Committee  
Columbus Citizens Foundation  
Eight East 69<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY  
10021

Dear Ms. Guy,

As I come to the end of my four years at The Fashion Institute of Technology, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank your foundation for your continued support of my education. Thanks to your scholarship program I was able to obtain my associates degree in Fashion Merchandising Management, and this May I will be graduating with my bachelors degree in Fabric Styling.

Through two study abroad programs offered at my school I was able to live and study in London as I completed an internship at a bridal company, and this past summer I studied in Florence and was immersed completely in the Italian culture. I was able to enhance my speaking ability of Italian as well as experience all that Italy has to offer such as art, food, and the chance to explore my Italian heritage.

This last year of college I have realized what I am most passionate about in my chosen field, and as I approach graduation I hope to obtain a career in children's apparel or home furnishing design. Thank you again for supporting me through my college career, it means a lot to my family and me and I hope to stay up to date on all the work The Columbus Citizens Foundation will do in the future.

Sincerely,



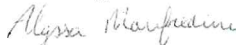
Emily Barrett

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Alyssa Manfredini and I am one of the 2011 recipients of The Columbus Citizens Foundation Scholarship. I am now a senior Psychology major about to start my last semester at Wagner College. With this degree I plan to work as a Child Life Specialist. My time at Wagner has been wonderful and I am in disbelief that it is just about coming to a close. I continue to hold two jobs on campus, one of which is tutoring students with disabilities, which helped me find my passion for helping others, am on the Executive Board of my national sorority, and was an active member in an organization called Up 'til Dawn which raises money for St. Jude's Research Hospital. I am currently a member of 3 National Honor Societies and received the Sutter Award in the Fall of 2013 honoring service done on campus. My cumulative GPA has continued to remain at 3.5 and this past Fall semester I received an A on my senior thesis discussing the effectiveness of non-medical therapies in pediatric patients and their families. I would like to continue to thank you and everyone at The Columbus Citizens Foundation for this wonderful scholarship and opportunity. My time at Wagner has helped me discover passions I didn't know I had and I am so grateful for that.

Thank you again!

Sincerely,



Alyssa Manfredini,  
Wagner Class of 2015

Dear Columbus Citizens Foundation,

I have just completed my first semester of college, and in addition to feeling relieved, I am very proud of all that I have accomplished. With your generous grant, I was able to attend my first choice—Wagner College, with the opportunity to succeed.

I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals as you have helped me. I'm looking forward to next semester with excitement, but also with gratitude, knowing that none of this would have been possible without your support.

Molte grazie,  
Charles Poveromo





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Happy Holidays and Thank you for the bottom of my heart for your generosity.

Orazio "Rocky" Iannacone

*Orazio Iannacone*



# A GALA CELEBRATION OF FAMILY, EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP



*In a sold-out room of 1158 guests, esteemed Italian Americans celebrated seven decades of Italian heritage, family and hoping for a greater future by setting a fundraising record of \$4.3 million. The proceeds support the Foundation's mission of giving scholarships for the education of Italian-American students who have the drive to succeed in school and beyond, but not the means to reach their potential.*

Among the black ties, designer gowns and fancy Maserati cars, the themes of education and family were buzzing throughout the evening at The Columbus Citizens Foundation 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Benefit held on October 11<sup>th</sup> at The Waldorf Astoria Ballroom.

Speaking from the podium to a room filled with Foundation members, dignitaries and celebrities, Fox Business News Journalist, CCF member, former Grand Marshal and Master of Ceremonies Maria Bartiromo said, "We look forward to this evening all year because this is a celebration of pride in our Italian heritage, culture and traditions. At a time when we are all searching for leadership in an uncertain world, as you look around the room, and throughout the Italian-American community, that leadership can be found right here."

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*The spectacular Maserati Quattroporte GTS, known for its Italian craftsmanship was auctioned off as part of Maserati's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. All proceeds of the Maserati raffle benefit the Foundation's Scholarship Fund.*

As they listened to talk of family, traditions and education, guests dined on a culinary journey through Italy with a menu that delivered classic Italian dishes. In between courses, the dance floor vibrated with entertainment by The Infernos and a special appearance by Deanna DellaCioppa.

But the most memorable moments came from the speakers, and the sense of a shared vision, respect and indebtedness to family, friendship and cooperation in the future for education, which was heard repeatedly through the evening.

Foundation President Angelo Vivolo

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thanked the room for their generosity and support of the Foundation's mission attributing the 'incredible record-breaking success' to the guests in the room.

He went on to say that, "The centerpiece of our mission is to help deserving, qualified students who do not have the financial means to receive a good education and attend schools of their choice. They are our future. We are standing here on the shoulders of those who came before us and we want to offer that same support to the next generation who need our help, reminding them through our example that someday they too should do the same for others."





*Top - Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano announces the Gala Raffle winner of the Maserati Quattroporte GTS.*

*Top right - Throughout the evening, Foundation members and guests filled the room with toasts, laughter and applause as they listened intently to the Honorees and other leaders in the beautifully decorated ballroom.*

*Bottom - Prominent impressionist artist, William Lopa, was on the scene painting a rendition of Columbus' bust that was auctioned off at the Gala Silent Auction. Other auction items included Jets and Giants tickets, dinner at Rao's, A Winter Scene in Manhattan painting by Alex Schloss (pictured) and many other exclusive items.*

In addition to the illustrious Foundation Membership, the gathering included Italian Consul General Natalia Quintavalle and Chef, restaurateur and TV personality, Lidia Matticchio Bastianich. President Angelo Vivolo noted "This year will be one of the most successful Celebrations in the history of the Foundation." And he was proven right with the Gala raising the most money it ever has.

Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano spoke about his childhood, the importance of family, and serving as role models for today's youth. "This is a celebration of family and education. We all here have the opportunity to be the role models... There's nothing more

important than helping each other and that's what the Columbus Citizens Foundation does every day. We are all very lucky and surrounded by great Italian-American role models in this room."

Honorees Frank D'Amelio and Richard and Barbara Naclerio, shared Frank Bisignano's sentiments about the importance of education and family. Mr. D'Amelio thanked the Foundation, saying, "In our house, education was everything. My education opened doors and that's why I'm passionate about creating opportunities to educate children. The support of the Columbus Citizens Foundation will go a long way toward providing today's students and tomorrow's leaders with

the tools to succeed and open doors that otherwise would have remained closed.”

Richard and Barbara Naclerio, the first husband and wife Honorees in the history of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, were noted for their love, marriage and family values as the real cornerstone of Italian culture.

Richard commented on the importance of education, saying “A successful life is the culmination of the application of what we have learned.

That is why the gift of education is one that holds the highest values to me. Education is everywhere from the halls of our greatest universities to the humble home of proud Italian families which I am a product of.”

Barbara added to her husband’s statement, noting, “Life itself is an education but knowledge is the purest form of power.”

Ray Kelly was presented with the Public Service Lifetime Achievement Award and he jokingly attributed it to

his meatballs, “This award is finally the recognition by the Foundation that my meatball recipe is the gold standard that should be used to judge all others.” He added, “We share together a rich history of so many experiences, memories and values and a love for our city and our country. Your continued commitment to support so many worthy causes goes to the very heart of this Foundation’s mission. By encouraging education, you are ensuring the values of those that came before you will endure for generations to come.” ■ ■



*Left – President Angelo Vivolo, Master of Ceremonies and CCF member Maria Bartiromo, Honoree Ray Kelly and Celebration Chairman Louis Tallarini enjoy the Annual Columbus Celebration Gala.*

*Right –Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano and CCF member Joe Plumeri talk business at the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Columbus Celebration Gala.*



## HISTORIC WREATH LAYING CEREMONY



The annual wreath laying, organized by the National Council of Columbian Associations in Civil Service and the Columbus Citizens Foundation, was held on October 12, 2014 in front of the monument of Christopher Columbus. A crowd gathered to pay tribute to the visionary navigator and explorer and to the civil servants of New York who help make the city the vibrant place it is today.

Speaking at the event, Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano commented, “This is an incredible and special day to me because this is about the people that serve us and I grew up with a family of men that served. This life was always about how to make it better for others and that’s what we’re here to do and what we are celebrating.”

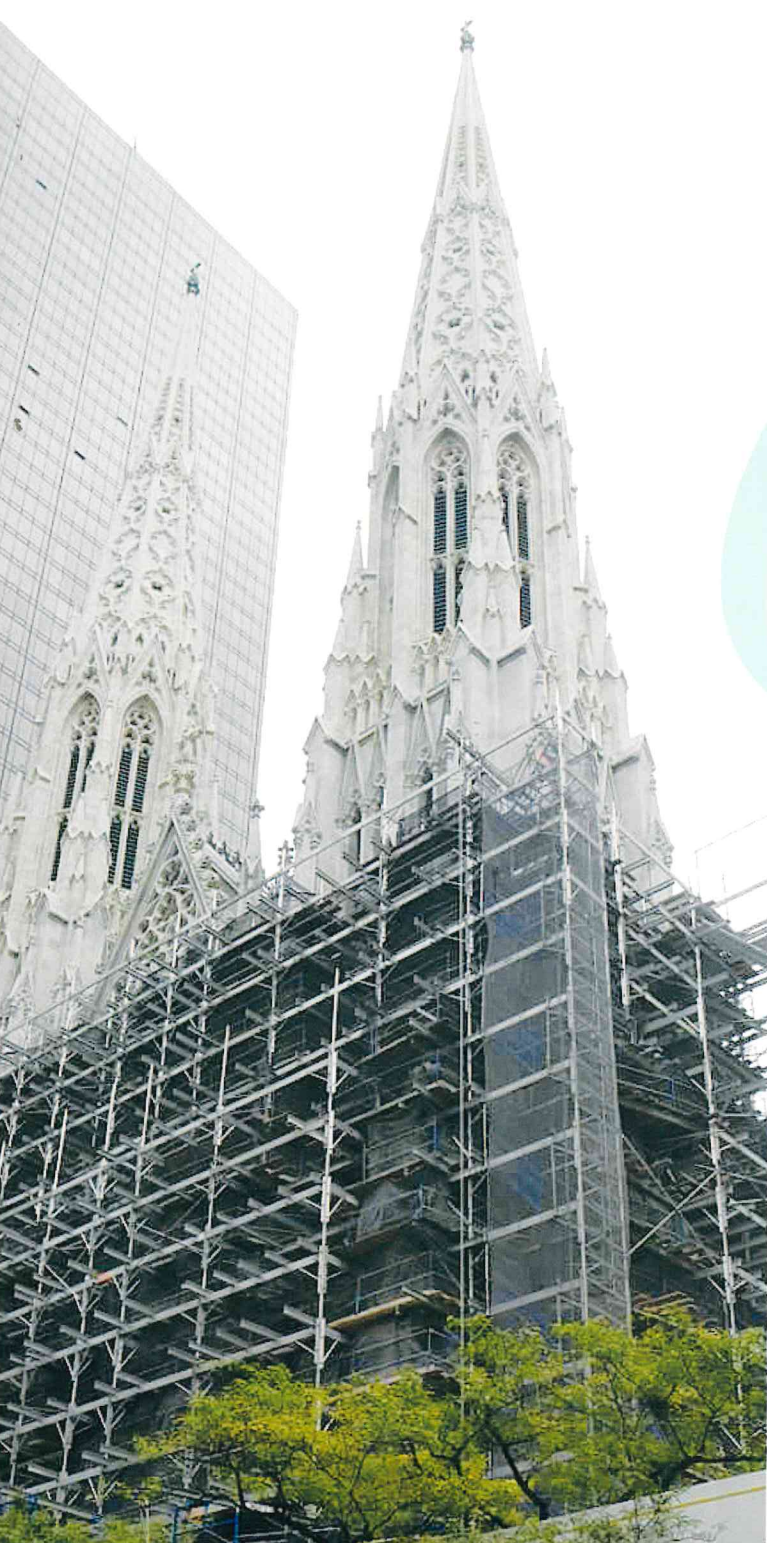
The Italian Consul General Natalia Quintavalle said, “I am very proud to say that I never miss this celebration. I am grateful to keep this tradition and ceremony to commemorate Christopher Columbus and especially from him the millions of Italian-Americans in the United States.”

In his remarks, Angelo Vivolo, President of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, commented on the honor and tribute we owe to those that make New York City the place it is saying, “We are here because of the civil servants who dedicate their lives to protect us, keep us safe and help make this city as great as it is.”



*Top - Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano talks about the importance of family, service and education at the Columbus Wreath Laying Ceremony.*

*Bottom - The Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony is celebrated by the National Council of Columbian Associations in Civil Service and the Columbus Citizens Foundation at the Christopher Columbus monument.*



# COLUMBUS DAY MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Despite the ongoing construction and renovations, St. Patrick's Cathedral was filled on the morning of October 13, 2014 for the annual Columbus Day Mass. This special Mass reflects on the millions of people who came to America long ago in pursuit of fortune and freedom. Over 1,000 people celebrated the Mass, including Honorees, dignitaries and Foundation members and friends. Columbus Citizens Foundation Mass Chairman Domenick Schinco worked tirelessly to arrange for as many members as was possible to attend the ritual ceremony. ■■

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WWW.SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG



## 70 YEARS OF THE COLUMBUS DAY PARADE

Fifth Avenue came alive as more than 40,000 participants and over one million spectators lined the streets during the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Columbus Day Celebration and Parade on Monday, October 13, 2014. Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano, a financial services veteran and the current Chief Executive Officer of First Data Corporation, led the parade, which ran north on Fifth Avenue, from 47<sup>th</sup> to 72<sup>nd</sup> Street.

**CONAIR®**

The annual Columbus Day Parade, presented by the Conair Corporation, is the world's largest celebration of Italian-American heritage and culture and the strongest representation of Italian pride, harkening back to the year 1929 when the Parade was first started. As Grand Marshal, Mr. Bisignano led over 120 groups consisting of nearly 30 marching bands, over 25 enormous floats and hundreds of performance groups up Fifth Avenue in a non-stop parade of family entertainment and Italian-American dignity.



*From left to right: Matteo Setti performs on the red carpet at the Columbus Day Parade. Fans get into the Italian spirit during the Columbus Day Parade.*

“On Columbus Day, we celebrate Italian-American heritage and culture, recognizing the significant achievements and contributions Italian-Americans have made to the United States since they entered this land of freedom and opportunity so many hundreds of years ago,” said Mr. Bisignano. “Being named Grand Marshal of the esteemed Columbus Day Parade event is an honor I will not soon forget.”

Renowned broadcast journalist and CCF member Maria Bartiromo and Actor/Comedian Joe Piscopo served as Masters of Ceremonies welcoming the Parade participants as they marched up Fifth Avenue. Crowds cheered for performances of new, never-before-seen acts, including appearances by Jena Irene, former American Idol performer, the Harlem Globetrotters, The West Point Marching Band, Simona Rodano (The Italian Fairy), Deanna DellaCioppa (America’s Got Talent), Michael Fabiano, Giglio Jimmy Alleva and The Nunziata

Brothers. They also welcomed Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio.

THE 2014  
**COLUMBUS DAY  
 PARADE**  
 BROADCAST ON  
**WABC**  
 WAS THE MOST WATCHED  
 COLUMBUS PARADE EVER  
 AND WAS  
**FIRST IN RATINGS**  
 FOR THE ENTIRE  
 THREE-HOUR PROGRAM.

Foundation President Angelo Vivolo was swarmed by a mass onslaught of television, radio and newspaper reporters to which he said, “The Columbus Day Parade is our annual event that helps us remember the important legacy of the Italian-American people. As an organization, we are dedicated to further strengthening the Italian-American culture through our education

scholarships and helping to provide an education to those who have the acumen to succeed but not the means.” In the spirit of recognizing exceptional achievement in finance and philanthropic support for the Italian-American community, crowds were on hand to pay tribute to Foundation Honorees Frank D’Amelio, Executive Vice President, Business Operations & Chief Financial Officer of Pfizer, Barbara and Richard Naclerio, philanthropic members of the Foundation since 1996 and a Public Service Lifetime Achievement Award for Former Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly. All Honorees rode up Fifth Avenue in Maserati cars, noted for their Italian craftsmanship and joining the Columbus Celebration this year as part of the company’s 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

Each year the Columbus Citizens Foundation amasses hundreds of volunteers to help organize the Columbus Day Parade and enlists the assistance of more than 20 city





Left - Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano stops to greet fans along the Parade route.

Bottom left: Master of Ceremonies Joe Piscopo, Tracey Bisignano, Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano and Master of Ceremonies and CCF member Maria Bartiromo.

Bottom right: President Angelo Vivolo, Honoree Ray Kelly, Honoree Barbara Naclerio, Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano, Honorees Richard Naclerio and Frank D'Amelio.



agencies to support its efforts in the preparations and many logistics involved. It was first started in 1929 when New York City businessman and Italian immigrant Generoso Pope led a parade from East Harlem down to Columbus Circle. The parade celebrates Christopher Columbus'

explorations and the achievements and contributions of Italian-Americans to the landscape of New York and the United States. Today, New Yorkers, their fellow Americans, and visitors from around the world line the parade route to celebrate Italian culture, heritage and achievement and the

contributions of Italian-Americans to the development of the United States. For those unable to attend, The Columbus Day Parade was broadcast on WABC-TV on six continents and viewed by millions of people around the world. ■

The Columbus Citizens Foundation thanks  
the hard work of the 2014 Columbus Celebration Chairmen  
for their tireless efforts to make the 2014 Columbus Celebration an extraordinary success.

## 2014 COLUMBUS CELEBRATION CHAIRMEN



**Angelo V. Vivolo**  
*President*



**Louis A. Tallarini**  
*Celebration Chairman*



**Anthony F. Giordano**  
*Journal Chairman*



**Anthony M. Mallardi**  
*Journal Chairman*



**Frank G. Fusaro**  
*Media Chairman*



**Michael F. Pedone**  
*Marketing Chairman*



**Maria Theresa Fauci**  
*Silent Auction Chairman*



**Alfred M. Catalanotto**  
*Parade Chairman*



**Lawrence E. Auriana**  
*Italian Affairs Chairman*



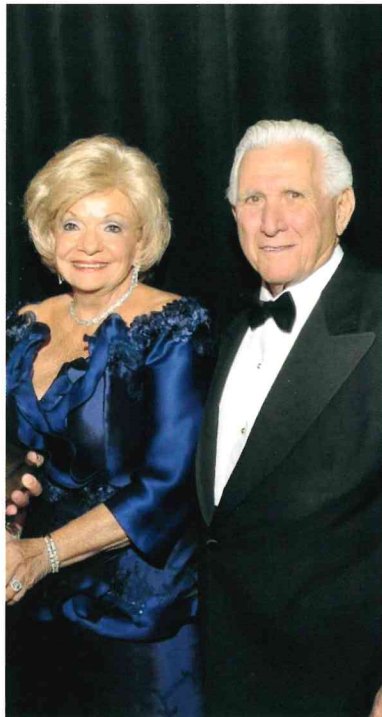
**Frank P. Marzano**  
*Dinner Chairman*



**Domenick J. Schinco**  
*Mass Chairman*

# RECOGNIZING OUR SUPPORTERS

The Columbus Citizens Foundation was honored to have Frank Bisignano serve as the 2014 Grand Marshal and paid tribute to Honorees Frank D'Amelio and Richard and Barbara Naclerio. The Foundation also awarded its Public Service Lifetime Achievement Award to Former Police Commissioner Ray Kelly. ■■



**Grand Marshal Frank Bisignano,  
CEO of First Data**

**Frank D'Amelio, Executive Vice  
President and CFO of Pfizer**

**Richard and Barbara Naclerio,  
the first ever husband and wife  
Honorees**

**Ray Kelly, Former Police  
Commissioner Receives Public  
Service Lifetime Achievement Award**

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**Frank J. Bisignano**  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

January 14, 2015

Dear Angelo,

As I reflect on the past year, having the honor of walking up 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue as the Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade, with my family beside me, 35,000 marchers behind me and a million people lining the sidewalks, it was one of the highlights of my life. I felt my mother and father with me in spirit, their memory reminding me that God, family, hard work, service and giving back are the hallmarks of our Italian heritage.

I want to thank you personally for your help in making this day possible and, in particular, for the real purpose of our effort. We raised over \$4 million to help educate young people and steer them in the right direction so that they can be the next da Vinci, Galileo or Marconi. And even if they never reach those heights, we can take great pride in giving them a better shot than they might have had without the assistance of the Columbus Citizens Foundation.

When I took the stage that Saturday night at the Gala, my heart was full of appreciation: for the work of the Foundation and other causes I support; for my family that gave me values I've followed in life; for people throughout my career who steered me toward new opportunities and new dreams; and for my friends, colleagues and business partners who committed their resources and time to the effort.

Please accept my deepest thanks for your role in this noble effort and your generous support in helping us raise record funds for deserving kids.

Warmest regards,



Frank Bisignano

5565 Glenridge Connector NE | 18<sup>th</sup> Floor | Atlanta,



**Frank D'Amelio**  
EVP, Business Operations &  
Chief Financial Officer

Pfizer Inc  
235 East 42 Street, New York, NY 10017  
Tel 212 733 6090 Fax 212 499 4000  
frankdamelio@pfizer.com

Mr. Angelo Vivolo  
President  
Columbus Citizens Foundation  
8 East 69<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

Thank you for the opportunity to be an Honoree during the 2014 Columbus Celebration Weekend. I never dreamed that I would have the chance to march in the New York City Columbus Day Parade with thousands of other people who are as proud of our shared Italian heritage as I am.

Growing up in an Italian-American family, I learned the importance of education. My parents believed that education was the great equalizer and that education is a necessity and not a luxury. My parents were right. My own education opened doors and created wonderful career opportunities for me over the last 35 years.

I'm pleased to support the Columbus Citizen's Foundation because its dedication to scholarship will provide today's students and tomorrow's leaders with the tools to succeed and open doors that otherwise would have remained closed.

This experience was an honor I will not soon forget. I am so grateful for the privilege of having joined you, the Grand Marshal and my other esteemed Honorees at all the Columbus Celebration Weekend events.

Sincerely,



*BNR*

Mr. Angelo Vivolo  
President  
Columbus Citizens Foundation  
8 East 69<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

It is impossible to fully express the joy we experienced as the honorees of the Columbus Citizens Foundation during the Columbus Day weekend ceremonies. To be recognized by our peers, to be mentioned with the great names of past members with whom we hold this honor, and to share the entirety of events with our children, grandchildren, and closest friends was the paragon of pride and happiness for us.

The Columbus Citizens Foundation is the benchmark of philanthropy within the Italian-American community, and to be part of what the foundation embodies is and will continue to be our privilege. We are humbled to have the distinction as the first couple to be honored and it is our hope that future generations of members may possess the opportunity to continue the generosity that the Columbus Citizens Foundation disseminates to future Italian-American students in need. The foundation was built on the dreams of great members before us, so our future success can be unlimited through our imaginations.

We are so grateful for this honor; it was an experience that we will never forget. Our utmost thanks go out to Angelo Vivolo, our President, and the dedicated staff of the foundation. This Gala, being the largest event in the history of the CCF, exceeded expectations and highlighted the ability of its members and the staff to bring this too fruition. The parade was an amazing experience; the excitement and the thrill of walking and being driven up 5<sup>th</sup> Ave is unforgettable in our lives and also for our children and our grandchildren. We thank you again for the privilege of being honorees.

Sincerely,



Richard and Barbara Naclerio

Raymond W. Kelly  
President  
Risk Management Services



Cushman & Wakefield, Inc.  
1290 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10104-6178  
212 841-7911 Tel  
212 479-7134 Fax  
raymond.kelly@cushwake.com

February 2, 2015

Angelo Vivolo  
President  
Columbus Citizens Foundation  
8 East 69<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Angelo,

Receiving the Public Service Lifetime Achievement Award from the Columbus Citizens Foundation was a true honor. Participating in all of the festivities – from the Gala Dinner to the parade up Fifth Avenue was more than a privilege – it was a delight for Veronica and myself, and we enjoyed every minute of it!

I have always been impressed not only with the spirit of the foundation but the commitment to its mission. No other organization celebrates the tremendous impact that the Italian culture has had on our nation better than the Columbus Citizens Foundation and it is important to keep this legacy alive.

Congratulations on a banner year and thank you for including me. I will treasure the memories forever.

Sincerely,



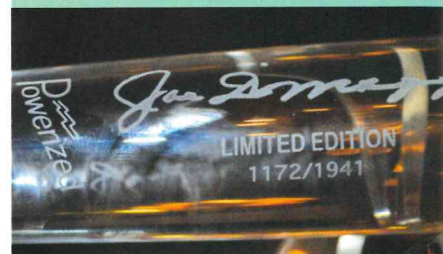
Raymond W. Kelly



## BASEBALL LEGEND DRAWS A CROWD

In honor of Joe DiMaggio's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Columbus Citizens Foundation was privileged to host the Joe DiMaggio Celebration dinner to a nearly sold-out room where people paid tribute to the late baseball legend and one of its own. CCF member Joe Plumeri was the honored guest of the evening, joining the ranks of such notable figures as former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Sportscaster Bob Costas, baseball Hall of Famers Ted Williams and Tommy Lasorda, former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Grammy award-winning singer/songwriter Paul Simon, television host Regis Philbin and fellow CCF member and renown business television journalist Maria Bartiromo among many others.

In 1997, Joe DiMaggio was honored at an event supporting educational needs of students with learning disabilities. Since then, the annual Joe DiMaggio Award Dinner has been a tremendous success every year to raise money for a worthy cause and this year was no different. Members enjoyed an evening of dinner, cocktails and stories about Mr. DiMaggio and Mr. Plumeri. Mr. Plumeri was awarded a crystal replica of a bat bearing Joe DiMaggio's signature and he also won a modern painting of the late baseball player created by the illustrious artist William Lopa. In addition, the Foundation used the net proceeds from the event to create a scholarship in Joe DiMaggio's name. ■■



*Top - CCF member Joe Plumeri, Frank Bisignano and President Angelo Vivolo admire a painting of the great baseball legend Joe DiMaggio by artist William Lopa.*

*Middle photos - Crystal replica bat Award is on display at the Joe DiMaggio dinner.*

*Bottom - Members enjoy a delicious dinner as they talk about the great baseball legend Joe DiMaggio and honor CCF member Joe Plumeri.*



# LADIES AUXILIARY SUPPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS



The Ladies Auxiliary focuses on bringing women to Foundation events, striving to raise money for scholarships, and this year they delivered. The annual Christmas luncheon turned into a sold-out boutique where women feasted on delicious food while shopping items from Dennis Basso and many others. The room was a masterpiece with gorgeous centerpieces from Natalia en la Bosko and all net proceeds went to the Foundation Scholarship program.

Looking ahead to 2015, the Ladies Auxiliary will purchase a float for the Columbus Day Parade for the first time ever, hoping to take part in the celebration and help raise money at the same time. They are also planning a festive Spring Luncheon on May 5<sup>th</sup>. “Our goal is to raise as much money as possible,” said Janice Galli Becker, Ladies Auxiliary President. “The events we organize are among the many activities that make membership in the Foundation meaningful.” ■■



# ENRICHING THE FOUNDATION IN 2014

2014 was a year of growth and change at the Columbus Citizens Foundation. Improvements and additions were made to enhance and continue to build our community. Below is a snapshot of new happenings:



## **Bi-monthly Newsletter**

Communication is the key to our community. The Foundation is

providing updated news to our members through our new bi-monthly newsletter edited by our own Alejandro Acosta.

## **Spouses Stay Connected**

The Foundation is a family-based organization. In 2014, we included spouses on all our e-mail updates and offered them the opportunity to join Columbus Citizens Foundation committees. This also applies to spouses of deceased members.

## **New Partnerships**

The Columbus Citizens Foundation joined forces with the Organization of the Sons of Italy to offer a national joint scholarship to a graduate student.

## **Community Dining at the Taverna**

For those members who want to dine with others, we initiated a new community dining table available nightly to members in the Taverna.

## **Membership Lounge**

After many months of planning, we completed our new Membership Lounge open to members and the perfect spot for a night of drinks, conversation and catching up with fellow members.

## **Member Sponsorship Made Easy**

It is easier than ever to sponsor a new member. Members can now go online to our website and fill out a sponsorship questionnaire.

## **Social Media Expansion**



Our exponentially growing social media presence includes up-to-date content posted regularly on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. These efforts have already seen organic growth on Facebook of over 60 percent! ■■



# SAVE THE DATE IN 2015!

## **March 11: Emilio Iodice Book Signing**

Enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres as you listen to passages from the biography by Professor Emilio Iodice about Tenor Mario Lanza.

## **March 18: California Wine Tasting**

Come enjoy the wines of Hanzell Vineyards (Sonoma) and Miner Family Vineyards (Napa) and snacks at the Townhouse.

## **March 20: Feast of San Giuseppe**

Celebrate St. Joseph with a feast of traditional Italian fare and live music.

## **April 5: Easter Dinner**

Bring your family for a delicious dinner and Easter celebration.

## **April 22: Wine Pairing Dinner with Diego Cusumano**

Join Diego Cusumano for a wine reception to include a four-course meal and a pairing of each course with a different wine. Explanations and commentary will be provided by Diego Cusumano, Sicily's leading winery.

## **May: Cigar Dinner**

The annual Cigar Dinner will take place once again. stay tuned for next year's special guest.

## **May 5: LAX Spring Luncheon**

Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary, women will enjoy a day of boutique, shopping, a delicious lunch and music.

## **May 10: Mother's Day Dinner**

Mothers, grandmothers and children welcome to honor the special women in their life.

## **June: Summer CCF Golf Outing**

Join members for a golf tournament, bocce ball tournament, cigars and cocktails at the annual Golf outing.

## **July: Shore Dinner**

The Frutti di Mare at our celebration of summer!


## **September: Big Band Night with Joe Battaglia**

Dance and swing with Joe Battaglia and his Big Band.

## **December: Christmas Celebrations**

December will be a time of celebrations with children's parties, a Members' Dinner and a Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon. Stay tuned for details.

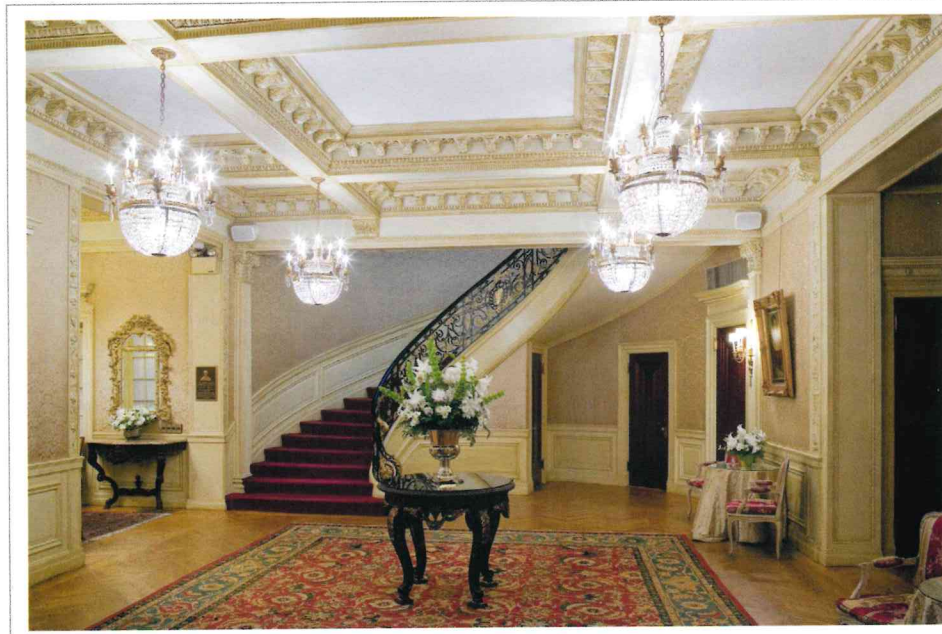
## **December 31: New Year's Eve**

Ring in the New Year with dinner, dancing and festivities at the Townhouse. 



A LOOK INSIDE:  
HOST YOUR  
NEXT PRIVATE  
EVENT AT THE  
FOUNDATION

*Clockwise from top left –  
The President's Library,  
the outdoor patio,  
Columbus painting in  
Main Foyer, the Di Falco  
Room, the Oak Room and  
the Main Foyer.*





# THAT'S ITALIAN! ITALIAN-AMERICANS OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY DOCUMENTARY

The largest Italian-American population in the United States is found in New York and New Jersey. To celebrate the lives, achievements, and diverse culture Italian-Americans have brought to the metro area, WNET is presenting *Italian-Americans of New York and New Jersey*, a two-part series hosted by journalist Maria Bartiromo. The Columbus Citizens Foundation is a proud sponsor of this two-hour documentary that will preview before the PBS broadcast *The Italian-Americans*.

The series highlights this large community's rich culture and influence, featuring interviews with experts in Italian-American history and culture and prominent Italian-Americans, including New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, chef Lidia Bastianich, late Governor of New York Mario Cuomo, singer Tony Bennett, actress Susan Lucci, former New York Senator Al D'Amato, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, journalist Steve Aduato, actor Joe Piscopo and our own Angelo Vivolo.

"I am very proud of the Foundation's sponsorship of the Italian-Americans of New York and New Jersey," said Angelo Vivolo. "This program truly captures what it means to be Italian-American and is a testimony to the hard work of our ancestors who sacrificed to create a better life for their children."

You can visit [thirteen.org/italian-americans-ny-nj](http://thirteen.org/italian-americans-ny-nj) to read Maria Bartiromo's story and other testimonials, and to share your personal story, photos, and videos about your experience as an Italian-American. ■

## IN MEMORIAM

**Rosemarie Amicucci**, wife of Foundation member, **John Amicucci** passed away on Wednesday, December 24, 2014 at the age of 62. She is survived by her husband, John, sons, Dario and Michael, and six grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son, John Jr.

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**Anthony Marino**, Founding member of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, passed away on December 22, 2014. He was instrumental in restoring the Foundation Townhouse and building the Taverna. Through his many years of service as a Board member, his integrity and dedication were a pinnacle to the advancement of the mission of the Columbus Citizens Foundation.

Mr. Marino is survived by his wife, Linda; a brother Vincent, daughters, Dee Marino, Candice (Brian) Stellar, and son, Charles (Helen) Marino; and grandchildren, Lauren, Amanda, Caroline, Matthew, Elizabeth, Julia, and Jack.

**Joseph Matarese** passed away November 3, after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife Rita, daughter Laura, and son Stephen. He died peacefully surrounded by family and loved ones.

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**James J. Schiro** passed away on August 13, 2014. John was a member of the Foundation since 1992 and an Honoree of the Columbus Day Celebration in 1995. Jim is survived by his wife, Tomasina, son James, and daughter Justine.

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**Gina Bruno**, the loving wife of Sam Bruno, passed away peacefully at the age of 83, at her daughter's home in West Harrison, New York on Sunday, February 16, 2014. She was the beloved mother of Pat (m. Charles) Widmer and Richard (m. Maitee) Corvi, and proud grandmother of Stephanie, John and Nicole.

**Licia Albanese**, surviving spouse of Foundation member **Joseph A. Gimma** and an Italian-born soprano died on Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at her home in Manhattan. She was 105.

Miss Albanese, who became a United States citizen in the 1940s, received the *National Medal of Arts* from President Bill Clinton in 1995.

In retirement, Miss Albanese gave master classes around the world and in 1974, she and her husband, Joseph A. Gimma, established the *Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation*, which provides assistance to young singers in the form of awards, study grants and scholarships. ■ ■

## NEW MEMBERS



**R**obert Anello is a Partner at Morvillo Abramowitz Grand Iason & Anello P.C. His maternal grandparents were born near Bari. His paternal grandparents were born in Cerami, near Catania, Sicily. Mr. Anello is the current President of the Federal Bar Council, a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, current member of the New York City Bar Association's Nominating Committee as well as other Associations. He is the past Chair of the Audit Committee and the Professional Responsibility Committee. He is a member and Fellow of the American Bar and New York State Bar Association/Foundation. He is the past New York Downstate Membership Chair of the Supreme Court Historical Society. He has been the recipient of the Boris Kostelanetz President's Medal (2013), the Pro Bono Award and recognized by various publications.

**L**idia Matticchio Bastianich is Owner of Felidia's Restaurant. She was born in Istria, a region near Trieste in Northeastern Italy and at the age of 12 immigrated to America. She is a distinguished Board member of the National Organization of Italian-American Women (NOIAW), Founding member of Les Dames D'Escoffier and Women Chefs & Restaurateurs (WCR), Chair and Co-Chair of UNIFEM to name a few, as well as being a James Beard Foundation Award winner. Ms. Bastianich is the recipient of many honors and accolades including the Daytime Emmy Award for outstanding culinary host. She is a best-selling cookbook author and Co-Owner of numerous restaurants such as Eataly, a food and wine

marketplace. She was Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade in 2007.

**J**ohn Bruno is President of Potamkin Cadillac. He was Vice President of Piazza Management from 1981 to 1995. Both his grandfathers were born in Sicily, in Bagheria and Agrigento respectively. He is affiliated with The Marty Lyons Foundation, an organization that grants special wishes to children who have terminal or life threatening illnesses. He is a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and a recipient of a special achievement award from the US Secret Service.

**A**lan A. D'Ambrosio is a Partner at McDermott, Will & Emery LLP. He is Chairman and President of the Villa Firenze Foundation, a member of the University Club of Washington DC, as well as a member of the American Bar Association, New York State Bar Association and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He has been decorated by the Republic of Italy and received a number of professional awards. Mr. D'Ambrosio is an adjunct professor at the University of Chicago School of Law.

**J**oan Delnevo-Petry is a retired Administrative Assistant whose previous employment was at Ambac Assurance Corporation. Both her mother and father were from Parma. She is a member of the Yale Club of New York and a past member of the Plandome Country Club. She has

done fundraising for Cancer, the City of Hope, Chaminade High School and St. Mary's Elementary School.

**R**ichard DeMatteis is a Developer/Builder and Principal of DeMatteis Organizations. He is a Board member of St. Vincent's Services Inc., and a member of the Garden City Golf Club and the Westhampton Country Club, as well as a supporter of many causes and charities. Mr. DeMatteis knows the Foundation very well having spent many dinners and holidays at the Club with his father, a longtime member prior to his passing.

**S**cott DeMatteis is a Developer/Builder and Principal of DeMatteis Organizations. He is a Board member of the Building Contractors Association as well as the Wheelchair Charities, Inc. He is a member of the Nassau Country Club, Westhampton Country Club and the Stratton Mountain Club. His father was a longtime member prior to his passing and as a family they attended many functions including his wedding rehearsal dinner here at the Club 25 years ago.

**A**gostino DiFeo is President of White Plains Chrysler Jeep Dodge. He was born in Andretta. He is a member of Communitè Andrettese and is affiliated with YMCA White Plains, St. John's Hospital, Ms. Westchester Pageant, Operation Gratitude, an organization that supports our troops, as well as having supported local activities with golf sponsorships.



He was awarded Man of the Year in 2011 from the Giuseppe Garibaldi Lodge. In 1977, Mr. DiFeo was the Founding member of the Eastchester Youth Soccer League.

**Carmen Flamino** is Vice President and Financial Advisor, CFP at UBS Financial Services. His grandparents came to the United States from the area close to Naples. He is a member of the Institutional Advancement Committee at Holy Cross High School, and was inducted into the Holy Cross High School Hall of Fame in 2003.

**Ciro Frascilla** is an Architect and President of Mascioni & Behrmann Architecture & Engineering P.C. His father was from Vittoria (RG), Sicily and his mother was from Cerreto Sannita (BN) near Naples. He is a general member of the National Italian-American Foundation (N.I.A.F), a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Rutherford F.C., the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (N.C.A.R.B) and the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI). He participates and contributes financially to various fundraising events including the Montefiore Children's Hospital semi-annual fundraiser.

**Robert Guida** is a Physician and President of Robert A. Guida, M.D., P.C. His maternal grandparents were born in Bari and his paternal great-grandparents were born in Naples. He is a

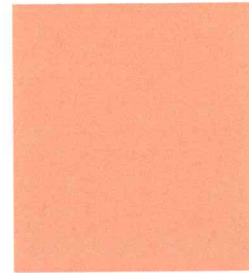
member of the American Academy of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery and the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery as well as a member of the University Club of New York, Rockaway Hunting Club and the Lawrence Beach Club. He has donated to the Association for the Help of Retarded Children (AHRC) and St. Jude Children's Hospital. In 1996 he was awarded the "Father Daniel Egan Award", a distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Stubenville, Ohio.

**Arthur Landi** is the Principle Owner and Industrial Designer of Display Producers Inc. His maternal grandfather came from Roccasca, and his paternal grandfather came from Firenze. He is the past President of the Greenwich Council and National Foundation Trustee of the Boy Scouts of America as well as Trustee of the University of Bridgeport. He is affiliated with SoundWaters, YMCA of Greenwich, Audubon Society, a non-profit environmental society and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

**Victoria Longo** is the Managing Director and Head of Client Strategy at Credit Suisse. Her parents and grandparents were from Sicily. She is currently a Board member of the New York Regional Board of the Peer Health Exchange, and a prior Board member of the United Neighbors. Ms. Longo is a member of the Yale Club of New York City, Harvard Club of New York City, and Pinehurst Club, Pinehurst, North Carolina.

“Our Membership Committee works very diligently to ensure that new members meet the highest standards of character and are willing to support all the goals of the Foundation – through active participation in its various Committees, which keeps the Foundation vibrant and relevant to new generations, and through such support as each member is able to provide to the charitable and cultural purposes of the Foundation, the lifeblood of the Foundation’s reason for being. Our new members, both men and women, have great success stories in all fields of endeavor, and they are true role models for all Italian Americans.”

~ John Desiderio  
CCF Membership Chair



**J**ames LoPresti is a Partner and Managing Director at Axis Global Logistics. His grandfather was born in Palermo, and his grandmother in Calabria. He was President of the Kelly Anne Dolan Memorial Fund Foundation, an organization that raises money to find a cure for cystic fibrosis.

**C**orrado Manuali is an attorney and Special Counsel: Head of the Italian Desk in the US. He was born in Rome. He is a member of the Associazione Nazionale Ex Allievi "Nunziatella" Naples. He is affiliated with Fordham University School of Law and Georgetown University, to name a few, as well as being a member of the American Bar Association, New York State Bar Association and the Douglaston Club. He received numerous commendations while an officer of the Italian Guardia di Finanza.

**O**razio Mattioli is a full time student and Principal at Michael Mattioli Consulting. He is a member of the Linux Foundation, MIT Kerberos Consortium, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, American Sailing Association, U.S. Chess Federation, Python Software Foundation, OWASP (Open Web Application Security Project and ACM (Association for Computing Machinery).

**L**eonard Moscatelli is the Senior Vice President and Team Leader at City National Bank. He is a previous Board member of the

American Cancer Society, NY office. He supports and donates to Franciscan Charities in New York and New Jersey as well as being involved with numerous other charities. Mr. Moscatelli is a Certified Financial Planner and a member of the Institute of Financial Planners as well as the FPA-Financial Planning Association. He is a member of the Industrial Designers Society of America, Society of Plastics Engineers as well as numerous Clubs.

**L**ucio Noto is a Managing Partner at Midstream Partners, LLC. His parents emigrated from Sicily in the early 1900s. Having lived in Italy from 1966-1967 and 1973-1976 in Genoa, Palermo and Rome as an executive of Mobil Oil Italiana S.p.A. he ultimately became CEO and Chair of Mobil Corporation as well as Vice Chair of Exxon Mobil Corporation after the merger. Mr. Noto is a Board member of Philip Morris International, Penske Automotive Group, Inc. and RHJ International (Belgium). He is a member of the American Petroleum Institute, the Temasek International Advisory Council (Singapore) and Council for the USA and Italy. He has been the recipient of the Italian Government, "Grande Ufficiale" Medal.

**F**runk Orzo is Vice President of Mitrtech Holdings, Inc. His paternal grandfather was born in Sarno, near Naples. Mr. Orzo is a member of the Hempstead Golf & Country Club and the Italian Genealogical Society of America (Peabody, MA). He founded the Kenny Auer Spirit Award and Scholarship in memory of a

fallen teammate and classmate. Mr. Orzo was Sales Rep of the Year of Cornell Computer Corp. in 1981 and 1982. He also received the Dale Carnegie Human Relations Award as the person who contributed most to his class.

**V**ictor Rubino is the President and CEO of the Practicing Law Institute. His maternal grandparents were born near Bari and his paternal grandparents were born near Naples (San Fele). Mr. Rubino is a member of the University Club, American Bar Association, New York City Bar Association as well as the American Bar Foundation. He is also the President and CEO of a 501c3 non-profit educational organization.

**L**isa Polizzi Santo is a Wealth Advisor, CFP and Senior Vice President at Morgan Stanley. Her family came from Naples and Sicily. She is a member of the Junior League of Westchester-on-Hudson as well as a member of the Odyssey Art Watercolor Society. She is also on the Benefit Committee of the Hudson Valley Writers Center.

**M**ichael Sapraicone is President and Owner of Squad Security, a Security and Private Investigations company. Both his maternal grandparents and paternal grandfather were born in Italy. He was both a Past Chair and Vice-Chair of the Holy Cross High School, as well as Past School Board President and Trustee of the Seaford School District. He is a member of



AAPLE (American Academy for Professional Law Enforcement), ASIS (American Society for Industrial Security), ALDONYS (Associated Licensed Detectives of New York State), TAPA (Transported Asset Protection Association) and a member of the Holy Cross High School Hall of Fame. Mr. Sapraine is a Benefactor of the Holy Cross High School, St. Mary's Children's Hospital and Naomi Bernie Diabetes Center.

**A**rthur Scotto is President of The Hudson Group, a Construction Company. Three of his grandparents were born in Italy with his great-grandmother was from Sorrento. He is a Board member of The Torch Foundation which raises money and donates to different charities and at times to individuals and families. He is a member of the New York Athletic Club and the Tech Judo Club for which he volunteers as a part time instructor.

**R**obert Serio is a Partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. His maternal great-grandparents were born in Potenza, Basilicata and his paternal great-grandparents were born in Palermo, Sicily. He is a member of the Harvard Club, and the Bonnie Briar Country Club as well as a member of the American Bar Association and the Federal Bar Council.

**J**effrey Sica is the Founder, President and CIO of SICA Wealth Management, LLC. His grandparents were from Naples and Sicily. His maternal grandfather being a stonemason and an

artist did the stonework on the Sacred Heart Basilica in Newark. Mr. Sica is Chairman of Daytop Village of New Jersey, Inc., a comprehensive substance abuse treatment and educational program for male and female adolescents. He also sponsored a scholarship fund for needy children of New Jersey State Troopers and is a member of Vistage International.

**M**ichael Simeone is Branch Manager and Senior Vice President-Investments at Morgan Stanley. His maternal grandfather was from Palermo and his paternal family was from Naples and Sicily. Mr. Simeone is a member of the American Cancer Society for which he has raised money for their local chapter, as well as a member of the Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital, The Union League Club and the National Great Pyrenees Rescue.

**R**obert Zampolin is Principal at Zampolin & Associates Architects. His father was born in Spilimbergo in the Friuli Province while his mother was born in the Piemonte Province of Asti. He is a Board member of the Bergen Catholic High School, Chairs the Archbishop's Annual Appeal Gala, is affiliated with numerous charitable organizations and has received numerous Architectural honors. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects, Architects League of Northern Jersey and is licensed in 26 states.

“I’m always amazed at the high caliber of people in the Italian-American community and the collective success we’ve had as a group at the Columbus Citizens Foundation. While Italian Americans have sometimes faced obstacles, I continue to be impressed by the people I’ve met at the Foundation and the charity of giving back that they do. When I joined the Foundation, I had no real understanding of their tremendous accomplishments that reinforce the Italian-American heritage and culture.

The Foundation provides a real opportunity to meet high quality people from all walks of life that otherwise would not have presented itself. The most successful way to truly get the most out of the Foundation is to get involved. I joined the Foundation in 1991 and I have been volunteering ever since because I find it is a great way to extend into the community and continue the hard work of our forefathers who sacrificed to get us where we are today.

~ John Cioffi  
CCF Membership Chair



## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

The Columbus Citizens Foundation fundraising had an exceptional year in 2014. The Columbus Celebration Weekend and Parade resulted in a net contribution \$3,262,000 that far exceeded prior years and our expectations. Our Grand Marshal, Frank Bisignano, and our honorees, Frank D'Amelio and Richard and Barbara Naclerio spear-headed the effort resulting in the new high donations. The generosity of Conair, Inc. as the Parade red carpet sponsor, set the pace for others. But the feat of turning top-line donations to bottom line success goes to the legions of volunteers: members and non-members alike. The Foundation is indebted to all.

This was also another active year for the Adopt-A-Scholar program which enables donors to fund scholarships on an annual or perpetual basis. We are extraordinarily grateful to the generosity of Hon. Frank Guarini who endowed a \$1,000,000 program.

The Foundation's main philanthropic endeavor is our scholarship program which awards scholarships at the college, high school and elementary school levels. That program currently expends approximately \$2,000,000 per annum. Other areas for philanthropy in the past have included arts, culture, welfare and disaster relief.

In successful years such as this we also try to build for the future by adding to our investment funds which currently total over \$13,000,000.\*

*\*This is based on an unaudited report in 2014*



# IL GIORNALE

Michael F. Pedone  
Editor-in-Chief

Faith Paris  
Executive Editor

Graphic Executions  
Art Direction

Alejandro Acosta  
Associate Editor

Don Pollard,  
Anita and Steve Shevett,  
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(Tie Optional from Memorial Day to Labor Day)

Women: Appropriate Attire

Taverna Policy: Tipping is not allowed



COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION, INC.

8 East 69<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10021

Phone: 212.249.9923 Fax: 212.737.4413

[www.columbuscitizensfd.org](http://www.columbuscitizensfd.org)

