

ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB OF LANSING

January/February 2025



NEWSLETTER

Est. 1971

Motto: Dio, Patria e Famiglia (God, Country & Family)

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! BUON ANNO!



Dear Members and Supporters,

I hope that you and your family had safe and healthy holiday season! We are excited to welcome-in 2025 and all the wonderful events and adventures in the new year.

As we finished 2024, I wanted to give you some updates from the last previous two months. By your participation and support of the October Pasta Dinner, we were able to make a financial donation contributions to the St. Louis Center of Chelsea, in the amount of \$1,00.00 and \$1,000.00 donation to the Allen Neighborhood Center. Thank you to all that made the event a great success!

We had an enjoyable and festive Christmas party filled with holiday spirit and fellowship, we even had a visit from Santa and Mr. Claus. Non-perishable food donations were collected for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry at St. Therese Church. Thank you to all that attended.

In the upcoming year, the Club will be scheduling activities and events to celebrate and maintain our beautiful Italian culture. This will include some social and marquee events that will be fun for everyone. More details regarding these activities/events will be provided, very soon...

If you have yet to become a member or considered joining the IAC of Lansing, the time is NOW! Or, consider being a sponsor? Your membership/sponsorship is vital in helping to maintain the Italian heritage, culture, and traditions.

From more details and information, visit www.lansingiac.org, to download a membership/ sponsorship applications or reach out to any of the board members!

Thank you in advance for your consideration and continued support. I look forward to seeing you in the upcoming year. Grazie.

Sincerely,

Tony De Luca, President



Wishing all of you a happy and healthy 2025!

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Membership Application
- Sponsorship Application and details
- Current Sponsors



The Legend of the “La Befana”

On January 6th. of each year in Italy, they celebrate “La Befania”. It is a traditional holiday story that young and old still presently believe in, just like Santa Claus. The story has it that La Befana (a good old witch) delivers presents during the middle of the night. She delivers these presents to those children who have been good throughout the year.

This holiday marks the end of the Christmas season and the day that the three Wise Man arrived at the manger of the Christ child. Over the years the Epiphany has been a more celebrated holiday for the children of Italy than even Christmas.

As the legend has it the Three Wise Men were in search of the Christ child when they decided to stop at a small house to ask directions. When they knocked on the door, an old woman holding a broom opened the door.

She saw three colorfully dressed Wise Men who were looking for the Christ child at her doorsteps. The old woman did not know who these three strange men were and was unable to point them in the right direction.

The three Wise Men asked the old woman to join in the journey of looking for the Christ child, and she declined because she had too much housework to be done. After the three men had left, the old woman felt that she had made a mistake of not joining the search and decided to catch up with the three Wise Men.

After many hours of searching, she was not able to find the three Wise Men. The old woman felt that she missed a special opportunity to see the Christ child, so she proceeded to stop every child to give them a small treat with the hopes that one of the children would be the Christ child.

CELEBRATING & GIVING DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!

A wonderful time was had by all attendees of the Christmas. Great food, fellowship , and plenty of holiday spirit! There was a collection of non-perishable donations at the event and we were able to fill a shopping cart of food, for the St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry at St. Therese Church. The dona-



CHRISTMAS PARTY—2024



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! BENVENUTO!

ANGELA AUTERA

ANTHONY & PAM MAZZALI AND FAMILY

ANTHONY & JENNIFER GREENBERG AND FAMILY

Thank you for helping to maintain the Italian culture, traditions, and heritage.



HAPPY ST. VALENTINE'S DAY !



Courtesy of Wikipedia - **Valentine's Day**, also called **Saint Valentine's Day** or the **Feast of Saint Valentine**,^[1] is celebrated annually on February 14.^[2] It originated as a Christian **feast day** honoring a **martyr** named **Valentine** and through later folk traditions, it has also become a significant cultural, religious and commercial celebration of **romance** and love in many regions of the world.^{[3][4]}

There are a number of martyrdom stories associated with various Saint Valentines connected to February 14,^[5] including an account of the imprisonment of Saint **Valentine of Rome** for ministering to Christians **persecuted under the Roman Empire** in the third century.^{[6][7]} According to an early tradition, Saint Valentine restored sight to the blind daughter of his jailer.^[8] Numerous later additions to the legend have better related it to the theme of love: tradition maintains that Saint Valentine performed weddings for Christian soldiers who were forbidden to marry by the Roman emperor;^[7] an 18th-century embellishment to the legend claims he wrote the jailer's daughter a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell before his execution;^[9]

The 8th-century **Gelasian Sacramentary** recorded the celebration of the Feast of Saint Valentine on February 14.^{[10][11]} The day became associated with romantic love in the 14th and 15th centuries when notions of **courtly love** flourished, apparently by association with the "**lovebirds**" of early spring. In 18th-century England, it grew into an occasion for couples to express their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged **Cupid**. In the 19th century, handmade cards gave way to mass-produced greetings.^[12] In Italy, **Saint Valentine's keys** are given to lovers "as a romantic symbol and an invitation to unlock the giver's heart", as well as to children to ward off **epilepsy** (called Saint Valentine's Malady).^[13]

Saint Valentine's Day is not a public holiday in any country, although it is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion^[14] and the Lutheran Church.^[15] Many parts of the Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrate Saint Valentine's Day on July 6 in on or of Roman presbyter Saint Valentine, and on July 30 in honor of **Hieromartyr** Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna (modern **Terni**).^[16]

ITALIAN HERITAGE NIGHT—LITTLE CAESAR ARENA



Sunday, February 2, 2025

3:00 pm



www.Pistons.com/Italian

On **Sunday, February 2, 2025, starting at 3:00 pm**, at Little Caesar Arena, the Detroit Pistons will be celebrating Italian Heritage Night, in a basketball game versus the Chicago Bulls. This event has been coordinated under the auspices of the Italian Consulate of Detroit and COMITES of Detroit.

Tickets are available through www.Pistons.Com/Italian, you have three different pricing choices of tickets, in different sections of the arena. Please make certain that when you are purchasing the tickets, use the drop-down to select the IAC of Lansing, so that the IAC of Lansing can receive \$5.00 towards scholarships. Also, you will receive a baseball type jersey with the Detroit Pistons logo and the Italian flag affixed on the arm sleeve.

After the game, if time permits, we will have an opportunity to meet Detroit Pistons Italian player Simone Fontecchio.

For those interested, we could purchase a block of group tickets. This would require a prior payment before ordering the group tickets. Please email Tony De Luca, at: iacoflansing@gmail.com, for more details or to request ticket purchase. Also, if there is a large enough group, we can look into possible bus transportation to the game with an additional minimal fee for the bus.

See the attached flyer within this newsletter.

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The IAC of Lansing also made a \$1,000.00 donation to the St. Louis Center of Chelsea, from the proceeds of the October - Italian Dinner Night.

The Center is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) residential community in Chelsea, MI for individuals with I/DD.

St. Louis Center is licensed by the State of Michigan and accredited by CARF International, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. CARF is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services.

Former IAC board member Fr. Enzo Addari, was formerly the Executive Director for many years.



A good cause to support!

IAC OF LANSING—GIVES BACK TO COMMUNITY

Board members of the IAC of Lansing recently presented a \$1,000.00 check to Joe Enerson, Executive Director, Allen Neighborhood Center (ANC). The Center serves as a dynamic hub where Lansing Eastside neighbors access resources to improve their health and well-being; expand their capacity to seize job and entrepreneurial opportunities; create a strong sense of place, belonging, and community pride; and build a safe, sustainable, and thriving neighborhood. The proceeds were from the ticket sales of the October - Italian Dinner Night.



Pictured: L/R—Steve La Macchia, Joe Enerson (ANC), Tony De Luca, Carmen De Lorenzo, Giorgio Burigana, and Dane Dario.



ITALIAN HERITAGE GAME

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 | 3:00PM



VS.



Please join us for Italian Heritage Night at Little Caesars Arena as the Detroit Pistons take on Chicago Bulls! This event is organized under the Auspices of the Consulate of Italy in Detroit and the Com.It.Es of Detroit. With the purchase of a ticket through this link, you will receive a Special Edition Pistons x Italian Heritage Baseball Style Jersey that you can redeem at the Pistons game.

Please place orders quickly because spots are limited!

LOWER LEVEL SEMI-CORNER: \$65 (\$70 VALUE)

LOWER LEVEL ENDZONE: \$45 (\$62 VALUE)

MEZZANINE LEVEL ENDZONE: \$33 (\$46 VALUE)

Ticket Includes: Special Edition Pistons x Italian Heritage Baseball Jersey!

(Must purchase your tickets through this link to get these add-ons and be part of the group)



Consulate of Italy
Detroit



TO GET YOUR TICKETS, VISIT:
WWW.PISTONS.COM/ITALIAN

FOR QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

THOMAS HART | 313-771-5532 | THART@PISTONS.COM

DEADLINE TO PURCHASE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st

**ITALIAN AMERICAN
CLUB OF LANSING**

Our Mission is to foster and maintain our proud Italian heritage, culture, and traditions for the next generations

We offer a variety of activities, from cultural, sports concerts, dinner, events. We love to gather for festivals celebrating our common heritage. From here to Detroit we are all one group united in a common cause: community and the love for God, Country and Family.

MARK YOUR 2025 CALENDARS!

We are planning a full calendar of events for 2025 and we look forward to your support and attendance at the many events. Here is a short list of some scheduled events:

- **Italian Heritage Night—Little Ceasar Arena—Sunday, February 2nd**
- **San Francesco da Paola celebration—late March, or early April**
- **Annul Meeting—May**
- **Italian Super Bowl (American Football), in Toledo. July**
- **St. Ippolito Festival—Sunday, August 10th**
- **Tailgate Event— September**
- **Italian Dinner Night—October**
- **Christmas Party—December**
- **Golf, Trivia, Bowling, Bocce events will be scheduled in various months.**
- **Other events not listed could be added.**

Please note that dates and times will be provided later and are subject to changes.

**ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB OF
LANSING**

P.O Box 27456
Lansing, MI 48901

E-mail: iacoflansing@gmail.com



**JOIN THE IAC OF LANSING TODAY!
HELP MAINTAIN THE BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN
HERITAGE, CULTURE, AND TRADITIONS!**

OR

BECOME A SUPPORTIVE SPONSOR!

(See attachments)...

<https://www.lansingiac.org/>

Like us on Facebook



Italian American Club of Lansing

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Membership year is May 1st to April 30th)

Member(s) Name: _____

Italian Family Name Affiliation (if applicable) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

Family Membership: *(names of children)*

Membership Fee: *(check applicable category):*

- \$45.00/Family** (children up to 18 years of age) **\$35.00/Individual** (18 years or older)
 \$15.00/Senior/Retiree (70 years & older) **\$20.00/Student** (ages 18 to 25)
 \$30.00/Associate/Supporter (referred by 2 active members)

Referred by: _____

Mail Application and Payment: Italian American Club of Lansing
P.O. Box 27456
Lansing, MI 48909

If you have questions, please email buriganagiorgio@gmail.com.

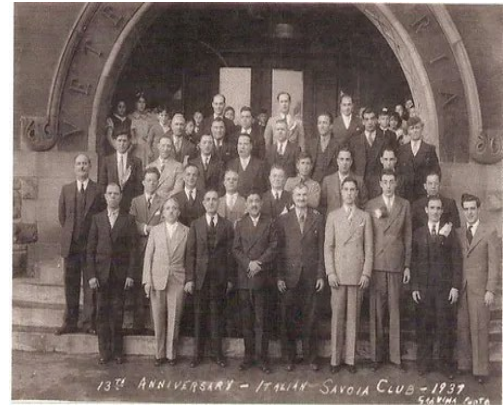
Maintain the Italian heritage, culture, and traditions by supporting the IAC of Lansing!



Thank you for your support!
Become a sponsor today!
Grazie!

The Italian American Club of Lansing

Inc. 1971



Founded in 1935, by a group of Italians who were very grateful to their adopted country for the opportunities given them and fiercely proud of their heritage.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Option 1- Platinum Package \$500 per year

- Full Page Advertisement in the Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Verbal Thank You at Annual Events, on Facebook, and logo at events.
- Opportunity to offer 10% discount on food or services to IACL members, listing on the website.

Option 2- Gold Package \$250 per year

- Half Page Advertisement in the Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Verbal Thank You at Annual Events, and on Facebook
- Opportunity to offer 10% discount on food or services to IACL members, listing on the website.

Option 3- Silver Package \$100 per year

- Quarter Page Advertisement in the Bi-Monthly Newsletter
- Verbal Thank You at Annual Events
- Opportunity to offer 10% discount on food or services to IACL members, listing on the website.

Option 4 - Individual sponsorship \$50 – recognition in November/December newsletter.

Interested in being a Sponsor? Please email: iacoflansing@gmail.com.

Thank you. Grazie.

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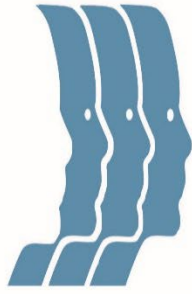
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The Orlando Agency
806 Hogsback Rd., Ste. B
Mason, MI
(517)969-5300

Valentino Orlando, Agent



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Italian American Club of Lansing

SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

Sponsorship Level: *(circle applicable level)*

\$500.00 - Platinum

\$250.00 - Gold

\$100.00 - Silver

\$50.00 - Individual

Sponsorship Category: *(check applicable category)*

General Sponsorship *(One year – May 1st to April 30^t, newsletters, website)*

Event Sponsorship *(Recognition at event)*

Mail Application and Payment: Italian American Club of Lansing
P.O. Box 27456
Lansing, MI 48909

If you have questions, please email: Tony De Luca, at deluca_iac@yahoo.com

Maintain the Italian heritage, culture, and traditions by supporting the IAC of Lansing!

Thank you. Grazie!