

LITTLE ITALY NEWS * NOVEMBER 2005

LET'S GET IT STARTED!

Welcome to the first edition of the LITTLE ITALY NEWS. The goal of this newsletter is to improve the quality of life for everyone living and working in our historic Troy neighborhood – from Ferry to Ida, on 4th, 5th, and Hill, and everywhere in between.

Community involvement is crucial – whether you are a renter, a homeowner, or a business owner, we want to hear from you! Please send your news or announcements by e-mail to jaycubed@earthlink.net or call Jean Krueger at 272-4972. Also, volunteers are needed for hand-delivering monthly issues to mailboxes in our neighborhood – we can use your help to get the news out to everyone! Extra copies of the LITTLE ITALY NEWS can be found in local shops including Allblues Sewing & Alterations, Vanilla Bean, Flavour Café, Spirits of Troy, and DeFazio's. (If you prefer to receive the Little Italy News via e-mail, just let us know – you can help us save on printing costs!)

FIRST EMPTY BOWLS PROJECT A BELLY FILLING SUCCESS

Well, we did it folks: The first-ever "Empty Bowls Project" held at the Italian Community Center on Sunday, October 2, was an amazing event. The bowl-and-luncheon gathering was packed from the start, and the beautiful handmade bowls (and delicious "dishes," too, provided by local restaurants) sold out in less than two hours. Our neighborhood raised more than \$11,000 for Troy Area United Ministries and needy folks in our communities. Next year's Empty Bowls event is already being planned!

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

Everyone is invited and **encouraged** to take part in a brief neighborhood cleanup on Saturday, November 5 from 9 am to noon (rain date: Sat, Nov. 12, same time). Did you know that our cross streets (named streets, like Liberty and Washington) do NOT get regular street cleaning by the City? It's up to us to keep our side streets, sidewalks, gutters,

and alleys from becoming clogged with unsightly and unsanitary trash. Meet at the Italian Market (Hill St between Liberty and Washington, behind Vanilla Bean) at 9am. Trash bags will be provided, but bring your own gloves and maybe a rake or broom. Call 272-4972 for more info – then BE THERE.

PIONEER SUPPORTS HOMES HERE

If you haven't heard the news yet, listen up: Pioneer Savings Bank has developed a selection of amazing new loan programs especially for homebuyers or business owners ready to settle into the Little Italy area. The details are just too many to list here: Call Pioneer, Troy's "hometown bank," at 274-4800 and ask for any loan officer, then tell them you want to hear all about Little Italy!

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES

Election Day is November 8 and Little Italy is located in districts four and five. Troy City Council Candidates from district four are William Pascarell (Republican) and William S. Dunne (Democrat). Locals Bob Krogh and Frank Lamiano represent district 5.

LOOK UP FOR BRAND-NEW BANNERS BY T-DAY

Many of our colorful and distinctive "Little Italy" street banners have lost their charm due to weather and time. Luckily, 22 brand-new banners made of sturdy vinyl should be installed by Thanksgiving, keeping the spirit alive and letting drivers and pedestrians alike know they've entered our up-and-coming neighborhood. Hope they brought their appetites for Italian food, coffee, pastry...

MONDAY NIGHT LANGUAGE CLASSES & MOVIES CONTINUE

Through the fall, Monday nights will continue to be a great time to learn some conversational Italian, while sipping an espresso (or a hot chocolate), and then indulging in some Latin drama on the (pretty) big screen at Flavour Café. Classes are ongoing (drop-ins are

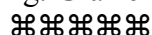
welcome), begin at 7 pm on Mondays, and cost \$10; a different movie each week follows after class at about 8 pm. The teacher is veteran Emma Willard instructor Marilyn Hunter.

REGIONAL LITTLE ITALY CONFERENCE BUS TRIP

On Friday, November 4, the Second Annual Little Italy Conference will be held in Rome, NY from 9 am to 5 pm. This gathering will help everyone understand what Little Italy neighborhoods are all about and what the movement is trying to accomplish on a statewide level to revitalize and restore these historic areas. A chartered bus (\$20) will make the trip to Rome, NY, bringing people to the conference from Albany, Troy, and Schenectady to the conference. To learn more about the conference and register go to www.LittleItalyConference.com. To register for the bus, call Rocco DeFazio at 274-8866.

FEATURED LI BUSINESS:

Special thanks to DeFazio's Imports & Pizzeria for covering the printing costs for this issue of the LITTLE ITALY NEWS. Rocco and family are staunch supporters of the neighborhood and can always be counted on for bringing folks together, whether over a fabulous Italian meal or at a community meeting. Grazie mille!



Would you like to sponsor the next issue of LITTLE ITALY NEWS? Please let us know: e-mail jaycubed@earthlink.net or call Jean Krueger at 272-4972.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

The annual election eve Spaghetti Supper (which has been held for years) will happen at St. Mary's Church Parish Center on Monday, November 7 from 11 am to 7 pm. Please use the Washington Street entrance to the Donaghy Parish Center in the basement of St. Mary's Parish. Take out is available.

"MARKET GANG" REUNION PLANNED FOR THE SPRING

Stay tuned for a Market Gang reunion of Little Italy originals and their families happening this spring. A planning meeting will be held on November 4 and

you can look for updates on the reunion in future issues of the LITTLE ITALY NEWS.

L.I. IN THE NEWS!

On October 23, our own Mike Esposito authored a glowing article on the positive things happening in South Central Troy (uh, right HERE). Mike must be a journalist at heart, as he never misses a chance to contribute to the Troy Record and spread the good word about Little Italy. Thanks, Mike!

JOIN A WHIRLWIND TOUR OF ITALY THIS MARCH

Community members are invited to join Emma Willard's annual spring trip to Italy, from March 11 to March 23, 2006. The whirlwind tour includes Venice, Florence, Sorrento, Rome, and Naples, with nearly all expenses included in the cost of \$3159. A \$95 deposit is required before the end of November; the balance must be paid by December 1. For important details and to register, contact Marilyn Hunter at 833-1371.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Mondays, ongoing, 7 pm @ Flavour Café: Italian language classes & movies with Marilyn Hunter (\$10, drop-ins welcome)
- Tuesday, November 1, 7 pm @ Flavour Café: Little Italy update meeting with Rocco DeFazio, all are welcome
- Friday, November 4. Bus trip to the Little Italy Conference in Rome, NY. Call Rocco DeFazio for more info (271-1111), or visit www.littleitalyconference.org
- Saturday, November 5, meet at 9 am in the Marketplace (Hill & Liberty): Neighborhood Cleanup
- Monday, November 7, 11 am-7 pm, Spaghetti Supper at St. Mary's Parish
- Tuesday, November 8, Election Day
- Thanksgiving morning, First Annual Bocce Ball Tournament. Call Rocco DeFazio to sign up and for more info (271-1111)