



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PADRE PIO

Saturdays in downtown Los Angeles and Glendale, California, offer welcome relief for area homeless. That's when the Capuchin Food Truck arrives to serve freshly cooked meals to those who need them. The truck is staffed by Capuchin friars and volunteers, and the meals are funded by the Padre Pio Foundation of America. "We made tiramisù to celebrate St. Francis' Feast Day," Fr. Christopher says. "Many guests had never had it before and could not believe that such a wonderful dessert had been made just for them. They were so excited!" During special events like that, the friars feed up to 400 people a day." St. Pio is arguably the world's most famous member of the Capuchin order. To donate, visit padrepio.com.

TO AND FROM NAPLES, WITH LOVE

The National Italian American Foundation and the city of Naples, Italy, have embarked on a collaboration aimed at promoting ties between the region and the United States. The partnership seeks to strengthen the cultural and commercial exchanges between Naples and America, while reinforcing the bonds between the region and Americans with Neapolitan roots. The collaboration will include cultural events, programs and trade initiatives. The agreement was signed by NIAF Chairman Robert Carlucci and Naples Mayor Gaetano Manfredi at Naples City Hall in the presence of Tracy Roberts-Pounds, the U.S. consul general to Naples, and a delegation of NIAF board members.



NEXT STOP, HOLLYWOOD

The Conference of Presidents of Major Italian American Organizations had a lot to celebrate when they gathered in New York in July. Now 60 organizations strong, COPOMIAO has hosted three Zoom summit meetings, spearheaded a national drive to convince the White House to issue a properly worded Columbus Day proclamation and hosted a youth future leadership conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Now, the organization is turning its attention to Hollywood, mapping out plans for a gathering to celebrate Italian-American contributions to the entertainment industry. Hosting the conference will be Anthony and Joe Russo, acclaimed film producers and directors and sons of COPOMIAO President Basil Russo. (COPOMIAO.org.)

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