



# Casa Italia

*Home of the Italian Cultural Center*

1621 N. 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Stone Park, IL 60165

A rebirth for Casa Italia!

Saluti ai miei concittadini Italiani,

As the new Chairman of Casa Italia I wanted to share with you some wonderful news, Casa Italia is reborn! As many of you know the Village of Stone Park purchased the land that Casa Italia resides on from the Scalabrini's in 2024. The Village has entered into a long term lease with Casa Italia. There has been a lot of misinformation about this and I wanted to make sure everyone has accurate information. Here are some bullet points so it is easy to follow:

- The Village of Stone Park is our new landlord. They will be responsible for maintaining the nearly 17 acres of grounds.
- Casa Italia and the Italian Cultural Center will still be in the same building. Our library, meeting room and museums will remain in place in the Cultural Center building.
- The Community Center building which houses most notably the Chandelier Room will remain with Casa Italia.
- Both buildings will be renovated, with the Community Center building being the first one under construction. We envision some great enhancements to both properties, and once we have our final plans completed, we will share them with everyone.
- During construction the Community Center will not be open to the public, but I promise to share with you photographs of our progress.
- The office center will be torn down, along with the Restaurant/Banquet Center. They are in terrible condition and it's time. Holy Hill/Calvary Hill will be preserved and the Grand entry to the Cultural Center will be unchanged.
- The Festival Center will remain and be in the control of the Village of Stone Park as its new owner. Casa Italia will still have the use of the Festival Center for select events, including the Festa Della Famiglia – honoring San Francesco di Paola, Children's Summer Camp, Dancing under the Stars and our Christmas Village.
- Italian organizations may rent the Pavilion directly through the Village of Stone Park. You should contact them and reserve your dates as soon as possible.
- The Casa Italia office is now located in the Cultural Center, along with our friends from Patronato ACLI (Associazioni Cristiane dei Lavoratori Italiani). Nancy and Darrell have some great space.
- The grounds will now house a new Stone Park Police Department headquarters.
- Memorial bricks will be relocated in a new area of the grounds. Please do not remove your brick(s).

I wish to thank you all for your ongoing support. Once this is all completed we will be better than ever. I appreciate everyone's understanding during construction, it is never easy and can be inconvenient at times, but trust me that it will be worth the pain.

Keep your eyes open for frequent communications and events that we will be doing "on and off campus" during construction. Also please reach out to me to answer any questions you may have, don't listen to rumors or third party communication. I know I am not a perfect person, but I can tell you I will tell it like it is. If you are a part of an organization, I am happy to attend your organization's meetings and present to your membership. Thank you for the honor to serve once again as the Chairman of Casa Italia, I am humbled by your trust.

Con il cambiamento c'è opportunità

Peter Volpe  
Chairman  
Casa Italia

*Casa Italia, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.*

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