



Carlucci and Leonetti

NIAF INKS PARTNERSHIP WITH CANADIAN GROUP

The National Italian American Foundation and the National Federation of Canadian Italian Business and Professional Associations signed a protocol of cooperation at the Italian consulate in New York in April. Inked by NIAF Chairman Bob Carlucci and CIBPA-NF President Gianni Leonetti, the agreement commits the organizations to a series of joint initiatives over the next three years. Key areas of collaboration include facilitating the citizenship process for Italian Americans and Italian Canadians; promoting “roots tourism” travel to Italy; organizing academic and cultural exchanges between Italy, the U.S. and Canada; and cross-promoting the accomplishments of notable Italian Americans and Italian Canadians.

UNICO BESTOWS HONORS AT MID-YEAR MEETING

UNICO National celebrated the achievements of Italian Americans at its Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting and Presidential Awards Banquet in March. Asphalt Paving Systems founder Bob Capoferri received the Lifetime Achievement Award in Business and NFL quarterback Joe Flacco received the Vince Lombardi Award. The awards were presented by ESPN Correspondent Sal Paolantonio, Congressman Jeff Van Drew and UNICO National President Ralph Contini. Also honored was Denise Ingui of the Rare is Beautiful foundation, which seeks cures for rare diseases. Among the honorees at UNICO’s annual convention this July will be Paolantonio; Public Service Enterprise Group CEO Ralph LaRossa; and retired Air Force Master Sergeant John Dunne III. (unico.org)



Paolantonio, Van Drew, Capoferri and Contini



NIAF FINANCIALLY BACKS CREATION OF ‘CABRINI’

The National Italian American Foundation was among many organizations, corporations and individuals that helped finance the creation of the groundbreaking film “Cabrini.” The biopic about St. Frances Cabrini’s early years in America is an important and timely movie for a variety of reasons, according to NIAF President Robert Allegrini. “First, as immigration dominates the news, the film provides a glimpse into the horrible prejudice that legal Italian immigrants had to endure at the turn of the 20th century,” Allegrini told the Washington Examiner. “Also, as female empowerment remains an important goal, the film shows the power of this determined Italian-American woman who, through sheer grit and confidence in the righteousness of her work, went on to become one of this country’s first female CEOs as well as the first American saint.” (niaf.org)



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