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ItalianAmerica

WINTER 2018

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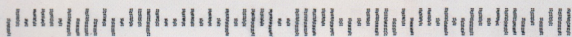
One Year in Genoa

Perché Italiano?

The Many Reasons for Studying Italian

The Face of Defeat

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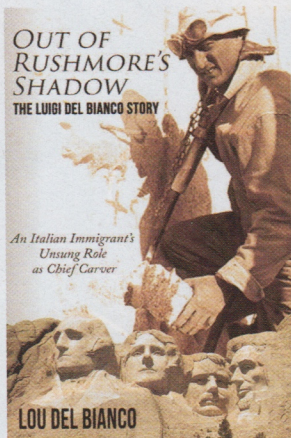
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Mount Rushmore's Chief Carver Finally Gains Recognition

On September 16, 2017, the National Park Service unveiled the plaque that honors Luigi Del Bianco, officially recognizing him as Chief Carver of Mount Rushmore. The ceremony, which took place at Mount Rushmore's Lincoln Borglum Visitor Center Museum, was a culmination of 25 years of perseverance—the time it took Luigi's grandson, Lou, to have his grandfather publicly recognized.

In conjunction with this special moment, Lou released his new book—*Out of Rushmore's Shadow: The Luigi Del Bianco Story*. The book recounts Lou's experience uncovering his grandfather's important past through historical documents that were tucked away in the Library of Congress. It then follows Lou's journey as he fights for recognition of his grandfather's rightful place in history.



Inside the book's front cover is a quote from Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America's Immediate Past National President Daniel J. Longo, who offered his praise. "With all of Italy's richness in culture and craftsmanship, Luigi Del Bianco serves as a prime example of what Italians have contributed to our great nation," Longo's quote says.

Barnes & Noble Founder Recognizes Italian-American Writers

Serving as Grand Marshall to New York City's 2017 Columbus Day Parade, Barnes & Noble Chairman and Founder Leonard Riggio took the opportunity to place the spotlight on Italian-American writers. He invited over 100 published Italian-American writers to take part in the parade. "I have long held the belief that Italian-American writers have received little recognition for their contribution to America's literary heritage," Riggio said in a statement released prior to the parade. "This is my way of saying that our writers—our Italian-American authors—belong in the pantheon of cultural America."

Among the authors in attendance were Barnes & Noble staples David Baldacci, Nelson DeMille, Lisa Scottoline, Gay Talese, and Adriana Trigiani. The parade was also attended by the likes of Andrew Cuomo, Tony Danza, and astronaut Mike Massimino.

Several others in attendance included many writers whose articles or books have appeared in *Italian America* magazine.

Meatball Record Set in South Carolina

The Italian-American Club of Hilton Head (HHI Club) broke the Guinness World Record for "World's Largest Meatball" at their Italian Heritage Festival in South Carolina. The HHI Club constructed a meatball weighing 1,707 lb. 8 oz.—nearly 600 pounds more than the previous record. Even Mike Janela, the Guinness certifier, was impressed. "They made sure there was no doubt about the status of this record," he said.

Once the record was official and after festival attendees sampled it, the meatball was divided and delivered to Second Helpings, where it was served to over 400 in need.

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