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MUSIC HISTORY TRADITIONS

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Congratulations to
Festa Italia
and
Monterey Bay Commercial Fishermen
It is our pleasure to return after 2 years and welcome everyone to the grand Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Festival.

This year marks our 89th blessing of the fishing fleet and honoring the history of the fishing Industry in Monterey.

As usual we invite everyone to become a part of our heritage and tradition of “being Italian” during the three days of festivities. Please enjoy the food, music, crafts, and all that we work year round to bring to the event; the camaraderie and good cheer. Without the sacrifice, dedication and blood sweat and tears that our local fishermen have given this community, Monterey would not be what it is today. We thank all the volunteers, the board, committee members, and our sponsors, donors and advertisers. Please eat, drink, and be Italian! Ciao & Mille Grazie
Welcome Friends, Community Members and Visitors:

**Festa Italia is back!**

As President of the Festa Italia Foundation, I am extremely pleased to welcome all of you to the 89th Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Festival here at the Historic Custom House Plaza on the Monterey Bay in my hometown. We gather to honor Italian Sicilian Heritage, to honor our fathers and grandfathers who fished, and the women and men Cannery Workers whose dedication and hard work made Monterey the Sardine Capital of the World during WWII. They helped establish the Monterey Communities and Businesses that continue and thrive today. At our Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Celebration we share traditional foods, listen to favorite Italian songs and music from pop to Opera, enjoy the Tarantella and dance to celebrate our culture.

We Italian Sicilians are resilient, we are strong, we are tough and are dedicated to return the Festa to the beautiful Monterey Custom House Plaza. The traditional opening procession continues this year led by the statue of Santa Rosalia the “Patron Saint of Fishermen,” ending on Monterey’s Fisherman’s Wharf with the blessing of fishermen and the fishing fleet. After the blessing the statue of Santa Rosalia is returned to the Plaza where she watches over our families, friends and visitors. I would like to share her story: Born in 1130AD Santa Rosalia is the patron saint of Palermo, Sicily. She was born to a noble family; devoutly religious she chose to live as a hermit in a cave guided there by 2 angels; located on Mount Joe Cardinalli overlooking Palermo, where she died in 1166AD. One of her most famous appearances was in 1624AD, a deadly plague was raging in Palermo, long after she had died, she showed herself first to a sick woman and then to a Hunter to whom she indicated where her remains would be found. She instructed him to bring her bones to Palermo and have them carried in a procession throughout the city. The Hunter did what she asked and carried them through the city; after the procession the plague ended. It is our hope that COVID-19 will end.

Speaking on behalf of the Festa Italia Foundation Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, Members and Volunteers, we are delighted to bring back Festa Italia after a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our goals are to bring the tradition of Festa Italia Santa Rosalia back to Monterey and to keep everyone safe.

Viva Festa Italia! Viva Santa Rosalia!

Most Sincerely,

Joe Cardinalli
President Festa Italia

Looking forward to 2023 Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Fisherman’s Festival 90th Anniversary
2022 FESTA ITALIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Cardinalli  Frank Campo  Antonia Rucello  Alice Flores  Joanna Napoli
Christina Serca  Candice Aliotti  Joe Campo  Gasper Spadaro  Francesca Theroux  Sebastian Crivello

2022 FESTA ITALIA
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Welcome to the Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Fisherman’s Festival!

On behalf of the Monterey City Council and citizens of Monterey, I am pleased
to welcome you to Monterey, a special place with rich history, diverse culture
and stunning beauty. As we celebrate the Santa Rosalia Festival, we are
reminded of our small town feeling, with neighbors knowing neighbors, an all of
us working together to preserve our beautiful town and heritage.

The first Festa in Monterey was celebrated in 1933, when a statue of Santa
Rosalia the patron saint of Sicilian fishermen, was donated to the San Carlos
Cathedral. Sicilian fishermen would pray to their patron saint for a safe journey
and bountiful harvest.

It is important that we remember our cultural heritage and pass it on to future
generations. Let’s continue to celebrate traditions and keep our stories, old
and new, alive to ensure that our heritage is never lost, and Monterey remains
the Language Capital of the World.

During my 35 year teaching career, it was an honor for me to teach Monterey’s
children, many of Italian heritage. Along with their families, we remain friends to
this day.

The Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Committee has worked tirelessly to deliver
outstanding music, traditional Italian dances, delicious food and many fun-filled
activities for the entire family. Wherever you look, you can see the contributions
Italian-American families have made to Monterey. We look forward to sharing
stories from times past and enjoying the company of the wonderful citizens of
our community at the 86th annual Santa Rosalia Festival.

In Appreciation,

Clyde Roberson
Mayor
A proud sponsor of this year's Festa Italia Fisherman's Festival

Enjoy some of our locally-caught fresh calamari right here at the festival. Lightly breaded and fried, come taste the quality of our Ocean Angel Brand.

With three generations experience in the seafood and fishing industry, we are a family owned business based on the Monterey Bay Peninsula. With a 40 year history as vessel owners, seafood producers and processors, we have continued to support and help stimulate our local economy while supplying sustainably-sourced calamari to our community.
# Festa Italia

## Entertainment Schedule
Santa Rosalia Fisherman's Festival 2022
September 09, 10, & 11

### Friday, September 09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM - 9:00 PM</td>
<td>The Money Band</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Saturday, September 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM – 12 PM</td>
<td>Opening Ceremonies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Mike Marotta and Friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 PM – 2:15 PM</td>
<td>Anthony Lane Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 PM – 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Pasquale Esposito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45PM – 4:45 PM</td>
<td>Anthony Lane Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM – 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Pasquale Esposito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM – 9:00 PM</td>
<td>831 ALLSTAR Band</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sunday, September 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM – 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Anthony Lane Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 PM – 2:15 PM</td>
<td>Pasquale Esposito</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM – 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Pasquale Esposito</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Saturday and Sunday Festival opens at 10AM
Santa Rosalia Fisherman's Festival 2014
Monterey Bay
Saturday, September 6
Sunday, September 7
11:00 AM Emcee David Marzetti
11:15 AM-12:15PM Operation rock
12:30PM National Anthem plus welcome by Mayor Chuck Della Sala and Bishop Garcia
1:00 PM-1:45 PM Pasquale Esposito
2:00 PM-2:45 PM Anthony Lane Band
3:00 PM-4:00 PM Festa All-Stars including Mike Marotta Sr., Mike Marotta Jr., Ree Brunell, Oracio Aiello, David Marzetti, Dennis Murphy, and David Morwood
4:15 PM-5:00 PM Pasquale Esposito
5:15 PM-6:00 PM Anthony Lane Band

10:45 AM Emcee David Marzetti
11:00 AM-12:00 PM Anthony Lane Band
12:00 PM-1:00 PM Pasquale Esposito
1:15 PM-2:30 PM Festa All-Stars including Mike Marotta Sr., Mike Marotta Jr., Ree Brunell, Oracio Aiello, David Marzetti, Dennis Murphy, and David Morwood
2:45 PM-4:00 PM Anthony Lane band
4:15 PM-5:30 PM Pasquale Esposito

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Mike Marotta and Friends

Mike Marotta Jr., a Monterey native, is the third generation of Marottas to entertain Monterey Peninsula audiences. For over 45 years, he has performed all styles of popular music on accordion and piano with the Marotta Band.

Erasmo “Orazio” Aiello

Erasmo ‘Orazio’ Aiello comes from Palermo, Sicily. He has been discovered by musicians eager to share his gift of singing traditional Italian songs and opera with wider audiences. During the day he practices while baking bread at his famous Palermo Bakery.

David Marzetti, Master of Ceremonies/Singer

This is the 28th year that David Marzetti has emceed and performed at Festa Italia with his close friend, Mike Marotta. David comes from a radio background that spans over 40 years. He currently hosts a radio show every Saturday morning called the “Shag Bag” on 1460 AM/101 FM KION, as well as Sundays with Sinatra: Live from Old Fisherman’s Wharf on KMBY 1240 AM/95.9 FM every Sunday morning. David spent many years working at the Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau promoting the region. He is highly regarded as “Monterey’s Emcee” and hosts many local functions and fundraisers.

Anthony Lane Band

Anthony Lane was born as Antonino Pasquale Cotroneo in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. At the young age of ten Nino began to perform with many bands in the Italian community. Singing mainly in Italian he was known as “the little Italian Singer” At the Age of fourteen he decided to leave his Italian sound and begin his first rock Band “Double Vision” later to be called “Clear Cut” they went on to record three albums. Throughout the 80’s Anthony was a part of a powerful musical team. To make it easier in the Music Business Anthony changed his name to Lane (Plain Lane is what he would say!) To keep Music alive Nino purchased the Legendary FOX THEATER in Salinas, California where he brings major shows and events. Anthony decided to follow his heart and sing the music he once enjoyed - Classic Italian.

Pasquale Esposito

was born and raised in Naples, Italy. He immigrated to the United States winning the Green Card Lottery in 1998. He pursued his passion for music by studying at San Jose State University receiving his Bachelor of Arts Degree where he was a distinguished alumnus in 2009. He is an international cross-over recording artist, acclaimed for his pop-opera delivery of songs. Esposito released 9 albums and began touring internationally with his first musical revue: Naples … That’s Amore in 2005. Thereafter, he toured with his CD of Original Compositions: A Brand New Me (2009) and Il Tempo (2011).
THE MONEY BAND

Led by charismatic lead vocalist and harmonica player Zoe Alexander, The Money Band performs with a remarkable intensity and fire that garners new fans and critical acclaim wherever and whenever they play. Playing every style from country to funk to disco to classic rock, reggae, modern rock and pop, with songs from the Beatles, Elvis, Johnny Cash, Van Morrison, The Rolling Stones, Kid Rock, Jason Mraz, Oasis, Sublime, Maroon 5 and many more of your favorites, The Money Band will have you and your guests “All Shook Up,” and the dance floor will be packed all night long.

The Money Band has shared the stage with many major acts including Steve Winwood, The Dixie Chicks, Kenny Chesney, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Dave Mason, Link Wray, The Stray Cats, The Byrds, James Burton and many, many more. They have toured and performed all over the United States as well as internationally, with dates in Europe including England, The Netherlands, Italy, and France.

Additionally, they have performed for weddings and private parties at some of the most prestigious hotels and venues both locally and around the world, including The Lodge at Pebble Beach, Chateau Julien, The Inn at Spanish Bay, The Asilomar Conference Grounds, Carmel Mission Ranch, The Holly Farm, Corral De Tierra Country Club, Paraiso Vineyards, The Coconut Grove in Santa Cruz, The Peabody in Memphis, TN, and The Hotel Negresco in Nice, France, to name just a few.

The Money Band has been voted Best Band by readers of Monterey County Weekly and Carmel Pine Cone numerous years.

831 ALLSTAR BAND

The 831 ALLSTAR Band is exploding onto the Central Coast with their new powerful sound. From Earth, Wind & Fire – showcasing their powerful horn section - to Cumbia, Salsa and Santana-style music highlighting their amazing rhythm section – all members have years of experience under their belts and were the foundation behind the legendary Chicano All Stars.

This band is hot! If you want to dance, well get ready! The 831 ALLSTAR Band is here.
Keeping the Italian-Sicilian Culture and way of life alive is what the Festa Italia is all about. The Italian and Sicilian fishermen and their families are who built this community that we all today call home. They brought jobs, housing, and prosperity to Monterey many years ago with the fishing and canning industries. The Santa Rosalia Festa Italia of Monterey is the celebration of the patron saint of the fishermen. This festival in Monterey makes many contributions in the form of scholarships, donations to San Carlos School and Church, and more.

During the admission free 3 days of the Festa more than 20,000 people attend the festivities enjoying Italian and Sicilian style music, food, entertainment, and fun. From the amazing caliber of top entertainment, delicious authentic food, premier bocce tournament, authentic Italian-Sicilian gifts, Monterey’s very own Tarantella Dancers who delight the crowd with colorful Italian costumes and traditional dancing. The Festa is the perfect way to celebrate anything and everything Italian and Sicilian from the Bocce ball tournament, raffle prizes, and authentic food; to the parade, crowning of the Santa Rosalia Statue and blessing of the fleet on the wharf; the festival is the place to be every September! We have a dedicated, hard working and enthusiastic board and committee that work year round to put on the first class festivities at the Festa. As always we have to thank our sponsors who are too numerous to list, but each and every one knows how grateful we are for their continued support. With the generous support Festa Italia, is able to continue this wonderful festival, which enriches the community through promoting and preserving the heritage, traditions, and cultures of Monterey’s Italian-Sicilian Americans.
Carmel Capital Group

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In 1933 the tradition of the blessing of the fishing fleet and praying for the fishermen by Santa Rosalia was established in Monterey. The four women credited with establishing the ceremony are Francesca (Ferranti) Giamona, Giovanna Balbo, Rosa Ferrante and Domenica Enea. The ceremony was funded by donations from the fishermen. The first two annual ceremonies consisted of a benediction and reception in the San Carlos church parish hall, followed by a procession to the wharf to bless the fishing fleet. The procession was usually led by young girls dressed in white to represent angels. Following the “angels” was an Italian-style band usually from the Italian Catholic Federation in Pittsburg. Behind the band came the fishermen carrying the statue of Santa Rosalia on their shoulders, and later on a float. And, finally, came the congregation and the community. This group was usually led by the older women of the community dressed in traditional Sicilian black singing hymns.

In 1936, the State Convention of the Italian Catholic Federation was held in Monterey and was coupled with the Santa Rosalia ceremony. The event brought a tremendous number of people from all over the state and thereafter was termed the Santa Rosalia Festival and grew larger each year. In the late 1940s and early 1950s crowds of 40,00 to 50,000 attended the annual celebration.

Central to the celebration was always the thought that the lives and vessels of the fishermen were to be protected from the dangerous sea through the intercession of Santa Rosalia. Our mission is to honor those men and women who left their homes in Sicily and established new lives in the State of California. Their cultural heritage and labors contributed greatly to the growth of the City of Monterey and the establishment of Monterey as the “Sardine Capitol of the World”.

Over the years, the Festival has taken many forms. At times referred to as the Fisherman’s Festival and other times the Santa Rosalia Festival, the festivities have included parades, dances, outdoor Masses, and festival queens. But, no matter what else may have been included, the Festival has always concluded with the procession to the waterfront and the blessing of the fleet.

In 1997 the Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization was incorporated. Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Foundation, Inc. and the board of directors are responsible for planning and implementing the Monterey Fisherman’s Festival along with several other fund raising events throughout the year. It is due to their hard work and dedication that the Monterey Fisherman’s Festival has achieved unprecedented success year after year.
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**Scholarships**
Each year, young ladies from all over the Monterey Peninsula proudly represent our Italian heritage as candidates for Santa Rosalia Fishermen’s Festival Queen. In August, The Coronation Ball Committee hosts a dinner dance celebration where a Queen is chosen in honor of the Festival. The Queen and her Court are young ladies of Italian descent, many of whom are daughters, granddaughters and descendants of local fishermen. In addition to the Queen’s Court, younger girls also participate in the Coronation ceremony as Princesses and Junior Princesses. Contestants are selected for their dedication to perpetuating Italian culture, commitment to education and passion for community service. The winner will receive $1,000 in scholarship money. The Queen is chosen from a pool of contestants and will serve for one full year. The Queen’s Court attends all Festa functions to help promote the events. They also are a symbol of grace and elegance atop a featured float in the Parade each year.

**Food, Beer and Wine**
Crowd favorites include calamari fritti and arancini. Special thanks to Joseph Capuccio and Joseph Roggio of Del Mar Seafoods for their help in processing the squid for this year’s calamari fritti.

Arancini are rice balls, stuffed with sauce, meat and cheese, rolled in bread crumbs then deep fried to a crispy golden brown. They were introduced to our festival in 2008 and have been selling out every year since. They are made fresh for the festival by our own volunteers.

Other crowd pleasers include steak sandwiches, sausage sandwiches, and pizza. And of course what would an Italian festival be without pasta and meatballs. Pasta sauce is made fresh and pasta is cooked on site and served hot to satisfy.

Desserts include cannolis with fresh ricotta filling and Italian Cookies. Visit the Beer and Wine booth for a glass of wine from local vineyards or an ice cold beer.

**Bocce**
One of the biggest draws to the Fishermans’ Festival is the Bocce Tournament. Each year teams travel from far away to compete for cash prizes, and bragging rights.

There is an entrance fee per team, which includes lunch. There is a 32 team maximum and teams are accepted on a first come first serve basis. Teams will be matched at random.

Your team must be able to play any time on Saturday and Sunday. Once your team is confirmed, you will be sent tournament rules. We encourage all Bocce enthusiasts young and old to participate. Have fun cheering on your favorite team, or learning rules and strategies at this exciting event.
Sebastian “Buster” Crivello is a hardworking, passionate, dedicated man with a “Yes, we can” attitude who is extremely proud of his Sicilian Italian heritage. In 2011 he was elected President of Monterey Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Foundation and continues to guide this year’s Festival as Immediate Past President of the non-profit organization. Born in Trapani, Sicily, he arrived in Monterey in 1961 with his father, Filippo Crivello, Mother Rosa and sister Phyllis. Within 24 hours of his arrival, instilled with a strong work ethic, he overcame jet lag and began working for Rappa’s Restaurant on Monterey’s Fisherman’s Wharf. He met Antoinette Spadaro, fell in love and they were married in 1969. They have two children, Phillip and Rosie, and four grandchildren, Gina, Michael, Leah, and Douglas, and great grandchildren: Dominic and Christopher.

Buster worked 43 years for Sea Products, a fish processing company, where he learned his vast management skills. A dedicated company man he managed several processing plants throughout California, including Crescent City, San Francisco, Oakland, Tomales Bay, San Pedro, Oxnard, Moss Landing, Seaside and Monterey. He served on the State of California Fishery Board for many years. He also fished the waters in Alaska for salmon and calamari in Monterey on the fishing vessel the “Sea Diamond”.

In 1997 Buster was one of the co-founders of the Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Foundation, establishing a 501© 3 nonprofit organization. The Foundation is a community based volunteer organization whose mission is to honor fishermen and their families who left their homes in Sicily and established new lives in the state of California. Buster was elected President of the Foundation Board of Directors in 2011 and remained steadfastly dedicated to raising funds for the “Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Fisherman’s Festival established in 1933 for purpose of promoting, sharing the heritage, tradition, cuisine and culture of the Italian Sicilian community of the Monterey Peninsula. He guided the Foundation to present cultural events, plan and implement the annual admission free Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Festival to honor the Fisherman families and bless the fishing fleet on the Monterey Wharf.

With Buster’s guidance, commitment and energy the annual festival brought thousands of families from the Monterey community and busloads of visitors from other cities throughout California to gather on the Custom House Plaza for the 3-day admission free Festa to enjoy food, fun, family, music and Bocce at the Family Friendly event. Buster oversees all aspects of the planning and implementation of the Festa to make sure it is successful for future generations to participate, share and enjoy. His grandchildren have been involved as participants in the Santa Rosalia procession for the blessing of the Fishermen and the fishing fleet. By involving his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, he hopes to preserve and instill in them the Sicilian traditions, history and culture which he brought with him to Monterey from Sicily.

Grazie Mille! Buster! Viva Festa Italia! Viva Santa Rosalia!
We’ve made a mark on our community.

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Mille Grazie!

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A Brief History of Bocce

- The first documented history of the game was in 5200 BC in a painting in an Egyptian tomb.
- Bocce spread through Palestine and by 600 BC was adopted by the Greeks, who passed it on to the Romans.
- In 1319 AD, Bocce was prohibited from play by anyone of lesser than noble status, as it was feared that it took too much time away from practical endeavors and military training.
- By 1519, the game once again became public and spread to places like Belgium and Holland.
- The Republic of Venice condemned the sport in 1576 and the Catholic Church prohibited clergymen from playing bocce.
- Guiseppe Garibaldi, sometimes referred to as the George Washington of Italy, popularized the sport and made it what it is today whilst unifying Italy.
- In 1896, the first Bocce Olympiad was played in Athens, Greece. It has been an international sport ever since.
- The first bocce clubs were formed in Italy and the first recorded Italian league was established in 1947. This was also the first year of the annual Bocce World Championships.
A Brief History of Bocce

Bocce Chairpersons:
Jeanette Mazzarino
Janelle Ansberry
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John Narigi
Chris Shake

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Our Mission: To honor and preserve the stories of the many Italian
fishermen and their families whose work ethic and achievements
helped to make Monterey the “Sardine Capital of the World.”

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: ITALIANHERITAGEOFMONTEREY.ORG

In Memory of Bishop Garcia
1947-2018

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If you are interested in learning more about our organization or have an interest in joining please contact: Elizabeth Grammatico 375-3666 or Ann Ferrante 375-1407

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Princesses

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Florence Cavaliere  Francesca Alvarez  Mia Russo  Olivia Ferrill  Tyler Catalano

Victoria Goldman  Isabella Aliotti  Madison Searle  Sophia Bruno
Ciao! – Hello! My name is Lainie Nozicka and I am the 2019-2020 Santa Rosalia Queen. It has been an honor to have been able to serve and represent our Festa Italia Santa Rosalia community as well as our Italian heritage. I am the daughter of Jiri and Elizabeth Nozicka, the granddaughter of Giuseppe and Elaine Pennisi from Monterey and Ladislav and Jana Nozicka in the Czech Republic and I am the sister of Ladislav and Giuseppe Nozicka. My late grandfather Giuseppe Pennisi was born in Sicily near the city of Catania. I have been participating in the Festa Italia since I was little, and I am very proud to have had the opportunity to spend my last year in the Queens Court as Queen. I have also been a tarantella dancer for Santa Rosalia for the last eight years. Participating in the Santa Rosalia has inspired me to continue to connect with my Italian ancestry. I am very grateful to have been able to participate in the festa all these years.

For the last two years I have been attending our local community college and in the fall I will be transferring to a four year university where I will be studying psychology and music. Earlier this year I also got my California State esthetician license and I am currently pursuing a career in the beauty industry as I attend university. I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone involved in putting together the Santa Rosalia every year and giving me the chance to be the 2019-2020 Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Queen. Viva Santa Rosalia!
Ciao! – Good evening everyone. My name is Isabella Marie Borgomini. I am currently a sophomore at the University of Southern California studying both film and law. It has been a true blessing to attend my dream school and it would not have been possible without the strong and perpetual support of my family; I am the daughter of Michelle and Ercole and the older sister of Domenic and Antonio.

I was about 5 years old when my involvement in the Santa Rosalia Festa Italia began. It means the world to me to have served as your 2020-2021 Queen as it has always been a dream of mine growing up. I still remember vividly, climbing onto the parade float as a young angel, being surrounded by the other girls, and looking up to the beautiful statue of Santa Rosalia. Throughout the years, I have always looked forward to this season. Though I was eager for an excuse to dress up, it meant so much more than that. I looked forward to coming together and celebrating our Italian ancestry; I looked forward to reflecting on just how much my Italian roots informed my identity. I remember even from a very young age, how much these traditions meant to me; how proud I was, and to this day am, to be descended from both the Anastasia and Borgomini bloodlines – strong and loving Italian families who have cemented our legacy in the Monterey community.

Immigrating to America in the late 1970s, my grandparents Anna and Erasmo Borgomini came from Sicily in search of a better life for their children. My Nonnu worked with fishermen on the wharf as a seafood wholesaler, providing countless local restaurants with fresh fish. My Nonna and her brother ran the beloved Vito’s Italian restaurant in Pacific Grove. My family history in Monterey dates even further back on my mother’s side. Joseph Anastasia Sr. came to America from Sicily as a young man and settled in New Jersey where he met and married his wife Jennie.

It was always his dream to be a fisherman again like the old days in Sicily and live on the California coast. He saved his money and moved in the 1920s to settle in Monterey. He fished and peddled his catches from Moss Landing to Big Sur making contacts and saving up to buy a fish market on fishermans wharf in the 1940’s. The Anastasia Fish Market as it was known signified his dream finally coming to fruition, and at this point Joseph had 4 children to help him – one of whom was Angelo, my great grandfather. He eventually married my great grandmother Ruth who was working in the canneries at the time. During my grandfather, Angelo Jr.’s, childhood, him and his siblings always attended the Santa Rosalia Festival, and his sisters Millie and Angela were involved just as I have been. My great grandpa even drove the Statue of Santa Rosalia in his brand new, light blue Ford Ranchero. It has always been clear to me that this event, as well as my Italian ancestry, is forever worth being celebrated.

Though the past few years have been anything but expected, I am grateful we are able to gather today and return to the celebration of what we love: Italia, and famiglia. I think of my family and of a history that began far before me and am honored to be a part of it. I hope to travel this summer with my family to see where it all began – to experience Italy with my loved ones and a heart wide open. I thank you all for this incredible opportunity and I send my love to you tonight and to our beautiful incoming Queen. Viva Italia!
The Festival
Barney J Belleci, Agent

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Bruschetta is a classic light Italian appetizer, or antipasto, perfect for summer get-togethers in the back yard or anytime family & friends gather. In its simplest form bruschetta is grilled bread rubbed with a bit of garlic before being drizzled with olive oil and sprinkled with salt, love and accompanied with your favorite beverage.

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Make your own Bruschetta

for yourself, family & Friends.

Is there a difference between brushetta and bruschetta? Just the spelling and pronunciation, nothing else. Many recipes are available on-line. The following recipe is Cardinalli Favorite.

Basic Ingredients

Assemble & prepare each of the ingredients listed. Put them in separate bowls.

- 1 baguette, cut ¼” angled slices (Toasted)
- 4-7 cloves of fresh garlic finely chopped (adjust to your taste)
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 cups minced/diced tomatoes chopped/cut fine (your choice: Roma, Cherry, San Marzano, Campari, Santorini)
- 1 bunch of thinly sliced/chopped fresh basil leaves
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- A sprinkle of Balsamic Glaze
- ½ cup olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon sea-salt
- 1 teaspoon fresh ground pepper
- ¼ to ½ cup of finely chopped red onion (more or less per your taste)

Directions

- In a medium mixing bowl, add the tomatoes, garlic, basil, vinegar, olive oil, salt and pepper.
- Mix thoroughly and let sit for at least 15 minutes at room temperature to let the flavors marinate.
- Slice and toast the baguette and spoon the mixture on top.
- Enjoy!
Saint Rosalia was born in 1130 AD and is the patron saint of Palermo, Sicily. According to legend, Rosalia was born of a Norman noble family that claimed descent from Charlemagne. Devoutly religious, she retired to live as a hermit in a cave on Mount Pellegrino, where she died alone in 1166. Tradition says that she was led to the cave by two angels.

In 1624, a horrible plague haunted Palermo. During this hardship, Saint Rosalia appeared first to a sick woman and then to a hunter to whom she indicated where her remains were to be found. She ordered him to bring her bones to Palermo and have them carried in procession through the city.

The hunter climbed the mountain and found her bones in the cave as described. He did what she had asked in the apparition, and after the procession the plague ceased. After this St Rosalia would be venerated as the patron saint of Palermo, and a sanctuary was built in the cave where her remains were discovered.

Then and Now

In 1933, the tradition of blessing the fishing fleet and mass at San Carlos Cathedral followed by Saint Rosalia traveling in a procession to the Wharf. As she travels, she is led by the local Catholic clergy and accompanied by her Saint Carriers, a band of small angels, the Knights of Columbus, the Living Saint Rosalia, the Living Rosary, and followed by community members.

Once at the waterfront, the names of those lost at sea are read aloud and a wreath is placed in their honor. A blessing is offered for all who make their living on or by the Monterey Bay.

Saint Rosalia’s float is adorned with fresh flowers, donated in honor and memory of fishing families. There are a limited number of spots available. If you are interested in honoring a family member, please contact Phyllis Grillo at pgrillo831@gmail.com or (831) 402-8030.

A special thanks to Mission Mortuary and The Flower Market for their ongoing, unflagging support of the festival parade and procession.
FISHING VESSELS & CAPTAINS

Festa Italia’s Santa Rosalia Fisherman’s Festival gratefully acknowledges the following Fishing Vessels and Captains. Their ongoing support has contributed in making our Festa successful. Our Festival could not continue without the generosity of the whole fish dealers that advertise, support and participate in our wonderful annual festivities.

Fishing Vessel–Sea Wave
Owner: Sal Tringali & Anthony Russo.

Fishing Vessel–Natalie Rose
Owner: Dominic Aliotti

Fishing Vessel–King Phillip
Owner: Sal Tringali & Anthony Russo.

Fishing Vessel–Irenes’ Way
Owner: Joe Pennisi

Fishing Vessel– Ocean Angel II
Owner: Joe Cappuccio
No Italian wedding or celebration would be complete without the rhythmic song and dance of the Tarantella. It is considered by some to be the most popular of all the Italian songs and it is even considered by many as the song of Italy. The dance is both lively and graceful, with light and quick steps mixed with passionate gestures.

The Tarantella, originally an Italian folk dance of the lower- and middle-classes, has been labeled as a dance to cure sickness. Legend states that between the 15th and 17th centuries an epidemic of tarantism swept through the town of Taranto in southern Italy. This was a result of being bit by the poisonous tarantula spider. The victim, which is referred to as the tarantata, once bitten would fall into a trance that could only be cured by frenzied dancing. People would surround the victim while musicians would play mandolins, guitars and tambourines in search of the correct rhythm. Each beat would have a different effect on the tarantata causing various movements and gestures. Once the correct rhythm was found it was almost certain that the tarantata was cured.

The Tarantella Dancers perform on Saturday and Sunday.

The Tarantella Dancers of Monterey are sponsored by the Festa Italia/Santa Rosalia Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. They perform annually at the Festival and other cultural events. If you are interested in joining the group or booking them for an event, please contact Phyllis Grillo at pgrillo831@gmail.com or (831) 402-8030 for more information.

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