

Chapter News

CALIFORNIA

Author! Author! Forty years ago, **Alfred Iannarelli** sat in a Berkley coffee shop with his friend, Eugene Burdick, talking about their novels about U.S. secret UFO projects. Burdick's was *Fail Safe*, which finally got published after the federal injunction against its use of classified materials was lifted.

Now Iannarelli's book, *Code Name: Operation Bright Angel* has been published by Trafford Press in Canada (\$18.95). Iannarelli belongs to the **Enrico Fermi Lodge #2094** in Hayward. *To order, call 1-866/638 6884.*

FLORIDA

Pasta Plus Covenant Hospice volunteers were feted during a luncheon Jan. 25 hosted by the **Joseph Franzalia Lodge #2422** of Fort Walton Beach in gratitude for their aid to the fatally ill and their families. About 55 guests were at the event during which lodge president **Theresa Holland** accepted a plaque from Shelley Canales, Covenant House volunteer coordinator.

MARYLAND

The Long Hello For six decades **Samuel Culotta**, past president of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, wondered what had become of the child whose life he saved during World War II.

As a 19-year-old Navy medic, Culotta was handed a bleeding child of only 7, who had been injured by shrapnel during a battle on the Pacific's Marshall Islands. Culotta nursed the boy, Kunio Joseph, back to health and returned him to his family.

Last summer, Culotta, now 78 and a retired lawyer, was reunited with Kunio, 66 in Washington, DC. The boy grew up to be a legislator in his island home's government and fathered 5 children, who wouldn't be here today were it not for Culotta.

NEW YORK

Opera Cabaret Lights down! Curtain up on *Opera Cabaret of Endicott*, courtesy of the **Duca Degli Abruzzi Lodge #443** in upstate NY. For the past 25 years, guided by member **Giorgio Corino**, the lodge has produced this annual event with professional singers performing Italian opera arias and folk songs. *For details, call 607/785-8056.*

VIRGINIA

Ship Ahoy! It took him nearly a year, but **Mario Minervini**, 2nd vice president of the **Grand Lodge of Virginia**, built a three-foot scale model of *the Santa Maria*, Columbus's flagship, using plans he brought from Italy in 1961.

The model and other Italian memorabilia he owns were displayed at the Virginia Beach Central Public Library for all of last October's Italian American Heritage Month. A member of the **Roma Lodge #254** of Virginia Beach, Minervini also was interviewed by the local newspaper and appeared on the local affiliate of ABC-TV. *Compiled by DDS and KC.*