

# Italian American organization stands by its 1992 view of Columbus

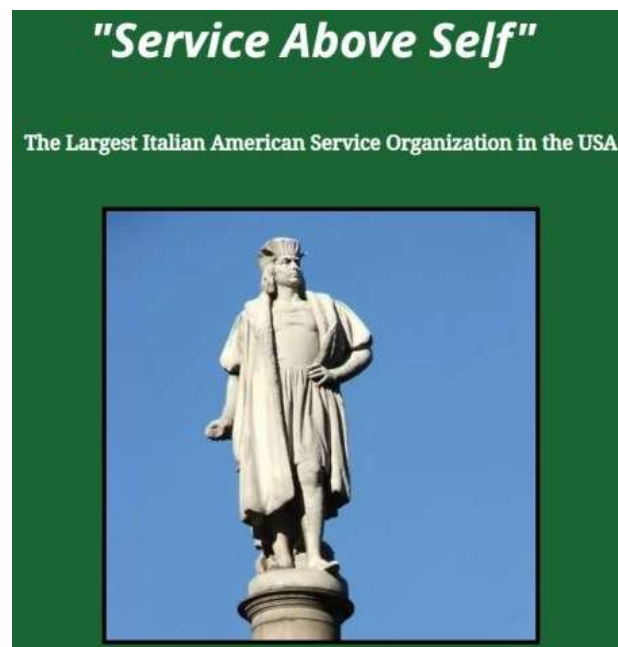
The Bethlehem Gadfly Columbus monument September 19, 2020 1 Minute

 Latest in a series of posts on the Columbus monument 

*“The discoverer of the New World was responsible for the annihilation of the peaceful Arawak Indians.”*

***American Heritage***

Gadfly knows a number of his followers will visit the Rose Garden Farmer’s Market this morning. He invites you to seek out the Columbus monument in the northeast quadrant near 8th Avenue and think about the discussion on removing it. (Gadfly has learned that the committee appointed by the Mayor meets for the second time on Monday.) UNICO is the organization that provided the monument in 1992.



UNICO National, the largest Italian American Service Organization in the United States, respectfully requests that any and all local government and law-enforcement officials assist in the protection and preservation of Christopher Columbus memorials in their municipality and, if necessary, aid in the prompt restoration and re-placement of damaged Columbus statues. Regardless of the protesters' intentions, this desecration is demeaning, insulting, and disrespectful to all Italian-Americans. Over time, Columbus has become symbolic of the Italian-American experience, heritage, and contributions to these United States.

Much of the circulating information concerning Columbus is historically inaccurate as it neglects the many positive aspects of Columbus' explorations and has placed this information totally out of temporal context. His accomplishments as a daring navigator can go uncontested; he is emblematic of the millions of immigrants and their pursuit of economic opportunity, religious freedom, and hope for a better life. "To the world he gave a world!"

Sincerely,

Frank N. De Frank, M.D.  
President, UNICO National

“Afterwards I sent to a house which is in the area of the river to the west, and they brought back seven head of women, small and large and three children. I did this because the men would comport themselves better in Spain having women from their land than without them.”

Christopher Columbus

*(the men were slaves, the “seven head” of women were not their wives)*