



40th Year, 1971-2011

# The Downriver Italian-American Club®

646 BIDDLE AVE ♣ WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 ♣ TEL. (734)285-4044 ♣ website: <http://www.diac.us>

## \*\* IMPORTANT DATES \*\*

## September 2011 NEWSLETTER

Club Board of Directors Meeting ..... Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011, 7:00 p.m.  
General Membership Meeting..... Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011, 6:30 p.m.



## “Legends Live” – Sweetest Day, Sat. Oct. 15

### Message from the Club Vice-President



For those of you who do not know, our **President, Mark Grazioli** had by-pass surgery on August 17th. He is recuperating at home. Mark is a fighter and should be able to write his article next month. Please keep him in your prayers; in the meantime, you have me.

I hope you had a great summer. It was one of the hottest we've had in a great time. In the winter, you stay in to stay warm, summer you stay in to stay cool. Aren't we lucky, living in Michigan? Thank God for air conditioning. Now it is time to get back to attending our monthly meetings; always the fourth Sunday of the month. There are many members out there who have not attended in years. I see you now and then. Please try to join us for these meeting. Things come up that need to be voted on, and you should be there along with the regulars to help make decisions. Decisions made during our meetings affect all club members and it is important that we have your input. This is, after all, OUR Club, not just the 60/70 people who attend meetings. It would be great to see some of our seniors who did so much to get us where we are today. We have so much to be proud of. Our building is paid off, and we now own 90 ft. of frontage property behind our building on Bennett St. We own most of property between Labadie and Bennett. This year is our 40th Anniversary and we have accomplished a lot. Let us all participate and keep our Club and Banquet Center going.

We had 550 guests at our August Spaghetti Dinner. We hosted the Italian Jr. League Baseball Team from Bologna, Province of Emilia-Romagna for lunch. They were here for the World Championship games, which were held in Taylor, MI. It was a pleasure having them, their coaches and family members join us. We were very short of help, but we plugged forward as usual. If you can come and help us, **even if it's for a short time**, we would greatly appreciate. Many of our workers have passed away and there are not too many new members who help. In October of 1999, we served 1172 dinners. Last month we served 550. Things have sure changed. Of course, the

economy hasn't helped, but we have kept our prices down and we are still able to do the work. Thanks to every single person who does help. We really do appreciate everything you have done and do.

I am writing this before we hold our 40th Anniversary Detroit River Cruise and lunch at Portofino. We have about 40 members attending so far. It will be a nice relaxing day to celebrate the many years spent together.

Please see the **Calendar of Coming Events** and try to attend as many as you can. I found this little saying I think we can all relate to. "Yesterday is history, Tomorrow a mystery, Today is a gift. That's why it's called the present. Live and savor every moment..."

**May God keep you all in good health.**

**Florence (Sclafani) Coleman, Vice President**

### Shareholder's Meeting – Sept. 25, 2011



The annual DIA Hall Business Board shareholders meeting will be held on Sunday, September 25, 2011 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Business Board will be discussing Hall operations and income for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2010 and ending on March 31, 2011. **Nino Trupiano** will provide a slide presentation of the income and expenses relating of the past fiscal year, and show comparisons to the previous fiscal periods. He will also discuss business planning for the current year. The meeting is open to the shareholders, which includes current members of the Downriver Italian-American Club.

The Board operates the DIA Hall on a voluntary basis. It manages the hall business on a day-to-day basis. The Board of Directors are nominated and approved by the DIAC Club Board. Each Director has a term of office and they nominate each other for the various offices.

Members on the Hall Board are: **Nino Trupiano** (Chairman), **Tony Pietrangelo** (Vice Chairman), **Rocky Kaune** (Secretary), **Mary Cottone** (Treasurer), **Tony Lumia** (Director) and **Nick Caputo** (Director).

Please thank and congratulate these individuals for their hard work and guidance in supporting the DIAC organization.

### "Legends Live" Sweetest Day Show



The **Downriver Italian-American Hall** will once again host the "Legends Live" on Saturday, October 15, 2011. This will be the **Celebrating Sweetest Day Show**, complete with dinner, featuring tributes to: **Tom Jones, Diana Ross, Bobby Vinton, John Denver and Michigan Funniest Comedian – Keith Ruff**. It's a wonderful combo of their oldies songs and performance. A great opportunity to reflect on the moments in your life when they were a huge hit.

**Nick Caputo and Tony Lumia** are chairing this event. The event begins with a superb dinner. Tickets and table reservations are currently available. A flyer is contained in this newsletter.

Be sure to advise your family and friends. **The Event is open to the public**. This will be a fun night. Tickets are now available by calling **Nick Caputo** at (734)281-3556, or **Tony Lumia** (313)565-0671 or by calling the Hall office. (734)285-4044. Please send your reservation to:

**Nick Caputo**  
16400 Dix-Toledo Rd. Apt 401  
Southgate, MI 48195-2992

### Pasta Event - September 21, 2011

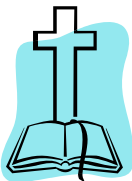


The August Pasta luncheon and dinner served 550 paid dinners and 17 promotional luncheons for the Italian Junior League baseball team.

The next Pasta Event is scheduled for **Wednesday September 21, 2011**. We had a smaller turnout of volunteers and this is an excellent opportunity for new members to meet and make friends with Club members. Volunteers begin on Tuesday morning, starting at 8:30 am with the preparation of sauce and meatballs, as well as setup preparation. The men come in at 5 pm on Tuesday evening to pre-cook the pasta. On Wednesday, we start at 8:30 am, with luncheon served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and dinner from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

If you cannot work, another way to support our Pasta Events is to come yourself (as many of you do), bring family and friends.

### Club Memorial Mass - Nov. 6, 2011



The date for the Club's **Memorial Mass** is **Sunday, November 6, 2011**. The Mass will begin at 10:00 a.m. at **St. Patrick Catholic Church**, on 135 Superior Blvd (Superior and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street), in Wyandotte, MI.

*The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center*

We had such a great response to this event last year - we have decided to do it again. We had 71 people attend Mass, and 75 attended the luncheon. We hope to get as many, or more, (family and friends of our deceased members) as we had last year. **You do not have to be a club member to attend**. If you are unable to attend Mass, PLEASE come and join us for lunch at approximately 12:30 p.m. Many of our deceased members were founding members of our Club. They, along with many others, did a lot to get us where we are today. We should not forget them. We always make time to attend the funeral of family and friends; and just the same, we are gathering to remember dear members of our Club. We have 149 deceased members on our list.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that I know how many will be attending Mass and the luncheon. The Church wants to know so they can reserve enough pews for our group. Our caterer needs to know how many people to prepare food.

If you have any questions or want to make sure we have your relative listed, please call me **Florence (Sclafani) Coleman** at (734)281-7126. Please see attached flyer for reservation form. The cost for the luncheon: Adults: \$10.00 Children 7 - 10: \$6.00

Thank-you, **Florence (Sclafani) Coleman**

### Art and Craft Show - November 13



There will be an **Art and Craft Show** at the DIA Hall on Sunday, November 13, 2011. The chairperson is **Emalie Shifflett** and her helper(s). This will be the second such an event at the Hall. Food will be provided during the show. There is no admission to the event. The event is open to the public.

Emalie is asking the club members if they can donate sweet desserts, like cookies, cakes and pies to sell at the event. This activity is a fundraiser for the club.

Come join us for some great Christmas shopping. There will be some great exciting gifts for all ages (infants to seniors). If you would like to reserve a table, please contact Emalie Shifflett at (734)284-6671

### "Legends Live" New Year's Eve Show



The **Downriver Italian-American Hall** will be hosting the "Legends Live" **New Year's Eve Rock & Roll Spectacular Show** on Saturday, December 31, 2011. Make an effort to attend this fine event and please advise your family and friends. Complete with dinner and featuring tributes to: **John Denver**,

**Buddy Holly, Loretta Lynn, Johnny Rivers, Gene Pitney Marty Robbins, Everly Brothers, Bobby Vinton, Patsy Cline, Roy Orbison, and special guest Linda Ronstadt.**

Details and flyer will be included in a future newsletter.

### Report on Independence Day Parade



Thanks to everyone for showing for the **Fourth of July Parade** in Wyandotte. And, a special thanks to the members of the **Santa Rosalia Club** in joining us. Our presence looked look. I'm for more members to join us next year – you have the option to ride on the float trailer or march with most of us.

A big thank-you to **Tony Lumia's** son for the use of the truck and flatbed trailer. The float was nicely decorated by members who showed up early at the club. After the parade, pizza and beverage was served to those in the parade. What a great time we all had. **Mary Cottone.**

**Parade Committee Chairperson.**

### Club Picnic Report



The Club picnic was a success - the weather cooperated, the food was great. Many thanks for those who brought in the dessert to share with the membership. The event was well received. Many thanks to **Nick and Karen Caputo** with help from **Tony Lumia, Fred Marzano, Sam Pizzo, Frank Giannotti** and to the many members who helped and brought desserts. The weather cooperated nicely. The members all had a great time. A special guest, **US Congressman John (and Debbie) Dingell** were in attendance.

#### THE BOCCE GAME RESULTS:

The teams of men and women bocce were randomly selected. Amazing how you can support the team's effort. After 2 rounds of competition, a team emerges as victorious and great honor is bestowed upon them with a medallion to be remembered for years to come.

First place medallions went to the following teams:

**Men's Team: Jim Bademian, Bill Cavataio, Don Kerr and Fred Marzano.**

**Women's Team: Phyllis Gandol, Theresa Herbert, Teresa LeSage, and Ann Lepidi.**

Congratulations to the winners and to all the participants. A memorable certificate will be issued to the winners at the September membership meeting. View the activity pictures at the club website, [www.diac.us](http://www.diac.us).



Men's 2011 Bocce Champions: Fred Marzano, Jim Bademian, Don Kerr and Bill Cavataio.



Women's 2011 Bocce Champions: Ann Lepidi, Teresa LeSage, Theresa Herbert and Phyllis Gandol.

### Report on the Golf Outing



On July 23rd, the DIAC held its **Annual Golf Outing** at Westburn Golf and Country Club in South Rockwood. In keeping with our track record for the past few years, we had rain before and after the outing with a hot and humid day of golf in-between. There was a total of 9 groups that participated in the outing. Lunch was provided by **Dominic Vitale** and dinner by **Jeanne Liedel**. Special thanks go to **Michelle Ebert** and **Lia Maloney** for getting all the golfers registered, prizes and raffles.

Many thanks go to the sponsors for their donations in making this another successful outing. These sponsors include: **Meadowbank Schools, CDM, Barton Malow, Adamo Demolition, Blue Ribbon Contracting, Merlyn**



Contractors, Michigan CAT, Nagle Paving, Albanelli Cement, GV Cement, RL Shekell, Leidal & Hart, Midwest Steel, CL Reickhoff, Schreiber Corp, CEI Michigan, CASS, DC Beyers, Madison Heights Glass, Modern Mirror, Contract Glaziers, Eugenio Painting, Future Maintenance, John A. Papalas, Paskotek Painting, Oakland Plumbing, Great Lakes Mechanical, Miller Boldt, Ventcon, RL Bondie, Hatzel & Buehler, Motor City Electric, J&J Electric, Superior Electric, Jeanne's Catering, Good Shepherd Credit Union and the DIAC Hall.

We look forward to this outing again next year and everyone's participation.

**Gaetano A. Vitale, Golf Outing Chairperson**

### Sick and Good Will



Belated Get Well Wishes to the following members who were/are ill or hospitalized:

**Mike Palazzolo, Vito Trupiano Sr., Bill Barraco, Sue Lupo, Nick Caputo, Sam Randazzo (Woodhaven), Mark Grazioli (who underwent open heart surgery) and Mary Randazzo.**

We wish good health to all our members who are not feeling well. Please advise **Grace Pizzo** (734)379-9491 if you know of anyone who is ill or if there is a death in the family.

Condolences to the family of **Rose Mary Prato** on the death of her husband, **Algie Angelo Prato**, who passed away on June 27, 2011, at the age of 77. Rose and Algie have been club members since 2009. Rose has been an active worker at the pasta events.

Condolences to the family of **Rocky and Nancy Kaune** on the death of their son, **Thomas M. Vitale**, who passed away on July 20, 2011, at the age of 61. Tom was a previous club member and was active in the club, until his illness. Condolences to the family of **Richard and Tamara Kaune** of the loss of their brother.

Condolences to the family of **Richard (Dick) Oslund** on the death of his wife, **Yolanda**, who passed away on August 20, 2011, at the age of 96. Dick and Yolanda were club members since 1972. They truly helped the club in many ways, in the early years at festivals and other events, including managing the hall for so many years. Condolences to niece **Maria Horvath**, and grandnephew **Francesco (Rena) DeMelis**.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of our deceased members. May their soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

### A Special Thank-You to Our Members



A special thank-you to club members **Nancy Cosentino, Miriam Lumia and Jeanette Schiraldi** for bringing dessert to the June 26<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. The dessert was very much appreciated.

**Linda Kerr, Elisa Norscia and Gianna Trupiano** have volunteered to bring dessert to the September 25<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

### Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno

We wish to extend our Congratulations and Best Wishes to our members who are celebrating their Birthday this month.

<i>Joseph Bozzo (9/2)</i>	<i>Lena Menna (9/16)</i>
<i>Eonard Milewski (9/3)</i>	<i>Valerie Yinger (9/17)</i>
<i>Emanuele Maniaci (9/4)</i>	<i>Sherran Sclafani (9/18)</i>
<i>Vincenzo Vitale (9/4)</i>	<i>Michael T Palazzolo (9/19)</i>
<i>Diana Parisi (9/5)</i>	<i>Roger L. Shifflett (9/19)</i>
<i>Leonard Zerilli (9/5)</i>	<i>Mary Cottone (9/20)</i>
<i>Pietro Biundo (9/6)</i>	<i>Rose Gaglio (9/20)</i>
<i>Linda Kerr (9/7)</i>	<i>Johnny Mitra (9/20)</i>
<i>Gaetano (Guy) Chirco (9/8)</i>	<i>David Zahara (9/20)</i>
<i>Phyllis Gandol (9/8)</i>	<i>Larry Luzac (9/21)</i>
<i>Patricia Olevnik (9/8)</i>	<i>Kelli McNally (9/22)</i>
<i>Tamara Kaune (9/9)</i>	<i>Fara Vitale (9/22)</i>
<i>Anthony Sclafani (9/10)</i>	<i>Kenneth Scott (9/23)</i>
<i>Theresa Simone (9/11)</i>	<i>Pauline Barraco (9/24)</i>
<i>Giuseppe (Joe) Agrusa (9/13)</i>	<i>Rocky Kaune (9/24)</i>
<i>Margaret Passalacqua (9/14)</i>	<i>Juliann Bademian (9/26)</i>
<i>Margaret Kling (9/15)</i>	<i>Nicolina Susin (9/26)</i>
<i>Daniela LaFata (9/15)</i>	<i>Gene Hammel (9/30)</i>
<i>Sadie Kusic (9/16)</i>	<i>Robert Jagiello (9/30)</i>

### Happy Anniversary - Felice Anniversario

We wish to extend our Best Wishes for many Happy and Healthy Years together, to our couples who will be celebrating their anniversaries this month.

<i>George and Mary Lavine (9/3)</i>	
<i>Leonard and Rose Zerilli (9/3)</i>	
<i>Damiano and Piera Vitale (9/6)</i>	
<i>Anthony and Rosalie Lazzarino (9/10)</i>	
<i>Francesco and Rena DeMelis (9/17)</i>	
<i>Raymond and Michelle Lucarelli (9/17)</i>	
<i>James and Phyllis Gandol (9/20)</i>	
<i>Angelo and Rosalia (Lia) Giannotti (9/22)</i>	5 <sup>th</sup>
<i>David and Rose Zahara (9/22)</i>	55 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Giorlando and Rosalie Giammalva (9/24)</i>	
<i>Jonathan and Kristy Berent (9/25)</i>	
<i>John and Diana Parisi (9/26)</i>	

*Giacinto and Theresa Simone (9/28)**Roger and Emalie Shifflett (9/29)*

### DIA Hall Banquet Facility



If you have a relative, such as a niece, nephew, or grandchildren who are getting married and looking for a nice place to hold a party - we will give them the same discount price as a club member. The Hall is willing to work very close with them. The Club does need the business. **DIA Hall** is a beautiful banquet facility and provides long lasting memories for those special occasions in your life.

For further information, please call **Diana Holmes** or **Mary Cottone** at (734) 285-4044. We would like to book your party and give us an opportunity to serve you.

### Farewell to Summer

Summer will soon be leaving  
And will have to say farewell;  
She must gather her Summer flowers  
And the green from the grassy dell.

I shall miss the song of the robins  
With babies chirping in the nest,  
And the scurrying of the animals  
Gathering food for their Winter's rest.

The sun perhaps won't shine so bright  
When Autumn knocks at our door.  
The nights will be a little darker  
As fireflies shall dance no more.

I'll no longer smell the perfumed roses  
I'll just have to reminisce  
About the beauty of the summertime  
And the wonders that I'll miss.

-- Shirley Hile Powell --

### September - A Month to Remember

September 11<sup>th</sup> this year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragic event that took place in the United States, in 2001.

The September 11 attacks in combination with the attacks' side effects (on that day) were a series of four coordinated suicide attacks by al-Qaeda upon the United States on Tuesday, September 11, 2001. On that morning, 19 al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four commercial passenger jet airliners.[2][3] The hijackers intentionally crashed two of the airliners into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, killing everyone on board and thousands of those working in the buildings. Both towers collapsed within two hours, destroying nearby buildings and damaging others. A third airliner was crashed into

the Pentagon. Hijackers had redirected the fourth plane toward Washington, D.C., targeting either the Capitol Building or the White House, but crashed it in a field near Shanksville in rural Pennsylvania after passengers attempted to retake control of the airliner. There were no survivors from any of the flights.

Nearly 3,000 victims and the 19 hijackers died in the attacks. Among the 2,753 victims who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center were 343 firefighters and 60 police officers from New York City and the Port Authority, and 8 private emergency medical technicians and paramedics. Another 184 people were killed in the attack on the Pentagon. The overwhelming majority of casualties were civilians, including nationals of over 70 countries.

Please keep in your prayers that such a tragedy will not repeat itself ever again in our lifetime and beyond.

Article from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

### Calendar of Coming Club/Hall Events

- Sept. 21, 2011** ..... **September Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Members.
- Oct. 15, 2011** ..... **"Legends Live" Sweetest Day Show.**  
Nick Caputo, Tony Lumia.
- Dec. 31, 2011** ..... **"Legends Live" New Year's Eve Gala.**  
Nick Caputo, Tony Lumia.
- Nov. 6, 2011** ..... **Club Memorial Mass.**  
Florence Coleman
- Nov. 13, 2011** ..... **Arts and Craft Show.**  
Emalie Shifflett
- Dec. 10, 2011** ..... **Member's Christmas Dinner Dance**  
Miriam Lumia, Mary Cottone
- Dec. 11, 2010** ..... **Member's Children Christmas Party**  
Rosalie (Vitale) Karawan and Helper(s)
- Dec. 31, 2011** ..... **"Legends Live" New Years Eve Show.**  
Nick Caputo, Tony Lumia.
- Feb. 10, 2012** ..... **"Legends Live" Valentine's Show.**  
Mary Cottone, Diana Holmes.

The *Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter* is published monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club membership. Editors: Frank and Liliana Giannotti. (734) 283-7394  
Forward your comment, correction and items of interest to:

DIAC Newsletter,  
c/o Frank A. Giannotti  
14823 Williamsburg Blvd.  
Riverview, MI 48193-7703

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*The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center*



# Downriver Italian-American Banquet Hall

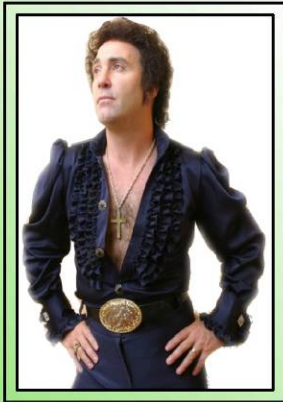
646 Biddle Ave. Wyandotte, MI 48192

## *Celebrating Sweetest Day*

Saturday, October 15, 2011

Featuring:

Tom Jones



John Denver



### **LEGENDS LIVE**

*Michigan's #1 Tribute Show*

Michigan's Funniest Comedian

Keith Ruff



Bobby Vinton



Diana Ross



**TICKETS \$38.00 Includes Dinner & Show (Cash Bar) Beer \$2.00 / Well Mix Drinks \$3.00**

**DINNER @ 6:30 PM - SHOW @ 8:00 PM**

**For reservations or more information please call D.I.A Banquet Hall 734-285-4044**

**Nick Caputo 734-281-3556 / Jim Bademian 313-388-2264 / Tony Lumia 313-565-0671**

**Legends Live is produced by Empire Entertainment ([www.legendslive.com](http://www.legendslive.com))**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual

# DIAC Memorial Mass/Luncheon

Sunday, November 6, 2011

Presented by:

**The Downriver Italian-American Club**

646 Biddle Avenue

Wyandotte, MI 48192

Mass Service at:

**St. Patrick Catholic Church**

135 Superior Blvd. (Superior and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street)

Wyandotte, MI 48192

Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Luncheon at the DIAC Hall Immediately

Following the Mass



Adults: \$10.00

Children (7 to 10 yrs old): \$6.00

**If you are unable to attend the Mass, then please join us for the luncheon.**

Further information call: **Florence (Sclafani) Coleman (734)281-7126**

I/We will be attending the **Memorial Mass/Luncheon** on Sunday - November 6, 2011, at St. Patrick Catholic Church  
This coupon and payment must be received **no later than Friday- October 28, 2011**

\_\_\_\_\_ Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number

No. Attending Mass: \_\_\_\_\_ Luncheon: Adults: \$ 10.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Children 7 -10 yrs of age: \$6.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club**

Return coupon and check to: Florence Coleman, 14157 Stratford, Riverview, MI 48193-7550



# 2011 Pasta Events

## “Downriver Best Kept Secret”<sup>©</sup>

Choice of Spaghetti and/or Penne Pasta with House Sauce  
Meatballs, Salad, Roll, Dessert, Coffee or Tea

### The Downriver Italian-American Hall

646 Biddle Avenue (North of Goddard)  
Wyandotte, MI 48192-2727

Tel. (734) 285-4044 – Fax (734) 285-3752 – Web <http://diac.us>

Wednesday, September 21, 2011	Wednesday, October 19, 2011
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each Month



Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

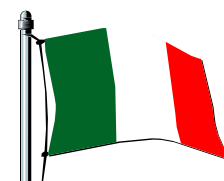
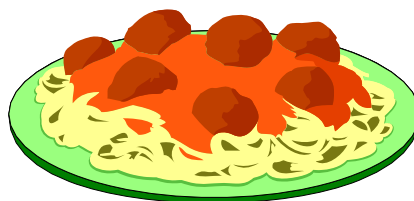
Dinner: 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Adults: \$7.50

Children 10 & Under: \$4.00

Sausage addition for \$1.50

Italian Cannoli Dessert Available.



### Delicious Meat Sauce and Meatballs Available for Take-Home

Enjoy a Delicious Italian Home Cooked Meal

Public Welcome – Advise and Bring Your Friends

We Deliver Carry-Outs Orders of 8 or More Meals

During the Luncheon Period Only.

Banquet Hall Available for Your Needs



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