

Consigliere Alex Marini
Consigliere della Provincia autonoma di Trento
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February 27, 2023

Dear Consigliere Marini,

I read your email of February 14, 2023 with great interest. Thank you for sponsoring the legislation to establish The Fondazione padre Francesco Eusebio Chini in order to further assist the activities of the Padre Kino Museum in Segno.

The establishment of the Fondazione will help preserve the memory of our heroic Padre Kino that serves as an inspiration to others who strive for a just world with human dignity. The Kino inspiration turned into a reality with The Kino Border Initiative and its work of assisting and advocating for the humane treatment of migrants who are struggling on both sides of the United States - Mexico border.

I know many people from Arizona and Sonora who have traveled to visit Padre Kino's birthplace and that commented on their return about the natural beauty of Trento and the hospitality of its people. I believe that the worldwide knowledge of Padre Kino provides an introduction or gateway to knowledge about Trento and the contributions of its people and the Trentini living abroad. I have personally had such experiences.

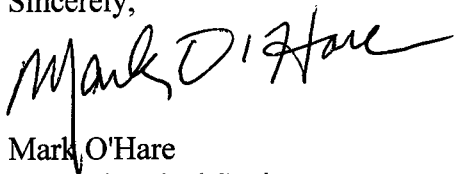
Lino DeConcini was the uncle of my best friends since childhood. I knew that Lino immigrated as a young man from Italy but not where he was born. I had seen a painting of Padre Kino that depicted Padre Kino with similar facial features that Lino had. This prompted me to ask Lino after knowing him for over 40 years where his birthplace was. Lino said he was born in Trento in a town less than 10 kilometers north of Padre Kino's birthplace of Segno. Lino made his contributions to our state of Arizona through his operation of a construction company that he owned with his brother Ettore that helped develop Arizona from a frontier state to a modern one.

Lino's American cousins, with the same DeConcini family roots in the Val di Non, also contributed to Arizona through their public service. Among the several public offices held by them, Dennis DeConcini served for 18 years as Arizona's Senator in the United States Congress and his father, Evo DeConcini, served as the Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court.

I would like to mention that recently through my Padre Kino activities I met Dr. Nina Ossanna, PhD. Nina's family roots are from the town of Sfurz, also located near Segno. Arizona is fortunate to have someone with Nina's unique expertise and experience living and working in our state. Nina assists biotechnology and other companies as a patent and intellectual property consultant. When not working, she is an Italian language student in the program sponsored by The Associazione Trentini nel Mondo.

Thank you for your kind words of introduction to the representatives of The Associazione about my knowledge of Padre Kino. If I can assist The Associazione or help its members who are visiting or living in Tucson, please let me how I can be of service. I am wishing you great success on the outcome of the March 1st legislative hearing.

Sincerely,



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