



October 4, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### PBS POV 'SHALOM ITALIA' SCREENING AT THE BAY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

(PANAMA CITY, FL) – The Bay County Public Library will screen *Shalom Italia* on Tuesday, October 17th, 2017 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. as part of the Beyond the Lens: Book and Film Series. This event is a collaboration with POV, PBS' award-winning nonfiction film series.

Tamar Tal Anati's *Shalom Italia* documentary film is hopeful and uplifting in comparison to many films that examine the Holocaust. In *Shalom Italia*, three Italian Jewish brothers set off on a journey through Tuscany, in search of a cave where they hid as children to escape the Nazis. Their quest, full of humor, food and Tuscan landscapes, straddles the boundary between history and myth — a profound, funny, and endearing exploration of individual and communal memory.

The book paired with the film is *Road to Valor: A True Story of WWII Italy, the Nazis, and the Cyclist Who Inspired a Nation* by Aili McConnon. This title features Italian cycling legend, Gino Bartali, who won the Tour de France twice. After his first Tour de France, Bartali helped protect targeted Jews during World War II in various ways including smuggling counterfeit identity documents in the frame of his bicycle. His celebrity status gave Bartali more flexibility than most would have had traveling during the war years.

Guest speaker and Gulf Coast State College Professor, David Fistein, will lead an engaging post-film discussion. Light refreshments will be provided through Publix Community Giving. Beyond the Lens is free and open to the public.

The Bay County Public Library is located at 898 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street in Panama City. Please call 522-2120 or visit [www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com) for more information on this and other programs. For more information about the POV series, visit [www.pbs.org/pov](http://www.pbs.org/pov).

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