Photo by M. Arnone

The young are always in a hurry and the long time period of Earth history astonishes them



## Rock and man

## in the Madonie Geopark

At the Civic Museum in Caltavuturo, one of the 21 communes of the Madonie Geopark, an informative section for geological teaching was inaugurated on 23 October 2008, and a study day was held on "Rock and Man, geology at the service of tourist development in the territory". This involved professional geologists from the Sicilian Regional Association of Geologists as well as teachers and students from the new Technical Institute for Tourism. The institute was founded In 2008 to train young people from the local area and provide them with the expertise for working in Geopark.

included in the "Culture Week

the field of sustainable development across the whole of the Madonie The event, appropriately first

tured articles produced and displayed, highlighting close relationship between rocks in the territory, human activities in the past and present and pointing towards an ecosustainable future. The geological section of the Civic Museum, another source of information in the Madonie Geopark, contains various explanatory panels regarding the geological trails and geo-sites in the Geopark, a model reproducing the village and the rock that overhangs it, as well as a permanent exhibition of the most representative rocks. Thus, following the open-

ing of the Museum of the

Caltavuturo 19-26 Octo-

ber" which aimed to pro-

mote the social growth of

the community, brought to

a close a series of events

started two years ago. This

well attended series of

events was concerned with

geological, cultural and

environmental education,

developed from the project

of the Caltavuturo Com-

prehensive School "Rock

and Man" and was organ-

ized by teachers and geol-

ogists of the Haliotis asso-

ciation for over 200 pupils.

Commitment and enthusi-

asm did the rest, as

demonstrated by the writ-

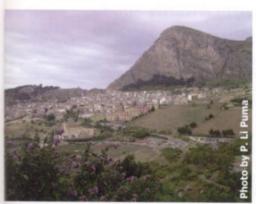
ten texts and manufac-

Madonie Puppet Theatre at the Civic Museum, the constitution of the "Abiturism" society and the provision of economic incentives for the creation hospitality services, Caltavuturo continues to invest in tourism and enriches the geo-touristic provision within Madonie Geopark.

In addition to various local initiatives that support the development and growth of the Madonie Geopark, the Coordinator of the European Geoparks Network, Nickolas Zouros, contributed his"virtual" supportfor the event by sending a message stating that protection and enjoyment of the geological heritage constitute opportunities for local development. Through the fascination created by connecting the geological history with projects concerned with education, for sustainability, and the committed voluntary involvement by the local administration and bodies responsible for the development of the territory we have taken under our aegis the resources and potential for our sense identity and place founded upon rocks that reveal culture.

Pasquale LiPuma staff.infea@ parcodellamadonie.it

A corner of the informative section for geological teaching



View of

Caltavuturo

where rocks

and history

integrated

are well

