August 2023 Year 21

Issue 212

Passaic Valley UNICO

Our September 2023 Monthly Newsletter



Passaic Valley UNICO PO Box 341 Little Falls, NJ 07424

Serving

Little Falls Totowa Woodland Park

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Chapter Website www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org Chapter Website www.UNICOmembers.com

Facebook Page www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO
Instagram Page www.Instagram.com/PassaicValleyUNICO

District Website www.UNICONJIV.yolasite.com

National Website www.UNICO.org

Chapter Email PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com

A Message from our Chapter President

Let's start getting our chapter back in motion and accomplish our goals and fundraiser events. I look forward to seeking some new members and enjoying our local and district events.

The Convention awarded our chapter an "Achievement Certification" as well as another patch for our banner!!!!

Our Chapter Executive Board met and reviewed our general budget and chapter events as well as meeting locations for the next few months.

We also have a new District Governor from the Wayne Chapter, Anthony De Gennaro, and he looks forward to meeting our chapter members and discuss his objectives and District events.

Our Chapter will host the "March 2024" District meeting, however the next District meeting is set for this September 14, 2023, Thursday, at the Barnyard at 7 PM. I hope to have our board and delegates attend!!

Some dates to mark your calendars can be seen on the next page of this newsletter.

Distini Saluti

Dominick J. Bucci Passaic Valley UNICO – Chapter President



September Birthdays "Happy Birthday"

09-02 Gabriella Socio 09-26 Roni Corado

Photo Albums

All our chapter event pictures can be seen on our website ... Additional pictures from our "NJ IV District" and also a lot from our "UNICO National" events can also be seen on their websites.

www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org

www.UNICO.org

www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.4mg.com

Food Pantry

Please do not forget about our UNICO Phil Arena and our many other Food Pantries ... Your nonperishable donation will help restock them.

Please contact our Food Pantry Chair, Roni Corrado, on how you can help.

Upcoming Events - Local and National

<u>September 4</u> ~ Monday ~ <u>Labor Day</u>

<u>September 13</u> ~ 2nd Wednesday ~ <u>Our Chapters first meeting of the UNICO year</u> ~ Barnyard in Totowa ~ \$35.00 ~ 7 pm dinner ~ 8 pm meeting ~ <u>Come and meet our MSU Study Abroad Scholarship Recipient</u>

<u>September 14</u> ~ Thursday ~ <u>Our NJ District IV meeting ~ Also at the Barnyard in</u> <u>Totowa ~ 7 pm</u> ~ Please RSVP to our chapter president if you plan on attending

<u>September 23</u> ~ Saturday ~ <u>Woodland Park Day</u> ~ Membership Booth and handouts ~ Looking for a few members to help out and help our chapter grow ~ <u>2 pm to dusk</u>

<u>October 1</u> ~ Sunday ~ <u>Cancer Research Bocce Tournament Fundraiser</u> ~ Sponsored by UNICO National ~ Teams and friends are welcome to attend and watch and/or play ~ A link to the fliers are on page 7 ~ Please help in finding a cure

<u>October 9</u> ~ Monday ~ <u>Columbus Day</u>

<u>October 11, 2023</u> ~ 2^{nd} Wednesday ~ <u>Chapter Monthly Meeting</u> ~ Casa Arturo in Little Falls ~ 7 pm ~ BYO ~ \$35.00 per person

<u>October 24, 2023</u> ~ Tuesday ~ <u>Meet the UNICO National President</u> ~ At the Venetian in Garfield

<u>November 5 + 6</u> ~ Sunday and Monday ~ <u>UNICO National Eastern Region Meeting</u> ~ More information will follow

<u>November 8, 2023</u> $\sim 2^{nd}$ Wednesday $\sim Chapter Monthly Meeting <math>\sim Casa Arturo in$ Little Falls $\sim 7 pm \sim BYO \sim $35.00 per person$

<u>December 5, 2023</u> ~ Tuesday ~ <u>Special Needs Christmas Dinner</u> ~ More information to follow

December 9 ~ Saturday ~ District Bus ride to NYC ~ Must pre-pay ~ more info later

Below are our UNICO's CORE VALUES

If you know of someone who has them and would like to help us make a difference, please invite them to a meeting and possibly have them join our chapter as a new member.

U – Unity

"Service Above Self"

N - Neighborliness

I - Integrity

C - Charity

O - Opportunity



UNICO Charities Foundation Charities

- ... Cancer Research
- ... Coolev's Anemia
- ... Food Bank
- ... Italian Studies
- ... Mental Health
- ... Scholarship
- ... St. Jude's Hospital

National Charities

- ... Anti Bias
- ... Armed Forces
- ... Columbus Day
- ... Heritage Calendar

Did You Know?

- -- Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea
- -- The tallest, still active volcano in Europe is Mt. Etna in Sicily
- -- Sicily has its own language. "Sicilian"
- -- 85% of Sicily is made up of hills and mountains
- -- Sicily is bordered by three different seas:

Mediterranean, Tyrrhenian, and Ionian

- -- The first mafia was the Sicilian Mafia
- -- Ice cream is a typical breakfast in Sicily
- -- Check this link out for more

21 Interesting Facts About Sicily, Italy (100% true facts!) (kevmrc.com)

ComUNICO

You can now read the

<u>Com-UNICO</u> magazine on the
internet
Just click or go here >>>
www.unico.org/comUNICO

Who's Who

Our 2023-2024 Executive Board

President	Dominick Bucci
1st Vice President	. Carmen Criscione
2nd Vice President	Joe Benvenuti
<i>Treasurer</i>	Bruce Ponchak
Secretary	Steve Pelonero
Sgt. At-Arms	John Morano
Corresponding Secretary	John Morano

Our 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Steve Pelonero	Past Chapter President	2010 & 2011
John Barbieri	Past Chapter President	2014 & 2015
Bruce Ponchak	Past Chapter President	2016 & 2017
Carmen Gaita	Past Chapter President	2018 & 2019
Eileen Wood	Past Chapter President	2020 & 2021

Our 2023-2024 Chapter Delegates

President Dominick Bucci ... 55 Members (President +3)

Delegate: Jean Chomko Delegate: Sal Benvenuti Delegate: Patricia Pelonero

(Delegates represent our chapter and are urged to attend our district, regional, and national meetings, especially if a vote is called for)

Our 2023-2024 Fundraising Committee Heads

Cornhole Tournament	John Barbieri
Food Pantry	Open - To be appointed
Golf Outing	Joe Barone
Holiday Cheer	Carmen Gaita, Joe Benvenuti, Sal Benvenuti
Overseas Armed Service Care Packages	Pasquale & Roni Corrado
Wine Raffle	Open To be appointed

Non-Fundraising Committee Heads

Community Service Day (April)	Charles Russo
Good and Welfare	Sal Nocella
Heritage	Angelo Verrone
Newsletter	Steve Pelonero PNP
Nominating Chair	Open - To be appointed
Publicity	Christina Castillo & Roni Corrado
Scholarship / Brian Piccolo	Charles Russo
Study Abroad College Grants	Cav. Joseph Agresti PNP
Website	Steven Pelonero PNP
Website Member Section	John Barbieri

Passaic Valley UNICO and More At the 100th Annual UNICO National Convention Fort Myers, Sanibel Marriott











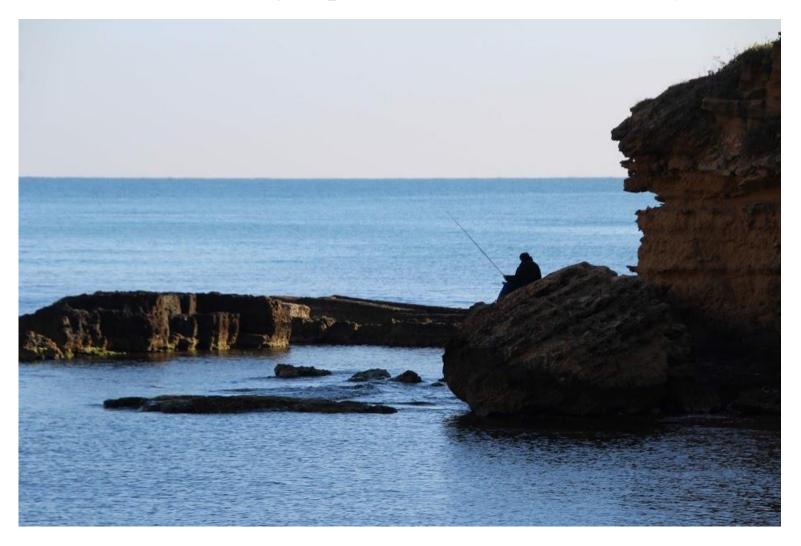








Italian Heritage Photo From the 2023 UNICO Heritage Calendar The Month of September ~ Fishing in Sicily



Fish include Blue Fin Tuna, Amberjack, Sea Bass, Barracuda, Bluefish, Mediterranean Snapper, Swordfish, Grouper.

The top photo was taken by Anthony Pelonero. He was Steve Pelonero's brother and was a National member from VA.



Blue Fin Tuna ~ The average size for Bluefin tuna is around five feet in length, with a weight of around 150 pounds.

Where is your Italian Heritage From



Committee & Comments

Bocce Tournament for Cancer Research

UNICO National hosts a fundraiser for Cancer Research every year and teams are always welcome to enter and participate with all day food as well ... Please click here '>>>> to see the flier and also the registration and help find a cure.

Chapter Dues Notice

Please remember to pay your chapter dues early. It lightens up the task of getting our records organized. Our final payment to UNICO National is due in November. Dues can be mailed to our Little Falls PO Box #341 or brought to our September 13th meeting at the Barnyard. Thank you for staying as a member of our UNICO chapter. Please get involved in one of our committees, we can always use your help.

Over Seas Soldier Program

Roni Corrado ~ Overseas Soldier Program: no soldier, that we are aware of, needs our assistance at this time

Our Chapter Committees

Anti Bias Community Service Day Cornhole Tournament

Dinner Meetings Food Pantry Golf Outing Good and Welfare Heritage
Holiday Cheer Newsletter Nominating Overseas Armed Service Care

Publicity Scholarship / Brian Piccolo Study Abroad Website

*** Please think about signing up for a committee and helping out

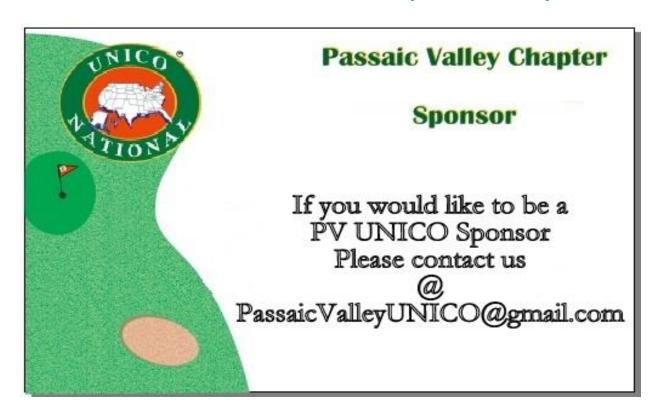
*** Let your chapter president know that you are interested

Publicity Committee

Roni Corrado & Christina Castillo ~ A thank you email was sent to the Italian Tribune for their inclusion of our articles/ pictures throughout the year. The paper published every article that we sent.

Vice-President Report

Joe Benvenuti, 2^{nd} VP ~ I am sorry that I will not be able to make our first chapter meeting at the Barnyard. I want to welcome everyone back and hope that we get a large turnout as we must guarantee 25 at this meeting. I think that this will be a very busy and productive year for our chapter. Please try to get involved in any of the fund raisers that we have going this year as we could use everyone's help in making this a great year for our PV UNICO chapter. Have a great meeting and see you all at our October meeting at Casa Arturo ~~~ Ciao Joe



Our UNICO Charities

<u>UNICO National</u>

Armed Services ~ Columbus Day ~ Heritage & Photo Calendar

UNICO Foundation

21st century ~ Anti-Bias ~ Cancer Research & Prevention Cooley's Anemia ~ Italian Studies ~ Mental Health Scholarships ~ Torraco Food Bank/Shelter

About UNICO ~ UNICO is the largest Italian American Service Organization in the United States Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity, Opportunity

UNICO was founded on October 10, 1922, in Waterbury, Connecticut. A group of 15 men, led by Dr. Anthony P. Vastola, came together to create what has become a very special and very proud organization. It was Dr. Vastola's dream to create an Italian American service organization to engage in charitable works, support higher education, and perform patriotic deeds. Our motto is "Service Above Self".

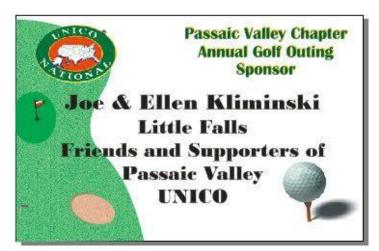
Each year, the UNICO Foundation and the UNICO National Chapters across the country donate approximately \$1 million to various charities. Scholarships continue to be the primary focus of UNICO, as roughly one-third of all monies raised goes to deserving students from all the chapter locations throughout the chain.

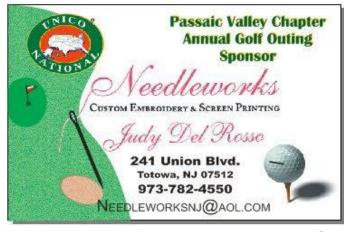
UNICO National has funded major research in Cooley's Anemia and Mental Health. Through its association with the Jimmy Valvano Foundation, it has funded over 10, \$50,000 grants to help find a cure for Cancer. These worthy areas continue to receive generous support from the chapters and its members for these worthy causes.

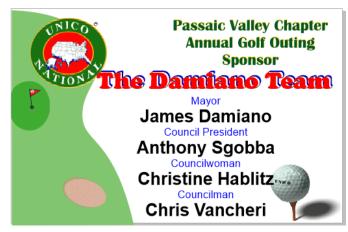
If you would like to attend one of our meetings to see if you might be interested in joining UNICO, please contact us through any member, or through our email. We would be honored to have you as a member of our Passaic Valley UNICO Chapter.

"78"

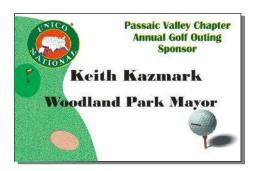


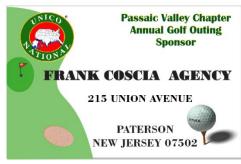


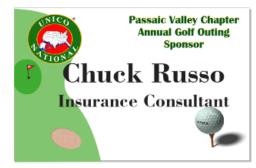






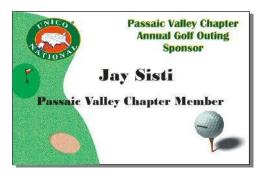








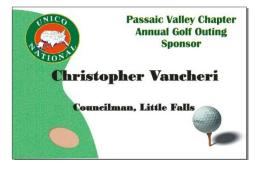


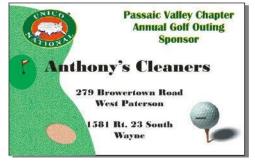






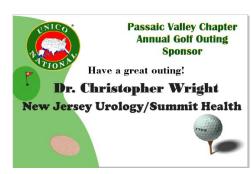


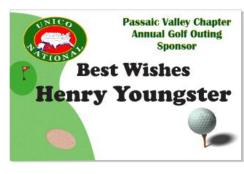










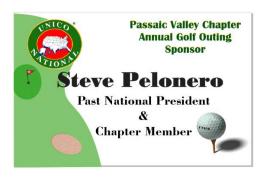


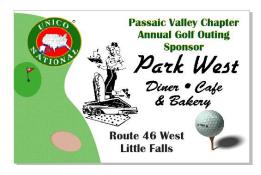




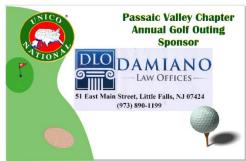










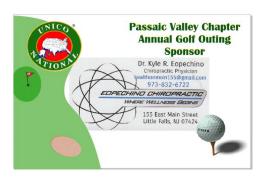


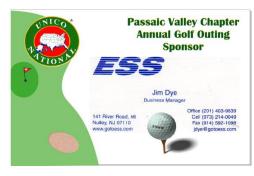


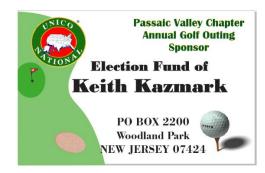


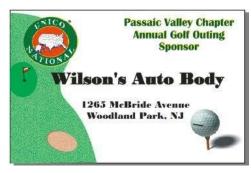








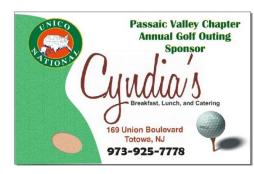










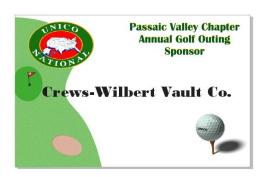














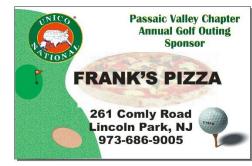


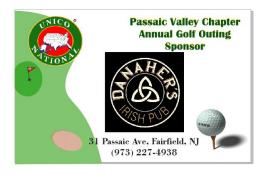






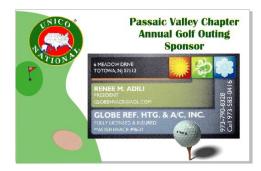


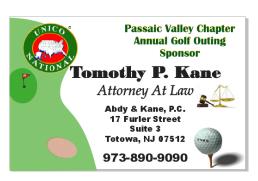




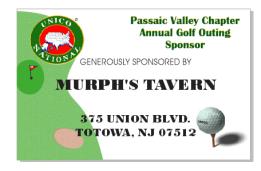




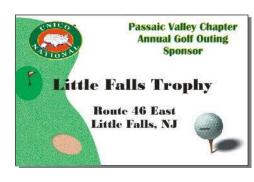


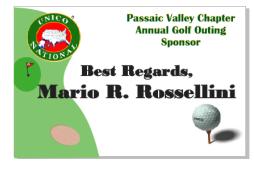


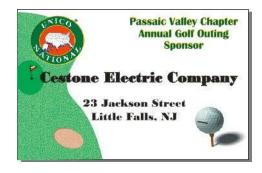


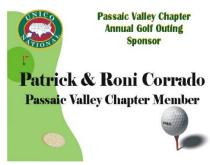














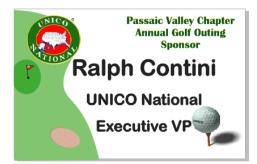




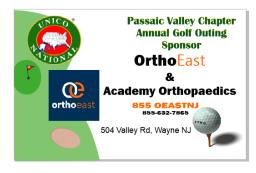






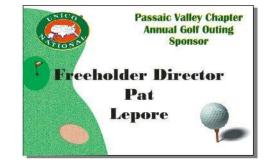








Marian J. Rabel





You too can be a proud sponsor of our Passaic Valley UNICO Chapter ~ It is never too late You will be in every newsletter for our 2023-2024 year.

And, if received early enough, you will also have a sign on one of the 18 holes at our Annual Golf Outing on June 19th.

Please see the golf flier on page 5 of this newsletter for more information