

July 2022  
Year 20  
Issue 199

# Passaic Valley UNICO

## Our July 2022 Monthly Newsletter



Passaic Valley UNICO  
PO Box 341  
Little Falls, NJ 07424

Serving  
Little Falls Totowa Woodland Park

### Page Highlights:

About UNICO	7
Be a Sponsor	7
Birthday's	2
Board of Directors	3
ComUNICO Link	3
Committees	3
Committee Comments	4
Dues	2, 4
Food Pantry	2, 4
Italian Heritage	5
Italian Translations	3
Map of Italy	6
Photos & Album Links	2, 4
President's Message	1
2022-2023 Sponsors	9-12
Thank You	8
UNICO Charities	7
UNICO Core Values	2
Upcoming Events	2

Chapter Website	<a href="http://www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org">www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org</a>
Chapter Website	<a href="http://www.UNICOMembers.com">www.UNICOMembers.com</a>
Facebook Page	<a href="https://www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO">www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO</a>
Instagram Page	<a href="https://www.Instagram.com/PassaicValleyUNICO">www.Instagram.com/PassaicValleyUNICO</a>
District Website	<a href="http://www.UNICONJIV.yolasite.com">www.UNICONJIV.yolasite.com</a>
National Website	<a href="http://www.UNICO.org">www.UNICO.org</a>
Chapter Email	<a href="mailto:PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com">PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com</a>

## A Message from our Chapter President

*Ciao Everyone*

*I hope that everyone had a great July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and is enjoying the summer chapter recess period. I am looking forward to attending our National Convention in New Orleans where we will witness all of the chapters' achievements and awards.*

*Let's get ready to start September with our next meeting to be held at either Amore or Francesco's, both in Woodland Park. The arrangements are currently being worked on and they will be updated soon.*

*As I begin my terms as your chapter president, I encourage everyone to take an active role in our chapter events and committees.*

*I look forward to seeing everyone at the meetings where we can plan some events and fundraiser. I would like to also start chapter media coverage in local papers and forward newsletter mailings to our local township mayors.*

*It is my pleasure to serve you and the chapter.*

*Respectfully*

*Dominick Bucci  
Passaic Valley Chapter President*



## August Birthdays

08-09 Cav. Joe Agresti PNP  
 08-09 Tony Orlando  
 08-15 Peter Longo  
 08-24 Carmen Allora  
 08-25 Joe McGill

## 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](http://www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org)

[www.UNICO.org](http://www.UNICO.org)

[www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.4mg.com](http://www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.4mg.com)

## Food Pantry

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

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

## Upcoming Events – Local and National

August ~ Vacation time for our chapter

September 11 ~ Sunday ~ UNICO National Cancer Foundation Fundraiser ~ Bocce in the Montville Community Park ~ All are welcome

September 14 ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday ~ Monthly meeting will be at Holy Cross Church ~ More information will still follow but please read the update in the Committee Comment Section of this Newsletter

December 7 ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday ~ Drawing date for our 40 Bottle Wine Raffle ~ Just \$5.00 a ticket

~~~~~

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our annual chapter dues notices will be going out the next few months. As always, your membership keeps you involved with our UNICO motto of "service above self" and also your Italian Heritage. Please stay as a member and send in your due's payment as soon as possible. If you receive an envelope in the mail our records show that you have not yet paid them. If you feel you did, please send or bring a copy of the cancel check .... Grazie ~ Thank you for being a member of the largest Italian American Service Organization in the USA



## Below are our UNICO's CORE VALUES

If you know of someone who has them or  
 If you know of someone who 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**  
**N – Neighborliness**  
**I – Integrity**  
**C – Charity**  
**O – Opportunity**

**"Service Above Self"**



**Brush up on your Italian Language**

All the months and days of the week are all typed and/or written with lower case letters

- Sunday – domenica
- Monday – lunedì
- Tuesday – martedì
- Wednesday – mercoledì
- Thursday – giovedì
- Friday – venerdì
- Saturday – sabato

- Yes – Sì
- Please -Per favore
- Thank you – Grazie
- You're welcome – Prego
- Excuse me – Scusi
- Cheers – Salute

- Hello – Ciao
- How are you ?
- Come va ?
- Come stai ?
- Good – Bene
- Not good – Non bene

**ComUNICO**

You can now read the Com-UNICO magazine online, just click on the photo below

**Who's Who**

**Our 2022-2023 Executive Board**

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

**Our 2022-2023 Board of Directors**

|                   |                        |             |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Eileen Wood       | Past Chapter President | 2020 & 2021 |
| Carmen Gaita      | Past Chapter President | 2018 & 2019 |
| Bruce Ponchak     | Past Chapter President | 2016 & 2017 |
| John Barbieri     | Past Chapter President | 2014 & 2015 |
| Robert Appaluccio | Past Chapter President | 2012 & 2013 |
| Steve Pelonero    | Past Chapter President | 2010 & 2011 |

**Our 2022-2023 Chapter Delegates**

- President Dominick Bucci ... 58 Members (President +3)
- Delegate: Jean Chomko
- Delegate:
- Delegate:
- (Delegates represent our chapter votes and are urged to attend our regional and national meetings)

**Fundraising Committee Heads**

- Christmas Family Gifts ..... Bob Appaluccio
- Food Pantry ..... Roni Corrado
- Overseas Armed Service Care Packages ..... Pat Corrado

**Non-Fundraising Committee Heads**

- Community Service Day (April)..... Chuck Russo
- Good and Welfare ..... Sal Nocella
- Newsletter ..... Steve Pelonero
- Publicity ..... Vacant
- Scholarship / Brian Piccolo ..... Carmen Gaita, Charles Russo
- Study Abroad College Grants ..... Cav./ Joseph Agresti PNP
- Website ..... Steven Pelonero
- Website Member Section ..... John Barbieri

## Committee & Comments



### ***Chapter Dues***

*Please do not forget about paying your one time a year chapter dues*

*Notices will be going out via the USPS*

*Checks need to be made out to*

*Passaic Valley UNICO*

*PO # 341*

*Little Falls, NJ 07424*

*Exempt Life Member \$15.00*

*Youth Member (25 years of age and under) \$12.00*

*Regular Member \$80.00*

### ***Food Pantry***

*Please do not forget about the Food Pantry*

*Please bring your donations directly to the Pantries*

### ***September Monthly Meeting***

*Our September monthly meeting will be on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup>*

*It will be held at Holy Cross Church with catered food*

*All restaurants in the are already booked for that date and they need 32-35 people minimum*

*And the prices are still going up to over \$40.00 a person*

*We are hoping that everyone understands and hope to see you in September*



## *Our Italian Heritage for August*



*This photo appears in the 2022 UNICO National Heritage & Photo Calendar for the month of August*

*It was taken in Puglia, Italy, by a Binghamton NY UNICO chapter member*

***Alberobello*** is a town in the province of Bari, in the Italian region of Apulia (Puglia), Italy.  
***Alberobello*** is known as the ***Capital of the Trulli***

*Some of the trulli are now used for stores, restaurants, and lodging.*

*Many are still inhabited by locals, who are very friendly to visitors.*

*As a world heritage site, Alberobello is a tourist attraction, but as it is less accessible from the tourist-heavy west coast, it is not overrun by tourists, and most tourists of Alberobello are Italians.*

*The town is the center of an annual pilgrimage to the Basilica dedicated to the martyr saints Cosma and Damiano.*





### *Our UNICO Charities*

#### *UNICO National*

*Armed Services ~ Columbus Day ~ Heritage & Photo Calendar*

#### *UNICO Foundation*

*21<sup>st</sup> 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.

*A Special thanks*

*To our Sponsors and Supporters*

*Please support them*

*You too can be added to this page for just \$100.*

*We sincerely appreciate your generosity & help.*

*Our campaign for our 2022-2023 year never ends*

*Please ask any chapter member for more information.*

*Just \$100 gets you in every issue of this newsletter  
and on our chapter website*

*You will also be shown at our annual golf outing*  
[www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org](http://www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org)



# Thank you: Our 2022-2023 Sponsors

 Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Christopher Vancheri**

Councilman, Little Falls



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Tampa, Florida  
**Joe Benvenuti**  
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**Gaita Memorial Home**  
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**Sal Benvenuti**  
Passaic Valley Chapter Member

Tax Consultant  
& Mediator



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**Francesco's**  
Restaurant  
Fine Authentic Italian Cuisine  
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973-831-2499



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Gregory Evangelou  
163 East Main Street  
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07009  
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**Best Wishes  
Henry Youngster**



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*Amore*  
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973-345-2500



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Certified Public Accountant  
Ramsey, NJ




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**Steve Pelonero**  
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**Patrick & Roni Corrado**  
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**Frank P. Tidona**  
Past National President




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Carrage House**

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**Best Regards,  
SKM Petroleum**



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Mario R. Rossellini**



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**Jay Sisti**  
Passaic Valley Chapter Member



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**Ralph Contini**  
UNICO National  
Executive VP



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**Anthony's Cleaners**  
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Wayne



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