

November 2022
Year 20
Issue 202

Passaic Valley UNICO

Our November 2022 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

Ciao everyone

The Holidays are less than 100 days away! October was filled with various events from Flag Raisings to various UNICO special dinners.

During this time of Thanksgiving, I wish everyone to give thanks for the blessings in our lives and family members. Let us not forget our Holiday season support to local Churches and Food Banks for community families in need.

Our Wine Raffle and family Christmas dinner in December are only weeks away and we appreciate your support and Unity as Passaic Valley UNICO members.

Yours in UNICO

Dominick Bucci
Passaic Valley Chapter President





November Birthdays

- 11-01 Jerry Gaeta
- 11-15 Alexander Martin
- 11-15 John Barbieri
- 11-22 Sal Benvenuti

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 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

November 2 ~ Tuesday ~ National Cigar Night Fundraiser ~ Brick House

November 6 & 7 ~ Sunday and Monday ~ Eastern Region Meeting at Shawnee on the Delaware

November 9 ~ 2nd Wednesday ~ Monthly Chapter Meeting ~ Viva La Pizza ~ BYO

November 15 ~ Tuesday ~ NJ IV District Meeting ~ Cedar Grove is the Host Chapter ~ Time and Place will follow

December 7 ~ Drawing date for our 40 Bottle Wine Raffle ~ Did you buy your ticket (s)

~~~~~  
 The last day to pay your chapter dues is at our November 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting



~~~~~  
 Also ~ You can always visit the UNICO National Website Calendar for even more dates of something that may be of interest to you ~ www.UNICO.org ~ When there just click on the "Calendar" tab

Happy Thanksgiving

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"





Thanksgiving in Italy and America

Italy does not have a Thanksgiving holiday. But they do commemorate “*La Festa del Ringraziamento*”, “*The Feast of Thanks*” ~ It is a way to offer thanks to a patron Saint for a bountiful fall harvest. Besides there are no birds, like our American turkey, lurking around the hills and dales of Italy's beautiful landscape

Thanksgiving is celebrated on the 4th Thursday of November in America. It is celebrated on the 2nd Monday of October in Canada

According to Wikipedia, the first Thanksgiving is recorded as being held in 1619

In 1963, John F. Kennedy proclaimed that Virginia and Massachusetts were the first to states to hold Thanksgiving

On October 31st, 1939, President Roosevelt proclaimed that Thanksgiving was to be held on the 4th Thursday which would help boost the economy for Christmas

ComUNICO

You can now read the Com-UNICO magazine on the internet

Just click or go here >>>

www.unico.org/comUNICO

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

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
Dominick Bucci	Current Chapter President	2022

Our 2022-2023 Chapter Delegates

President Dominick Bucci ... 59 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

Food Pantry	Roni Corrado
Golf Outing	Joe Barone
Holiday Cheer	Roni Corrado / Joe Benvenuti / Sal Benvenuti
Overseas Armed Service Care Packages	Pat Corrado
Wine Raffle	Steve Pelonero / Chuck Russo

Non-Fundraising Committee Heads

Community Service Day (April).....	Chuck Russo
Good and Welfare	Sal Nocella
Newsletter	Steve Pelonero PNP
Publicity	Vacant ~ Who wants to step up
Scholarship / Brian Piccolo	Charles Russo
Study Abroad College Grants	Cav. Joseph Agresti PNP
Website	Steven Pelonero PNP
Website Member Section	John Barbieri

*Congratulations
Cav. Joseph Agresti*

*On your receiving the
2022 Italian American Museum Ambasciatore Award
From the Italian American Museum
For your Service to the Italian American Community
And for preserving the Italian Heritage and Culture*



*Respectfully yours
The Passaic Valley Chapter of UNICO*

President ~ Dominick Bucci

1st VP ~ Carmen Criscione

2nd VP ~ Joseph Benvenuti

Secretary ~ Steven Pelonero

Treasurer ~ Bruce Ponchak

Sgt-At Arms ~ John Morano

And all of our members



The photos shown are not the actual prizes to be given
Winning ticket to be drawn at "The Ties at Woodford Hall, 4 Woodhill Ave., Little Falls, NJ 07424

DEC. 7, 2022

**BOTTLES OF RED
BOTTLES OF WHITE**

***WINE RAFFLE
40 BOTTLES***

Just \$5.00 a ticket



Proceeds will benefit our UNICO causes

www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org

www.UNICO.org

**Passaic Valley
UNICO**

**Serving
Little Falls,
Totowa, &
Woodland Park**

**Our 2022
40 bottle of
Wine Raffle**

**Just \$5.00
Per ticket**

**Thank you for
supporting UNICO**

**PASSAIC
VALLEY
UNICO**

PO Box 341
Little Falls, NJ 07424

www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org
Drawing date Dec. 7, 2022

Passaic Valley Italian Flag Raising

Held on Monday, October 3rd ~ Italian Heritage Month

*With only a handful of chapter members in attendance,
the Italian Flag still went up, in the rain, to celebrate our Heritage and Culture.*

The Township of Little Falls had their town hall decorated with the Italian Colors of Green White and Red



The Township of Little Falls had their town hall decorated with the Italian Colors of Green White and Red



In attendance, along with the town council members, were UNICO members: Steve Pelonero PNP, John Morano, Sal Benvenuti, Joe Benvenuti, Bill Ermolowich (with William and Wyatt), Carmen Gaita, and UNICO National Executive VP Cav. Ralph Contini from the Hackensack Chapter



Our Italian Heritage Photo for November

This photo appears in the 2022 UNICO National Heritage Calendar during the month of November



November is a time of thanks and a Thanksgiving Dinner

Pictured here is one of some Food for Thought

It could have been taken anywhere, but it was taken in Italy by a Binghamton NY UNICO Chapter Member

~~~~~

*Side Dish or Main Meal ?*



# What Part of Italy is your Heritage From



## Committee & Comments



### ***Chapter Dues***

*This is the last month that you will be seeing this in the newsletter*

*The final collection of dues will be at our November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting*

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

***Exempt Life Member \$15.00***

***Regular Member \$80.00***

*Checks need to be made out to Passaic Valley UNICO*

*PO Box 341*

*Little Falls, NJ 07424*

### ***Food Pantry***

*For November we will be helping out the First Reformed Church of Little Falls. Pastor Emily thanks us in advance for our assistance. They are in need of: canned fruit, canned beans (please no green beans), cereal, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, jam, Parmalat boxed milk, shampoo, and soap.*

*Our October collection to St. Agnes Episcopal church netted \$50 in Shop Rite gift cards and a trunk load full of canned goods and fixings to complete Thanksgiving dinners. The church is providing the turkeys and chickens.*

*Members, please know your generosity in providing for these food pantries, on a monthly basis is greatly appreciated and does not go unnoticed in the community.*

### ***Holiday Cheer***

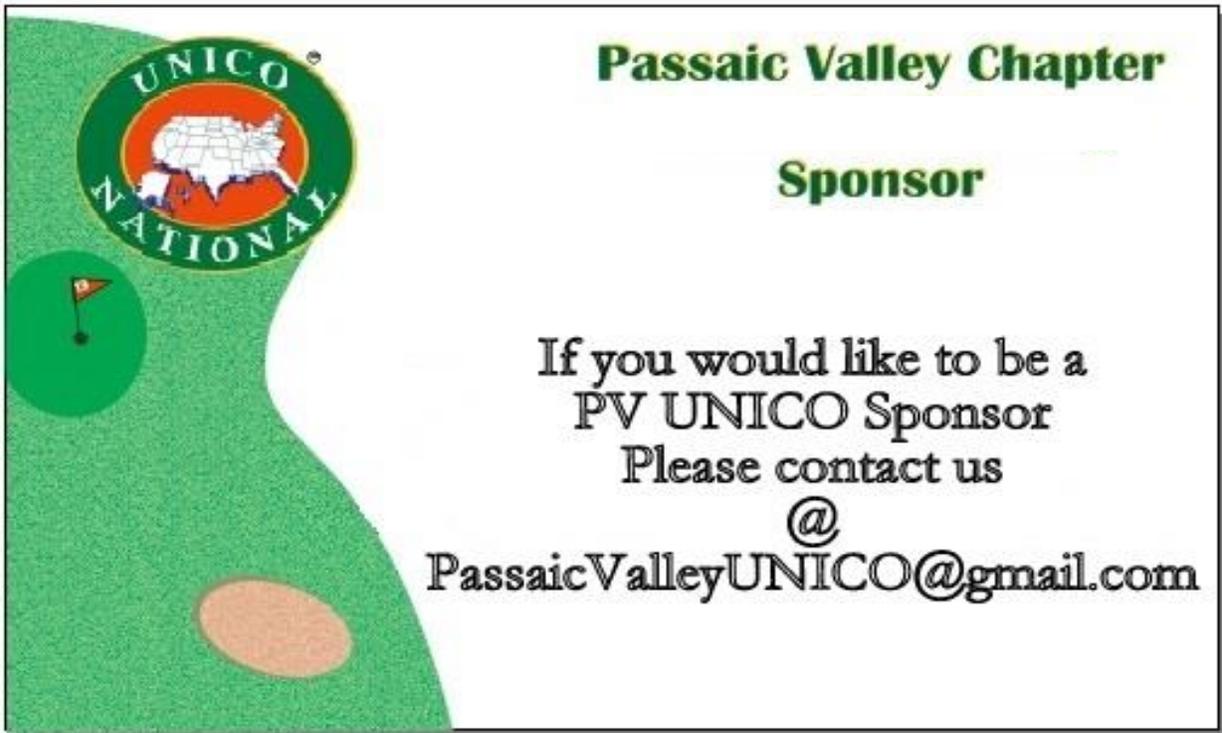
*Please bring donations to the November meeting. Checks should be made payable to Passaic Valley UNICO with the notation Holiday Cheer in the memo section. The proceeds collected from the members and the donation from the club will ensure that several needy families in our Passaic Valley towns will have a brighter Holiday season.*

### ***Overseas Soldier Program***

*Our Evelyn Tosi's grandson is still in a safe location and no supplies from home are needed at this time ~ Thank you*

### ***Wine Raffle***

*This is one of the two fundraisers that we currently have, and your support is greatly appreciated. Please consider donating a bottle (or two) of wine to go towards the prize. Please consider buying one or more raffle tickets. The success of any fundraiser is dependent on participation ~ Thank you*



### **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



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Gregory S. Liss, DDS**  
*Advanced Dentistry for Health, Comfort and Appearance*

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**973-256-5001**



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**Commercial Plastic Recycling**

Tampa, Florida  
**Joe Benvenuti**  
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*Diner • Cafe  
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Route 46 West  
Little Falls



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**CORE WELLNESS**  
*Chiropractic | Holistic | Massage*

Little Falls  
**973-837-6677**



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**AO ACADEMY**  
ORTHOPAEDICS

ADVANCED TREATMENT. TRUSTED CARE.

504 Valley Road, Suite 201  
Wayne, NJ 07470  
**973.446.7500**



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Bella Notte**  
AUTHENTIC ITALIAN CUISINE  
RESTURANT & PIZZERIA

973-812-8939

62 EAST MAIN STREET  
LITTLE FALLS, NJ 07424



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
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**FRANK'S PIZZA**

261 Comly Road  
Lincoln Park, NJ  
**973-686-9005**



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Thatcher McGhee's**  
**Irish Pub & Eatery**

Pompton Lakes,  
Denville & Fairfield



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Gaita Memorial Home**  
Little Falls, NJ



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Sal Benvenuti**  
Passaic Valley Chapter Member

Tax Consultant  
& Mediator



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# Our 2022-2023 Sponsors

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
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**Little Falls ShopRite**  
Little Falls, NJ

UNICO NATIONAL  
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Sponsor

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CUSTOM EMBROIDERY & SCREEN PRINTING  
*Judy Del Rosso*  
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Totowa, NJ 07512  
973-782-4550  
NEEDLEWORKSNJ@AOL.COM

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Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Francesco's**  
Restaurant  
Fine Authentic Italian Cuisine  
973-925-1100  
Woodland Park, NJ

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
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**Schumacher Chevrolet**  
Little Falls, NJ

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**STIX**  
CIGAR SHOP AND CLUB  
440 Route 23 North  
Pompton Plains, NJ  
973-831-2499

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
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Sponsor

**Bagels Unlimited**  
Gregory Evangelou  
163 East Main Street  
Little Falls, NJ  
973-785-2211

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Cestone Electric Company**  
23 Jackson Street  
Little Falls, NJ

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Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Shook's Cedar Grove  
Funeral home, Inc.**  
486 Pompton Ave.  
Cedar Grove, NJ  
07009  
973-239-1489

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
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**Best Wishes  
Henry Youngster**

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
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Italian Cuisine  
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(F) 973-925-5599  
www.AmoreRistoranteWf.com  
140 Rifle Camp Road - Woodland Park, NJ 07424

UNICO NATIONAL  
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Sponsor

**Santangelo Funeral Home**  
Woodland Park, NJ  
973-345-2500

UNICO NATIONAL  
Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Billy & Wyatt  
Ermolowich**  
Friends  
of  
UNICO

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# Our 2022-2023 Sponsors



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**James A. Martin**  
Certified Public Accountant  
Ramsey, NJ



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

*Venus Creations*  
Jewelers



100 Main Street  
Little Falls, NJ  
(973) 256-8592



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Crews-Wilbert Vault Co.**



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Chuck Russo**  
Wenzel Agency / Atlantic Insurors  
Little Falls, NJ



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Steve Pelonero**  
Passaic Valley Chapter Member



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Patrick & Roni Corrado**  
Passaic Valley Chapter Member



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Law Offices of  
Abdy & Kane** 

17 Furler Street  
Suite 3  
Totowa, NJ 07512

973-890-9090



Passaic Valley Chapter  
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Sponsor

**Joe & Ellen Kliminski**  
Little Falls  
Friends and Supporters of  
Passaic Valley  
UNICO



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Phillip T. Barone**  
Realty Executives - Woodland Park

862-849-6776



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Joe & Ellen Kliminski**  
Little Falls  
Friends and Supporters of  
Passaic Valley  
UNICO



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Frank P. Tidona**  
Past National President



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**MJR Electrical**  
Contracting



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# Our 2022-2023 Sponsors



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

*The*  
**Baryard and  
Carrage House**

Totowa, NJ



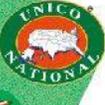
Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Best Regards,  
SKM Petroleum**



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Best Regards,  
Mario R. Rossellini**



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Jay Sisti**  
Passaic Valley Chapter Member



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Ralph Contini**  
UNICO National  
Executive VP



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Anthony's Cleaners**  
279 Browertown Road  
West Paterson  
1581 Rt. 23 South  
Wayne



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Hanson & Ryan Inc.**  
Insurance Since 1876  
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