

April 2023
Year 20
Issue 207

Passaic Valley UNICO

Our April 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

Welcome April!
BUONA PASQUA TO YOU AND YOUR FAMIGLIA!

Our Italian Easter or Pasqua traditions continue this month whether it be with having Pizza Gaina or Italian desserts!

The Executive board met on the 15th of March and reviewed various ideas for our fundraisers, as well as our upcoming chapter office elections for 2023-2024 that will soon take place. All of this will be brought up at the April meeting.

We have a lot of upcoming events scheduled and we look forward for our members as well as with family to participate in them. All of our dates can be seen on the next page of this newsletter as well as on our chapter website.

I will give monthly updates on our events so that everyone can participate. There are also flyers on are website.

Happy Spring to everyone – It's time to start planning your garden!

Dominick J. Bucci

Passaic Valley UNICO – Chapter President



**April Birthdays
“Happy Birthday”**

04-03 Steven Pelonero PNP
04-16 Michael D’Antuono
04-27 Bruce Ponchak

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

April 1 ~ Saturday ~ We can assist in distributing candy ~ 9 am at the Woodland Park Bunny Breakfast ~ Call Chapter President Dominick for more information.

April 9 ~ Sunday ~ Easter Sunday.

April 12 ~ 2nd Wednesday ~ Monthly chapter meeting ~ Casa Arturo, Main Street, Little Falls ~ \$35.00 and BYO ~ 7 pm Dinner ~ Meeting to follow.

April 17 ~ Monday ~ Tax returns are due.

April 21 ~ Friday ~ NJ District IV Pasta Dinner Fundraiser for our Special Need Friends ~ Wayne PAL ~ \$20.00 person ~ BYO ~ Must pre-buy your tickets

April 29 ~ Saturday ~ Community Service Day ~ ShopRite Food Pantry Drive

May 10 ~ 2nd Wednesday ~ Monthly chapter meeting ~ Holy Cross Church ~ Catered ~ 7 pm dinner ~ Meeting to follow.

June 11 ~ Sunday ~ Scholarship and Brian Piccolo Presentation ~ At the Barnyard in Totowa ~ More information to follow.

June 19 ~ Monday ~ Annual Golf Outing at the Meadows ~ Dinner at Franks Restaurant in Lincoln Park ~ The flier is in this newsletter on page 6.

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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](http://www.UNICO.org) ~ When there just click on the “Calendar” tab.

**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”**





**Italian Food Quiz**

(Answers are on page 9)

1 - In which Italian city was the pizza invented

2 - What is the name of the typical Sicilian dish made of a stuffed rice ball

3 - What type of milk is used to make traditional mozzarella

4 - Which cut of meat is used in an Osso Bucco

5 - In which city was the Pasta Carbonara invented

6 - What type of food is Focaccia

7 - Which Italian dessert can be translated as "lift me up"

8 - What is the min ingredient in the sauce of a Risotto ai Funghi

9 - To which cheese family does Parmigiano belong

10 - Which dish consists of slices of raw beef sprinkled with oil and Parmesan cheese

**ComUNICO**

You can now read the Com-UNICO magazine on the internet  
 Just click or go here >>>  
[www.unico.org/comUNICO](http://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 ... 47 Members (President +1)  
 Delegate: Jean Chomko  
 (Delegates represent our chapter votes and are urged to attend our district, regional, and national meetings)

**Our 2022-2023 Chapter Membership**

47 members

**Our 2022-2023 Fundraising Committee Heads**

Cornhole Tournament ..... Steve Pelonero PNP  
 Food Pantry ..... Roni Corrado  
 Golf Outing ..... Joe Barone  
 Holiday Cheer ..... Roni Corrado / Joe Benvenuti / Sal Benvenuti  
 Overseas Armed Service Care Packages ..... Pat / Roni 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 ..... 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  
 Wine Raffle ..... Steve Pelonero PNP

*A UNICO Welcome to our newest chapter member  
Claudine Stefanelli*



*At the March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting:*

*Pictured from the left: Charles Russo, chapter member and sponsor of our newest member;  
Center: New member Claudine Stefanelli;  
Right: Steve Pelonero PNP swore in the new member of the chapter.*

*Welcome Claudine Stefanelli*



*If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining UNICO  
Please have them reach out to any one of our Chapter members.*

# Our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser



Please click on the Golf Logo to register to play or to sponsor and support our chapter



501c3  
organization

# Passaic Valley Chapter 38<sup>th</sup>

## Annual Golf Outing

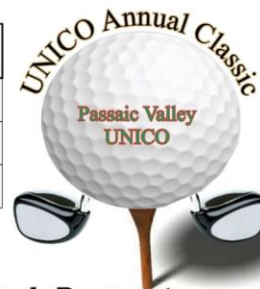
Monday June 19, 2023

### Meadows Golf Club

76 Twin Bridges Road, Lincoln Park, NJ 07035  
Shotgun Start at 9:00am

- **Breakfast** at 8:00am
- **Italian Style Dinner at** Frank's Restaurant, Lincoln Park, NJ at 2:30pm  
(includes beer, soda, coffee and tea)

|                                        |                           |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Contests, Prizes &amp; Raffle's</b> |                           |
| <b>Surprise!!!</b>                     | <b>Closest to the Pin</b> |
| <b>Straightest Drive</b>               | <b>Par 3 on the Green</b> |
| <b>Win a CAR "Hole in One"</b>         |                           |



#### Online Registration

**\$150 per person** - Check or Cash Payment  
\$50 per person Dinner Only

**\$153 per person** - Credit Card Payment  
Pre-Registration is Requested

Go to: [www.unicomembers.com/golf](http://www.unicomembers.com/golf)

#### Golf Hole Sponsorship - \$100

Ad displayed on the course, on our Website,  
and in our Monthly Newsletter for the Year!

**Contact: Joseph Barone**

[JCHRZBAR@gmail.com](mailto:JCHRZBAR@gmail.com) or 973-986-7042

All proceeds will go to our local scholarship and charitable endeavors

*Italian Heritage Photo*  
*From the 2023 UNICO Heritage Calendar*  
*An inside view of the Roman Colosseum*

*Taken by chapter member, Cav. Joseph Agresti PNP*

*This photo appears as the April photo in the 2023 UNICO National Heritage and Photo Calendar*

*The Colosseum is an oval amphitheater in the center of the city of Rome. It sat up to 50,000 spectators. It is the largest and most ancient amphitheater ever built. There are 80 entrances but only a few are used today. It was built by 60,000 Jewish slaves. Most events are the time were free to everyone. They even flooded the colosseum to show their naval boats. It is believed that around 400,000 died here.*

*(This information was found here >>> [www.keepcalmandwander.com/inside-the-roman-colosseum/](http://www.keepcalmandwander.com/inside-the-roman-colosseum/))*



# Where is your Italian Heritage From





## Committee & Comments

### **Community Service Day** ~ Chair: Chuck Russo

*Our annual Food Drive will be held at the Little Falls ShopRite on Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who have signed up to help on that day. If you have not signed up yet, please let Chuck know. Hopefully, there will be a tentative schedule by the April meeting. As in the past we will be very flexible regarding times but the longer you can stay, the better. Also remember there is no rain date; if the weather is bad, we will do the best we can. We have made progress with “bags” so we will not be needing cardboard boxes that day. If you have the ability to make copies of our “shopping list”, please let me know. I will have “master copies” at the meeting. Details, instructions, and more information at the April meeting.*

### **Food Pantry** ~ Chair: Roni Corrado

*The April food collection will be directed to St. James Church. They are in need of: pasta, pasta sauce, coffee, cereal, applesauce, individual fruit cups and mayonnaise. Members may bring their donations to the April meeting. The March food collection was directed to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Totowa. They received \$50 in Shop Rite gift cards and a trunk load of food. A sincere thank you to members for sustaining this monthly activity.*

### **Food Pantry** ~ Chair: Roni Corrado

*Thank you to everyone for another successful year.*

### **Newsletter Editor Request** ~ Chair: Steve Pelonero PNP

*Do you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share ? ~ Please send him the recipe and hopefully a photo. We will work on getting it published in a future issue of this newsletter.*

### **Overseas Soldier Program** ~ Chair: Roni Corrado

*There are no soldiers in our families that are overseas at this time. No news is sometimes always good news.*

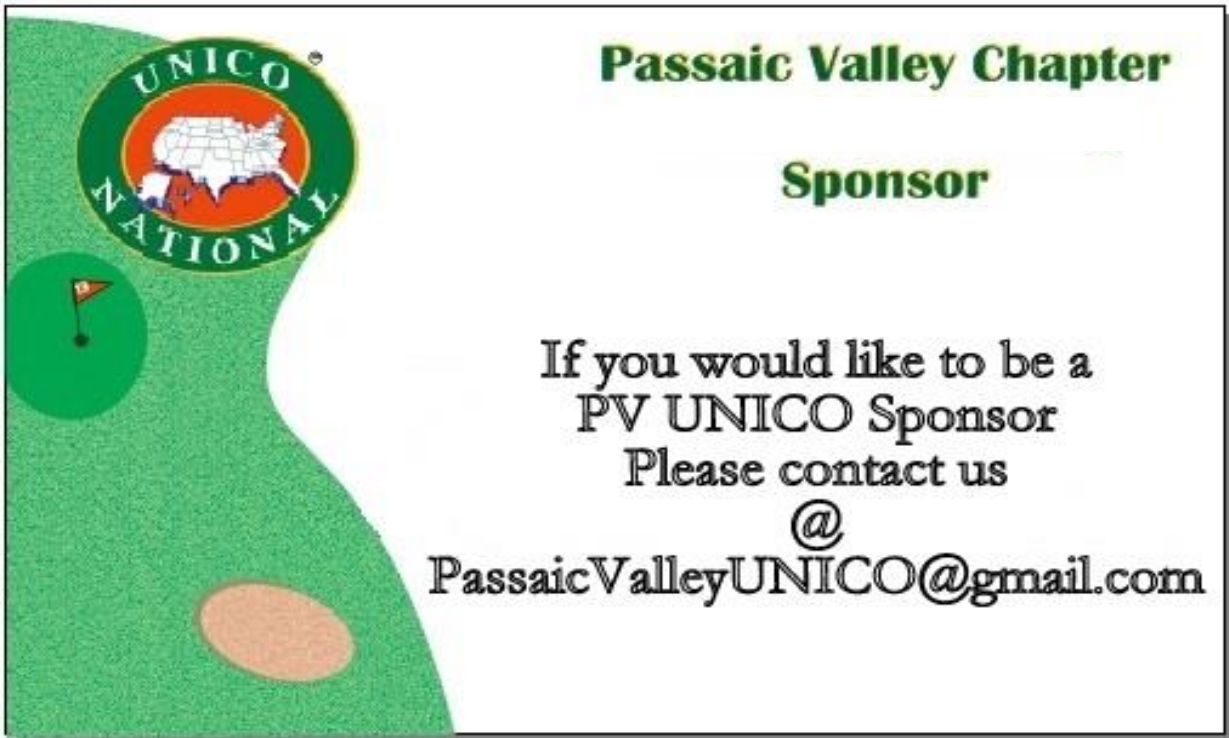
### **Scholarship** ~ Chair: Chuck Russo

*Applications for this year’s scholarships have been received and are being evaluated. Reminder – Scholarship Dinner is on Sunday June 11, 6-9PM at the Barnyard in Totowa. Ticket price TBD. We would love to see as many members as possible, along with significant others, attend the dinner. More information at upcoming chapter meetings.*

## ~~~~~

### **Italian Food Quiz Answers**

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Naples         | 2. Arancino    |
| 3. Buffalo’s Milk | 4. Veal Shanks |
| 5. Rome           | 6. Bread       |
| 7. Tiramisu       | 8. Mushrooms   |
| 9. Grana          | 10. Carpaccio  |



### **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 ~ Torracco 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.  
AND our 2023-2024 Season has just started (see the last page)*

*If you would like your company, your business, or  
your own personal ad to be displayed,  
Please ask any chapter member for more information.*

*Or just click here*




**[UNICO GOLF \(unicomembers.com\)](http://unicomembers.com)**

*Just \$100 gets you in every issue of this newsletter,  
and on our chapter website for our UNICO year.  
You will also be shown at our annual golf outing on June 19, 2023  
[www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org](http://www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org)*



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**Christopher Vancheri**  
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

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**Santangelo Funeral Home**  
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*The*  
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**Best Regards,**  
**SKM Petroleum**





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**Best Regards,**  
**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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**Chuck Russo**  
Insurance Consultant



You too can be a proud sponsor of our  
Passaic Valley UNICO Chapter

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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 6 of this newsletter

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Thank you everyone for your support

