

March 2020  
Year 17  
Issue 174

# Passaic Valley UNICO

## Our March 2020 Monthly Newsletter



Passaic Valley UNICO  
PO Box 341  
Little Falls, NJ 07424

**Serving**  
**Little Falls**  
**Totowa**  
**Woodland Park**

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Website [www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org](http://www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org)  
Website [www.UNICOMembers.com](http://www.UNICOMembers.com)  
Website [www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO](https://www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO)  
Website [www.UNICO.org](http://www.UNICO.org)  
Email [PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com](mailto:PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com)

## ***A Message from our Chapter President***

*Members,*

*First and foremost, I would like to thank Joe Benvenuti and his committee members for running a very successful beefsteak last month. Now we need to look ahead to our Community Service Day at Shop Rite. I hope each of us can give Chuck a few hours that day to make this as successful as it has been in the past.*

*With winter almost over, the golf outing will soon be upon us. This is our big fundraiser for the year. Even with a great success we will still be using funds from our bank account to help fund all our charities this year. My hope had been to leave the chapter with at least the same amount of funds in the bank after my two years as your president. I'm sorry to say that I don't think this will be happening. However, this message is coming to you before the Board sits down to review this year's budget on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully we will be able to say approximately how short we will fall in raising money for all our charitable donations.*

*I am looking forward to seeing you all at our March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting which will be held at Francesco's Restaurant in Woodland Park.*

*Ciao,  
Carmen*



## March Birthdays

03-07 Joe Barone  
 03-08 Passaic Valley UNICO  
 03-15 Alex Swain  
 03-15 Angela Jones  
 03-24 Alyssa Minnella  
 03-27 Bill Ermolowich  
 03-30 Anthony Ribaud  
 03-31 Dr. Kyle Eopechino

## Photo Albums

All of our chapter events 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 don't forget about our UNICO Phil Arena Food Pantry ... Your non-perishable donation will help restock it

You can bring it directly to the pantry in the basement of Holy Angels Church ... or to any chapter meeting

## Upcoming Events – Local and National

**March 11** ... 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday ... **Monthly Meeting** ... Francesco's in Woodland Park ... **7:00 pm dinner – 8 pm meeting**

**March 12** ... Thursday ... Montclair **University Coccia Institute** ... Language Symposium ... **An RSVP event**

**March** ... Tentative month for our next NJ District IV Meeting ... More information will follow

**March 19, 20, 21** ... Thursday, Friday, Saturday ... **UNICO National Midyear Board Meeting** ... St. Petersburg FL ... **Delegates and representation from our chapter is urged**

**June 15** ... Monday ... **Our Annual Chapter Golf Outing** ... More information will follow

**July 22, 23, 24, 25** ... Wednesday through Saturday ... **The 98<sup>th</sup> Annual UNICO National Convention** ... Fort Myers, Sanibel Harbour Beach Marriott ... The Convention Flier is on page 8 of this newsletter



**March 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Daylight Savings Time  
(Clocks Forward)**

## 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”**



**It Happened in March:**

44 BC, March 15:  
Assassination of Julius Caesar (Ides of March)

AD 80: The Colosseum in Rome is completed

March of 2003: Italy takes part in the Iraq War

March 8, 1972: Our Passaic Valley UNICO Chapter was chartered as the Little Falls Chapter of UNICO. The sponsoring chapter was the Passaic-Clifton Chapter

**ComUNICO**

You can now read the Com-UNICO magazine online, just by clicking on the cover page below



**Who's Who**

**Our 2019-2020 Executive Board**

President ..... Carmen Gaita Jr.  
1st Vice President ..... Eileen Wood  
2nd Vice President ..... Pat Ligouri  
Treasurer ..... Bruce Ponchak  
Recording Secretary ..... Steve Pelonero  
Sgt. At-Arms ..... Dominick Bucci  
Corresponding Secretary ..... John Morano

**Our 2019-2020 Board of Directors**

Bruce Ponchak	Chapter President	2016 & 2017
John Barbieri	Chapter President	2014 & 2015
Robert Appaluccio	Chapter President	2012 & 2013
Steve Pelonero	Chapter President	2010 & 2011
Carmen Criscione	Chapter President	2008 & 2009
Salvatore Benvenuti	Chapter President	2006 & 2007

**Our 2019-2020 Chapter Delegates**

President Carmen Gaita Jr ... 52 Members (President +3)  
..... Delegate Dominick Bucci  
..... Delegate Jean Chomko  
..... Delegate Eileen Wood

**Fundraising Committee Heads**

Beefsteak ..... Joe Benvenuti  
Convention 2020 Fundraising ..... John Morano  
Dine with UNICO ..... Joe Benvenuti, Mark BiFalco, Jean Chomko  
Golf Outing ..... Joe Barone  
Holiday Donations ..... Robert Appaluccio  
Overseas Armed Service Care Packages ..... Pat Corrado

**Non-Fundraising Committee Heads**

Christmas Tree Lighting w/ Candy Cane Giveaway ..... Joe Agresti PNP  
Community Service Day (April) ..... Chuck Russo  
Easter Egg Hunt w/Breakfast ..... Joe Agresti PNP / Patrick Ligouri  
Food Pantry ..... Roni Corrado  
Good and Welfare ..... Sal Nocella  
Membership ..... John Barbieri  
Newsletter ..... Steve Pelonero  
Scholarship / Brian Piccolo ..... Chuck Russo Study Abroad  
College Grants ..... Joseph Agresti PNP  
Website ..... Steven Pelonero / John Barbieri

# Photo Page

## **Our February 8<sup>th</sup> Beefsteak**

**Chairman Joe Benvenuti with Chapter President Carmen Gaita**



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## **Our February 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting**

**Scholarship co-chairs (left and right) Chuck Russo and Joe Agresti PNP  
With our Chapter President Carmen Gaita  
With Our Study Abroad Recipient Chris Boncimino and his mother Terri  
With mary Ann Re, M.S.U Coccia Institute Director  
Chris gave an excellent video presentation on his semester in Italy**



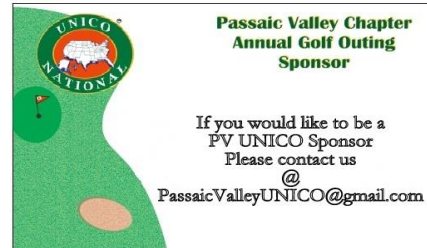
## Committee Comments

Would you like to be on a committee?  
 Would you like to be a chapter officer?  
 Do you have a Fundraising idea?

Please step up and  
 Serve our Chapter, our Community  
 and UNICO National

Keep us strong

Let more people know what we do



Do you know of some who would like to sponsor our UNICO Chapter?

For just \$100.00 for the year, it gets them in this newsletter and on our chapter website for our entire UNICO year.

Please contact us via our chapter email: [PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com](mailto:PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com)  
 Or use our website to fill out the online form [www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org](http://www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org)

### A Beefsteak Thank You from Chairman Joe Benvenuti

I would like to thank my committee on a great job on the beefsteak fundraiser. I think with everyone's help selling tickets it was a successful event. We had over 160 people attend, and we made a nice profit for the night. I thought the food was good and there was plenty of beef to go around. The band was good and our own chapter member John Morano on the Sax was a treat

I want to thank my committee members: Angelo Verrone Co-Chair, Chuck Russo, Sal Benvenuti, Bob Appaluccio, John Morano, Roni Corrado, Joe Agresti and Carmen Gaita.

Everyone helped in one way or another. Thanks to all ~~~ Joe Benvenuti

### Please support our UNICO Charities

#### National

Armed Services ~ Calendar ~ Columbus Day

#### Foundation

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

## *UNICO National's 98<sup>th</sup> National Convention*



### *Sanibel Harbour Marriott Resort & Spa*



*July 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25th, 2020 ~ \$169.00 per night*

*17260 Harbour Pointe Drive ~ Fort Myers, FL 33908*



- *Thirty Five Minutes from Fort Myers Airport (RSW)*

- *Six Onsite Dining Choices*

*Tarpon House ~ Casual American Dining*

*Courtside Steakhouse ~ Fine Dining*

*Sanibel Harbour Princess Yacht ~ Views of Sanibel and Fort Myers while you relax and eat*

*Charley's Cabana Bar ~ Appetizers and Cocktails*

*Palm Court Bakery ~ Starbucks Coffee and Pastries*

*The Cove ~ Poolside Restaurant*

- *On premise: Spa ~ Fitness Center ~ Three Pools*

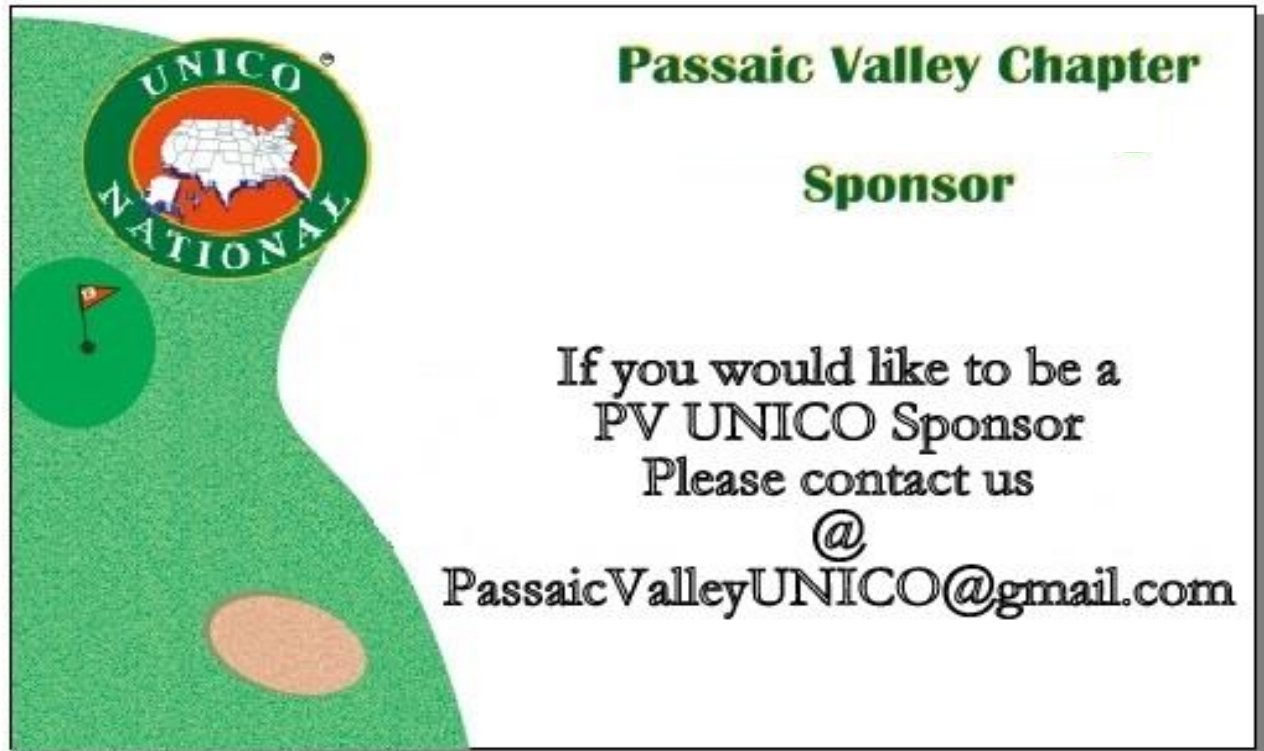
*Famiglia ~ La nostra famiglia UNICO lavoriamo insieme*

*Family ~ Our UNICO family working together*



## *It's Never Too Late*

*We will advertise your name for an entire UNICO year  
(See pages 9, 10, 11, 12)*

The advertisement is enclosed in a black rectangular border. On the left side, there is a green graphic of a golf course with a hole and a flag. At the top left of this graphic is the UNICO National logo, which consists of a green circle containing a red circle with a white map of the United States and the words 'UNICO NATIONAL' around it. To the right of the graphic, the text 'Passaic Valley Chapter' is written in a bold, green, sans-serif font. Below that, the word 'Sponsor' is written in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The main text of the advertisement is in a black, serif font and reads: 'If you would like to be a PV UNICO Sponsor Please contact us @ PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com'.

**Passaic Valley Chapter**

**Sponsor**

If you would like to be a  
PV UNICO Sponsor  
Please contact us  
@  
PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com

**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 of 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.



# March ~ marzo

## It's a new UNICO Year For Us

### A thanks to our 2019-2020 Sponsors and Supporters

### It's Never Too Late to Help

< Just ask any chapter member for more information on how you can also help >



## Our 2019-2020 Gold Sponsor Senator Kristen M. Corrado

## Our 2019-2020 Silver Sponsor Murph's Tavern

UNICO NATIONAL logo in the top left corner. Text: **Passaic Valley Chapter Annual Golf Outing Sponsor**. Below that, **SENATOR** and **Kristin M. Corrado**. A golf ball is in the bottom right corner.

UNICO NATIONAL logo in the top left corner. Text: **Passaic Valley Chapter Annual Golf Outing Sponsor**. Below that, "If you would like to be a PV UNICO Sponsor Please contact us @ PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com". A golf ball is in the bottom right corner.

UNICO NATIONAL logo in the top left corner. Text: **Passaic Valley Chapter Annual Golf Outing Sponsor**. Below that, "GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY" and **MURPH'S TAVERN**. At the bottom, **375 UNION BLVD. TOTOWA, NJ 07512**. A golf ball is in the bottom right corner.

# Never Ending Support and Giving Back To our Passaic Valley Towns




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

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





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Murray Contracting**  
Murray Paving & Concrete, LLC  
South Hackensack, NJ  
201-670-0030





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

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



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**CPR Inc**  
Commercial Plastic Recycling  
Tampa, Florida  
Joe Benvenuti  
Account Rep




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

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





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Little Falls ShopRite**  
Little Falls, NJ





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Woodland Park**  
**Democratic Club**





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

**Sal Benvenuti**  
Passaic Valley Chapter Member  
Tax Consultant  
& Mediator




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Little Falls**  
**Democratic Club**




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Gaita Memorial Home**  
Little Falls, NJ




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

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




# You too can be a "Proud Sponsor"

## Just \$100.00 Helps Us to Help Others



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Crews-Wilbert Vault Co.**




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

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



94 Main Street  
Little Falls, NJ 07424


**973-256-5001**




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Cestone Electric Company**


23 Jackson Street  
Little Falls, NJ

Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**STIX**  
CIGAR SHOP AND CLUB

440 Route 23 North  
Pompton Plains, NJ  
973-831-2499





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**FRANK'S PIZZA**



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




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Santangelo Funeral Home**

Woodland Park, NJ



973-345-2500




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

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

Pompton Lakes,  
Denville & Fairfield

Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Little Falls  
Republican Club**





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor






Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Keith Kazmark  
Woodland Park Mayor**



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

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



94 Main Street  
Little Falls, NJ 07424


**973-256-5001**

Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**NJ  
Orthopaedic Institute, LLC**

504 Valley Road  
Suite 200  
Wayne, NJ



# Please support our Sponsors

## As They Support Us



Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Tri-Tec Design Inc.**  
13 Fairfield Ave.  
Little Falls, NJ 07424  
973-256-5030





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Hanson & Ryan Inc.**  
Insurance Since 1876  
973-256-6000





Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Metropolitan Society  
Private Cigar Club**  
1275 Bloomfield Avenue  
Bldg. 8, Suite 62  
Fairfield, NJ

Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor

**Wilson's Auto Body**  
1265 McBride Avenue  
Woodland Park, NJ




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor




**Amore**  
Ristorante  
Italian Cuisine  
973-925-5600  
(F) 973-925-5599  
www.AmoreRistoranteWR.com  
110 Rifle Camp Road - Woodland Park, NJ 07424




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor





1267 McBride Ave.  
Woodland Park, NJ 07424  
888.Gun For Hire


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

**Schumacher Chevrolet**  
Little Falls, NJ




Passaic Valley Chapter  
Annual Golf Outing  
Sponsor



**Viva  
LA PIZZA**  
We Deliver!  
973-785 7501  
1605 McBride Ave., Woodland Park, NJ 07424  
(Park West Shopping Center)