

October 2020
Year 18
Issue 180

Passaic Valley UNICO

Our October 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
Website www.UNICOMembers.com
Website www.Facebook.com/PassaicValleyUNICO
Website www.UNICO.org
Email PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com

A Message from our Chapter President

Ciao Passaic Valley Chapter Members:

The fall has finally started, leaves and acorns are falling making for a beautiful canvas for all to enjoy.

We had our first outdoor meeting in September and approximately 22 members attended and enjoyed by all. Thank you for our dinner committee on their fine work procuring this venue for us. We will be going back to Mesa 46 for our October 14 meeting.

Our Community Service Day has been moved to October 17. Pat Ligouri has stepped up to chairing this event. We will be at Little Falls Shoprite between the hours of 8 & 12PM. I hope I will see our members helping out. If you have not done so yet, get in touch with Pat with your times you can help us. This is a good cause for all of our Food Banks especially in these hard times for many families.

*There will be a special zoom meeting on October 7 by **UNICO NATIONAL FOUNDATION** at which time we will be presenting our \$1,000 check for Cancer Research that would have been presented at our annual convention.*

Unfortunately, we do not have any further fund raisers to discuss. Hopefully we will get through this pandemic and come up with some worthy causes.

We still have some members that have not paid their dues. Please try to send it in asap.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on October 14.

Much Regards,

Your Chapter President, Eileen Wood



October Birthdays

- 10-01 Bob Appaluccio
- 10-01 Frank Capalbo
- 10-02 Christina Castillo
- 10-09 Carmen Gaita
- 10-18 Carmen Criscione
- 10-20 Mark BiFalco

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

www.UNICO.org

www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.4mg.com

Food Pantry

Please do not forget about our UNICO Phil Arena and our other Food Pantries ... 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

October 7 ... Wednesday ... UNICO National Zoom Donation Event

October 12 ... Columbus Day

October 14 ... 2nd Wednesday ... Monthly Meeting

October 17 ... UNICO National / Passaic Valley Community Service Day ... ShopRite Little Falls ... Your help is needed so that we can help others

December 2020 ... The deadline for our chapter to get our chapter dues and updated member list in to UNICO National ... Please pay your dues as early as possible

July 21-24, 2021 ... Wednesday through Saturday ... The 98th Annual UNICO Convention where our PV chapter member, Steve Pelonero, gets sworn in as our next UNICO National President ... “Save the Dates”

~~~~~  
**From your chapter secretary: Steve Pelonero**

Dues reminder notices are sent out every month but only to the members who we show that have not paid them yet. If you get a letter in the mail, and you think that you have paid it, please contact us. We will check our records ... but we might ask for a copy of the cashed check. Thank you for understanding and for your service to and with UNICO

FYI: All of our chapters member information: phone #'s, addresses, etc., can be found on our chapter website in the member section. A log with you own personal password is necessary ... [www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org/Member-Section.php](http://www.PassaicValleyUNICO.org/Member-Section.php)

**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”**



**Did You Know:  
Italy in October**

October in Italy is considered shoulder season because of the cooler weather

Autumn is harvest time in Italy. Locals put on festivals dedicated to their food, their wines, and their various fresh picked produce

The Rome Film Festival takes place in October. It is a time maybe to even see a few actors or actresses

Italians often refer to Halloween as All Saints Eve

**ComUNICO**

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



**Who's Who**

**Our 2020-2021 Executive Board**

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

**Our 2020-2021 Board of Directors**

|                   |                        |             |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 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 |
| Carmen Criscione  | Past Chapter President | 2008 & 2009 |

**Our 2020-2021 Chapter Delegates**

President Eileen Wood ... 55 Members (President +3)  
 Delegates and alternates: To be voted on at a chapter meeting  
 Delegates represent our chapter vote at regional and national meetings

**Fundraising Committee Heads**

|                                            |                  |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Food Pantry .....                          | Roni Corrado     |
| Overseas Armed Service Care Packages ..... | Pasquale Corrado |

**Non-Fundraising Committee Heads**

|                                                      |                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Christmas Tree Lighting w/ Candy Cane Giveaway ..... | Joe Agresti PNP                 |
| Community Service Day (April).....                   | Pat Ligouri                     |
| 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 |

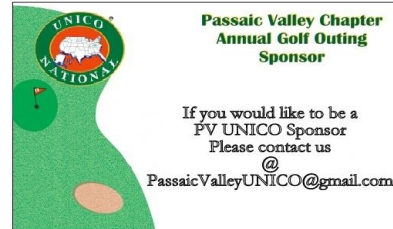
## Committee Comments

*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)*

***Dear Friends and Chapter Members:***

***A message from our UNICO National President & UNICO Foundation President***

*Join UNICO National President Dr. Frank DeFrank and Foundation President John Alati on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM for a special Zoom donation event to our National & Foundation charities and programs.*

*As everyone is aware, we had to cancel this year's convention due to the Covid-19 virus. The Convention is not only our business meeting but also a time when chapters/districts/individuals make donations or pledges to our charities and programs. While some chapters/districts have sent in donations as they normally do, we wanted to give everyone an opportunity to make donations as they would at the National Convention.*

***Foundtion Charities***

*Anti-Bias ~ Cancer Research & Prevention ~ Cooley's Anemia ~ Geraldine Lipari Mental Health  
Italian Studies/Heritage ~ Scholarship ~ St. Jude ~ Torraco Food Bank/Shelter ~ 21st Century Capital Fund*

***UNICO National Charities***

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

***UNICO National Heritage & Photo Calendar Chair ~ Steve Pelonero***

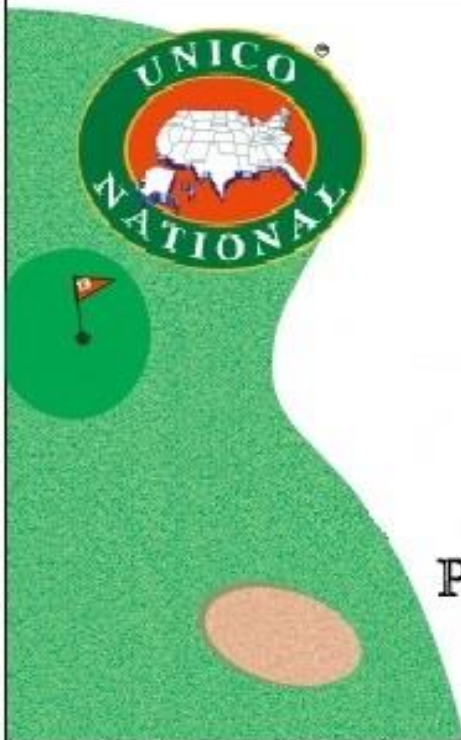
*Hoping that every member across the country received for the very first time their yearly calendar that was mailed directly to each and every member via USPS ~ In this 2021 issue our chapter has 3 of our chapter members photos premiered: Joe Agresti, Sal Nocella, and Steve Pelonero. Steve's brother Anthony, who is a National member from Virginia, also has two photos in it*



## *It is "Never Too Late"*

*We will advertise your business, or your personal ad, for an entire UNICO year*

*See page 7*



**Passaic Valley Chapter**

**Sponsor**

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

### **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 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.

*A Special thanks*

*To our 2019-2020 Sponsors and Supporters*

*We sincerely appreciated your generosity*

*For those that would like to help us in 2020-2021*

*You can reach us at*

*[PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com](mailto:PassaicValleyUNICO@gmail.com)*

*Or you can ask any chapter member for more information*

*Just \$100 gets you in every issue of this newsletter for our UNICO year  
2020-2021*

