May 2024

Year 21

Issue 220

Passaic Valley UNICO

Our May 2024 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

It was a Happy April with the successful Cornhole Tournament. Lots of work from the committees. 100% staffed.

It was also a great event at the Woodland Park Bunny Breakfast. Lots of helpers were there who displayed our UNICO Core Values.'

Upcoming events are our May 8th meeting at Casa Arturo where our nominating will announce their slate of officers for the 2024/2025 year. Then a vote will be cast.

Also coming up is our 39th Annual Golf out. The flier is in this newsletter. Please support it as a golfer or possibly get a sponsor. Many sponsors have already come through and they are in this newsletter and on our chapter website.

Then we look forward to our Annual Scholarship, Brian Piccolo and Officer Installation Dinner on June 9th at the Barnyard in Totowa.

We also have our traditional year-end pizza and muscle dinner ... all of this in June and all are listed in the upcoming events section of this newsletter and also on our chapter website.

Please stay in touch and please stay safe.

Dominick J. Bucci - Chapter President



May Birthdays "Happy Birthday"

04 Dominick Bucci 05 Philip Polizzotto 18 Michael Carbonelli

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 Chairs, Carmen Gaita or Patricia Pelonero on how you can help or with your donation

Upcoming Events – Local and National

May 8, 2024 ~ 2nd Wednesday ~ Monthly Chapter Meeting ~ Casa Arturo ~ 7 pm Dinner ~ 7:30 Meeting during and in between dinner servings ~ \$40 BYO

June 9, 2024 ~ Sunday ~ Our Annual Brian Piccolo, Scholarship and Officer installation Dinner ~ At the Barnyard in Totowa ~ More information to follow

June 12, 2024 ~ 2nd Wednesday ~ Our tradition year end Chapter Pizza Meeting ~ Holy Cross Church ~ 7 pm dinner ~ 8 pm meeting

June 17, 2024 ~ Monday ~ Our 39th Annual Golf Outing ~ The Meadows in Lincoln park with a Beefsteak to follow at the Brownstone.

December 3, 2024 ~ Tuesday ~ Our UNICO NJ District IV Christmas Dinner for our Special Need Friends ~ More information will follow



Do you know what these are? Please visit page 7 for the answer

Below are our UNICO's CORE VALUES

If you know of someone who has them and 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"



UNICO Charities

Foundation Charities

- ... Cancer Research
- ... Cooley's Anemia
- ... Food Bank
- ... Italian Studies
- ... Mental Health
- ... Scholarship
- ... St. Jude's Hospital

National Charities

- ... Anti Bias
- ... Armed Forces
- ... Columbus Day
- ... Heritage Calendar

Visit Italy in May:
What you need to know
Click here for the link on
the internet

ComUNICO

You can now read the <u>Com-UNICO</u> magazine on the internet Just click or go here >>> www.unico.org/comUNICO

Who's Who

Our 2023-2024 Executive Board

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

Our 2023-2024 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

Our 2023-2024 Chapter Delegates

President Dominick Bucci ... 49 Members (President +2)

Delegate: Jean Chomko

Alternate Delegate: Sal Benvenuti Alternate Delegate: Patricia Pelonero

(Delegates represent our chapter and are urged to attend our district, regional, and national meetings, especially if a vote is called for)

Our 2023-2024 Fundraising Committee Heads

Cornhole Tournament	John Barbieri
Food Pantry	Carmen Gaita and Patricia Pelonero
Golf Outing	Joe Barone
Holiday Cheer	Carmen Gaita, Joe Benvenuti, Sal Benvenuti
Overseas Armed Service Care Packages	Open - To be appointed

Non-Fundraising Committee Heads

Community Service Day (April)	Charles Russo
Good and Welfare	Joe Benvenuti
Heritage	Angelo Verrone
	Steve Pelonero PNP
Nominating Chair	Open - To be appointed
	Christina Castillo & Roni Corrado
Scholarship / Brian Piccolo	
Study Abroad College Grants	Cav. Joseph Agresti PNP
Website	Steven Pelonero PNP
Website Member Section	John Barbieri

Our Annual Community Service Day

This is our Annual Food Pantry Drive that is held at ShopRite in Little Falls.

We want to sincerely thank all of the shoppers who went out of their way to purchase one or more non-perishable items. Everything collected went to on of our seven local pantries including a veteran's home.

All of the Passaic Valley Chapter members, plus more, are not pictured in these photos, but another special thanks goes out to those who helped stand outside the doors of ShopRite, some of them from 7:30 am until 3 pm.















Annual Golf Outing

Monday June 17, 2024

501c3 organization **Meadows Golf Club**

- Breakfast at 8:00am **Back by Popular Demand...**

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

- Beefsteak dinner at the Brownstone at 3:00pm (includes beer, soda, coffee and tea)

Contests, Prizes & Raffle's		
Money Raffle	Closest to the Pin	
Straightest Drive	Low Team Gross	
Win a Car "Hole in One"		
Prizes on Every Par 3		



Online Registration

\$175 per person - Check or Cash Payment \$75 per person Dinner Only

\$179 per person - Credit Card Payment Pre-Registration is REQUIRED by June 10, 2024 Go to: 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 or 973-986-7042

All proceeds will go to our local scholarship and charitable endeavors

Italian Heritage Photo From the 2024 UNICO Heritage Calendar ~ May Lace Store on Burano Island Venice



Burano's beautiful, colored houses often hog the spotlight when one thinks of Venice. It is one of the most famous islands in Italy.

Burano it is the needle lace of the Renaissance period of Venice.

Where is your Italian Heritage From



Committee & Comments

Food Pantry ~ Carmen Gaita and Patricia Pelonero

As always, donations for our local food pantries can always be brought to any chapter meeting (non-perishable items, money or food gift cards). Thank you always for your support.

Golf ~ Joe Barone

Please tell your friends, neighbors, acquaintances and relatives about a fun day of golfing that is coming up soon. The 39th annual PV UNICO golf outing fund raiser will be held on Monday, June 17, 2024, at the Meadows Golf Club, 79 Twin Bridges Road, Lincoln Park, N.J. 07033. Check in with continental breakfast will be at 8:00 AM and golf shotgun start time will be at 9:00 AM. We have an exciting day planned with a lot of great people. We have some really nice prizes to award, a money raffle, different skill contests on the course and a WIN A CAR contest. To wrap up the day, we have an amazing beefsteak dinner with all the trimmings at Brownstone Restaurant in Paterson, New Jersey, from 3:00 to 7:00. Cost for breakfast, golf and the beefsteak is \$175.00. Cost for the beefsteak only is \$75.00. If help is needed to enlist a sponsor or enroll a golfer, please contact any member of the 2024 PV UNICO golf committee: John Morano, Steve Pelonero, Sal Benvenuti, Joe Benvenuti, John Barbieri, Jerry Gaeta, Joyce O Hara, or Jay Sisti. Best regards, Joe Barone, 973 986 7042, jchrzbar@gmail.com

Scholarship ~ Chuck Russo

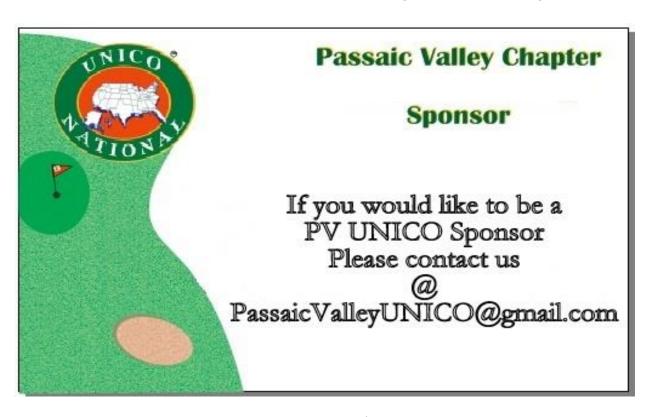
The scholarship committee will be meeting prior to the May chapter meeting to select the recipients of this year's scholarships and Brian Piccolo Awards. The names will be revealed at the May meeting. The Scholarship/Awards Dinner to honor those recipients, and to serve as the social culmination of the chapter's year will be held on Sunday, June 9th at 6PM at the Barnyard in Totowa. The scholarship committee feels that it is important for as many members as possible, along with their significant others, attend, not only to honor the special group of recipients, but also, as per tradition, to mingle with other chapter members and guests as we wrap up the year. The chapter will again be hosting the traditional "President's Cocktail Hour" beginning at 5PM. This is open to chapter members and one "significant other" only, for one drink. For those members who plan to attend the scholarship dinner, please bring payment of \$50 per person to the May chapter meeting. It truly facilitates the finances for the committee and is greatly appreciated. You can also let us know at that time if you have a dinner seating preference. We will try to honor requests. If you have committed \$200 for a "Memorial Scholarship" to honor a loved one, please confirm that with me at the chapter meeting, or send me an email or text, and, if possible, have your check at the meeting. I have had a few members inquire about the Memorial Scholarship, but this needs to be confirmed as dinner and program plans are made. ~~~ Thank you, Chuck

Re: The Photo from Page 2 of this Newsletter

To see and know what the photo is on Page 2 of this Newsletter, please read the next comment from Joe Benvenuti

Vice President Joe Benvenuti

Want to wish all our moms a very Happy Mother's day. I will not be at the May 8th meeting as I am working in Orlando for the week. Just wanted to let all know that our plaques and certificates, as pictured on page 2 of this newsletter, are now all on the little Falls Civic Center wall. Thanks to Mayor James & LF DPW who got them all on for us. We do need to get a sign there stating Passaic Valley UNICO in the near future as well. Upcoming events are the golf outing as well as our Scholarship, Brian Piccolo and Installation Dinner. We do need your help and support to make the golf a great event once more. Please help us with getting any hole sponsors if you can. Hope to see you all at the June Pizza Meeting ~ Joe Benvenuti



Our UNICO Charities

UNICO National

Armed Services ~ Columbus Day ~ Heritage & Photo Calendar

UNICO Foundation

21st 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".

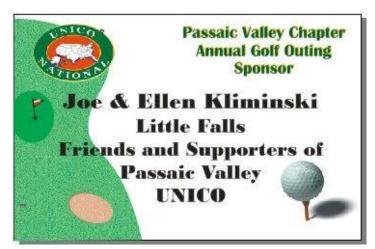
Each year, the UNICO Foundation and the UNICO National Chapters across the country donate approximately \$1 million to various charities. Scholarships continue to be the primary focus of UNICO, as roughly one-third of all monies raised goes to deserving students from all the chapter locations throughout the chain.

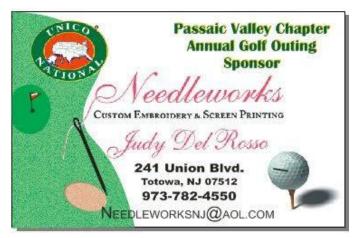
UNICO National has funded major research in Cooley's Anemia and Mental Health. Through its association with the Jimmy Valvano Foundation, it has funded over 10, \$50,000 grants to help find a cure for Cancer. These worthy areas continue to receive generous support from the chapters and its members for these worthy causes.

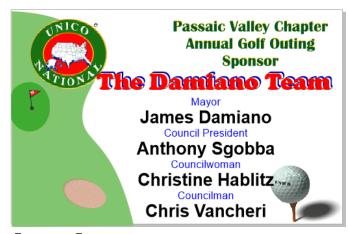
If you would like to attend one of our meetings to see if you might be interested in joining UNICO, please contact us through any member, or through our email. We would be honored to have you as a member of our Passaic Valley UNICO Chapter.

"78"

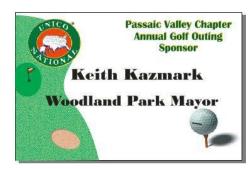


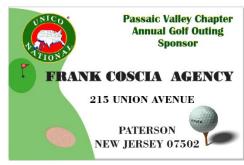










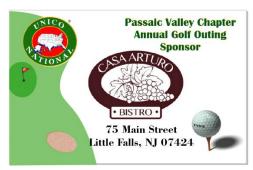


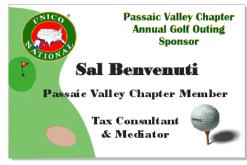




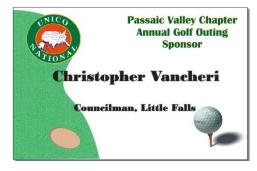


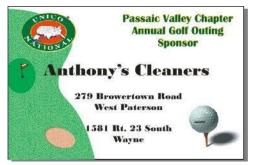


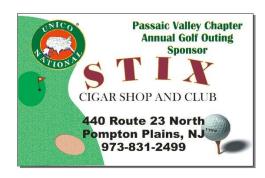




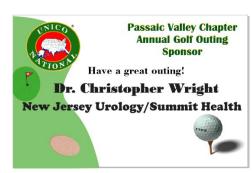


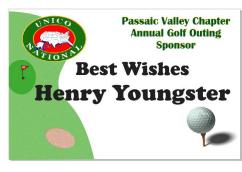










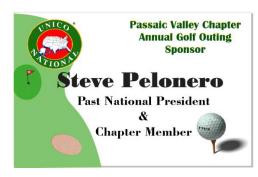


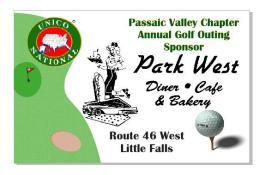


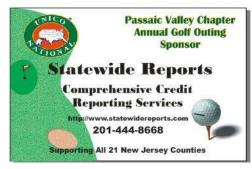


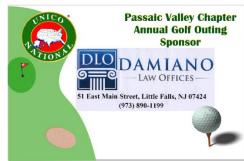










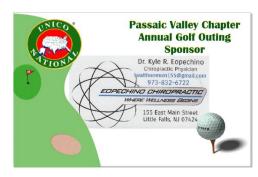


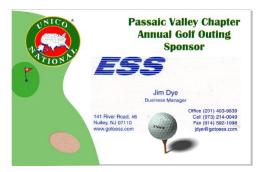


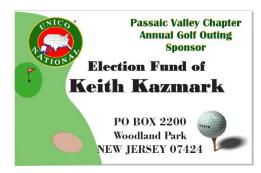


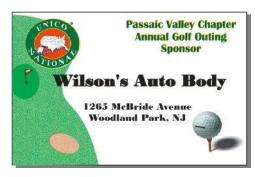






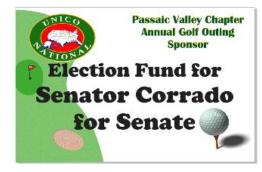


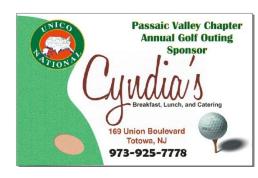










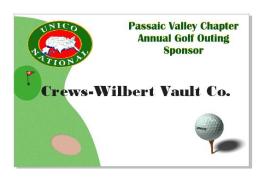
















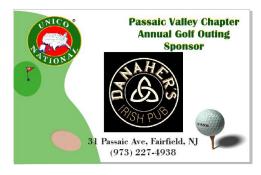






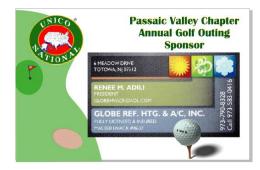


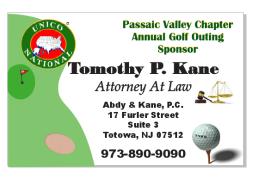








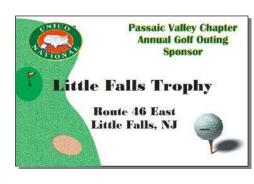






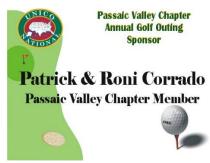












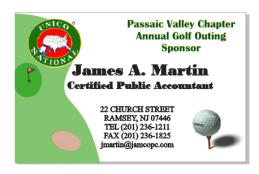


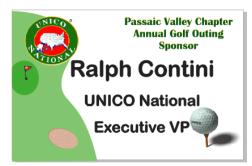




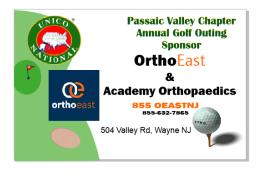






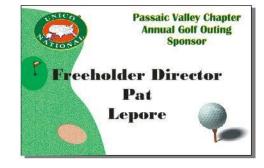








Marian J. Rabel





You too can be a proud sponsor of our Passaic Valley UNICO Chapter ~ It is never too late 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 5 of this newsletter for more information

Keep going for our Cornhole Sponsors And for our 2024-2025 Golf Sponsor Pages

2024 Cornhole Sponsors

Thank you for your support





















2024-2025 **Sponsors**

(July 1, 2024 ~ June 30, 2025)



All of our Sponsors (18)



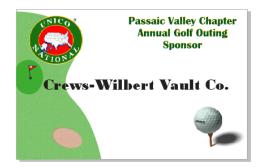






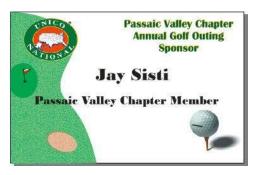






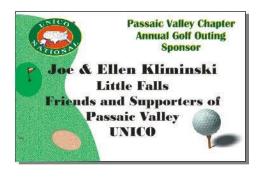
Ener-G-Electric



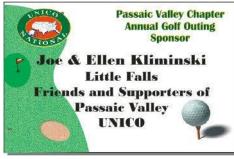


Alliance Hand & Physical Therapy











Chris & Ann DiMattio PNP

