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On August 27, 2017, USADD announced a new grant to fund research into Cooley’s Anemia, a rare blood disorder that affects red blood cells. Cooley’s Anemia is named after Samuel Cooley, a young boy who died of the disease in 1964.

Charitable donations to UNICO Charities are tax deductible!
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September 2017

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sept. 17, 2017          NJ District 11 “Jimmy V” Bocce Tournament
Sept. 24, 2017*        Basilone Parade in Raritan, NJ
October 8, 2017        Seaside Heights, NJ Columbus Day Parade
October 9, 2017        New York City Columbus Day Parade
October 24, 2017       NJ/NY/PA Meet the President at the Venetian
October 26- 29, 2017   Eastern Regional Meeting in Downtown Marriott Providence, R.I.

For more events, visit www.unico.org

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Welcome to the 2017-2018 UNICO year. I’ve been writing columns for ComUNICO for a long time and I am honored to communicate to you now as your National President. The Convention in Scottsdale was another great time to do our business and reacquaint ourselves with old friends. By all accounts it was an extremely successful week and I am indebted to Convention Chair PNP Joe Agresti and the rest of the Convention committee for all of their hard work. I wish more UNICANS could have attended, and hope you will attend in the future if you are able. With my first column, I am going to excerpt most of the speech I gave at the Convention Gala. It is how I feel about our organization and you, its members. Please enjoy and I hope to see or speak with you during the year.

“In May the Membership and Retention Ad-Hoc Committee hosted a seminar presented by a world leader in member retention issues. I wish more people were able to attend because I thought he did a great job of drawing out what is important to UNICO and how we can use that to attract and retain members. He said that a lot of people are enthusiastic when they join an organization but that enthusiasm wanes because of unmet expectations. He said that focusing on our core values will help people understand what we are about and help with retention. So, he asked, what are our core values? Well, they are right there we all knew they were: the attributes we assign to the letters in UNICO: Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity and Opportunity.

This is why we joined UNICO, this is what makes us “UNICO”, unique, these are our core values.

We are UNITED in our purpose: to raise and donate money to various groups and students while preserving our Italian-American heritage. We may argue amongst ourselves, but we present a united front when people denigrate our heritage or when there is an earthquake, or when someone, anyone, needs our assistance.

The NEIGHBORLINESS comes from our desire to help our communities. In many of our chapters we are well known as being the most generous organization in town. The organization that can be counted on when called for. As we join UNICO our fellow members become our neighbors. When I ride my bike in Wethersfield I ride by many houses of my chapter members. People I wouldn’t have gotten to know if it wasn’t for UNICO. I’ve made so many friends by being part of UNICO, it’s wonderful to go to New Jersey, or New York, or Pennsylvania, or even California, and know I will see people I like and care for.

Our INTEGRITY shows in that we have virtually no administrative expenses. In fact, we pay dues so that we can run smoothly as a national organization and be able to donate all of the money we raise. We have fierceness about doing the right thing, about not spending more money than we have to. I was at a Farmington, CT meeting and the President was summarizing the year. He joked about the “animated discussions” they had during the year that kept them at meetings late into the night, but how it was all worth it. I think we all have been part of these “animated discussions” in UNICO. I’ve seen it at Foundation meetings, District meetings and chapter meetings. I remember one Wethersfield board meeting where we had a thirty minute “animated discussion” about the price of propane for our gas grill. I finally raised my hand and asked for a motion to form a propane sub-committee to look into it! But that just shows you the passion we have for making the most of our donations.

The CHARITY is self-explanatory, but I also think this is another thing that makes us unique. How many organizations give to so many different causes? We not only give out scholarships and donate money to cancer research; we donate to Cooley’s anemia, St. Jude’s, mental health, our armed forces, food banks, Italian heritage, and so many more local and national causes. Who else does that? We estimate that we raise and donate about five million dollars a year.

That means we have donated hundreds of million dollars in our history. Think about that. We don’t take enough time to appreciate that and to feel good about it. We are always on to the next event to help even more people.

By joining UNICO we are given the OPPORTUNITY to help others, to meet people similar to our own character. Everyone has the opportunity to make UNICO what they want it to be for themselves. I used UNICO to take the opportunity to follow in my parent’s footsteps of service to the community. I took the opportunity to become chapter president and eventually to this day as your national president. UNICO gave me that opportunity. That opportunity is there for all of us.

So when people ask you what is UNICO? Why should I join UNICO? Or what is UNICO about? Don’t tell them it’s an organization of Italians that meet for dinner and plan golf tournaments or beefsteaks. Tell them you are part of the hardest working, most caring, honest and generous group in town, and in the nation: an organization that is proud of its Italian AND American heritage and fights for those less fortunate than ourselves.

That we practice Service Above Self more than any other organization and that if you believe in these principles then it would be your honor to introduce them to UNICO.

I’m proud of UNICO, I’m proud of all of you, and I’m proud to serve as your National President, thank you!
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
A message from
Frank N. De Frank

Buon giorno a tutti! Life seems to have settled down a little since the recent 2017 UNICO National Convention in Scottsdale Arizona. At all our conventions new friends are made, old relationships are rekindled, some work is done, and a lot of fun is had by all! Scottsdale was no different! I would strongly encourage everyone to consider attending a UNICO National convention. It will be an experience that you will never forget!

Congratulations to Tom Vaughn on his recent installation as UNICO National President. We are all looking forward to working with Tom to push UNICO forward!

Certainly we would be remiss without giving our love and thanks to our new PNP, Dominick Nicastro and his wife, Alina. I’m sure we all agree that Dominic has done a great job as National President. I am certain that many of his projects will continue to lead UNICO over the next several years.

Over the past year as Second National Vice President I had visited a considerable number of chapter and district meetings and functions around the country. We should be proud of all our members and the work that they do!

cont. on page 9

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
A message from
Steve Pelonero

I want to thank the nominating committee and all of our UNICO members for allowing me to serve as your 2017/2018 UNICO National 2nd Vice President. I live in Little Falls, NJ and I am a 15-year member of the Passaic Valley Chapter in NJ District IV. I have always been a proponent of getting new members, and spreading the word of UNICO. My goal over the next few years will be to work with everyone to find “UNIQUE” ways to reach our goals. You will probably hear this often over the next few months and I urge all members to remember that we have core values in UNICO. We must be “Unified in our ways,” be “Neighborly to each other,” always keep our “Integrity,” continue to be “Charitable,” and to give others an “Opportunity.” Being the National photographer does not mean that I will stop taking them. I will to continue to preserve our memories and share our good deeds, for years to come, not only on our UNICO.org website in the Photo Gallery section, but also on social media. We have a large following on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter as “UNICO pictures” and I would like to see them grow with more friends to see your event photos as well. I want more people to be aware of UNICO. I look forward to meeting as many chapters and members as I can, especially at the Eastern Regional Meeting in Providence, RI. Come on out and meet your UNICO family.

Ciao, Steve

PRESIDENT UNICO FOUNDATION
A message from
John J. DiNapoli

On Thursday July 27, 2017 the Board of Trustees of the UNICO Foundation met at the JW Marriot Camelback Inn and resort in Scottsdale, Arizona.

James DeSpenza, Treasurer, reviewed the financial information as of June 30, 2017. Total funds in various accounts of the Foundation totaled $3,426,230. From July 1, 2016 through July 1, 2017 funds have increased 11.1% or approximately $300,000. A copy of the report is available at the National office.

Sal Benvenuti was elected as Executive Director of the Unico Foundation until the next annual meeting in July, 2018.

Two new scholarships were approved: The Inserra Scholarship, The Eleanor and Anthony Defrancis Scholarship. More information will be available shortly regarding these scholarships.

The Trustees approved a grant in the amount of $50,000.00 to a hospital in Amatrice, Italy. The hospital was damaged by the recent earthquakes. Foundation Counsel Carmine Campanile is preparing an agreement to be signed by the hospital before we pay out any funds.

The Following Grants were approved by the Trustees: Earthquake Relief $50,000, Cooley’s Anemia $10,000, Scholarships $84,000, Torraco Food Bank $12,000.

There were four positions on the Board of Trustees that were up for election. All four Trustees were re-elected. They were Frank Blasi, Lou DiRico, Kathi Strozza and Paula Varsalona-Marino. Since the San Antonio chapter has folded, Joseph Monaco has resigned from the Board. The Trustees approved Frank Lo Re from Highland Beach, Florida to fill the remaining term of Mr. Monaco.

On Friday, the Trustees met to elect officers for the current year. They were as follows: John J. DiNapoli President, John Alati Vice President, James Despenza Treasurer, Peter Pettinato Secretary.

If anyone has any questions regarding the UNICO Foundation, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember UNICO in your Estate Planning.

Yours in UNICO, John J. DiNapoli
Having just returned home from our very awesome National Convention in Scottsdale, AZ, I am so proud and honored to have been re-elected to serve again as your National Membership & Retention Director for 2017-2018. So many great things happened in Scottsdale. We witnessed our PNP Dominic Nicastro seamlessly pass the national leadership to our new President Tom Vaughan. I know that President Tom along with Executive VP Lee Norelli, 1st Vice President Frank DeFrank & 2nd VP Steve Pelonero will do a fabulous job in continuing to guide this great organization into our challenging future.

At the National Convention, I held a joint Membership & Retention Committee workshop with the Expansion Committee. This one hour workshop was attended by officers & members from various chapters from around the country and it was amazingly productive. I look forward to working together with our newly elected Expansion Director, Joe Nasello. We plan to hold another Membership & Expansion workshop jointly at the upcoming Eastern Regional Conference in October in Providence, RI.

The months of September & October are always very special to Italian Americans and especially to UNICANS. It’s the best time of year to really show off our Italian Heritage. October is designated as Italian Heritage month. The 2nd Monday of October is a federal holiday in honor Christopher Columbus, great navigator born in Genoa, Italy. Our local UNICO Chapters around the country will hold ceremonies & flag raisings in honor of our Italian heritage. Major cities such as New York host outstanding parades. Our National float along with dozens of chapters & UNICO Officers will be marching on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan on Columbus Day. Many chapters are hosting Italian Heritage events for the purpose not only of displaying our heritage, but also to recruit new members into this great organization. As I have mentioned here in my past columns, when your chapter participates in such events, a good suggestion is that you have a table or booth representing your local chapter for fielding questions from and giving answers to prospective new members. We, at National, can provide you with helpful tools such as pamphlets which describe UNICO National in detail and the five pillars on which we were founded almost 100 years ago in Waterbury, CT. Merchandise can be made available, such as UNICO shirts, hats, tote bags, car decals and a multitude of other items, which can be seen on our National website www.unico.org.

If you have any questions or suggestions about membership, please don’t hesitate to contact me. If your chapter would like to plan an Italian Heritage event and would like help from our National Office, give me a call or send me an email and I will be happy to render some really good guidance to make it a successful event. During the past two years I have attended many of these heritage events, so I can guide you based on some of the positive presentations made by various chapters. My email address is anthony@bengivenga.com, and my phone number is 732-310-6031.

In closing, I can say with passion that I look forward to another great UNICO year and meeting as many of you as possible. I send “un abbraccio forte a tutti voi”! A big hug to all of you!

Respectfully, Anthony Bengivenga
A Family Affair!

We all complain about the lack of time we have to spend with children and parents. We often dream of holiday dinners and Sundays spent at “Nonna’s” or a favorite Aunt or Uncle’s. We long to bring back the animated, sometimes heated, conversations that we remember so vividly. Yet, busy work and school schedules and sometimes long distance prevent us from renewing these family events and preserving them for our children and grandchildren. We say “we should get together more often, plan reunions and vacations together,” and some of us do. It takes effort and planning and even sacrifice to follow through, but if WE don’t, the next generation may be deprived of knowing cousins and other relatives and enjoying what we fondly refer to as “la famiglia”.

Sharing our customs, favorite dishes and recipes, love of music and storytelling (remember when….”) and inviting friends too, whom we know would enjoy this ambiance, is imperative to preserving our heritage.

If we are not already enjoying such times together, let’s start now, on a small scale. It’s never too late! Plan a gathering with a few who live near-by and discuss having another and inviting a few more again soon.

To set a perfect “Italian mood” I suggest that we set aside time “prima o dopo pranzo” to listen to MATTINATA MUSICALE – a bi-lingual program on international podcast, available 24/7 on I Heart Radio or WILM.com- Radio Italian Style. It is a perfect blend of language, music and culture that can ignite conversation and “la nostalgia;” a great way to preserve our heritage for and with our youth.

I encourage our ACES to listen to this program at their meetings and use it to discuss various issues on Italian lifestyle, musical trends, etc.

Any reason why our adult chapters cannot do the same??? PROVIAMO!!!

LEGAL COUNSEL

A message from Morris Borea

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to many of you that do not know that I am your new General Counsel. I was sworn in at our 95th Annual Convention on July 29, 2017, at the magnificent JW Marriott Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. I am truly humbled to have been elected General Counsel and promise to keep the interests of UNICO National and its members first in the performance of my duties as your counsel.

I am a member of the Wethersfield Chapter and am a past Chapter President, past District Governor, have served on the National President’s Executive Committee and have been a member of the national nominating committee. I am a 1979 graduate of Trinity College in Hartford, CT and in 1982 received my law degree from the University Of Connecticut School Of Law. I have been practicing law for 35 years and am currently a partner with McGivney, Kluger & Cook, PC, in our Hartford office. My firm has over one hundred lawyers with offices in eight states. A major part of my practice includes representing municipalities as their corporation counsel or town attorney. I also regularly represent non-profits like UNICO. Given our resources and experience, we can and will provide UNICO National with responsive, innovative, and practical advice and guidance.

I realize how important it is to promote and protect our Italian heritage. My mother and father were both born in Italy, in San Mango Su Calore, a town outside of Naples, in the province of Avellino. My dad was a member of the Carabinieri, who are Federal police officers having jurisdiction over both the civilian and military population. My parents moved to the United States when they were in their mid-twenties with just their suitcases and a dream of a better life. They both studied very hard to pass the test and were proud to become American citizens.

While they believed in the promise of America, they never forgot their native Italy and brought many of the customs and traditions that they grew up with to the United States. The best of all was going to my mother’s house after Sunday Mass for lunch and dinner with our entire family, including anyone who might get an invite, from aunts and uncles to friends and neighbors. There was always more than enough delicious food and wonderful, loud, animated conversations about absent family members, the best places to shop and sometimes sports or politics. Everyone would be speaking at the same time in both English and Italian. Invariably there would be stories about their days back in the old country and we gained a better understanding of our shared Italian heritage and everything that was left behind to give us a better future. Our heritage is the foundation that many of us have built our lives upon and raised our families with the values that flowed from those traditions. I will do my best to protect those traditions and values as your counsel.

In closing I also want to thank Attorney Frank Blasi, our former General Counsel, for his 10 years of dedicated service to UNICO. I wish Frank the best as he continues his work as a member of the Board of Trustees of the UNICO Foundation. Finally I want to thank all the members of UNICO National for giving me an opportunity to honor the memory of my father, a proud Italian American who passed away last year, by allowing me to serve as your General Counsel. I look forward to doing great things together.

Yours in UNICO, Morris R. Borea
My wife Violet and I have just returned from the National Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona. We cannot express how much we enjoyed the J. W. Marriott Camelback Inn, Resort and Spa and all the UNICO events, for which we commend the Convention Chairman, Joseph Agresti, and his Convention Committee for their venue selection and a well-executed event. I encourage all UNICANS to attend upcoming National events.

As this is my inaugural message to our UNICO family, I am humbled to have been selected, during the District Governors Conference, to represent the Eastern Region. Thank you to IPERDGC Steve Pelonero for his successful term. I am also appreciative of Past District Governor & Foundation Trustee, Mario Giovannucci, and District Governor William Hearon for their participation, including all the other DGs, and PDGs in attendance.

Violet and I offer our congratulations to National’s First Family, President Tom Vaughan, First Lady Michele, and First Son Max. The new administration will carry the UNICO torch forward, leading the way to another bright UNICO year.

During my tenure as Eastern Regional District Chair, I will continue to advocate for the participation in and the promotion of UNICO activities by everyone. UNICO Chapters do so many wonderful things for their respective communities and keep our neighbors informed.

Through communications and meetings with the region’s District Governors, we should maintain and increase positive messaging from National to the local chapters.

Working closely with the District Governors, I’ll encourage chapters to use their scholarships, events, and activities to attract new members and motivate existing members to participate more. As IPNP Dominick Nastro would say, “We are a Family,” in which I truly believe and try to emulate.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you. I look forward to working with each of you in the upcoming year.

UNICO scholarships are highly valued and greatly sought after. The assistance we offer deserving young scholars, brings positive recognition to our organization. This year we provided 15 scholarships, benefitting 31 recipients, for a total of $84,000 in awards.

There were 304 individual candidates applying for the undergraduate programs. Since all entrants submitted for our four offerings, 1,216 applications were considered. Chapters/Districts sponsored 177 nominees. The National Office served as sponsor for 127 candidates. The number of nominees, for all other programs combined, totaled 158 individuals, submitting 232 entries to be evaluated. Of those, 67 were nominated by Chapters/Districts; 91 accepted through National. In total, 1,448 applications were processed.

To ensure the integrity of our awards judging was, as always, conducted as objectively as possible. Entries were anonymously screened by the Review Committee to determine academic qualifications; finalists were then forwarded to the respective Judging Committees. Chaired by a Scholarship Committee member, but composed of non-UNICAN professionals, Judging Committees in separate locations evaluated entries. Members participating in the judging process include:

**Review Committee** – Frank Gonnella, Lou Pandolfi, Dr. Mary Ann Re

**Judging Committee Chairpersons:**
- Anthony Bocchimuzo – Major Don S. Gentile Memorial Scholarship.
- Rose Anne Ceresa-Fritchie – William C. Davini Memorial Scholarship.
- Marianne Regan – Alphonse A. Miele Memorial Scholarship.
- Eugene Santoli – Theodore Mazza Memorial Scholarship.
- Dr. Frank De Frank – Dr. Benjamin J. Cotton Memoral Scholarship.
- Ann Patricia Hoffman – Bernard and Carolyn Torraco Memorial Nursing Scholarships.
- Pamela Ann Domico – DiMattio Celli Family Study Abroad Scholarship.

**Scholarship Highlights:**

- **Marianne Peri-Sack** – Ella T. Grasso Literary Scholarship.
- **Frank R. Caperino** – Guglielmo Marconi Engineering Scholarship.
- **Maria Teresa Morrison** – Robert J. Tarte Scholarship for Italian Studies and Paolo Maria Alessio Southern Italy Scholarship.
- **Grace Gynn** – Ralph J. Torraco Scholarship.
- **Glenn P. Pettinato** – Louise Torraco Memorial Scholarship for Science.
- **Christopher I. DiMattio** – Ralph J. Torraco Fine Arts Scholarship.

Mille grazie to all Scholarship Committee members for their work in providing assistance to potential candidates, publicizing the opportunities we offer, and their help in strengthening our program.

Two new offerings will be in place for our next season. The Inserra Scholarships will provide awards, valued at $2,500 each, for two matriculated students. We are currently preparing the Eleanor and Anthony DeFrancis Scholarships which will benefit three qualified students. Details will soon follow.

In the interest of updating our application process, we are working toward cont. on page 10
On rare occasions, computer gremlins corrupt accurate information. This apparently happened while reporting on nursing scholarship awardees in our previous issue. The gremlins have been banished. Corrections are as follows:

**BERNARD AND CAROLYN TORRACO MEMORIAL NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS:**

**Hillary Michelle Delin** | Woodland Hills, California  
*Sponsored by National Office for California*  
Attending: Case Western Reserve University, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing  
Degree Objective: Major Bachelor of Science in Nursing Minor Medical Anthropology  
Interest: Health Education, Global Health  
Dean’s Highest Honors, Student Nurse Association Board, Alpha Phi

**Hannah Joy Zettlemoyer** | Coopersburg, Pennsylvania  
*Sponsored by Bethlehem, PA Chapter*  
Attending: Cedarville University  
Degree Objective: Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
Interest: Emergency Department, Flight Nursing  
Dean’s List, Nationally Registered EMT, Student Manager

Welcome to the September issue of ComUNICO. It is always hard to believe how fast the summer goes by and that we are now off to a new year for UNICO. The National Office welcomes our new National President Thomas Vaughan and our First Lady Michele. We wish you much success in the coming year.

To all our members and guests that attended the convention in Arizona, I think you would agree it was a beautiful facility and a good time was had by all. Thank you to everyone that assisted the National Office in some way to make the convention successful.

To all our members and guests that attended the convention in Arizona, I think you would agree it was a beautiful facility and a good time was had by all. Thank you to everyone that assisted the National Office in some way to make the convention successful.

I would like to recommend for upcoming issues that particular attention be paid to the photos taken at any event. If the pictures you submit are too small or low resolution they will not appear in the magazine clearly. Please take photos with lighting and settings in mind. I ask please when you send in those pictures they are not embedded in an e-mail and that the caption is saved in word. If you have questions please give me a call at the National Office.

With all the talk and craziness surrounding Christopher Columbus, I hope that all our members take the time this year to celebrate and reflect back on what Columbus Day means to you. There are many ways to partake of the festivities parades, flag raisings, dinners and wreath laying. There is no better way to spend Columbus Day than to march in the New York City Columbus Day Parade down Fifth Avenue with all the UNICO members in their red, white and green.

Chapters are encouraged to bring their banners and as many members as you can to show our Italian pride and celebrate the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus. I look forward to seeing all the pictures from your events.

Until the next issue Ciao!

Hello, allow me to introduce myself to those who may not know me, my name is Joseph Nasello. I am your newly elected Expansion Director. I am very proud to say I have a long history with UNICO. I was the past district governor of District seven, and past president of Saddle Brook UNICO.

This past spring, I attended the Ad - HOC committee, where I was able to obtain some great ideas to expand UNICO. However, this cannot be done alone. I’ll be working with my committee and Anthony Bengivenga. I am excited to pursue some new chapters during my upcoming year.

I would like to thank Past President Dominick Nicastro and look forward to working with the new elected President Tom Vaughan and the entire UNICO Executive Board.

I welcome any ideas and/or suggestions that you may have. Please feel free to email me at JMNasello@AOL.com or you can call me on my cell 201-394-0793. See you all at the Eastern Regional meeting.

Sincerely, Joe

**The Deadline for the November 2017 issue of ComUNICO is FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH**

Please send all submissions to: comunico@unico.org

It is truly amazing! We need to get the UNICO message out to the public! Please remember to publicize the fund raising events and results of your chapters and districts! Do not be shy about wearing your UNICO logo out in public—it may start a conversation that could result in increasing publicity and membership!

It has been an honor, privilege, and blessing to serve as your Second National Vice President for the past year. Thank you for that opportunity, and thank you for the confidence in allowing me to be your First National Vice President for 2017/2018.

Sincerely, Frank N. De Frank, M.D.
Think Italian, think humor, think a batch of relatives who grow up and grow old together, and then the unimaginable happens—a daughter loses both parents three months apart from the same disease. Only after taking a heritage trip to Italy does she find emotional healing. An unforgettable true story of family, love, loss and miracles.

Rave reviews:

“The book ends with an amazing happenstance that rivals anything that Hollywood could dream up. You have to read it to believe it.”

“You don’t have to be Italian or come from Brooklyn to enjoy reading about love and family!”

“The journey with Paula is worth taking!” The Italian Tribune

My Father’s Last Meatballs
Available at Amazon.com
KEYSTONE, PA

Keystone Chapter UNICO National and Tech42 presented a $2915 check to the Greater Scranton YMCA from the Annual Keystone Chapter UNICO National Golf Tournament.

Golf Tournament committee members at the check presentation to YMCA representatives seated from left are David Abdalla, Tech42; Cathy Gerard, Keystone UNICO President; Megan Carnevale, Senior Director of Mission Advancement and Marketing YMCA; Cathy Bianchi, Keystone UNICO Board Chairman; and Bob Taylor, Tech42. Standing from left are Mark McDade, PA II District Governor; Richard Surridge, CFO Greater Scranton YMCA; Ernie DeStefano, Keystone UNICO Golf Tournament Chairman; Val Riggi, John Mecca and Ray Tropeano, Keystone UNICO Board Members.

PEQUANOCK & WAYNE, NJ

Pequannock and Wayne Unico Team to Benefit Local Firefighter

This Year was had special meaning to the members of Pequannock and Wayne UNICO. Each year the township of Wayne holds its annual Wayne Day which draws thousands of local residents to enjoy foods of all kinds along with rides, music and entertainment for both children and adults. As always, the biggest draw is the smell of sausage & peppers, Italian hot dogs, zeppoles, funnel cakes and the famous UNICO ribbon fries. Like all Pequannock UNICO events, proceeds from the occasions are donated back to local charities and residents and this year was no different. Pequannock resident and Wayne Company #2 firefighter, Vinnie Caropreso, who is battling cancer was the focus of UNICO’s efforts.

Since the inception of Pequannock UNICO in 1988, hundreds of people, organizations and individual charities have been the recipients of our fundraising efforts. Each year, Pequannock UNICO charities donate thousands of dollars to those in need in our surrounding communities as well as educational scholarships for students and grants for other service organizations. If you are interesting in joining please visit www.pequannockunico.com.

HAZLETON, PA

The Tradition Continues At Hazleton UNICO

Hazleton UNICO President Angelo Porreca had the pleasure of installing his daughter Brittany Porreca as a new member of UNICO at their August Board Meeting. Brittany is beginning her studies toward a master’s degree in biomedical science at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine this fall and hopes to then pursue a Doctor of Medicine degree.

To donate to a UNICO Charity make checks payable and mail to:
UNICO Foundation
271 US Highway 46 West,
Suite F-103,
Fairfield, New Jersey 07004.
All donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.

Buon giorno a tutti!!
I am happy to report that UNICO National has completed the fundraising for another $50,000 grant to the V Foundation. This grant will be in the memory of Carl Esposito, well-respected UNICAN and mentor to many of those in the New Jersey area. Upon the dispersement of this grant, UNICO National will have donated $700,000 over the years to the V Foundation. We should all be proud of this effort in furthering the research and development toward treatment and possible cure for cancer.

We are now working on our next $50,000 grant which will be in the memory of Mrs. Paul Alongi, better known as Toni! Please try to keep UNICO National and the V Foundation in your thoughts, prayers, and budget!

Interestingly, PNP Michael Spano and myself are in the midst of working on an agreement between UNICO National, the V Foundation, and St. Jude’s Hospital. Negotiations are progressing and we will keep everyone informed of advancements in this endeavor.

Thank you very much for your consideration and support!
Frank N. De Frank, M.D.
FOOD BANK AND SHELTER GRANT APPLICATIONS
Available through the National Office. Deadlines for consideration are 60 days before either the Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting or the Annual Convention.

NJ DISTRICT X
NJ District X members and officers pose in front of J.W. Marriott in Scottsdale during the national convention.

NJ District X sharing good times at Veneto Restaurant in Scottsdale AZ during the National Convention.

2017 UNICO Foundation Disaster Relief:

NAME: ____________________________________________________
ADDRESS: ____________________________
PHONE NUMBER: _________________________________________
AMOUNT: _____________________________
CREDIT CARD INFO: (VISA, MASTERCARD, AMEX) CHECK # __________
CARD NUMBER: ___________________________
EXP. DATE: _____________________________
SECURITY CODE: _______________________

In Memoriam
PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT
ANTONIO GAGLIOTI

Gaglioti, Antonio, 81, formerly of Maywood, NJ on Tuesday, August 8, 2017. He was self-employed at Universal Diesel and Gas Engine Re-Builders in Moonachie, NJ for over 30 years. He was the Past National President of Unico, and the Past President of the Leonardo Society in Ft. Lee, NJ.

Husband of Jo Anne (nee Sutera). Loving father of Peter and his wife Lorraine, Joseph and his wife Francesca, Matthew and his wife Kerri and Carmelo and his wife Lori. Cherished grandfather of Peter Anthony, Vincent George, Angelina, Antonio and Gabriella. Dear brother of Saverio, Vincenza, Maria and Ada, he was predeceased by his siblings Carmelo, Anna, Annunziata and Guisepina.

Cards of condolences can be sent to the family:

Gaglioti Family
16 Zellers Road
Long Valley, NJ 06012
Book Review

MURDER IN MATERA
BY HELENE STAPINSKI

Reviewed by: Mary Anne Ingallina,
Cedar Grove, NJ Chapter

You don’t have to be a mystery lover to enjoy this story, written by Helene Stapinski, but if you are you will probably recognize the “clues” that are hidden in plain sight. Helene Stapinski tells the story of her 10-year journey to uncover the truth of her great-great-grandmother Vita, who according to family stories committed murder in Italy in the 1870’s. Ms. Stapinski travels to the hometown of her ancestors where she meets many people who help her, some who discourage her. With great tenacity and spirit, she uncovers the real story of the murder that took place over a century ago.

Some portions of the story are told in her great-great-grandmother’s “voice”. Helene Stapinski brings us carefully through her journey painting a picture of life in southern Italy that helps anyone of Italian heritage understand where our families came from, what they endured and how creative and determined they had to be just to survive.

This storyteller finds the answers she seeks, with some unexpected results. In doing so, she finds some sadness, but some joy and satisfaction as well.

You may feel a sense of connection as I did, as you read the description of day-to-day life in southern Italy where my family lived.

Save the Date!

96th Annual Convention
July 25 - July 29, 2018
DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA

To donate to a UNICO Charity
make checks payable and mail to:
UNICO Foundation
271 US Highway 46 West,
Suite F-103,
Fairfield, New Jersey 07004.
All donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.
COLUMBUS DAY
A Great American Holiday

The legacy of Columbus and Columbus Day as a holiday is constantly under attack by the media, other ethnic groups, recently by the National Education Association (NEA) and in some cases local school boards. We feel this should be our opportunity to insure the proper observation of the holiday and carry on in Columbus’s name. If your chapter is not participating in Columbus celebrations or Italian Heritage Month, consider initiating an event such as an Italian flag raising, a wreath laying, an essay contest, or a street banner, to name a few. The Columbus Day Committee has been working to support and in collaboration with the Preserve Columbus Day Coalition (PCDC), and we plan on continuing to work with them in the future.

At the recent UNICO National Convention, the Columbus Day Committee was instrumental in joining with UNICO National to present a resolution, which was unanimously approved by the delegates, to preserve, protect and defend Columbus Day.

The Columbus Day Committee encourages chapters to reaffirm, preserve, protect and defend Columbus Day as tribute to him and to the spirit of discovery, especially in light of current events. Bring awareness to communities that “October is Italian Heritage and Culture Month” and “Re-Discover Your Italian Heritage Month” by incorporating these themes into related events.

SIGN THE PETITION!
The Columbus Day Committee strongly encourages individuals to download a very unique app, EMOJITALIA, that allows users to show support for Columbus Day and encourages friends, family and elected officials to do the same! Once installed, users can sign EMOJITALIA’s petition requesting the preservation of Columbus Day. Email local and national elected officials to further request the preservation of Columbus Day (app developed by the Columbus Citizens Foundation).

OTHER UPCOMING COLUMBUS DAY PARADES

Sunday, October 8, 2017: A number of parades will take place. We urge all to participate in any Columbus Day activities available to them. There will be parades in East Hanover, NJ, Nutley-Belleville, NJ, Hartford, CT, and Stamford, CT.

THE NUTLEY-BELLEVILLE COLUMBUS DAY PARADE will start at 1:00 PM. Marchers are to gather at 12:30 PM at Belleville High School and will march towards Nutley High School.

THE OCEAN COUNTY COLUMBUS DAY PARADE will be on Oct. 8, 2017 and will start in Seaside Park, NJ at 1:00 PM. Members and guests are to assemble at 12:00 PM, usually on The Boulevard at J Street and march towards Seaside Heights. Please check with parade officials for exact location.

THE PHILADELPHIA COLUMBUS DAY PARADE will be held along its historic South Broad Street location. It will kick off from Broad & Moore at 12:00 PM.

ST. LOUIS COLUMBUS DAY PARADE Starts at 12:00 PM at Columbia and Macklind with a Festival at Berra Park.

THE CHICAGO COLUMBUS DAY PARADE will take place on Monday, October 9th. The parade starts on State St. at Wacker Drive and continues south to Van Buren and starts at 12:30 PM. It will be broadcast on ABC Channel 7 and ABC online.
UNICO members, and their families and friends are invited to participate in this year’s 73rd Annual New York City Columbus Day Parade on Monday, October 9, 2017. It’s now become a must do! It’s a bucket list item! This is UNICO’s national flagship parade and the world’s largest celebration of Italian-American culture.

Those participating will be sent specific information in early October about the exact time and area for assembly (preliminarily) at 12:00 PM on 47th Street, west of 5th Avenue. See Parade Chairman Ralph Contini and you will be inserted in the line of march. UNICO’s float theme will be: “Columbus Day, a Great American Holiday” to reaffirm, preserve, protect and defend Columbus Day and continue to bring awareness about October as “Italian Heritage and Culture Month” and the UNICO National charities.

The Columbus Day Parade in New York City is the world’s largest celebration of Italian-American culture. The parade will march up Fifth Avenue from 47th St. to 72nd Street. The parade is a televised global event with millions of viewers and nearly one million spectators. It will be broadcast on ABC Channel 7 in the NY area, ABC online and RAI Int’l, from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

The UNICO National Columbus Day Committee is asking for contributions from Chapters and individuals. Your support will enable UNICO National to continue to be a visible presence during these important Columbus Day and Heritage events. Please send your donations to the National office earmarked “Columbus Day”.

Please join us in celebrating “Columbus Day, a Great American Holiday” and October as “Italian Heritage and Culture Month!”

Sincerely yours in UNICO,  
Ralph A. Contini, National Columbus Day Chair

Join us in experiencing this very memorable day!  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2017
WETHERSFIELD, CT

Wethersfield Chapter with National President Tom Vaughan.

UNICO National General Counsel Morris Borea and CT III District Governor Michael Fortunato with National President Tom Vaughan. All members of the Wethersfield Chapter.

Actors Tony Lo Bianco & wife (center) at UNICO’s Cocktail reception for President-elect Tom Vaughan. Pictured with Wethersfield Chapter member Tony Schiavone and his wife Paula.

WESTFIELD, NJ

M&R Director, Anthony Bengivenga, Rachel Bengivenga, and Mike Colucci at the Foundation Session of the National Convention.

Westfield Chapter members in front of J.W. Marriott in Scottsdale AZ. L to R: Rachel Bengivenga; PNP Ann Walko; V.Pl. Mike Colucci; Deanna DeMarco; President Bob Tarte; M&R Director Anthony Bengivenga.

HAVE YOU FILED YOUR 990 WITH THE IRS?

2017 Committee Chairman Joe Agresti (left) and M&R Director Anthony Bengivenga (right) in discussion with Giuseppe (Joe) Pampena of the Stamford (CT) chapter during a break at the general session at the National Convention in Scottsdale AZ.

SCRANTON, PA

UNICO Scranton Chapter Installation Dinner was held in June at Fiorelli’s restaurant in Peckville. UNICO Scranton Chapter proudly installed John Trapani as the incoming President of UNICO Scranton.

Joining Jack at the event are his family, standing from left: Jack Trapani Jr., Jack Trapani Ill., Donna Fetsock, Angela Griffiths, Johanne Fox and Johann Hudak-Kiefer.

WETHERSFIELD, CT


National President Tom Vaughan with his family.
CELEBRATING 97 YEARS

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Scholarship Dinner

West Orange, NJ - The Orange/West Orange Chapter of UNICO National held its 2017 Scholarship Dinner on June 21, 2017 at Mayfair Farms, in West Orange, N.J. Three UNICO National Scholarship winners were announced and six local area high school students were awarded individual local scholarships. Italian Language Awards were also given to high school students.

Local scholarships in the amount of $1,500 were awarded to the students based on their academic achievement, high school extra-curricular activities, community service, and work experiences. The students were selected by a committee of members which was chaired by O/WO UNICO Scholarship Chairman, Frank V. Gonnella. Students received the following scholarships: Emma Scalora – Anthony F. & Flora Gonnella Memorial Scholarship; Amanda Scalora, West Orange HS – Vecchio Family Memorial Scholarship; Peyton Smith, West Orange HS – O/WO UNICO Scholarship; Bianca Trinidad, West Orange HS – O/WO UNICO Scholarship in memory of Fred Grecco; Ivana Onubogu, West Orange HS – Roseann Townsend Memorial Scholarship and Austin Bartola, West Orange HS – O/WO UNICO Scholarship in memory of Andrea Savignano.

Italian Language Scholarships were also awarded to students for outstanding academic achievement in the Italian Language as selected by their teachers. Christian Galvano, of Seton Hall Prep received the O/WO UNICO Italian Language Scholarship and Deborah Alabi of West Orange HS received the Michele & Lucia Russo Italian Language Scholarship.

It was also announced that three students sponsored by the O/WO UNICO Chapter were awarded UNICO National Scholarships. John Yager of Randolph, NJ (Randolph HS) will receive the Major Don S. Gentile Undergraduate Scholarship in the amount of $6,000; Stephanie M. Gonnella of Randolph, NJ (University of Scranton) will receive the Bernard & Carolyn Torraco Memorial Nursing Scholarship in the amount of $2,500 and Nicolette Guida of Staten Island, NY (College of Staten Island) will receive the DiMattio Celli Family Study Abroad Scholarship in the amount of $1,250.

The Chapter donated an additional $30,000 to local and national charities and organizations. Two of their larger projects this year were a $10,000 donation to create a “Pocket Park” on Main Street in West Orange at the Thomas Edison National Historical Park and the donation of fifteen two way radios to the West Orange Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). In addition they supported Seton Hall University Valenti Library, West Orange Children’s Christmas Party, West Orange HS Booster Club, West Orange HS Pride, West Orange PAL, West Orange Community House, West Orange First Aid Squad, Mayor’s Program for Individual with Disabilities, Martin Picillo Seton hall Scholarship and the Employment Horizons. On a national level the Chapter donated to the following: UNICO Foundation, UNICO National Mental Health, Cooley’s anemia, UNICO National Anti-Bias Committee, UNICO National Scholarship Fund, and the Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research.

The Chapter serves the community by providing scholarships and supporting charities on a local and national basis. The organization also actively promotes the recognition of Italian heritage and culture and the contributions Italian Americans have made to our country.

The Deadline for the November 2017 issue of ComUNICO is FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH 2017

Please send all submissions to: comunico@unico.org
The Chapter honored two recent graduates, Maura Nevins and Alexandra Artone, each with $1000.00 scholarships. Ms. Nevins will attend the University of Scranton to major in nursing and Ms. Artone will attend the University of Pittsburgh to major in geology. Glenn Pettinato, chair of the scholarship committee and past president of UNICO National and Yvonne Gatto Carbondale Chapter president presented the scholarships at a the annual scholarship reception.

Our Chapter recognized four new members and installed officers for the coming year.

Nino Quaglia was installed to 3rd term as President of the Elizabeth Chapter.

Slate of Officers: Accursio Maciante, Treasurer; Deacon Joe Caporoso, Chaplain; Janet Mazzarella, Secretary; Carole Cascio, V.P.; George Marretta, 2nd V.P.; Lou Bani, 3rd V.P.; Joe Chiari, Sergeant at Arms.

Induction of our two newest members: Carmine Perroti and Raymond Guarriello.

Greater Binghamton UNICO’s new President.

National President Dominick Nicastro installs new members in the St. Louis Chapter.

Kathie’s Gift Shop in Maywood hosted a Charity Day along with the Twin Door Tavern giving a percentage of sales to support Relay for Life.
Introducing Perillo’s NEW 2015 Italy Brochure!

Mario Perillo “Mr. Italy”
He made first-class, affordable trips to Italy a reality for millions of Americans.

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Call 1-800-431-1515 for Your FREE Brochures and DVD or visit us online at www.PerilloTours.com
95th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Rick D’Arminio, Lisa Pizzella, Dave D’Arco and Ralph Contini.

Highland Beach Chapter Members enjoying the Ice Breaker.

Pam and Paul Domico.

1st Vice President Dr. Frank De Frank and his wife Linda.

Immediate Past National president Dominick Nicastro and his wife Alina.

Allen and Violet Focarino.

The Militello Family.

Elyse and Bob Buonomo.

Elsa and Lou D’Rico with Ellen Leone.

Paula Varsalona-Marino and husband Joe.

Frank Cannata, Frank Paolercio and Foundation President John Di Napoli.

Chrisann Cheryl Geist and John John Conway.
95th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Laredo Locascio from Chicago dances with his daughter.

Peter and Maggie Pettinato.

Francine Nido dancing with National President Tom Vaughan.

Steve and Pat Pelonero.

The Militello’s of the Garfield Chapter.

Mike Veselka, past National President.

Anthony Stanziale and Richard Romano from the Brookhaven, NY Chapter.

Highland Beach Chapter Members showing off their moves line dancing.

Frank And Cindy Caperino.

Bill Hearn and Henry Varriano from the Clark, NJ Chapter.

Frank Greco Jr, Frank Blasi, Jim Baress and Chris Di Mattio.

Joe and Patsy Monaco.
The Deadline for the November 2017 issue of ComUNICO is FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH

Please send all submissions to: comunico@unico.org

Linda Gail and John Alati.

The Memphis Chapter at the general session.

Executive Committee on the dais for a meeting.
Arizona Governor Douglas Ducey addresses the membership.

The Governor shakes hands with his friend Frank Caperino UNICO Past National President.

Frank Caperino and Governor Ducey.

Massimo Paolillo Italian Honorary Vice Counsel of Phoenix, Arizona welcomes our members.

Governor Ducey.

Maggie and Peter Pettinato.

Chris DiMattio.

Chris DiMattio.

General Session Executive Committee on the Dais.

District Governors being installed at the convention.

Pat Pelonero and Sue Anzelmo staff members.
95th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Felix DeSio.

Memphis Chapter Members.

Renato Biribin and Mike Veselka.

National President Dominick Nicastro awards the Montville Chapter a plaque for chapter achievement.

National President Dominick Nicastro and Joe Nasello award Frank Paolercio a plaque for the Orange/West Orange Chapter achievement.

Joe Nasello presenting plaque to Frank Paolercio.

Gene Maddalena.

National President Dominick Nicastro awards Carbondale, PA Chapter a plaque for chapter achievement.

Mark and Michele McDade accepting a plaque on behalf of the Keystone, PA Chapter.

National President Dominick Nicastro awards Frank Blasi a plaque for 10 years of service as General Counsel.

National President Dominick Nicastro congratulates Allen Focarino on achieving the Outstanding District Governor award.

National President Dominick Nicastro and Frank Greco Jr. present the Distinguished District Governor’s award to Sal Ingallina.
National President Dominick Nicastro awards Steven Pelonero a plaque as outgoing Eastern Regional District Governor Chair.

National President Dominick Nicastro awards certificates of appreciation.

Jim DeSpenza gives the Foundation Treasurer’s report.

Members waiting to donate to their favorite charities.

Joe Monaco and Mike Veselka.

Members sharing their chapter’s news and donations.

Allen Focarino and Father Bob Woflee working the credentials table.

The Di Napoli’s and the Maddalena’s enjoying breakfast.

Ralph Contini checking out the display of goodies.

Our members catching up with each other during a break in the action.

Members enjoying the buffet breakfast.

Michele Vaughan with her friends and family filling the bags for the members.
Westfield Chapter on Gala night at the UNICO National Convention in Scottsdale AZ. Seated left to right: M&R Director Anthony Bengivenga; Chapter President Bob Tarte; Vice President Mike Colucci Standing left to right: Rachel Bengivenga; PNP Ann Walko; Deanna DeMarco.

Gina Maria Morgese recipient of the National Sergeant John Basilone Memorial Graduate Scholarship was recognized recently by the chapter. Ms. Morgese received her bachelor of social work degree from Marywood University where she plans to pursue a Master’s Degree in Social Work in the Fall. She is the daughter of Ronald Morgese and Carla Cerra-Morgese. Glenn Pettinato, Carbondale scholarship committee chair said “We are thrilled that Gina, one of our own from Carbondale, is the recipient of this scholarship.” Yvonne Gatto, president of the Carbondale chapter added, “This truly is an honor for Gina and the Carbondale Chapter. We are very pleased!”

MEMBERSHIP & RETENTION DIRECTOR Anthony Bengivenga with Scholarship Chair Joan Tidona at General Sessions at the national convention in Scottsdale AZ.

KEARNY, NJ

Kearny Unico Presents Scholarships

On Tuesday, June 6th, members of Kearny UNICO and the Confessore Family gathered to present scholarships to Leslian Vallejo Bucheli, Lily Durning, Gerald Munro and Adriana Parodi at Kearny High School’s Senior Awards Night. The five hundred dollar scholarships were given in memory of Mr. Ralph Confessore, a life member of Kearny UNICO and a retired KHS science teacher. Mr. Confessore was also a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Korean War. Mr. Confessore held a B.S. degree in chemistry from Seton Hall University and a M.S. degree in physics from NJIT. In the mid 1990’s, Mr. Confessore began a career in acting and appeared in TV commercials as well as motion pictures. In addition to acting, Mr. Confessore enjoyed playing the harmonica, working with watercolors and woodcarving. Ralph’s greatest joy, though, was spending time with his family and grandchildren.

MONTVILLE, NJ

The West Essex Chapter held their Scholarship and Athletic Awards program. National Officers in attendance included Tom Vaughan, Frank Greco and Fred Mongelli.

Gina Maria Morgese recipient of the National Sergeant John Basilone Memorial Graduate Scholarship was recognized recently by the chapter. Ms. Morgese received her bachelor of social work degree from Marywood University where she plans to pursue a Master’s Degree in Social Work in the Fall. She is the daughter of Ronald Morgese and Carla Cerra-Morgese. Glenn Pettinato, Carbondale scholarship committee chair said “We are thrilled that Gina, one of our own from Carbondale, is the recipient of this scholarship.” Yvonne Gatto, president of the Carbondale chapter added, “This truly is an honor for Gina and the Carbondale Chapter. We are very pleased!”

WESTFIELD, NJ

Membership & Retention Director Anthony Bengivenga with Scholarship Chair Joan Tidona at General Sessions at the national convention in Scottsdale AZ.

M&F Director Anthony Bengivenga with National secretary Francine Nido during the general session at the national Convention in Scottsdale AZ.

WEST ESSEX, NJ

The West Essex Chapter held their Scholarship and Athletic Awards program. National Officers in attendance included Tom Vaughan, Frank Greco and Fred Mongelli.

MONTVILLE, NJ

Gene Maddalena of the Montville NJ Chapter is sworn in as District Governor of District XI at the annual convention.

96th Annual Convention | July 25 - July 29, 2018
DELRAY BEACH MARRIOT IN FLORIDA
The St. Louis Chapter of UNICO held our 2017 Alphonse Lordo Memorial Golf Classic Four-Person Team Scramble on Monday, June 26th at Tapawingo National Golf Club in St. Louis, Missouri. Immediately following golf dinner was served, both oral / silent actions were held and tournament prizes were awarded. We had a great turn out and everyone enjoyed a fun day of golf!

On Wednesday, June 14th, we had our annual end of the Year celebration dinner at Costa’s restaurant in Roselle Park. At that time we had the pleasure of honoring 8 scholarship recipients; Stefano A. Cotugno, Andriana Grace Deahl, Alexandra Nicole Juliano, Meghan A. Kelly, Cassidy Ann Lang, Gianna Marie Marretta, Charles Tavormina and George Vega. Congratulations to all!!!

At that time we also honored St. Genevieve’s Church, In Roads to Opportunity, The ARC of Union County, Center for Hope Hospice, Cooley’s Anemia Fund, Elmora Youth League, Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy, and Jersey Lanes Youth League.

The St. Louis Chapter of UNICO held our 2017 Alphonse Lordo Memorial Golf Classic Four-Person Team Scramble on Monday, June 26th at Tapawingo National Golf Club in St. Louis, Missouri. Immediately following golf dinner was served, both oral / silent actions were held and tournament prizes were awarded. We had a great turn out and everyone enjoyed a fun day of golf!

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At that time we also honored St. Genevieve’s Church, In Roads to Opportunity, The ARC of Union County, Center for Hope Hospice, Cooley’s Anemia Fund, Elmora Youth League, Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy, and Jersey Lanes Youth League.

Peter Rosciglione receives 2017 honoree plaque. (L-R) Pamela Rosciglione, Peter Rosciglione and St. Louis Chapter President Jim Ferrante.

St. Louis Chapter President and Tournament Chairman Jim Ferrante welcomes golfers, and guests thanking them for their continued help and support for this year’s golf classic.

GREATER BINGHAMTON, NY

Greater Binghamton UNICO 2017 Award Recipients.

ELIZABETH, NJ

National Officers join with Pittsfield (MA) chapter officers & District officers at their annual gala installation banquet at The Cranwell Spa & Resort in Lenox MA on June 16, 2017.

Have you filed your 990 with the IRS?
UNICO Scranton Chapter awarded Bill Buckley with the Al Dante Distinguished Service Award at the Annual Past President’s and Installation Dinner held at Fiorelli’s in Peckville.

Standing from left are: Dave Bieri, Jim Baresso; Scranton Chapter President, Bill Buckley and Lisa Dante Bieri.

Save the Date!
96th Annual Convention
July 25 - July 29, 2018
DELRAY BEACH MARRIOT
DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA

The Deadline for the November 2017 issue of ComUNICO is FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH
Please send all submissions to: comunico@unico.org

Celebrate Columbus Day!

The Voice of UNICO NATIONAL

To donate to a UNICO Charity
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UNICO National

EASTERN REGIONAL MEETING
REGISTRATION
October 27 – 28, 2017

Marriott Providence Downtown
One Orms Street
Providence, RI 02903

All reservations must be received at the Marriott Providence Downtown by Friday, October 6, 2017.
Reservations received after this date will not be at group rate & may not be available.

Group Room Rate: $159 + Taxes

Call Hotel for Reservation – 1-866-807-2171
To receive special rate identify yourself with UNICO

Book your group rate for UNICO National (hold ctrl and click)

INFORMATION NEEDED FOR HOTEL REGISTRATION

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Arrival Date_________ Departure Date _________

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Number ___________________________ Exp. Date __________________
EASTERN REGIONAL MEETING
REGISTRATION
October 27th to 28th, 2017
Marriott Providence Downtown
One Orm Street, Providence, RI 02903

Name _______________________________ Nickname ____________________

Spouse’s Name (non-member only), if attending __________________________

Address __________________________________________________________

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Phone __________________________ E-Mail: ___________________________

Chapter __________________ Office __________ District __________
(i.e. National Officer, DG, Chapter President, Delegate, etc.)

Weekend Package $145.00 per person X _______ = $__________
Includes
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Ice Cream Dessert Reception
Coffee Service
Saturday
Continental Breakfast
Cocktail Reception
Dinner (with wine/Cash Bar)

Credit Card (please circle) MasterCard Visa Amex Discover

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Or, please make check payable to UNICO National and mail to address below.

Completed forms should be emailed, faxed or mailed no later than October 15, 2017 to:
uniconational @unico.org
UNICO National 271 US HWY 46 W Suite F-103 Fairfield, NJ 07004 • Fax: 973-808-0043
SCRANTON, PA

UNICO Scranton Chapter welcomed new members at the June Meeting held at Fiorelli’s in Peckville.

Seated from left are new members Andrea and John Disanferdinand, Marion Thomas, and Christa Lucke. Standing from left Chris DiMattio, Past National President; Dr. Frank DeFrank, National Second Vice President; Jim Baresse, Chapter President; Linda Stefursky, Sponsor; Mary Ann Rubin, Sponsor; Judi Zanghi, Sponsor; and Jerry Healey, Membership Director.

MONTVILLE, NJ

In August, the Chapter ran a 60 mile police escorted Motorcycle Run to raise money to donate to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital to help children fighting cancer. In addition, the Chapter donated money to The Interfaith Food Pantry to help feed local families in need.

National President Dominick Nicastro presents second place Model Chapter in Nation Award to Montville NJ’s Michele Maddalena and chapter President Karen Arakelian.

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP, NJ

Motorcycle run for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

Celebrate Columbus Day!

Support the UNICO Store
Checkout the new website
www.unicostore.yolasite.com

Don’t know what to buy your favorite UNICAN. Why not get him or her something from the UNICO Store. The store sells a wide variety of UNICO merchandise: long and short sleeved polo shirts for men and women, denim and oxford shirts for men and women, baseball caps, knit caps, scarves, ties, membership pins, sweatshirts, windshirts, bibs for babies, flag sets, golf towels AND the new UNICO THROW BLANKET (proudly made in the USA) which benefits the National Scholarship Fund. To place an order, contact either the National office or Lou and Celeste Pandolfi at lpandolfi@verizon.net or 201-368-2409.
Union (NJ) Chapter installation dinner. M&R Director Anthony Bengivenga (left) and Union Chapter President Joe Almeida (right) install the new officers at their annual induction & awards banquet on June 29, 2017 at Cjoffi’s Restaurant.

Each year, the chapter donates the altar flowers in memory of its deceased members. Mary Ann Kearney, chair, Italian Cultural and Heritage Committee, poses with members Father Paul Fontanella, Marie Greto, Mary Lynn Brannon and Snooky at the Statue of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Known as “The Feast,” Our Lady of Mount Carmel church celebrates her feast day, July 16, with a neighborhood festival. A walk around the festival grounds, one could see volunteers from Carbondale UNICO donating their time and expertise. Joe and Angel Masco managing games and the basket raffle; Lena Graziano, Mary Ann Kearney, Patti Morell, Patty Calabro and Don Gibbs ensure that the fried dough is prepared, rolled and deep fried while you wait; and Gianna Arnese, selling pizza with a smile. In the kitchen, Tom and Yvonne Gatto, Mike Dobrowski and Marie Greto chop, simmer and fry to prepare eggplant parmesan, while Lillian Leo bakes pies at home.

Chapter past president Tom Gatto, middle row third from left, poses before the procession begins that caps off this 80 year tradition.

This year on Friday, May 6, District 10 had their Brian Picolo Awards Dinner at the Gran Centurians in Clark.

The Elizabeth Chapter was represented by 2 outstanding athletes, Cassidy A. Lang and George Vega. These 2 recipients also received scholarships at our June dinner. Congratulations to you and your families.

Angel Masco fries eggplant for parmesan.


UNICO Scranton Chapter Ladies Auxiliary conducted a bake sale at the St. Joseph’s Center Summer Festival.

From left are: Bob Montalbano, Patti Montalbano, Louis DiMattio, Ann DiMattio, Julie Ann Yando and Lois Mallick.
Congratulations and welcome to UNICO National—the largest Italian American Service Organization. The National Office Staff looks forward to meeting all of you in the near future.

JULY/AUGUST

BERWICK
Brandon Berkes
Josh Nespoli

BLOOMFIELD
James Cleary
Janet McCarthy
Maria B. Principe

BRICK
Peter Lo Bello
Angela Saulino

BRIDGEPORT
Susan Ianniello

CARBONDALE
Alexandra Rose Arnone
Teresa Bomba
Dianne Rinaldi Grasso
Gina Morgese
Marva Michaela Nevins

CLARK
Susan Alacchi
Amanda N. Arancio
Andrea Arancio
Joseph N. Arancio
Erika Blaszak
Michael Blaszak
Michael Brennan
Jo Ann Chem
Nicole Cosma
Loriann Di Belardino
Michael Di Belardino
Anthony Emmons
Rosario Guarnerio
Marva Michaela Nevins

FAIRFIELD
Giuseppe Camerota
Charlie Campisi
Peter Campisi
Anthony G. Campisi Jr.
Teddy Capalbo
Anthony Pompei
Sal Scirica

FARMINGTON
Bruce S. Urso

GREATER ATLANTIC CITY
Emily Lynn Olive

GREATER RAMSEY
Meryl Conte Clayton
Marie Elaine Muzzillo

HAZLETON
Brenda M. Conway
Brittany H. Porreca

HILLSIDE
Angela Bonanno-Lynch
Nancy De Augustine
Jennifer Mc Clave

ISLIP/SMITHTOWN
Julie De Gennaro
Shaun De Gennaro
Peter Galanti
Rachel Galanti
Stephanie Galanti
Kevin Michels
Peter Michels
Susan Michels

KEYSTONE
Thomas Carl Carlucci
Cindy De Samo
Kayla Gordon
Marisa Scalese
Robert W. Tagert Jr.
Vanessa Vergnetti Thomas
Francie Walters

LIVINGSTON
Sue Fershing

NEWBURGH
Ron Costanzo
Pete Cracolici
Anthony J. Esposito Jr.
Dominic Moffe
Frank Moffe
Mark V. Presutti
Michael Raimondi

PASSAIC/CLIFTON
Joseph Gino Bionci

PLAINFIELDS
Elaine Buscemi

RARITAN VALLEY
Silvia Sorace

REHOBOTH AREA
Olivia Ramundo Gray
Elvira Ramundo

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP
Samanta De Marco

SOLANO
Jaq Ciccarelli

ST JOES HS MONTVALE
Ricky De Mario Jr.

ST LOUIS
Francesco Galati

WATERBURY
Alice Armour Jones

WEST SPRINGFIELD
Allison V. Smith

WESTFIELD
Kathleen Cascino
Marianne Cascino
Vivian Cortese-Strano
Sam Della Fera, Jr.
Roz Giuditta
Paula Infantino Long
Wanda B. Marchetto
Ed Orlando
Anne Perrella
Silvio Perrella
Gary Strano
GREATER ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

The Greater Atlantic City Region Chapter UNICO held its Annual Persons of the Year and Scholarship Banquet on Friday, July 14 at Resorts Casino and Hotel in Atlantic City. Over 100 attendees honored eight high school scholars along with local artist and musician Mike Pedicino for Lifetime Achievement and retired President of Atlantic Cape Community College Dr. Peter Mora for Person of the Year. The chapter has awarded over $700,000 in scholarships since it since its inception 37 years ago. Over that time, the chapter has also honored many outstanding individuals as Persons of the Year including entertainer Nelson Sardelli, Congressman Frank LoBiondo, Senator Donald DiFrancesco, and Bishop Nicholas DiMarzo. The chapter raises its funds through a variety of activities including Golf and Bocce Tournaments, Pasta Dinners, Charity Walks, and Wine Tastings.

Chapter Officers Nick Russo, Tom Letizia and Carmine Bonanni flank student scholarship awardees John Mairone, Jared Manganelli, Zoey Zameito, Eric Pushman, Emily Olive, Carly Lawson, Alexis Lawson and Julianna Bongiovanni.

Lifetime Achievement Awardee Mike Pedicino receives award from Chapter President Pete Giordano and Foundation President Rick Mairone.

Banquet attendees Annette and Jim Giaquinto, JoAnn and Carmine Bonanni and Father Jon Thomas from St. Monica’s Parish in Atlantic City enjoy each other and the evening’s ambiance.

Springfield, MA

Springfield UNICO Awards Scholarships

“Service Above Self,” the UNICO motto, was put into action in June as the organization gave a number of scholarships.

The Brian Piccolo Award of $1500.00 is given to a senior scholar athlete with an Italian heritage who has shown Brian Piccolo’s attributes of team and community spirit, sportsmanship, competitiveness, leadership and good character on and off the field. The candidates maintain an above average GPA and plan to attend college. This year’s recipient was Michael DeAngelo, a graduate of Springfield Central High School who will be attending St. Michael’s College.

Springfield UNICO also administers the Peter Carando, Sr. Memorial UNICO Scholarships that have been granted for a number of years through the generosity of the Carando Family. These scholarships of $1000.00 each are given by the Carando Family to high school seniors who will be attending college in the fall. This year’s recipients are Salvatore Kacoyannakis who attended Pope Francis/Cathedral High School and plans to attend Springfield Technical Community College. Aniello Russo of Longmeadow High School, who is enrolled at Westfield State University. They were chosen on the basis of their school standing, non-academic involvement in school affairs, and having Italian heritage.

For many years, Springfield UNICO has sponsored a $1000.00 academic scholarship given by the Italian Cultural Center to a high school senior planning to attend college. This year’s winner was Patricia Murphy from Minnechaug High School who will be attending Springfield College. Her selection was based on not only scholastic ability but community service as well as being of Italian descent.

For the 2016-17 academic year, Springfield UNICO also donated $4000 in scholarships to Cathedral/Pope Francis High School students.

Robert Accorsi, Springfield UNICO President stated, “Springfield UNICO is a service organization, and we are very proud to contribute to the community. Over the last year, over $23,000 was given back to the community. In addition to education, we contributed to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Loaves and Fishes, the Gray House, West Springfield UNICO, Italian Cultural Center, South End Community Center, Springfield Shriners Hospital and Boston Children’s Hospital. Monies to support these endeavors come from fundraisers held throughout the year.”

From left to right: Michael DeAngelo-Brian, Piccolo Award Winner; Aniello Russo-Peter Carando, Sr. UNICO Memorial Scholarship Recipient; Salvatore Kacoyannakis-Peter Carando, Sr. UNICO Memorial Scholarship Recipient.
The Montville NJ chapter’s first place winning spring bocce team: John Bertoldi, Michele Maddalena and Tony Speciale. Not pictured is Larry Casha.

The Montville NJ chapter’s second place winning spring bocce team: Paul Maddalena, Gene Maddalena and Paul Henke.
HAS YOUR CHAPTER FILED THEIR FORM 990?

IRS REVOKING TAX EXEMPT STATUS FOR UNICO CHAPTERS

If your Chapter does not file the required information return (Form 990) for three consecutive years, the IRS will automatically revoke your tax exempt status. We have heard from several Chapters that have received the Automatic Revocation Letter from the IRS.

Once your tax exempt status is revoked, you will have to reapply for tax exempt status by filing for a determination letter with the IRS. You will need to complete Form 1024 (which is a 19 page application) and pay a user fee of $100.

Below are the filing requirements for nonprofit/tax exempt entities. Please make sure your Chapter complies with the filing requirements in order to avoid the automatic revocation.

**IRS FILING REQUIREMENTS**

The IRS requires every nonprofit/tax exempt entity to file an information return which is due on the 15th day of the fifth month following the close of your year end. For a June 30 year end, the return is due November 15th and for a December 31 year end, the return is due May 15th. The type of return that is required depends on the amount of the gross receipts for the Chapter.

**Gross Receipts not normally in excess of $50,000** – Must file an annual electronic notice (e-postcard) Form 990-N. This can only be done electronically and there is no paper return available for this category. This is very simple and does not require any financial information, only 5 or 6 questions that must be answered.

**Gross Receipts greater than $50,000 but less than $200,000** – Must file a paper return Form 990-EZ.

If you have any questions with your filing requirements or need some help in completing the required forms, please call the National Office (973) 808-0035.

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**PLAINFIELDS, NJ**

The Plainfield’s Chapter & Raritan Valley Chapter enjoying dinner at Veneto Restaurant in Scottsdale AZ on July 28, 2017.

Plainfield President Bob Bengivenga along with M&R Director Anthony Bengivenga & Rachel Bengivenga (Westfield) sharing cake & wine with PNP Renato Biribin at Veneto Restaurant in Scottsdale AZ in honor of PNP Renato’s birthday.

**PARAMUS, NJ**

Lois lula and Barbara Lambert are proud to wear purple as Cancer Survivors at the Relay for Life.

All evening, Paramus team members came to support the fight.

Team Paramus UNICO members were there to support the fight against Cancer.

The lula Family was proud to be there. Alexis and Kayla lula, once again, were top fundraisers for the event. They raised more money than all other event participants.
GREATER TAMPA, FL

Greater Tampa FL Chapter VP Tom Beck, new member Jesse Wamsley, President Mike Salierno.

SADDLE BROOK, NJ

The Saddle Brook Chapter of UNICO celebrated our Annual Scholarship Awards and Installation of Officers Dinner Meeting on Monday, June 12, 2017 at Bistro 107 in Moonchie. Five Scholarships were awarded to worthy Saddle Brook students of Italian heritage. National President, Dominick Nicastro, swore in the new Officers and our new Chapter President, Sue Susan Ferraro Syme. We also presented our three Charter members, John Cappello, Rocco DiStefano and John Cook, with UNICO 50 year Pins. It was a very successful evening.

Scholarship recipients.

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP, NJ

In July, Matt Mustachio, Chapter President, and Lydia DiMarcantonio, 1st VP, presented a check to Mike Pacala, President of Camp Marcella (a camp for visually impaired children).

50 year members.

GREATER BINGHAMTON, NY

New Members at June 14, 2017 Meeting.

GREATER TAMPA, FL

New Officers (Sal Mangano, Recording Secretary; Todd Accomando, Sgt. at Arms; Ann Taylor, VP; Ed Donafrio, Exec VP; Hugh Syme, Treasurer & Dominick Nicastro, Nat. Pres.

GREATER TAMPA, FL


GREATER TAMPA, FL

The Ladies Auxiliary of UNICO, Scranton Chapter recently held their Membership Meeting and Installation of 2017-2018 Officers.

Officers installed for the 2017-2018 year are, from left Palma Yanni, Past President; Linda Malinoski, Past President; Judy Zanghi, Recording Secretary; Diane Alberigi, Treasurer; Dr. Clarice Zaydon, Financial Secretary; Julie Yando, President; Gayle DeAntona, Immediate Past President. Absent from photo are Joanne Quattrone, Vice President and Danelle Hogan, Corresponding Secretary.

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP, NJ

Matt Mustachio, President, and Lydia DiMarcantonio, 1st VP, present a check to Mike Pacala of Camp Marcella.

At the event, the members brought gifts for the Saint Joseph’s Center Children and Baby Pantry.

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP, NJ

New Officers (Sal Mangano, Recording Secretary; Todd Accomando, Sgt. at Arms; Ann Taylor, VP; Ed Donafrio, Exec VP; Hugh Syme, Treasurer & Dominick Nicastro, Nat. Pres.

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At the event, the members brought gifts for the Saint Joseph’s Center Children and Baby Pantry.
MONTVILLE, NJ

Montville Deputy Mayor Frank Cooney accepts a $1,000 donation from Montville Chapter President Karen Arakelian for a township citizen in need.

NJ DISTRICT VII

On July 11, 2017, Our Past Chapter President, Jerry Taylor, was ceremonially sworn in as the 53rd District Governor of New Jersey District VII of UNICO National. Our National President, Dominick Nicastro, did the honors. Jerry is the ninth Saddle Brook Chapter member to serve as DG. NJ District VII was formed in 1965.

The Deadline for the November 2017 issue of ComUNICO is FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH
Please send all submissions to: comunico@unico.org

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HAVE YOU FILED YOUR 990 WITH THE IRS?
ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP, NJ

In June, Rockaway Township presented scholarships to two students that submitted winning essays on how their Italian Heritage shaped who they are. Lydia DiMarcantonio, Chapter 1st VP, presented a scholarship to Amanda Giglio of Morris Knolls H.S. and Judi Ricucci, Chapter Secretary, presented a scholarship to Danielle Jackson of Morris Hills H.S.

Also in June, Matt Mustachio was re-instated Chapter President and our Board Officers were also sworn in. Additionally, Samantha DeMarco joined as a new member, and Heather Darling re-joined after a short absence.

Finally, In September, we are running a Golf Outing at Picatinny Arsenal on September 25th to raise money to donate for Autism Research...see website for details.

HAZLETON, PA

Hazleton UNICO Donates $500 in Support of Eagle Scout Project

Hazleton UNICO members visited Holy Annunciation Monastery in support of Dante Manjone, a young man in Boy Scout Troop 207 whose Eagle Scout project is to build a birthing barn on the property of the monastery in Sugarloaf, home of the Byzantine Carmelite Nuns. The nuns are in need of this barn to house their miniature horses during this special life event. Dante is in the process of raising funds to defray the cost, estimated at $10,000. Hazleton UNICO’s $500.00 donation comes in recognition of Dante’s selfless act of service to the Holy Annunciation Monastery.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America. It requires earning 21 merit badges, 13 of which must include the following categories: Cooking, Swimming, Hiking, or Cycling, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communication, Lifesaving and/or Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Science or Sustainability, Family Life, First Aid, Personal Fitness, and Personal Management.

UNICO National is the largest Italian-American service organization in the United States with local chapters across the country. The Hazleton Chapter of UNICO was chartered in 1950. UNICO supports causes such as scholarship awards, programs aiding underprivileged and handicapped children, charities, community and civic activities, mental health, cancer research, and Cooley’s Anemia research.

The Hazleton Chapter of UNICO has been a supporter of many local organizations and community needs such as: Helping Hands, Valley Santa, Pajama Program, Brandon’s Forever Home, Community Services for Sight, Avenues, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, CEO, S.A.F.E., St. Joseph Center, Catholic Social Services’ Homeless Program, Veteran’s Breakfast Program, and local hardship needs, to name a few. For additional information on UNICO contact Joe Cerullo by email at jcerullo@epix.net.

KEARNY, NJ

Kearny Ladies Of Unico Award Scholarships

The Kearny Chapter of the Ladies of UNICO recently awarded two scholarships to Kearny High School students. The scholarships were for five hundred dollars each and were presented at the school’s Senior Awards Night on June 6th. The scholarships were presented in memory of Mr. Ralph Confessore a life member of Kearny UNICO and a former science teacher at the school. Pictured (l-r): JoAnn Mitchell, Sydney Pace, Mrs. Leta Confessore, Sydney Viscuso, Celeste Pandolfi, Vice President.
“Service Above Self”

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We don’t just sell you a policy. Insurance, like people, come in different shapes and sizes and we are here to help you personalize your insurance needs.
Triple Stitch Brand Promotions is proud to sponsor the UNICO Convention giveaways.

Triple Stitch Co-Owner Nick Deramo congratulates fellow Wethersfield member and friend Tom Vaughan as he becomes National President.
The following are ComUNICO Rules and Guidelines that must be strictly adhered to in order for a Chapter and/or a Committee’s submissions to be included in an issue of ComUNICO:

1. Each Chapter is limited to 300 words per issue. This includes the number of words in a column and captions.
2. The only titles to be included in captions are for National Officers and Chapter Presidents. Do not identify other Chapter Officers by title.
3. If more than 10 people appear in a picture, do not identify each of them.
4. Abbreviations are not to be used. The only title to be abbreviated is Vice President (VP).
5. All articles and captions are to be submitted in Times New Roman font, 11 point font size and in black.
6. Photo File Name should be identifiable to the corresponding caption.
7. A Chapter is allowed a maximum of 6 pictures per issue for a regular event.
8. All award recipients (ie… Scholarship, Brian Piccolo) should be included in one picture. Do not send multiple pictures from an event with one recipient per picture.
9. Only pictures attached to an e-mail will be accepted. Pictures embedded in an e-mail will be returned to the Chapter and not included.
10. All submissions should be sent to comunico@unico.org. Submissions sent to any other office e-mail address will not be included.
11. The deadline for submissions is 5:00 PM on the designated day.
12. Photos coming in after a holiday will not be included in the next issue, if deemed to be untimely. ComUNICO should reflect the current time of year.
13. Articles cannot contain copyrighted materials. All articles must be original and completely written by the person submitting the article. An article compiled from information that was cut and pasted from other sources is considered plagiarism.

The following are ComUNICO Guidelines for a Chapter to follow:

1. Photos should be sent in landscape not portrait form.
2. Do not send in blurry pictures.
3. Review all submissions prior to sending for grammar and punctuation.

KEARNY, NJ

Theresa Trucillo (R), President of the Kearny Ladies of UNICO presented a five hundred dollar scholarship to Stefany Scalabrini (l), a Senior at Harrison High School. Stefany will be attending the Bergen Community College’s Esthetician Course in the Fall as a first step towards becoming a dermatologist.

KEYSTONE, PA

Dunmore’s Keystone Chapter of UNICO National presented a $5831.78 donation to Serving Seniors, Inc. Money was raised from Keystone’s Fifth Anniversary/Pig Roast.

At the presentation are, front row from left, Cathy Bianchi, Chapter President; Frank Coviello, event co-chairman; Mary Anne Maloney Evans, Serving Seniors, Inc., Executive Director; and Bob Collins, event co-chairman. Back row from left are John Mecca, Val Riggi, Marilyn Vitali, Serving Seniors Board Treasurer; and Mark McDade, PA II District Governor.

PARAMUS, NJ

Paramus chapter gives scholarships to two deserving students: Michael Sluka and Shannon O’Brien. Richard Albanese presented the scholarships.
On August 8, 2017 the Islip/Smithtown Chapter hosted guest speaker Jackie Fischer – author of The Lost Branch. The Lost Branch is a poetic narrative about two families, one living in America and the other living in Sicily which tells their stories of being separated at Ellis Island in 1914 and how the two were reconnected. Our chapter members enjoyed the presentation about Italian immigration in the early 1900’s. The author tells the story of how the branches of this family tree were lost, yet were still connected by their roots.

The author of The Lost Branch Jackie Fischer.

Americanism awardee Joyce Walker (Raritan Valley); Plainfield’s President Bob Bengivenga; M&R Director Anthony Bengivenga; Westfield President Bob Tarte all in a country mood at the Icebreaker on July 26.

Incoming National President Tom Vaughan left at the convention registration with Americanism Awardee Joyce Walker; 1st VP Frank DeFrank; M&R Director Anthony Bengivenga; Chaplain Fr Bob Wolfee and Sue Anselmo.

The Plainfields’ Chapter of UNICO inducted new members and new leadership at their recent meeting at Giovanna’s restaurant in Plainfield.

L to R Plainfields’ member and Past National President Renato Biribin, Vito Pezzolla, Ann Marie Pezzolla, Anjali D’Amiano, and Nina D’Amiano, outgoing Plainfields’ President Linda Santore and incoming President Bob Bengivenga.

The Plainfields’ Chapter of UNICO inducted new members and new leadership at their recent meeting at Giovanna’s restaurant in Plainfield.

L to R new members Ann Marie Pezzolla, Anjali D’Amiano, and Nina D’Amiano being sworn in by Plainfields co-founder and Past National President Renato Biribin.

The incoming Pittsfield chapter president, Mike Sorrentino, is sworn in by UNICO National Executive Vice President, Tom Vaughan, at the chapter’s June induction ceremony and dinner.

L to R new leadership board for Plainfields’ UNICO: Fred Esposito, Sergeant at Arms; Francesca Merendino, Second Vice President and Bob Bengivenga, chapter President being sworn in by Renato Biribin.
For 150 years, Filippo Berio has honored our founder’s passion, artistry and commitment to excellence. Our exquisite olive oils, crafted by using only the finest olives, help inspire cooking enthusiasts all over the world to create meals that are simple, flavorful, and healthful.
Pittsfield UNICO Chapter Awards $11,500 in Scholarships

On Tuesday, June 27, the Pittsfield Chapter of UNICO held their scholarship awards ceremony at the Italian American Club in Pittsfield. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the Paul J. Capitanio Jr. Memorial Football Scholarship award ceremony. Since 1987 the Pittsfield UNICO chapter has given out over $270,000 in scholarships throughout Berkshire County. The ceremony was the culmination of the chapter’s fund raising efforts throughout the year which included a wine tasting, a golf tournament and other events.

The UNICO Scholarship Committee, chaired by Julie Salatino, awarded fourteen scholarships. The Paul J. Capitanio Jr. Memorial Football Scholarship committee, chaired by past UNICO chapter president Paul Capitanio Sr., awarded three scholarships at $1000 each.

The Paul J. Capitanio Jr. Memorial Football Scholarship Committee has awarded $36,000 in scholarships over the past thirteen years and has raised funds through its annual golf tournament and other donations.

District PA II met for their 4th Quarter meeting at Nirchi’s Restaurant in Endwell, NY. The Greater Binghamton Chapter served as the host Chapter. D.G. Mark McDade conducted his final meeting as District Governor with thirty-three members representing all district chapter in attendance. All Chapters gave their reports with PDG Tom Gatto representing Carbondale, President Mike Marinaccio representing Greater Binghamton, President Cathy Bianchi representing Keystone and Nick Grego representing Sayre. After dinner, a spirited discussion on District dues and ways to raise funds ensued. Culuminating the evening, District Service Awards were presented to Sergeant at Arms Tom Carlucci, Treasurer Cathy Gerard and Secretary Michele McDade for three years of on the job service as District Officers.

Cathy Gerard was recently installed as the 6th President of the Keystone Chapter UNICO, are members of her immediate family and UNICO National Officers. Seated from left are Marisa Scalese and Theresa LaNunziata; Keystone UNICO President Cathy Gerard; Margaret Caterino, Cathy’s Mother; Cathy Bianchi, Immediate Past Chapter President; Dolly Caterino and Debbie Whitbeck. Standing from left are Mark McDade, PA II District Governor; Al Caterino, Dave Whitbeck and Carl Bianchi, family; and Glenn Pettinato, Past National President and Installing Officer.

Pictured with Cathy Gerard, the 6th President of Dunmore’s Keystone Chapter UNICO, are members of her immediate family and UNICO National Officers. Seated from left are Marisa Scalese and Theresa LaNunziata; Keystone UNICO President Cathy Gerard; Margaret Caterino, Cathy’s Mother; Cathy Bianchi, Immediate Past Chapter President; Dolly Caterino and Debbie Whitbeck. Standing from left are Mark McDade, PA II District Governor; Al Caterino, Dave Whitbeck and Carl Bianchi, family; and Glenn Pettinato, Past National President and Installing Officer.

Seven new members were inducted into Dunmore’s Keystone UNICO. From left are Mark McDade, PA II District Governor and Inducting Officer; Mary Ann Sessa, Andy Sessa, Marie Roberts, Pia Mazzarella, Tony Mazzarella, Ed Faatz and Mary Faatz, all new members.

Celebrat Columbus Day!
O/WO UNICO Chapter Named “National Model Chapter”

UNICO National held its National Convention July 26th – 30th, 2017 at the JW Marriott Scottsdale Camelback Inn Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, AZ. The Orange/West Orange Chapter was awarded Model Chapter of the Year, the organization's highest honor. This award is a culmination of many hours of hard work by the Chapter serving the residents of West Orange and Orange, NJ, while promoting the values of “Service Above Self.” During the year the Chapter donated over thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000) in scholarships and to local and national causes, including building a “pocket park” at the Thomas Edison National Park in West Orange, the donation of two-way radios to the West Orange Community Response Team (CERT) and $10,000 in scholarships to West Orange HS students.

NUTLEY, NJ

The Nutley, NJ Chapter members enjoyed a busy summer in preparation for the 2017-18 year under the direction of President Sal Ferraro who will be entering his second year in this office. Serving with him are Deborah Bellucci (1st VP), Joe Cervasio (2nd VP), Sergio Marricone (3rd VP), Dan (Sec), Vito Scarpelli (Treas), Anthony “JR” Mascolo (Sgt at Arms) and Members at Large Anthony Biondi, Jr., Pasqual Pisani and Lenny Guglielmello.

June featured a chapter family barbecue that included food, music and games for the children. Everyone walked away happy and full. The annual bus ride to Atlantic City followed on June 25 and was completely sold out. We’re happy to say that some actually came home winners! Thanks to Bob Montanino for coordinating this event. The Chapter’s annual golf outing was held on Aug 16. The “Best Ball” round was played by close to 100 golfers who enjoyed the day on the course, then the luncheon at the famous Nanina’s in the Park in Belleville, NJ. Tom Sposato, Dan Carnicella and the rest of the committee worked tirelessly in getting the golfers out and hole sponsors in place. This event is the chapter's major fund raiser for scholarships. In June 2018, we hope to top the $34,000 given to Nutley graduates this past year.

Dan and Cathy Marucci organized the now annual Christmas Eve at Mama Vitortia restaurant in Nutley.

They assisted Chef Marcello with the food selection, purchase and preparation. This was of course the traditional “Feast of the Fishes.” The sold out event was a big hit with all.

The Chapter will kick off the New Year with its first monthly dinner meeting on Thursday, Sept. 7. This is an opportunity for members to bring in prospective new members as guests.

To donate to a UNICO Charity
make checks payable and mail to:
UNICO Foundation
271 US Highway 46 West,
Suite F-103,
Fairfield, New Jersey 07004.

All donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.

NJ DISTRICT IV

On June 29th, which was NJ District IV’s last meeting of the UNICO year, they presented their Annual District Governor Scholarship Award to High School Graduate Student Emma L. Fritsch. She was sponsored by the Sparta Chapter. This year's Scholarship was given in the name of Past NJ IV DG Perry Russo. In attendance at the meeting were chapters: Bloomfield, Cedar Grove, Passaic-Clifton, Passaic Valley, Sparta and Wayne. All of the photos and events from NJ IV can be seen on their website at www.UNICO-NJdistrictIV.com.

Pictured from the left representing Sparta is Gary D’Uva, student Emma Fritsch, and NJ IV DG Sal Ingallina from the Cedar Grove Chapter.
On behalf of our President & CEO, Lourdes Cortez, we are happy to announce that Unico National is now part of our North Jersey Federal Credit Union family.

UNICO and North Jersey Federal have a rich and proud history that is similar in many ways. North Jersey Federal has been helping our local community with their financial needs for over 80 years. We would welcome the opportunity to talk with you to determine whether you can benefit from credit union membership.

North Jersey Federal is a not-for-profit, full service banking institution rooted in the New Jersey community. Through our shared branch network, you will have access to 30,000 free ATMS and 5,000 branches worldwide. North Jersey Federal offers business checking and savings accounts, business Visa cards, and commercial lines of credit and business loans. Because we are a not-for-profit organization our rates and fees are much lower than those of commercial banks.

DANIEL LEON
North Jersey Federal Credit Union, Mortgage Loan Officer
711 Union Boulevard | Totowa, NJ 07512 | E-mail: dleon@njfcu.org | Phone: 973-785-9200 ext. 3381
NEWBURGH, NY

Last December our Chapter celebrated its 50th anniversary and, as of July, 2017, six new members have joined our Chapter. Our numbers are growing!

NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL — 1X
Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh show me herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (3X) Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3X) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal, you who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me, I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. (Say this prayer three consecutive days and after three days, your request will be granted. Publication must be promised.)

SA, IPP, JCS, VAH, CO, AD, SLP, IZ, JFM, FP, SMG, JRD

TO OFFER A PRAYER TO THE BLESSED MOTHER send a Check for $20, made out to UNICO and your initials to: ComUNICO Prayer 271 US Highway 46 West Suite F-103 Fairfield, NJ 07004

Delaware Unico Members Volunteer To Help ISOP Program In Sussex County

International students come to Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, each summer in search of employment, an opportunity to improve their capacity to speak the English language and as “good will” ambassadors” from their country to ours.

As a gesture of “good will” and hospitality on the part of Delawareans and an opportunity for “Italians” to share good food, prepare a nutritious meal and provide a warm “welcome”, UNICO members spent an evening on July 12th at Saint Edmond Church Hall with our visitors.


Chef Joe Torres explains the serving procedure to Terri Treglia, Pete Koch and Al Failla.

The DEADLINE for the Nov. 2017 Edition of ComUNICO is Friday, Oct. 13th, 2017
Send Chapter news to UNICO National Office:
comunico@unico.org
ComUNICO will only accept high resolution digital photos attached to an e-mail and test in MS Word as an attachment or in the body of an e-mail.
UNICO National is the largest Italian American Service Organization in America. With 109 local Chapters in 18 states and more being formed right now, we have an unparalleled track record of giving that dates back to 1922.

Through the UNICO Foundation, we donate annually to cancer and Cooley’s anemia research, mental health initiatives and scholarships.

Through our many National Award Committees, we present awards in literature, science, amateur and professions athletics and military service.

Through our Anti-Bias Committee, we promote positive images of Italian Americans and battle negative stereotypes.

Through our local Chapters, we provide countless volunteer hours and support worthy causes of all sorts.

If you are looking to celebrate your heritage, serve your community and build lifelong friendships, UNICO National is the organization for you!

To find out more, call 973-808-0035
Or visit www.unico.org
UNICO NATIONAL

96TH ANNUAL CONVENTION
DELRAY BEACH MARRIOT, FLORIDA

SAVE THE DATE!
JULY 25TH - 29TH 2018

Accommodations
277 Guest Rooms, Suites & Luxury Villas

Guest Services
Valet & Self-Service Parking; High-speed wireless internet access; Sundry/gift shop; Room Service; Safe deposit boxes.

Restaurant & Lounges
Seacrest Grill is a delightful blend of Caribbean and local flavors in a tropical setting.
O’Grady’s Lobby Loung features delicious menu items in a friendly environment with an intimate setting.
Cascades Pool Bar & Restaurant offers light menu dishes & tropical drinks.

Recreations & Leisure
Tropical outdoor pool; Jacuzzi; Fitness Center; Full-service Spa; Beach; Water Sports; Golf; Tennis; Jogging Trail.

Local Area
Atlantic Avenue with 50+ restaurants & shops; Loxahatchee Everglade Tours; Cornell Museum; Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens; Lion Country Safari; BocaTown Center Mall.
18th Annual
Mercer County
Italian American Festival
September 22, 23, 24, 2017
Fri 3pm–11pm • Sat 12 noon–11pm • Sun 12 noon–9:30pm
Mercer County Park • Old Trenton Road • West Windsor, New Jersey

ADMISsion
Adults: $5.00
Senior Citizens, 65 years of age and older: $4.00
Children, 12 years of age and younger: Free – compliments of XFINITY®

Parking
County Parking Fee: $5.00 per vehicle

Fireworks on Saturday • Mass on Sunday, 11 a.m.

www.ItalianAmericanFestival.com
or call 609-631-7544, Cav. John Scarpati, President

Festival brought to you by:
Investors Bank • The Times • Bud Light—The Official Festival Beer • The Italian Tribune • News 12 New Jersey
New Jersey Lottery • Xfinity • Cecoia Foundation • Impact Remodeling • Hopewell Valley Vineyards
Martin Financial Group • Performance Spine and Sport Medicine • People Papers • Italian Voice
Barry Chiarello’s Second Story Productions, LLC, Dining Tent provided by K. McCoy Insurance Agency,
Rose Hill Assisted Living Community and First Bank.