

The Voice of **UNICO NATIONAL**
Com **UNICO**

JULY 2012 • VOLUME 67 • ISSUE 05



UNICO celebrates *La Famiglia*



The largest Italian American service organization in the United States



**"Service
above *Self*"**



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ESPOSITO**
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OF PRESIDENTS**
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



A Message from President Glenn Pettinato

As I come to the end of my Presidency, I would like to personally thank all the Chapters and districts that invited me and the First Lady, Terri, to their functions during the past year. To these and to the many members throughout the country in our UNICO family, your generosity, kindness and continued support this past year has been greatly appreciated and will always be remembered.

It was indeed an honor and a blessing to serve as your President during 2011-12. Further, I could not have done this job without the support of my wife, children, family and the Carbondale Chapter. UNICO is served incredibly well and could not function correctly without the professional staff under Executive Administrator, Sal Benvenuti and Office Manager, Pat Pelonero. UNICO's success is shared by the present National Officers and Past National Presidents. The Past National Presidents possess the knowledge and the wisdom of experience in leading our organization and it has been an honor to serve with them and to seek their counsel. As I look back over this past year, we should all take pride in what we have accomplished:

1. A successful Washington DC Convention and the Inaugural Taste of Italy Trade Show
2. The \$150,000 UNICO donation to the Foundation's 21st Century Program which helped solidify it and make it viable.
3. The in-house publication of ComUNICO.
4. The successful campaign to help UNICANS after the Floods of 2011 in the Northeast.
5. Appointment of the first female Sports Award Chair.
6. The creation of the National Reconstruction Committee and board-accepted amendments.
7. The creation of the Convention Advisory Committee and board-accepted amendments.
8. On the tenth anniversary of our partnership with the "V" Foundation, with UNICO donations amounting to \$500,000.
9. The purchase of our own permanent UNICO National Office.
10. National financial support along with the Italian Studies Committee for the definitive book on Italian American History.
11. New Chapters chartered and the organization of several more.
12. A written, legal protocol for the advancement of women members in all UNICO Chapters.
13. National support for the 2012 earthquake in Northern Italy.
14. Senate Bill 301 sponsored by Pennsylvania Senator Bob Casey which was in conjunction with House Bill 367 to designate October as Italian American Month.

15. Successful Eastern Regional and Board of Directors Meetings.

16. The proposed Foundation Amendment which more fully details the qualifications for the position of Trustee.

I would like my parting words to you to echo my first Presidential advice: remember the mission of UNICO National.

Chapters and Districts need to be leaders in their local communities and to promote and enhance the image of Italian Americans. Our members need to be of service to the community so that we are the service organization of choice; we need to more fully promote Italian heritage and culture. We need to promote, support and assist charitable, scientific, cultural, educational, and literary projects in local chapters and nationally. We need to cultivate our members' interest in public welfare and cooperate with others in civic, social and cultural development.

We must foster positive stereotypes to counteract the negative stereotypes that pervade our national media. We need to honor Italian Americans for their achievements in the arts, sciences and public service. We must honor in perpetuity and disseminate our culture and heritage through education and communication. We are proud to be Italian Americans and UNICO helps us harness and focus this passion. And we must never forget the great causes of UNICO National programs.

Together with positive role models and this passion, our organization - our dedicated members, officers and leaders - can only achieve greatness. Never let our vision fade; never let our mission falter; never let our passion ebb; help bring all of them to fruition and make them a fixture in perpetuity.

Finally, I look forward to and pledge to assist the Presidency of David Donnini. I ask you for your unwavering support for him throughout his term of office. Please pray for him so that God gives him the strength of mind and body to serve you to the best of his ability and that his Presidency will be productive and successful. The National Vice Presidents and I have pledged our support and stand ready to assist and advise him on any issue for which he seeks our counsel. Thank you again for the honor of serving you as National President.

FIRST LADY'S MESSAGE



My UNICO Journey was Life Changing Terri Pettinato

Thank you to The UNICO FAMILY for giving me this most prestigious opportunity to serve UNICO National as your First Lady. This past year has been a life changing experience for me! The places I visited from the West coast to the East coast; the friends that I made forever; the kindness and generosity shown to me; the ultimate Italian foods I enjoyed; the beautiful gifts and the most gorgeous

flowers that I was presented were fit for a queen! President Glenn and I made every effort to smile, embrace, and reach out to every UNICAN because we are so proud to serve the largest Italian Service Organization in the country and will continue to do so. I will treasure these memories forever! Now our journey has come to an end and it is time to move on and welcome our new incoming President, David Donnini. Glenn and I wish David and his Administration a successful and enjoyable year.

Now I would like to share with you my final highlights of my recent Chapter visits. On April 28th Glenn and I were guests at the Roseto Chapter's Spring Gala where we were welcomed by Dr. Frank DeFrank and his lovely wife Linda. Frank Paolercio gave a moving speech on the "V" Foundation. The following evening we were in Hackensack, New Jersey for their Chapter's 54th Annual Citizen of the Year Dinner where we honored Aldo Cascio for his community accomplishments. Moving on to May 6th we were welcomed at the Orange/West Orange Chapter in New Jersey where President Glenn swore in their new President Ken Broderick. On May 19th Glenn and I were excited to attend the Montville UNICO Foundation's 23rd Annual Dinner Dance where President Glenn swore in the new President Michele Maddalena. Memorial Day weekend I was back in my own Carbondale Chapter and volunteered to chair a rummage sale. It felt good to get rid of unwanted stuff while enriching our Chapter's bank account. On June 18th, we joined the Verona, New Jersey Chapter where President Glenn swore in the new Chapter President Bonnie Sharkey. Outgoing President Linda Gail Alati was presented a plaque for her dedication to the Chapter. Past National President John Alati was presented with a Presidential Award by President Glenn for his outstanding commitment as Chair of the Convention Advisory Committee. We were in Binghamton, New York on June 21st for the District Governors' meeting. Binghamton's Chapter members Angela Carra and Laurie Adams, surprised Glenn and me with a silver champagne basket to celebrate our 25th Wedding Anniversary which was on June 20th. We were so touched.

My goal this year was to start a column "OUR STORY". Your contributions for providing such passionate stories which preserve and promote our families' history were truly a celebration of our proud Italian American Heritage. I truly believe we are the role models for all Italian Americans. Hopefully these stories will continue to foster unity in future ComUNICO issues. Mille Grazie UNICO for helping me make it happen!!

As I reflect, this has been an extra-ordinary year! To the National Office staff, Sal, Pat, Lisa, Joyce and photographer Steve, your patience and expertise, especially in the magnificent ComUNICO publication was exceptional. You made the difference in making UNICO business a successful reality.

My last words to you: Everyone keep the spirit, commitment, and the vision of our motto "Service Above Self". See you in Marco Island!





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Sue Anzelmo.....Administrative Assistant
Joyce O'Hara.....Bookkeeper

*The Staff of the National Office is dedicated
to serving our Members and Chapters!*

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COVER PHOTOS

MAIN Top: Members of the Carbondale Chapter gather to celebrate the chartering of the Keystone Chapter of UNICO National. Seated from left: Pat and Chip Calabro, Gerald and Donna Arnese and Carmel Gretzula. Standing from left: Maggie and Peter Pettinato, Stephen and Judy Martino, UNICO National First Lady Terri Pettinato, Joe Masco, UNICO National President Glenn Pettinato, Angel Masco, Tom and Yvonne Gatto, Joann and Lucas Pollits and Tom Gretzula.

MAIN Bottom: Members of the Pittsfield Chapter gather to celebrate the Chapter's 25th Anniversary and Installation of new officers. (Page 22)

SIDE BAR: The multi-talented michéal CATALDO, a crooner, compose, con-
noisseur, Italian Cultural Ambassador and Entrepreneur. (Page 47)

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT



A Message from Second Vice President Richard D'Arminio

The year is fast approaching when we will all meet at the upcoming National Convention in Marco Island. At that time I will ask for your continued support and become First Vice President. While this means that I will be working more closely with District Governors I will continue working with many of the Chapter Presidents, and all of you as members since there are so many issues that I continue to work on whether it be in Membership, Expansion, etc...

By the time you receive this issue we will have concluded our second National Conference Call. I hope that you were on the call if you were a Chapter President or an incoming President. This is obviously the best way that we as National Officers can communicate with many people at one time and share ideas. On this call we asked all of the District Governors, incoming ones too, our National Office Staff and National Officers to also be on the call. It is our way of reaching out to you since we do not get enough attendance and/or participation at the Regional Meetings, Mid Year Board Meeting, or National Convention.

In order for any organization to grow change is often necessary in some areas. UNICO has certainly gone through some changes over the past few years. I can promise you that many of us at the National office, whether we are a staff member, a National Officer, a Committee Chair, a Past National President, etc. have put in some long hours in trying to do what is best for ALL members. When we meet at the Executive meetings and work on issues such as the budget, Membership and Retention, Expansion, etc. we are doing our best to give the Delegates the opportunity of assisting us in deciding the best course of action to move UNICO forward.

After 33 years of being a member myself, I have come to know so many of you. Whether it was due to meeting at a Convention and/or any UNICO function I think most of you would agree that I am here to serve and do the best that I can for ALL of us. I have attended many local Chapter meetings during this past year in supervising many of the Chapter Presidents. I have read and responded to many of the Chapter reports that come in on a monthly basis. I have attended many functions including some that I was invited to either because our National President was unable to attend or simply because you extended a hand.

As a former Chapter President myself in 1990 in the Hackensack Chapter, I know how important your role is. I also served as Charter President in 2004 of my current Chapter, Greater Ramsey, and District Governor of New Jersey IX in

2005. I have attended at least 20 Conventions during my 33 years as a member. What has helped me all these years is attending many of these functions, but more important was the sharing of ideas with National Officers, our National Office Staff, and you the valued member.

So, in conclusion we all need to be involved and make some sort of commitment to both ourselves and the organization that we are a part of. If you are a member (we all are) and don't forget that we are also a member of the UNICO Foundation, we have the opportunity to attend various functions and Conventions, and be a Chapter President, District Governor, and National Officer if we wish. If you choose to be a Chapter President please make the commitment for the 1-2 years to be in attendance at the meetings. Please get your Monthly Chapter Reports in through your Chapter Secretary too. We still receive on average about 30-35 reports per month. This means that 100 Chapters are still not submitting them.

If you are a District Governor, I am sure you know that you are the backbone of UNICO. You are a National Officer! Please be at the various meetings during your term in office. Please visit the Chapters in your Districts, hold some joint meetings and fund raisers, etc.

And most important- please please return a call or an e-mail when it is reasonably possible. Not only is it courteous, but if we or if a fellow member reach out to you and if a response is not given in a reasonable time frame then it is surely going to be difficult for us to succeed or be of service to you- our most valued members. And if you cannot be at a meeting or on one of the conference calls then please let us know and appoint your Chapter Vice President or Secretary to be in your place.

This is called Teamwork and I learned a long time ago that TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More. I want to help you help me. I want to make a difference as a National Officer and incoming National President.

Please take the journey with me. The L in my middle name stands for Laugh- Every time I laugh and talk about UNICO I either recruit a new member or accomplish something good. Help me make a difference and live up to our motto of "Service Above Self".

CORRECTIONS AND OMISSIONS

ComUNICO May 2012, Volume 67, Issue 04-
Page 13-Keystone Charter Members-Stephen J.
Evers names was spelled incorrectly as Steven.

ComUNICO May 2012, Volume 67, Issue 04-
Page 29, In a picture with Joe Agresti, John Alati,
Dave Donnini, Frank Tidona was mistakenly
identified as Ralph Torracco.

UNICO National Convention
Marriott Resort & Spa Marco Island FL
Wednesday, August 8- Sunday, August 12
Save the date for your summer
getaway!

EDITOR'S DESK



Editor's Comments: Pat Pelonero

So much has happened since the last ComUNICO issue. The National Office has a new administrative assistant and her name is Sue Anzelmo. We welcome Sue to the UNICO National staff. Sue has had experience in the nonprofit industry and we look forward to working with her. Some of you have already met Sue, however feel free to stop by and say hello. She is eager to meet everyone.

We also have an intern working for us this summer. Stephanie Figurelli is finishing up her senior year at Caldwell College. She is majoring in Business with a minor in Italian. As part of her course requirements she must intern with an Italian Organization. Last summer she interned at the Italian Embassy in Newark, New Jersey. Stephanie has been exposed to the Italian language at the National Office through many of the publications we receive which are written in Italian. She will be with us until the beginning of August, so stop in and say hello to her too. We will be sorry to see her go!

As you all know the Convention is drawing near and we are very busy with the Ad Journal and taking in the registrations for all attendees. Please, if you have not registered and are attending the Convention send in your registration today. This will insure that you get your meal tickets, name badge and any other amenities included in your registration packet.

Our big news is that we will be moving to a different building within the complex we currently are housed. The move will take place sometime between September first and the fifteenth. We will keep everyone posted with the new address and when the move takes place. Of course we will plan an open house for all to come and see us when we are settled.

In this issue we are also featuring michéal Castaldo Crooner/Composer/Connoisseur/Italian Cultural Ambassador and Entrepreneur. Wow very impressive! michéal is an Italian born Canadian who now resides in New York City. michéal attended our Convention last year in Arlington Virginia and if you heard him sing you know that he has an amazing voice. Please read all about michéal on his feature page and see all the wonderful things he has accomplished. michéal will be appearing in at the Peekskill Italian Festival on August 11th. The Peekskill Festival is Westchester's largest traditional Italian Street fair. The festival takes place in Historic downtown Peekskill.

Have a wonderful summer see you in September!

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



A Message from Executive Vice President David Donnini

I am writing this from Marco Island, Florida. Past National President Joe Agresti and I have been finalizing last minute items to ensure that The 90th Annual UNICO Convention will be a great and memorable event for everyone. It is August 8-12 at the MARCO ISLAND MARRIOTT BEACH RESORT, GOLF CLUB & SPA. Visit www.2012unicoconvention.org.

This resort truly exemplifies the meaning of Southwest Florida beaches. The resort features 3 miles of the most pristine beach landscape. This resort has been rated as one of the top Mainland Resort Spas as well as having been voted the most beautiful in the Rand McNally/USA Today Road Finalist. You have to come and see this resort for yourself.

I have been preparing for the upcoming year and I am looking forward to having the honor of becoming your National President. I am looking to working with my Vice Presidents and the Executive Committee. I will push all efforts forward to continue to grow membership and keep our great organization on a successful path.

See you in MARCO ISLAND!

RARITAN VALLEY, NJ

Brian Piccolo Awards Dinner

The Raritan Valley Chapter held its Brian Piccolo Awards dinner in April. Ralph Branca a pitcher for the former Brooklyn Dodgers was the guest speaker. Mr. Branca is most famous for the "Shot Heard Round the World" pitch to Bobby Thompson in the one game playoff with the New York Giants in 1951.



From left: Ed Danberry, Brooklyn Dodgers Pitcher Ralph Branca, Ed Minetti and Joe Forte.

AVON, CT

On Saturday, April 28, the Avon Chapter held "Come Fly With Me," a benefit concert to support its many charities. The sold-out event, a musical tribute to the music of Frank Sinatra, raised over \$10,000 which will be donated to UNICO's charities, many of which are local. The event was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Golf Club of Avon and the star of the show, Rob Zappulla and His Fabulous Orchestra, performed to a packed house for over four hours. The first set was cabaret-style, which was perfect for those who wished to listen and also for those who wished to converse with friends and family. Rob and his orchestra pulled out all the stops in the second set, though, keeping the dance floor standing room only the entire night. By the end, tired and satisfied, all the lucky attendees vowed to return for the event next year. Dr. Doug Hope, Chapter President, said "this is the most successful fund raising event in the history of Avon UNICO," and anyone who attended couldn't disagree with that. A multimedia slide show of the event can be seen at www.avonunico.org.



Event Committee Members are pictured from left: Jim Fanelli, Dr. Joseph Pavano, Chapter President Dr. Doug Hope and Greg Van Deusen.



From left: Cal Tussin, Naomi Tussin, Jim Tancredi, Len Goldberg and Sue Tancredi.



From left: Dr. Val Wiseman, Tom Smith, Jeff Koenig, Barbara Pinkerton, and committee member Donna Burton.



ComUNICO



From left: Tony Giorgio, Dave Lentini, Nina Giorgio and Dr. John Marra.

JERSEY CITY, NJ

On Saturday May 5th, the Jersey City Chapter hosted its Annual Scholarship Dinner. This year, the Chapter honored a local surgeon of great renown, Doctor Julia Digioia. Dr. Digioia specializes in cancer surgery and women's health; many members of the community, even some guests at the dinner, owe their continued health to her.

With such an illustrious honoree, many friends and admirers were eager to attend. The assembled guest were treated to a fantastic dinner at Il Villaggio Restaurant, and danced to the sounds of the Parkside Symphony.

Besides honoring this fine doctor, Jersey City UNICO raised enough money to provide three college scholarships to deserving students in the upcoming school year. As always, we provided a great time for friends in family without losing sight of our vow to provide service above self.



Chapter President Michael Miceli and Event Chairman Nicholas Grillo present Dr. Digioia with a plaque honoring her achievements.



Terry Esposito and Gail Cousins of the Jersey City Chapter enjoy the festivities with Dr. Digioia.

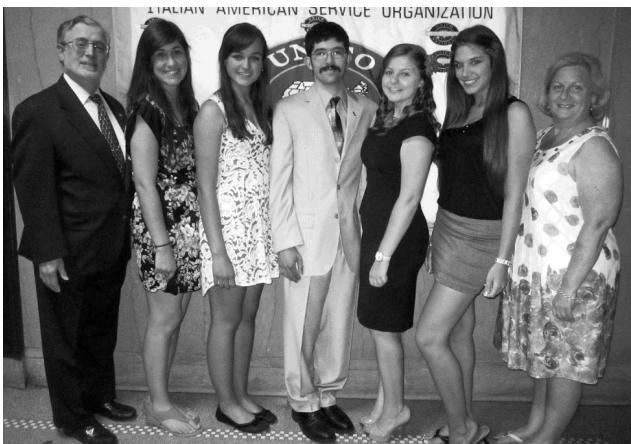
KEARNY, NJ



The Kearny Ladies of UNICO presented Scholarships to Matthew Williams of High Tech High School and Anthony Ferriero of Harrison High School at their recent Chapter meeting. Pictured from left: Libby McInnis, Alice Belfiore, President; Matthew Williams, Anthony Ferriero, Pearl Yaszczewski, Treasurer and Celeste Pandolfi, Vice President.



Alice Belfiore, President of the Kearny Ladies of UNICO presented a \$500 Scholarship to Michael Antonelli at North Arlington High School's recent Awards Night.



Kearny Chapter President Lou Pandolfi and Scholarship Committee Chair Denise Ficeto presented \$500 Scholarships to Kearny High School Seniors from left: Ashleigh Amadeo, Christine Castelluber, Anthony Josso, Daniela Geraldo and Nicole Zarillo at Kearny High's Senior Awards Night on June 6th.



BETHLEHEM, PA

Bethlehem UNICO Celebrates 25th Anniversary

The Bethlehem Chapter of UNICO National celebrated the 25th Anniversary of its founding. Dinner was held at Green Pond County Club on April 27, 2012. The dinner was combined with the Chapter's Annual Awards Night at which College Scholarships are awarded to high school students of Italian Heritage from Bethlehem Catholic High School, Freedom High School, Liberty High School and Saucon Valley High School.

This year's award winners were Michael J. Leddy, Bethlehem Catholic; Kyle P. Spina, Freedom; Kristen B. Esparo, Liberty and Justin C. Welch, Saucon Valley.

Eugene Corsi, a Charter member of the Chapter, traced the history of the Chapter and remarked that with this year's scholarship awards, the Chapter has made 100 scholarship gifts to local high school students.

The Annual Award to the Dream Come True program was also awarded.

Toastmaster was Chapter President Anthony Iasiello. Reverend Anthony P. Mongiello offered the Invocation.

The 2012 President's Award was given to long time member Joseph M. Fiore, Sr.

The 2012 Citizen of the Year Award was given to long time Bethlehem resident Daniel Delgrosso.

The evening concluded with a short talk by Glenn Pettinato, the National President of UNICO. He stressed the important contributions that Italian Americans have made to America over the years and that we Italian Americans should be proud of our heritage.

Any citizen of Italian American heritage who wishes to become a member of the Bethlehem Chapter of UNICO should contact Gus Concilio, Membership Chairman, at (610) 866-7214 or e-mail him at MaryGusC@aol.com.



From left: Bethlehem Chapter President Tony Iasiello, New Members Rosanna Crisci, Antonia Gabrielli, Frank Trovato, Theresa Doria, John Spirk, Kathy Rich and Membership and Retention Director Mark McDade.

The deadline for the SEPTEMBER Edition of ComUNICO is Monday, August 20, 2012
Send Chapter news to the UNICO National Office at:
comunico@unico.org
ComUNICO will only accept high resolution digital photos and text in MS Word or in the body of an e-mail.

SECAUCUS, NJ

The Secaucus Chapter of Unico National presented Jennifer Lienhard and Nicholas Schaffer with UNICO National's Brian Piccolo Award. This award is presented to students who have shown outstanding athletic ability as well as maintaining a high grade-point average and most importantly showing good sportsmanship, leadership, and being good community servants.



From left: Athletic Director Charlie Voorhees, Jennifer Lienhard, Nicholas Schaffer, Coach Mike Vitulano, Secaucus UNICO President Debbie Santoro, and 1st Vice President Nancy Mateo.

The Secaucus High School Youth UNICO Club marched in the 3rd Annual Memorial Day Parade honoring Secaucus Chapter of UNICO Trustee Michael J. Marra who was the Grand Marshal. Michael J. Marra, a lifelong resident of nearly 80 years who helps run the family's iconic drug store and medical supply business, has been active in the community for decades through institutions like the Board of Education, UNICO, and the Knights of Columbus. He has five children, nine grandchildren and a great-grandchild.



Grand Marshal and UNICO Member Michael Marra served in World War II and is a Purple Heart recipient.



From left: Sangay Sherpa, Raymond Ramos, Bree Marra, Jennifer Jernstedt, Julia McClure, Samantha Vogel, Kendall Caruso and Michelle Malcolm.

SCHOLARSHIP



UNICO National Scholarship Report: Joan Tidona

The Scholarship Committee proudly presents the recipients of our 2012 UNICO National Awards featured in the centerfold on pages 24-25.

Our candidates demonstrated exceptional qualifications. The academic achievements, extra curricular activities and community service projects of these students are remarkable. All are worthy of recognition in their own right. Selecting the awardees was extremely difficult. Congratulations to every participant. We truly respect their accomplishments.

To ensure the integrity of our awards, judging is conducted as objectively as possible. Applications are anonymously screened by the Review Committee to determine completeness and academic qualifications. Finalists are then sent on to the judging committees. Chaired by a Scholarship Committee member, but composed of non-UNICAN professionals, judging committees in separate locations evaluate applications using prescribed criteria.

I want to recognize those who participated in the judging process:

Review Committee

Frank Gonnella, Lou Pandolfi, Gene Santoli

Judging Committee Chairpersons

Rose Anne Ceraso-Fritchie – Gentile Scholarship

Dr. Frank De Frank – Davini Scholarship

Samuel Adrignola – Miele Scholarship

Roseanne Buckleman – Mazza Scholarship

Sharon Thompson – Basilone Scholarship

Charles Russo – Cottone Scholarship

Maggie Prudente – Torracco Scholarship

Mille grazie to all Scholarship Committee members for their efforts to keep our program strong.

It is important we acknowledge the effort of chapters that submitted candidates. To review the application forms, making certain that all is in order, requires serious commitment. Thank you for your diligence in support of your nominees.

Sincere appreciation to UNICO Office Manager Patricia Pelonero and Administrative Assistant Lisa Adubato for all their help.

BRICK, NJ

The Brick Chapter of UNICO members became aware of a local high school football player who was diagnosed with cancer in October of 2010. Once the members of the Chapter found out about this courageous young man they were eager to help the young man Sean Martyn and his family.

A donation of \$500 was made on behalf of Brick UNICO to the Sean Martin Fund.

Please donate what you can to help lessen the strain of what Sean and his family are going through.

Thank you.

Donations can be made to the Sean Martyn Fund

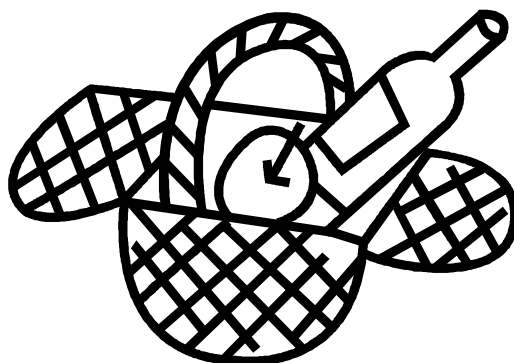
<http://www.seanmartynfund.org>



New Jersey District I Governor Grace Gynn and Brick President Joe Gironda enjoy a fun night of Poker.



From left: Tournament Winner Hassein Goodarz, Chapter Foundation President and Poker Chair Phil Terranova, and Chapter President Joe Gironda.



KEYSTONE, PA

The Keystone Chapter of UNICO National recently completed its third community service event. Preparing and serving a healthy meal at Saint Francis Kitchen are these Keystone Chapter UNICO volunteers who took time out to have a picture next to the Kitchen's Patron Saint, Saint Francis.



Front row from left: Nettie Wormuth, Keystone Chapter UNICO First Vice President; Mary DePalma and Event Chairperson Loree Jannicelli. Back row from left: kitchen volunteer and UNICO supporter Louise Poplarchick, Theresa Tropeano, Tom Carlucci and Austin and Ray Tropeano.

BROOKHAVEN, NY

Anthony Bocchimuzzo, President of the Brookhaven Chapter of UNICO National presented Louis Melfi from Eastport South-Manor High School, Nicole Danisi from Rocky Point High School, and Andrea Gabriellini from Patchogue-Medford High School, the winners of the \$1,000 Vincent Bove, Bibiana Bisagni, and Ralph Porciello Memorial Scholarships respectively. Louis will be traveling to SUNY Cortland in the fall, Nicole will be attending Stony Brook University, and Andrea will attend St. Joseph's College in Patchogue. The scholarship committee consists of Anthony Bocchimuzzo, Richard LaValle, Stephen Costa, Frank Lunati, Ed Duhon, and Peter Galluzzo. Chapter meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month.



From left: Anthony Bocchimuzzo, Nicole Danisi, Andrea Gabriellini, Louis Melfi and Mary Greco.

2011-2012 CALENDAR

National Convention

August 8-12, 2012

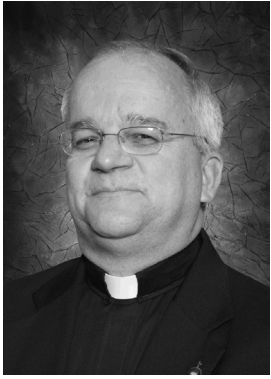
Marriott Resort & Spa-Marco Island, FL

Eastern Regional Meeting

November 2012

To Be Announced

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE



Chaplain's Message: Fr. Bob Wolfee

We live in a world that is marked by a desire for revenge: "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." It's a natural human tendency to want to retaliate when someone does something wrong to us. We want people to "get what's coming to them." Our human instincts tell us that enemies are to be confronted and defeated. However, when we choose to respond that way, we allow hatred into our lives. If we allow hatred to fester, it can fill us with negative energy, consuming us with vindictiveness, bitterness, disgust and even the desire to inflict injury.

Often, there seems to be an endless cycle of violence and retaliation. Jesus calls us to break the cycle of violence by not responding with violence. He asks us to love others, no matter the circumstances. He is our greatest example of someone who refused to retaliate against the evil done to him. He refused to condemn those who tortured and killed him. Instead, he poured out his divine mercy upon them. Jesus commands us to pray for those who persecute us, to be compassionate rather than to judge and to pardon rather than to condemn.

Every person is made in the image and likeness of God and is to be given the dignity of the children of God. True and lasting peace will never be achieved if the dignity of every human person is not respected. Even when someone hurts us, we must be willing to forgive. That does not mean that we make excuses for another person's wrongdoing or justify their actions. However, we must work toward forgiveness and reconciliation.

Our world would be a far better place if everyone actually lived by the motto, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." If we as individuals and as nations used that motto as a guide to all our actions, we might interrupt the cycle of violence and retaliation and come to enjoy real peace and happiness. There is no guarantee that our good actions will cause others to respond accordingly. In fact, those actions might still be met by opposition. Regardless, Jesus has challenged us to do the right thing. All that remains is our willingness to take up the challenge.

God bless.



FARMINGTON, CT

Serata Primavera, a Spring Social featuring Bocce, museum open house, and wine tasting, presented by UNICO of Farmington and Hill-Stead Museum, took place on Saturday, April 28. The proceeds from this event support Hill-Stead educational programming and UNICO scholarships to graduating seniors from Farmington and West Hartford High Schools.

In 1989 Aldo DeDominicis established a scholarship program in the name of Farmington UNICO that allows high school scholarship recipients to apply for further grants while in college. Lynette Badu from Farmington received a UNICO Scholarship in 2008. She is presently a junior at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Lynette has been awarded the Aldo DeDominicis Scholarship in 2009, 2010, and is a recipient for 2012. Deanna Siroonian from Farmington received a UNICO Scholarship in 2009. She is a sophomore at James Madison University, and was awarded the Aldo Scholarship in 2010 and again this year. Melanie Banks from West Hartford a sophomore at Marist College received a UNICO Scholarship in 2009 and was awarded the Aldo DeDominicis Scholarship this year. Melinda Phommalin from Farmington received a UNICO Scholarship in 2010. She is a freshman at the University of New Haven and has been awarded an Aldo DeDominicis Scholarship for 2012.



The Farmington Chapter of UNICO was founded in 1970. Farmington UNICO has awarded \$198,000 in scholarships to graduates of the Farmington and West Hartford High Schools. This year's recipients are from left: Aleksandr Shahnazaryan, Dagmara Sobczyk, Samantha Szewczyk, graduating from Farmington High School, and Hodo Jibril graduating from Hall High School.



Among those attending Serata Primavera were from left: Farmington UNICO members Enzo DeDominicis, Ray Lavendier, District Governor Brian Guarco, and Farmington UNICO members Joseph Mercaldi and Sal DiMauro.

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e-mail at comunico@unico.org**

SPARTA, NJ

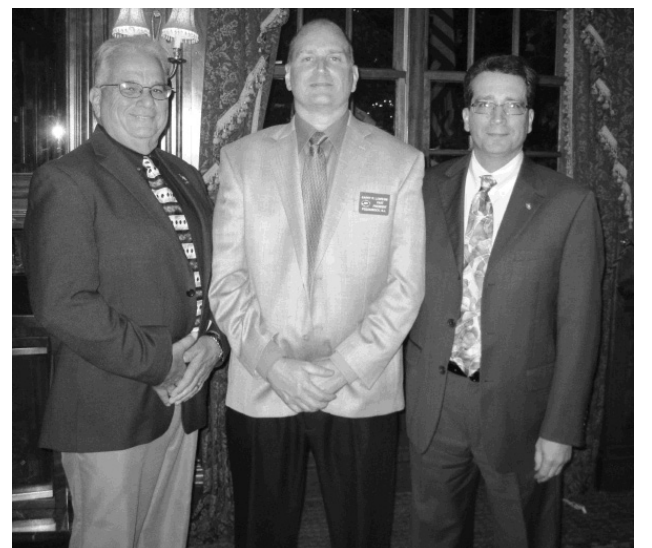
Sparta UNICO held this year's Bowl-a-Thon on April 22 at Sparta Lanes. The Chapter raised over \$3000 for our Foundation to be used for scholarships and aid to needy families. Special thanks to all who participated, worked and sponsored this exciting event. A very special thanks to our President Gary D'Uva who sold most of the sponsorships.



From left: Tom Cifelli, Fran Palmeri, Chapter President Gary D'Uva, Mike Schaff and Peter Trusio.

PEQUANNOCK, NJ

On June 3rd the Pequannock Chapter participated in the their 5th Wayne Day Event which is a town run affair at the Wayne High School with many different food vendors and games for the children, sausage and pepper sandwiches, zeppole, funnel cakes, Italian hot dogs and curly fries were Loved by ALL. For the 1st time our Chapter participated in this even jointly with the Wayne Chapter and it turned out to be our best year since 2008. I would like to give a special thank you to the Wayne Chapter who came out in full force and contributed immensely in this event, it was a pleasure working with you and we hope that we can continue to work these types of events together for the benefit of both of our Chapters.



Pequannock UNICO held their Annual Installation Dinner to swear in the new Board and the President. Pictured from left: Perry Russo past Chapter President and present District Governor; newly sworn in President Garry Legregni and past Chapter President Chuck Cavadini.



KEARNY, NJ

DINING TO DONATE NIGHT AT APPLEBEE'S

On Tuesday, April 17th, members of the Kearny Chapter, along with family and friends participated in a "Dining to Donate" fund raiser at Kearny Applebee's. Members enjoyed eating lunch or dinner or using Carside to Go and at the same time raised money for the Chapter's Scholarship Fund and other local charities. Applebee's donated ten percent of participants' food checks to the Chapter. The Kearny Chapter and the American Legion Post 99 also presented Applebee's with a plaque thanking Applebee's for their spirit of community involvement and for five years of support for their jointly sponsored Christmas Party for Mentally and Physically Challenged Individuals.



Kearny UNICO and the American Legion present a plaque to Applebee's for their spirit of community involvement and for five years of support of both organization's Christmas Party for Mentally and Physically Challenged Individuals. From left: Celeste Pandolfi, Libby McInnis, American Legion Commander Nino Capitti, Maria Quiroga accepting the plaque on behalf of Applebee's General Manager Matt Wifki, Kearny UNICO President Lou Pandolfi, Theresa Trucillo and Joe Sgalia.



Kearny UNICO Vice President Joe Sgalia and his wife Dottie and daughter Gina enjoy "Dining to Donate" Night at Kearny Applebee's.



Kearny UNICO members Theresa Trucillo and Libby McInnis enjoy an evening with their friends Patti, Carl and Sharon at "Dining to Donate" Night.

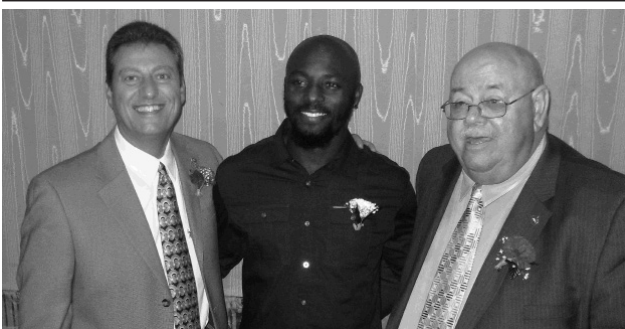
NEW JERSEY DISTRICT X

New Jersey District X held its 2012 Brian Piccolo Award ceremony at L'Affaire in Mountainside on a Friday evening. Special guests included legendary Brooklyn Dodger Pitcher Ralph Branca and New York Jets star Santonio Holmes.



From left: Past National President Renato Biribin, Plainfields' UNICO member Joseph Rea, Plainfields' UNICO President John DeAndrea, Piccolo Award winner Nicholas Annunziata, Plainfields' UNICO member Robert Bengivenga Jr., Piccolo Award Winner Gina Maria Longo, Plainfields' UNICO member Debbie Boyle, Piccolo Award winner Salvatore Mastrobattista Jr., Plainfields' UNICO member Robert Longo, and New Jersey District X Governor and Plainfields' UNICO member Robert Bengivenga.

CLARK, NJ



From left: President Ralph Bernardo, Jets Wide Receiver Santonio Holmes and Past District Governor Bill Hearon attend the Brian Piccolo Dinner.



Clark Chapter's oldest member Angie Spinella (96) stands to be recognized at the Brian Piccolo Dinner. Son and Chapter Treasurer Bob Spinella is on her right.



Clark Chapter members stand proud with their Brian Piccolo recipients Nick Mullery and Sarah Panetta. From left: Christian Kroyer, Vice President Antonio DeMeidieci, President Ralph Bernardo, Secretary George Abruzzo, Vera Abruzzo and Henry Varriano.



Clark Chapter sponsors Little League Girls Softball and Babe Ruth. Pictured with the Girls Softball Team are members Sam Liff and President Ralph Bernardo.



The Clark UNICO Chapter sponsored the women's team from the Clark Recreation Women's Softball League. Over 40 women participate in this non competitive league.



Clark Chapter Members gather for a group photo at the Memorial Day Parade in Clark.



Clark UNICO Chapter participated in the Clark Relay for Life on June 8th. Shown here are UNICO members at the UNICO booth enjoying good food and company. The Clark Chapter has been a proud sponsor of relay since its inception 5 years ago.

CONNECTICUT DISTRICT I



Connecticut I Past District Governor Peter Ciullo receives a Certificate of Achievement from Connecticut I District Governor Giuseppe Pampena in recognition of his sixty years of Service Above Self in the Chapter of Waterbury. Peter is the oldest living District Governor in Connecticut I. He has served UNICO as Chapter President, District Governor and many other positions at District and Chapter levels.

ANSONIA/DERBY, CT

ANSONIA/DERBY SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

The Ansonia-Derby Chapter held its Annual Scholarship Dinner on June 13th. Over 75 people attended the dinner and feasted on Pasta e Fagioli, Tossed Salad, Macaroni in Meat Sauce, Roasted Chicken, Porketta and Potatoes!! This 9 Member Chapter awarded over \$3,000 in Scholarships to 6 students. Funds are raised primarily through their Monthly Porketta Dinners which are run by President Dave Cassetti and his family. Next time you are in Connecticut, plan to attend this tasty dinner which is held the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September to June!!!!



National Secretary Francine Nido, Connecticut I District Governor Giuseppe Pampena and Connecticut I District Officers Past District Governor Dr. Joanne D'Angelo, Deputy District Governor Tony Lancia and Secretary Linda Lanza joined Ansonia/Derby President Dave Cassetti.

**Have you filed your 990
with the IRS?**

IN MEMORIAM

Aldo E. Alleva, Sr. Esq. passed away June 11, 2012. Devoted husband of Louise-Doris. Beloved father of Aldo E. Jr. and John. Cherished grandfather of Angelina and Jonathan, Giani and Kevin. Also survived by loving daughters-in-law, Frances and Nelly, brothers, Albert and the late Paul, Italo "Tony", Edward, sisters Anna and Louise. Mr. Alleva was a long time member of the Brooklyn II Chapter of UNICO National.

NORTHERN CHESAPEAKE, MD

The Northern Chesapeake Chapter of UNICO held its Second Annual Brian Piccolo Award breakfast on April 29, 2012 at The Hilton Garden Inn in White Marsh, Maryland. The event was chaired by Dolores Rockstroh and co-chaired by Krista Di Paula. The guest speaker was Mr. Don Piccolo who addressed the packed room and the three recipients and coaches. He related many poignant moments of growing up with Brian and his never quit attitude. He wished the recipients well and told them to go out and use Brian's spirit in their lives and accomplish things they thought they could not. The second Guest Speaker was Bob Oplinger, Brian's roommate at Wake Forest. Bob through colorful vignettes also related great moments he shared with Brian and how much Brian had made a difference in his life and attitude to achieve and succeed, going from 2nd string to 1st string because of Brian's mentoring. He told the recipients that their achievements in high school had lived up to the attitude Brian displayed in sports and asked that they continue that spirit in college and life to further succeed and follow the "win/never give up" attitude Brian blessed us with.

The recipients were well deserving of the accolades and proved to be smart, charming, and having a strong tie to their Italian family values. Their essays were proof that they valued their Italian heritage and warm family love it created. Their achievements proved they have the competitive attitude of "never giving up" while at the same time being charismatic. The Candidates were all worthy of recognition as they also demonstrated through their community services the sense of belonging, not only in family and school, but also in society at large. Congratulations to Erika Armetta and Coach Michael Daniel, Annemarie Liberatore and Athletic Director Heather Monroe and Katelin Mazingo and Athletic Director Michael Hollandsworth for a job well done.



From left: Bob Oplinger, 2012 recipients Katelin Mazingo, Erika Armetta and Annamarie Libertore and member Mike Gallo.



Don Piccolo, Brian's brother speaks at Northern Chesapeake's Brian Piccolo Award Breakfast.



Bob Oplinger, Brian's roommate at Wake Forest speaking at the Brian Piccolo Award Breakfast.



Dolores Rockstroh Chair of the Brian Piccolo Award Breakfast for 2012.

PITTSFIELD, MA

Pittsfield Chapter's April Business/Dinner Meeting

The Pittsfield Chapter was very fortunate to have some very distinguished guests at its April 16th business/dinner meeting. Sal Benvenuti and Pat Pelonero from UNICO National were in attendance as well as Terry LaTaglia, Past President of the Agawam Chapter as well as Past District Governor and Mauro DiClementi, Past President of the West Springfield Chapter as well as Past District Governor. Everyone enjoyed the camaraderie and excellent meal of chicken parmigiana and pasta provided by the Trattoria proprietors, the Arace family.

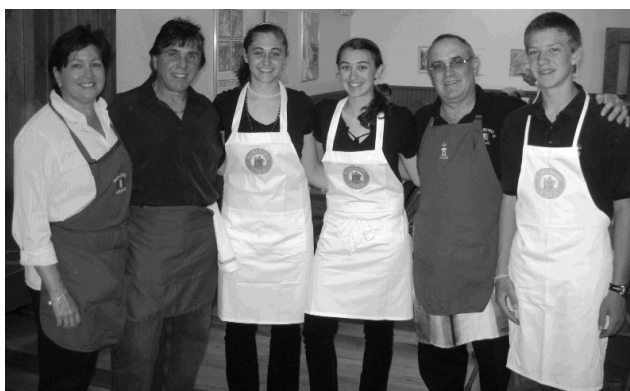


From left: Chapter President Kevin Dondi, UNICO National representatives Pat Pelonero and Sal Benvenuti.

MARLBORO, NY

Marlboro UNICO 24th Annual St. Joseph's Day Feast

The Marlboro Chapter of UNICO National held its 24th Annual St. Joseph's Day Feast on Saturday April 21 at St. Mary's Hall. This year's event was attended by over 240 hungry people who were treated to a menu of: Italian Antipasto, hot peppers, fennel, lentil soup, rigatoni in a creamy red sauce with peas, meatballs and sausage, pork loin stuffed with spinach, asparagus, traditional St. Joseph pastry, espresso and wine. Italian music was played by a local band. Event chairman Jerry Amoroso reported that over \$3000 was raised in support of the local charitable activities UNICO provides for the community. The St. Joseph's feast started over 24 years ago as an opportunity for UNICO to give back to the community. The event has continued to grow to the current yearly sold out dinner. Next year marks the 25th Anniversary of UNICO's St. Joseph's feast and the planning is already in process to make it a very special night. Marlboro UNICO would like to thank the wives, girlfriends and children who volunteer to be servers. Marlboro UNICO would also like to express a huge THANK YOU to the local businesses who support the event raffle. Without the support of these merchants we would not be able to continue our charitable support for the community. Chapter members do all the cooking, setup and cleanup for this event and it is a labor of love for all who participate. The Chapter is looking forward to next's year 25th Anniversary event, so plan now as tickets will be hard to come by.



From left: Kathy Guarino, Vic Rossi, Danielle and Gina Martuscello, Russ Parks and Woody Biggin.



Standing from left: John Bellucci, Steve Runberg, Joe Noto, Anthony Andola, Rich Geretine, Jerry Amoroso, John Demarco, Alan Guarino, Don Holzhhammer, Dan Martuscello, Frank Lasusa. Kneeling: Dave Zambito and Jeff Mekeel.

"You may have the world, if I may have Italy" - Giuseppe Verdi



Lenny Scaturro and John Demarco prepare a feast.

ST. LOUIS, MO

The St. Louis Chapter of UNICO held our 2012 Alphonse Lardo Memorial Golf Classic Four-Person Team Scramble on Monday, May 14th at Norwood Hills Country Club in St. Louis, Missouri. Immediately following golf a buffet dinner was served, both live and silent auctions were held and tournament prizes were awarded. We had a great turn out and everyone enjoyed a great day of golf and the weather was perfect!



St. Louis member Gabriele Lancia and Emily Ferrante help prepare for lunch.



St. Louis members Jim Ferrante, Joseph Palazzo and Paul Urzi are pictured making Salsiccia and Chicken Sandwiches for lunch.



St. Louis member Jim Ferrante welcomes and thanks golfers, members and guests for their support and participation in this year's golf event. Jim then introduces the St. Louis Chapter President Vincenzo Monteleone.

BOOK REVIEW



I Take Thee, Angela: a Life in Poetry By Guglielmo Reviewed by Fran DePalma-Iozzi

Angela and Guglielmo got married.

Angela died of cancer.

In between these two facts, there was a life well-lived. That is the subject of these poems.

These are rhyming poems, often written in iambic meter with seven "feet" to a line. And the poems tell a story of love, marriage, children, joy, sorrow, life and death. It is difficult to tell a story in rhyme without some of the rhymes seeming forced. Apart from a few lines, the rhyming is well-wrought. Some, although simply stated, give us a jolt of recognition:

Our life became a railroad track.

Down to the doctor's, then drive back.

Others express a sadness that we can also imagine for ourselves:

I know it's wrong to say it, but I never thought you'd die

A silly thought you might say, but I still wonder why.

At least I never thought you'd die enduring so much pain.

My tears just keep on falling like a thunderous summer rain.

They say time heals all kinds of wounds and it will be all right.

But they don't know the pain I feel, so deep within my heart.

Missing you just takes away the joy each day should bring.

The songs I used to love to hear, I can no longer sing.

I read this book in one sitting. The story follows the outline of many lives---from young love through illness, recovery and relapse---told with the author's ability to access his emotions and express them well. The book ends with Guglielmo (we do not know his last name) still experiencing the throes of great sadness. As one grows older, the sentiments expressed here have a stronger meaning. I recommend this book to all who have loved or have been loved.

Order online at www.xlibris.com, www.amazon.com, www.barnesandnoble.com, or visit your local bookstore.



WATERBURY, CT

The Waterbury Chapter of UNICO National held its 90th Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner Tuesday, May 22nd at LaBella Vista/Ponte Club in Waterbury. Eight students of Italian American descent that either live in or attend Waterbury High Schools received \$1,000 awards. This year's awardees are: Jenna Bouffard, John Egan, Michael Ianniello and Adam Quicquaro from Holy Cross High; Tayler Minter and Gina Petrillo from Kennedy High; and Melissa Flammia and Cassandra Petrocelli from Sacred Heart High. The program featured Dr. Raeleen D'Agostino Mautner, author and radio host, as the keynote speaker. UNICO is the largest Italian American Service Organization in the United States and was founded in Waterbury, Connecticut in 1922. Scholarships are funded by donations and yearly fund raisers.



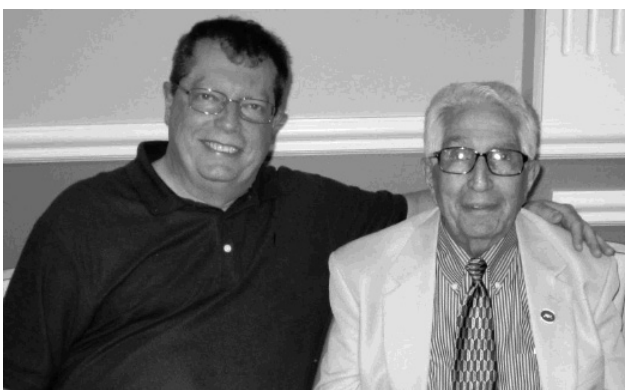
From left: Waterbury Mayor Neil O'Leary, Waterbury Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kathleen M. Ouellette, Waterbury UNICO President Frank Travisano, Presenter Dr. Raeleen D'Agostino Mautner, and Scholarship Chairman Dr. Carmine Paolino.



From left: 2012 Waterbury UNICO Scholarship Recipients Cassandra Petrocelli, Melissa Flammia, Tayler Minter, Gina Petrillo, Jenna Bouffard, John Egan, Michael Ianniello and Adam Quicquaro.



From left: UNICANs Joe and Connie Lanza, Bill Summa, Lou Gelada, Linda Lanza and Nicki and Dawn Maiorano.



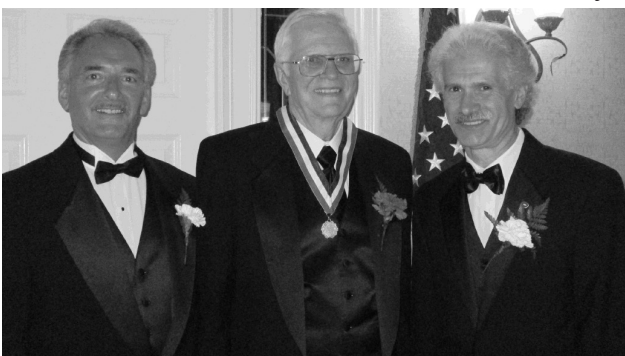
UNICANs Tim Clark and Sarino Costa.



UNICANs Fran and Frank DePaola.

SOUTHINGTON, CT

The Southington Chapter of UNICO hosted their 67th Annual Gold Medal of Honor banquet on May 16, 2012 held at the Aqua Turf Club. Each year a recipient is selected by UNICO Gold Medal Selection Committee co-chaired by longtime UNICO members William DellaVecchia, Mark Sciota Joe Laporte, Carl Verderame, Ralph Campochiaro, Marc Ingriselli, Carmine Votino, Michael Fasulo, Dave Mastrianni, Mario Izzo and Phil Pomposi. This person exemplifies his/her contributions to civic enterprise and community progress through humanitarian conduct, religious endeavor, youth activities and assistance, charitable endeavors, progressive ideals and expressions, betterment of education and citizenry and cultural growth. This year's recipient was Carl J. Sokolowski, an outstanding Southington citizen and humanitarian. Carl is a practicing attorney, former Judge of Probate and our Town Historian -- just to name a few. With the many accomplishments throughout his life, he truly exemplifies the UNICO motto of "Service Above Self". He was recognized for his outstanding citizenship. Our congratulations to Carl, his wife Melita and his family.



From left: Mark Mongillo, Chairman, Past President; Carl J. Sokolowski, Gold Medal of Honor Award recipient and Luigi Barbato, President.

OUR STORY

A Great Italian American Hero

Anthony Peronace, born in Calabria, Italy in 1891 came to America at 13. Like most Italian American immigrants, he settled in Little Italy. He rented a small apartment above a music store where he worked for many years composing and writing Italian sheet music.

At 26, he entered the United States Army. As a member of the 4th Infantry, 3rd Division, he participated in all battles, including, Chateau Thierry, Belleau Wood, Argonne Forest and St. Mihiel. Single-handedly, he captured a machine gun-nest, wounding 15 Germans, killing 4 and capturing 8 prisoners. He was wounded and gassed.

After this engagement, he was promoted to Sergeant which was an incredible accomplishment for an Italian American during that time period. In the presence of General Pershing, he received the Cruix de Guerre Medal, France's highest military award. He is also the recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, presented to him by President Woodrow Wilson at the same ceremony with Sergeant York.

Other medals include the Victory Medal, New York State Victory Army Medal for Service, the Conspicuous Service Cross, the Medaille de la Marine and the Purple Heart.

Married for 50 years, he had one daughter, two granddaughters and was able to enjoy two great-grandchildren. He was humble, unpretentious and never spoke about his valiancy, nor were his medals ever displayed.

When his daughter passed away, his medals were discovered. On March 31, 2012, the family donated these precious medals to the Italian American Museum in Little Italy. And here, Anthony Peronace will now get the admiration and recognition he so deserves.

The irony of it all is that the Museum is located across the street from the music store where Anthony once lived and worked almost 100 years ago. It is almost like this "**Great Italian American Hero**" and his spirit were going home.



Submitted by Anne Tredici, Anthony Peronace's granddaughter.

HERITAGE & CULTURE



**Sal Mangano
Chair**

The Italian Experience in America

Italian Americans in this country are reaching new milestones every year. Today American people of Italian heritage have moved up the ladder to almost every peak available. Italian Americans have become entertainers, entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers, CEOs, sports figures, etc. We have a proud history in America.

Yet our heritage is in danger of being put aside as only a part of the so-called white ethnicity. Not too long ago, ethnicity meant the country you came from. (Italy, Germany, China, Ireland, India, Etc.) Today they call all people of the white race an ethnic group. Chinese, Indian, Japanese etc. are called Asian. All Spanish speaking people are called Hispanic. All people of color are called African.

The revisionists of the world and its history are making a mockery of all ethnicities. You cannot clump all people of one race into one ethnic group. It is obvious that people of different ethnic backgrounds have different customs and ideas. Those ways cannot be changed by revision.

That said; I would like to discuss the true meaning in this report:

The initial Italian experience in America is very important to us, as second, third and fourth generation Italian Americans. We must never forget the experiences of our parents and grandparents and what they encountered in this new world that they came to.

Most Italians who came here knew very little of the world outside of their villages. Some had only 2nd and 3rd grade educations. Many of them spoke only the dialect of their villages and could not read or write any language. Some never ventured outside of their home towns until they moved to America. They moved into the large cities of the eastern United States, into neighborhoods filled with Italians from all over Italy and other ethnic groups. There were Italians in these new neighborhoods that spoke different dialects. Some so different they were not understandable. They encountered people of different religions, (Jewish and Protestant). Even their beloved Roman Catholic Church was different here with its Irish flavour.

Their world as they knew it had changed forever. They had to learn a whole different life style. This was the beginning of the Italian experience in America.

As more and more Italians came here, Italian neighborhoods grew in just about every large city in the United States. They were called "Little Italy." Some of them still prevail today. In these neighborhoods, Italians were able to live a life style somewhat similar to that which they left in Italy. Here they were able to speak their own language

with most of the neighbors. They were able to establish their own Italian Catholic parishes with priests of Italian heritage. They were able to shop in stores that sold Italian products that they were used to in the old country. For many of these new Americans, life became a little easier.

But Americanization was unstoppable and undeniable. It came through education, and working amongst those of other ethnicities and religions. The children of these Italian immigrants were schooled in America, became friends with children of other ethnicities and in some cases, married mates from other ethnicities. These were all experiences that began the Americanization of the Italian population.

As years went by, many of these immigrants found the American dream to be accessible. They were able to build businesses. The earliest of these enterprises were barbershops, shoemaker shops, bakeries, produce and delicatessen stores. They went into the building trades, and became stone masons, carpenters, painters and laborers. They were industrious people and were not afraid to work hard. In time they established their own trade companies. Many became very successful. They now had the money to buy a piece of property to call their own. They were able to move into better neighborhoods and establish themselves in the communities as good citizens. Many of them began to venture into local politics and found success.

As the children of Italian immigrants continued to be educated, they started to establish themselves in the professional fields. They became medical doctors, lawyers, accountants, etc. In many cases it was not easy because of the prejudice that was so prevalent during those times in this country. Many Italian American medical students had to go abroad to study medicine because of the discrimination that prevailed in America. Others were not accepted in the Ivy League Universities and had to attend smaller institutions. This did not deter them. They were intent on reaching success and successful they became.

Today many of the old neighborhoods are gone. Most of the original Italian immigrants have passed on to their just rewards. Their children and grandchildren are the products of the sacrifices that they made.

Italian Americans today can be found in just about every important field in America. We should be very proud of ourselves. We must never forget where we came from and how our parents and grandparents worked to make a better life for them and for us and for our children and grandchildren.

This is why we must work to preserve our rich Italian heritage, culture and language. Most importantly, this is why we must work to stop the revisionists and their agendas. Every ethnic group should be allowed to show pride in their heritage. America is a mosaic of many people of different races and ethnicities.

Let us not forget!

GOT FACEBOOK?

If you have any questions about social media or want your event posted on Facebook, please contact the National Office at uniconational@unico.org

KEARNY, NJ

Kearny UNICO Supports Project Graduation

On Friday, April 27th, Kearny Chapter President Lou Pandolfi presented a five hundred dollar donation check to Steve Dyl, President of Kearny Project Graduation and Kearny High School Principal Dr. Cynthia Baumgartner during a "lull in the action" at the Project Graduation fund raising volleyball games. Assisting Mr. Pandolfi with the presentation was his wife, Celeste who is also Chapter Secretary and Judy Hyde. Mrs. Hyde is also a member of the Project Graduation Committee. Project Graduation raises over \$25,000 every year to provide a safe and alcohol-free post commencement celebration for Kearny High School graduates.



From left: Judy Hyde, Dr. Cynthia Baumgartner, Steve Dyl, Lou Pandolfi and Celeste Pandolfi.

ISLIP/SMITHTOWN, NY

For the past nine years, the Islip/Smithtown Chapter has made Annual Easter Bunny visits on Holy Thursday to the Pediatrics Floor at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Islip, New York. This year, as in years past, the Bunny and her helpers gave out stuffed bunnies and crayons with sketch paper. Islip/Smithtown's Bunny Brigade is very happy to give and is very happily received by Good Samaritan staff. It's a very rewarding couple of hours to see smiling children during a time when they all should be home waiting for the Easter Bunny. The Chapter wishes to extend a very special thank you to Dr. Catherine Caronia, Mrs. Joan Alpers, Kate Fenton and Nancy Kennedy for allowing us these special visitations with their children every year.



Chapter Member, Roseann Iavarone (Bunny), greets patients and parents in Good Samaritan Hospital's Pediatric "Sun Room /Playroom".

MEMBERSHIP AND RETENTION



**Membership
and Retention
Director
Mark McDade**

The Convention

By now, it is mid-summer. Most UNICO members will either be on vacation, just getting back from one or planning one. But, there will be a strong contingent of us that will be in our final planning for the 90th UNICO Convention at Marco Island. I hope you are among us. A whole lot goes on at these conventions and any and all UNICO Members are encouraged to attend and participate in all the decision making of this great organization. For those who are not coming to this year's convention, please consider coming to next year's.

This Year's Expectations

This time of the year is when a whole lot of planning is done for the coming year. You, the individual member, are and can be a part of that planning. You should be keeping your leaders on their toes and offering your help and suggestions for upcoming events. This is the time to start planning for October, the High Holy Days for Italians everywhere. Now is the time to plan for your Membership Drives, Heritage Nights, Christmas, Thanksgiving and Easter Projects, Pasta Dinners, Bus Trips, Columbus Day Events, Piccolo Presentations, UNICAN of the Year Events, Fund raisers of all kinds (read your ComUNICO), UNICO National's Service Day Projects etc.

Who To Go To

Are you or your Chapter in need of Advice? Do you have important questions that need to be answered for your personal satisfaction or the continued operation of your Chapter? Do you think you are alone out there? No matter what your position is in UNICO, you only have to turn to the wisdom of an older UNICO Member, a nearby Chapter, Your District Governor, your Regional Governor, numerous National Officers and our UNICO Office. UNICO Officers should participate in UNICO Conference calls when they are available. Having done so myself with both President Pettinato and 2nd Vice President D'Arminio, I have witnessed first-hand their value. Whether you need to know how to collect dues, properly fill out a UNICO Report or application, conduct a Membership Drive or an Italian Heritage Program, run a fund raising event or a service project, all you have to do is get on the telephone or your e-mail. In most cases the answers are only minutes away. If the person you go to cannot answer your question, they will surely advise you who to go to. All you have to do is ask!

New Members

Speaking of "Asking", when was the last time YOU asked someone to join UNICO. For examples: a day doesn't go by that our 2nd Vice President Rick D'Arminio doesn't ask someone to join his Chapter or directs them to another Chapter; Expansion Director Tom Vaughan brought in his wife and son to his Chapter. Pennsylvania II Past District Governor Peter Noto from the new Keystone

Chapter is still bringing in new members. I never skip the opportunity to sell UNICO and neither should you. Who knows how many new members these new members will bring into UNICO. One to one contact is the tried and true method of getting new members. Let us all get out there and sell UNICO National to our communities and build up our Membership. Let's double our membership by ALL of us bringing in a new member.

LYNDHURST, NJ

The Lyndhurst Chapter of UNICO celebrated Community Service Day by holding a "Brown Bag" at the local Senior Housing Development in Lyndhurst. We had 2 Registered Pharmacist's attend and provide medication reviews for those who wished to discuss their medications. We also served them lunch and dessert. It was a great day for all.



Top from left: Members Al and Carmela Somma, Pharmacist Walter Cifuentes, Member and Pharmacist Damien Hirsch. Bottom from left: Somma grandkids Josh and Scarlet, Member Mary Eaudola, Member Kay Garbarini, and President Patty Hirsch.



From left: Vice President Mark Fiume, Pharmacist Walter Cifuentes, and Member Pharmacist Damien Hirsch.

The Lyndhurst Chapter of UNICO held their Annual Pasta Dinner on Sunday May 6, 2012. The Pasta Dinner consists of Pasta, Meatballs, Sausage, Bread, Salad and Dessert. The Chapter served over 100 dinners. Each

year we surpass our amount from the year before. The proceeds from this dinner go to the Chapter Scholarship Fund. We are thankful to all that helped make this event successful and special.



Vice President Mark Fiume and Member Al Somma making the gravy and pasta.



Top from left: Vice President Mark Fiume, Member Damien Hirsch and President Patty Hirsch. Bottom from left: Members Kay Garbarini, Mary Eaudola, Phil Garbarini, and Al Somma.



Members Damien, Mary and Patricia Hirsch and their cousins enjoy the Sunday dinner.



The Lyndhurst Chapter of UNICO canned in front of the Lyndhurst ShopRite on Saturday May 12, 2012. The proceeds from our can go to UNICO Charities. Pictured canning is Vice President Mark Fiume and Member Carmela Somma.

SOUTHINGTON, CT

The Annual Southington Chapter Golf Tournament was held on May 23rd and entertained 116 golfers and had the support of over 80 sponsors. Lunch and dinner on the course cooked by our own members and good weather made for a successful day. Students from the local high school Unified Sports team associated with the Special Olympics were on hand to help. Our work raising funds to keep their program alive is a rewarding experience. Providing for these kids fulfills our mission perfectly and we are proud to be a major supporter.



Chapter Member Ralph Campochiaro is pictured with members of Unified Sports Kids.

SCRANTON, PA



Lackawanna County Commissioner and Scranton Chapter Member Patrick M. O'Malley presents proclamations to members of the three "Race of the Saints" teams at the Annual St. Ubaldo festival. From left: Sean Pickard, St. George; Rodney Passeri, St. Ubaldo; Tony Santarelli, St. Anthony; Commissioner O'Malley; and Eugene Stankosky, primo capitano of the race.

The DEADLINE for the September Edition of ComUNICO is Monday, August 20, 2012

Send Chapter news to the UNICO National Office: comunico@unico.org

Please call (973) 808-0035 with any questions.

SAN DIEGO, CA

San Diego UNICO Participates in the Annual Sicilian Festival

The 19th Annual Sicilian Festival was held in San Diego's Little Italy on May 20. The streets were filled with thousands of attendees experiencing the many unique and entertaining musical attractions, chef demonstrations, heritage and cultural displays as well as the many vendors serving delicious food items and Italian themed merchandise. San Diego UNICAN Giovanna Di Bona along with a contingent of marching musicians from the Roman Holiday Band led the traditional and colorful flag parade. Nonstop entertainment on five stages provided everyone with a variety of Italian themed music. A dedicated Opera stage, a singing soprano chef, and an "Accordion Mania" stage featured some of San Diego's finest squeeze box performers all day long. The Sicilian Band from Los Angeles was back for its traditional appearance at the festival. Sicilian Swing kept the stage going with some fine renditions of Italian music ala Django swing style. Roman Holiday played a lively set which included Sicilian tunes such as, Viti na Crozza, Si Maritau Rosa, La'mure Siciliano, and Sicilian Tarantella. This year, Alessandra Belloni performed her "Tarantella is the Cure" show which was without a doubt a very interesting and folkloristic musical and dance presentation. From New York, soprano, Cristina Fontanelli delighted the audiences with her operatic renditions of Italian favorites. The musical day was topped off by the fabulous "Screamin' Primas" helping the audience re-live the jumping, jiving music of Sicilian American, Louie Prima. The highlight of the day was the presentation of baby, Amelia, born to Tony and Dianna Tripoli this April. She was brought in with a 1930's carriage while the band played Shiuri Shiuri. Everyone gathered around the carriage while Giovanna led the audience to "That's Amore." Tony and Dianna were actually married on stage at the 2010 Sicilian Festival. San Diego UNICO members Bernadette Tarantino, Giovanna and Tony Di Bona are the producers of this spectacular event. Visit the website at www.sicilianfesta.com.

The San Diego Chapter of UNICO staffed a membership booth at the Sicilian Festival and made contact with hundreds of Italian Americans.



From left: Bill Corwin, San Diego UNICAN Tony Di Bona and Carabinieri Vincenzo Russo entertain visitors at the 2012 Sicilian Festival.

The San Diego Chapter of UNICO presented two scholarships for \$2000 each to local graduating high school seniors. The event took place on Sunday, May 27 in the Starlight Ballroom

of the Bristol Court Hotel. The Brian Piccolo Athlete-Scholar Award was presented to Kayla Rose Murphy of Mira Mesa High School. Kayla will become a *Duck* at the University of Oregon. The Anthony Furlano Scholarship Award was presented to Danielle Antoinette D'Annibale of Scripps Ranch High School. Danielle is off to become a *Golden Bear* at UC Berkeley. UNICAN and hotel general manager Greg Rizzi even arranged for the roof of the Starlight Ballroom to be opened up for our banquet so our scholars could truly bask in the moon glow!



San Diego Chapter President Matteo Risi served as the Master of Ceremonies for the Brian Piccolo Awards Dinner.



From left: Brian Piccolo Athlete-Scholar Kayla Rose Murphy and Anthony Furlano Scholar- Danielle Antoinette D'Annibale.



San Diego Chapter UNICANs enjoyed the Brian Piccolo Dinner. From left: Patty Mical, Joanna Poma, Princess Boyka Pavlova Zaneva, Joseph Pieri and Leonard Poma.



Members of San Diego worked at the warehouse of Feeding America and helped to distribute food donations from retailers to food banks. From left: New members Charles and Alicia Vecchio, Marianne Lalli-Regan, Franca Di Tommaso, Roger Maury and Western Regional District Governor Chair Jim DeSpenza.

UNICO NATIONAL CALENDAR

Our Anti-Bias Committee (ABC) is the Anti-Defamation arm of UNICO National.

- The ABC was founded to fight the stereotyping of Italian Americans by the entertainment, advertising and news industries and to foster a positive image of Italian Americans.
- The ABC monitors the entertainment, advertising and news industries, contacts offending parties by e-mail, letter and/or telephone and networks with other Italian American organizations so that they can protest with one united voice against each outrage against our heritage, culture and character. ABC was responsible for H. Res. 367. This resolution would urge the people of the United States to observe October of each year as Italian and Italian American Heritage Month.
- Through its "Mille Grazie Award" program the ABC honors those individuals and institutions that speak out against negative stereotyping and promote a positive image of Italian Americans, and informs the media about their achievements.
- Through our Italian and Italian American Heritage Calendar we want to make the public aware of the many contributions made by Italian Americans and Italians around the world.
- By having our chapters distribute our calendars to schools, universities, libraries, museum organizations, members, students, we will be sharing our heritage, improving our image and promoting UNICO National.
- To make people aware of the many struggles Italians and Italian Americans have faced.
- The calendar will counter the entertainment industry's continuous negative portrayal of Italian Americans.
- This Calendar Project can be UNICO National's legacy as well as our legacy to instill pride in our children and grandchildren.

We need Calendar Sponsors and Boosters!

Sponsors and Booster Distribution

Back Page Sponsor	\$2000	4 Cases
(400 Heritage Calendars)...Postage paid by ABC		
Monthly Sponsor	\$1000	3 Cases
(300 Heritage Calendars)...Postage paid by ABC		
Booster	\$200	50 Copies
of the Heritage Calendar		
Anti-Bias Donation	\$200	50 Copies
of the Heritage Calendar		
Anti-Bias Donation	\$100	25 Copies
of the Heritage Calendar		
Everyone else must either pay for postage or pick up at the UNICO National Office.		

Distribution to UNICO Chapter

Each UNICO Chapter will receive a copy for each member. Chapters are responsible for pick up or postage. This is a gift from UNICO National and the Anti-Bias Committee. Sales of additional calendars, sponsors, booster and those that donate to the ABC can purchase a case of 100 for \$100 plus postage. Non-UNICANs can purchase a case of 100 for \$200 plus postage. Single copies are \$6, which includes postage.

"V" FOUNDATION



**Frank Paolercio
"V" Chairman**

Convention time is upon us and the opportunity to do the business of UNICO and enjoy the camaraderie of good friends.

This year's was an exciting effort to reach our goal of \$ 50,000.00 for Cancer Research for Lung Cancer was completed by a grand fund raiser by the Varsalona family in Kansas City.

UNICO and I congratulate the efforts of all and the diversity of fund raisers (walk-a-thons, bowl-a-thons, bocce tournaments, tricky trays & more) to raise monies to "HELP FIND A CURE".

Our Grant this year will be for Pediatric Cancer Research at *St. Jude Children's Hospital*, Memphis, Tennessee. The Memorial Grant will be in the name of John Grisanti a pass member of the Memphis Chapter.

Please continue your support and have a Great and Healthy summer.

Please note:

New Jersey District XI will have their annual Bocce Tournament to raise funds for cancer research on Sunday, September 16th at Montville Community Park. All 4 person teams are invited with the Scranton Chapter coming to defend last year's title.

Everyone is welcome to play or enjoy the day. No charge to guests.

Included:

9AM-Coffee, juice, buns and bagels will be served at Registration.

10AM-Games begin

12PM on picnic

Face painter free for kids.

State of the art playground

Prizes and more



UNICO NATIONAL

Bocce Series for Cancer Research

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th, 2012

Montville Community Park

Changebridge Road, Montville, NJ

Registration 9 AM - Games Begin 10 AM

Prizes Awarded

(4) Four Person Teams

\$200.00 Team Entree Fee • All Invited

Sponsor or Team Name

Player 1. _____

Player 2. _____

Player 3. _____

Player 4. _____

All Donations Appreciated

Name	Amount \$
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

Sponsors Wanted:

Courts: \$500 Score Boards: \$150

Event Sponsor: \$5,000

Included

Refreshments • State of the Art Playground For Children

• Giveaways & More

Checks Payable to: **UNICO**

Mail to: Santo Baretta, 113 Harrison Avenue,

Roseland, NJ 07068

"Help Find A Cure"

Sponsored by UNICO New Jersey District XI

For Further Information:

Frank Paolercio 908-531-4379

Frank Suppa 973-650-0703

Benito Catanzariti 862-703-0231



ORANGE/WEST ORANGE, NJ



From left: Nurys and Joe Paci, Terri and Glenn Pettinato and Frank Paolercio attend the Orange/West Orange Installation Dinner.



National President Glenn Pettinato swears in Chapter President Ken Broderick as his wife Cindy looks on.

UNICO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

As a new feature/returning feature to ComUNICO we will be spotlighting the new Members added since our last edition. We apologize in advance for anyone missed, or names misspelled. If you notice a new member missing or name misspelled, please notify the National Office.

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.

MAY

BETHLEHEM

Antonia Gabrielli
Frank J. Trovato

BLOOMFIELD

Michael Maglione
Kara Pontrelli

CEDAR GROVE

Todd Levine

GREATER RAMSEY

Nancy Napolitano

HAPPY VALLEY

Danielle Callen
Alessandra Cioffi
Cassandra Zito

HAZLETON

Nino Campagna
Frank Diccicco
Robert Vincent Kovacsics, Sr.

KANSAS CITY

William La Manno
Brian J. Sandridge
Frank Termini
Anthony L. Tocco

LIVINGSTON

Al Anthony
Lori Anthony

LONGMEADOW

Mark A. Flavin

MERRIMACK VALLEY

Ralph D. Barbarallo
John V. Benvenuto
Santo Branto
Peter J. Caruso
Joseph P. Di Blasi

NEWBURGH

Jonathan T. Engel

NORTH SHORE

Gino Parente

ORANGE/WEST ORANGE

Diane Tomasello

PITTSFIELD

Mario DeMartino

ROSETO

Rose Martino

SPRINGFIELD

Philip J. Mantoni
Alfonso W. Nardi
Dominic Sarno

UNION

Fiorenzo Costa
Victoria Ann Lodato

WATERBURY

Jenna Bouffard
John Egan
Melissa Flammia
Michael Ianniello
Miniter Taylor
Gina Petrillo
Kassandra Petrocelli
Adam Quicquaro



JUNE

BETHLEHEM

Pietra Liotti
William Poretta
Kathleen Rich

CHICAGO SOUTH

Edwin Harder

CHICAGO WEST SUBURBAN

Donato Ancona

ELIZABETH

Robin A. Piervinanzi
Giacomo Sacca
Louise Santoli
Vito Tropeano
Linda K. Villani

FAIRFIELD

John M. Fiore, Jr.
Louis M. Mauriello

GREATER BINGHAMTON

Angela L. Skorko

HILLSIDE

Thomas J. Trela

ISLIP/SMITHTOWN

Matthew Bernardo
Julia Boitano
Matthew Buckleman
Christopher James Carmo
Josephine Franco
Megan Leun
Thomas Sapienza
Taylor Patricia Trentadue
Tina Nicole Veilson

ORANGE/WEST ORANGE

Joseph C. Di Lorenzo

PASSAIC VALLEY

Elizabeth De Venio
Frank Giangrande
Nicholas Pezzano
Melissa Radke
Peter Rendina
Marta Saputo
Jasmine Sconciaforno
Brianna Smith

SAN ANTONIO

Penny L. Caschera
Romeo Caschera, Jr.

VERONA

Fred Sambataro



WELCOME TO
UNICO
NATIONAL!

2012 UNICO National Convention Registration Information



UNICO NATIONAL 90th ANNUAL CONVENTION - 2012

The dates for the Convention are:
Wednesday, August 8th through Sunday, August 12th, 2012

MARCO ISLAND MARRIOTT
BEACH RESORT, GOLF CLUB & SPA
400 South Collier Boulevard, Marco Island, Florida 34145
(239)-394-2511

TO MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATION AT THE
MARRIOTT MARCO ISLAND

YOU CAN CONTACT THE HOTEL **DIRECTLY** BETWEEN 8 AM & 5 PM (EST)
BY CALLING: **1-800-GET-HERE (438-4373)**

- IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS BEING PART OF THE UNICO GROUP
- GIVE THE AGENT YOUR ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE DATES

It's just that easy!

UNICO GROUP ROOM RATE IS ONLY \$159.00 PER NIGHT
(Subject to State & local tax and hotel service charge)

All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card. Record your confirmation number or ask to have it sent to you by providing your E-mail address.

If you wish to extend your stay, you can take advantage of the same great UNICO Group rate up to three nights prior to or the three nights following the convention, based on availability, of course.

Next - fill out your convention registration form and mail
it along with your payment to:

UNICO National
271 US hwy 46 west, Suite A-108 Fairfield, NJ 07004-2458

Phone: 973-808-0035 Fax: 973-808-0043 e-mail - uniconational@unico.org



2012 UNICO NATIONAL 90TH ANNUAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

MARCO ISLAND MARRIOTT BEACH RESORT, GOLF CLUB AND SPA
400 South Collier Boulevard Marco Island, Florida 34145
August 8th - August 12th, 2012

Name _____ Nickname _____

Spouse's name, if attending _____ (if spouse is a member, please complete a separate form)

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Children Attending - name(s) and age(s) _____

Chapter _____ District _____ Office held _____
(i.e., National Officer, District Governor, Chapter President, Delegate, Trustee)

FEES AND CHARGES

Meals included in this charge:	UNICO MEMBERS	NON - MEMBERS	CHILDREN 11 TO 16	ATTENDEES NOT RESERVING THEIR ROOMS FROM THE "UNICO ROOM BLOCK"
3 FULL BUFFET BREAKFASTS	\$275.00	\$275.00	\$125.00	\$450.00
ICEBREAKER				MEAL PACKAGE COST
AWARDS LUNCHEON				
INAUGURAL BALL				
CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER FREE				

Registration (UNICO Members only) \$ 125.00 N/A \$125.00

Golf (starting at 7:30 am Wednesday) \$ 90.00 \$ 90.00 \$ 90.00 \$ 90.00

Total with registration:

Total amount of check enclosed or to be charged: \$

Make check payable to: "UNICO NATIONAL Convention 2012" or, if you prefer, use one of the following credit cards:

(Circle one below)

MasterCard Card number _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____ (3 or 4 digit on back)

Visa Signature _____ Print name _____

Discover Amer. Express Phone Number _____

COMPLETED FORM SHOULD BE MAILED OR SENT BY FACSIMILE TO:

UNICO NATIONAL
271 US Highway 46 West, Suite A-108
Fairfield, New Jersey 07004-2458
Phone: 973-808-0035 Fax: 973-808-0043 or e-mail to: uniconational@unico.org
www.2012UNICOConvention.org

ANTI-BIAS



Manny Alfano
Anti-Bias
Chairman

“Focusing on the ‘positive’ is just not enough!”

Some of you may have seen this before, but I feel it is necessary to repeat it.

There are some Italian Americans that believe we should be spending more time on “positive” activities for Italian Heritage and not concentrating on the “negative”!

First let me tell you of a few “positive projects” I have been involved in.

Some years ago, through the Anti-Bias Committee of UNICO National (ABC), one of the initiatives I focused on as Chairman was forming an AD Hoc committee called “WIN” (Women in Now!) - Expressly to change our UNICO Constitution to finally allow for woman members. This was a successful endeavor and we eliminated the bias against women right in our own organization.

I also established the Italian American A.C.E.S. Club (Athletic, Cultural, Educational, and Service) for youth (12-17) which educates our youth in their heritage, culture and traditions. These same young ACES have presented the St. Joseph’s Altar for 24 years. They raise funds for the needy, sick, and scholarships. And, there are now other ACES groups in some other areas.

Another initiative of the ABC was the annual UNICO Italian and Italian American Heritage Calendar. This is a great enhancement and asset for our UNICO organization across the country.

The ABC sponsored the UNICO effort for the resolution to permanently make the month of October Italian and Italian American Heritage Month in the US, which was introduced by Congressman Bill Pascrell. By the way this resolution, H. Res. 367, which is now in Oversight and Government Reform Committee will die there if we don’t act now!

The Alfano Digest makes its readers aware of the positive, as well as the action that needs to be taken with regard to the offenders of our heritage. While National President of UNICO, Andre’ DiMino promoted our Italian Heritage, while, at the same time, attacking the negative reality show “Jersey Shore” and other media stereotypes and denigrations. This brought UNICO widespread notoriety throughout the US as well as International notoriety. Now that’s a positive way of combating the negative!

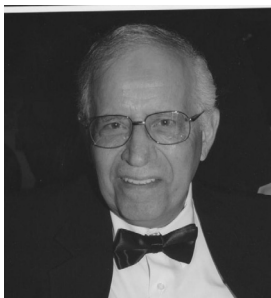
I could go on listing the many “positive” programs that our many Italian American organizations are involved in, but that would require writing a book. Having said that remember, all the positive programs and events we make are repeatedly neutralized by the infinitely much more powerful and widespread influences of the entertainment media and the advertisement industries.

Thousands of Italian Americans belong to the many Italian American organizations that

promote the positive. But millions of people, especially young people, see and are influenced by these negative TV programs and movies. We just cannot stand by and allow this to happen. I have said over and over again, “Say nothing ... do nothing ... and we will surely be come nothing!” That is why, **THE MOST POSITIVE THING YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR HERITAGE IS TO DEFEND IT FROM NEGATIVE MEDIA PORTRAYALS!**

Keep in mind, we find no joy in making you aware of these negative portrayals of our people! Help us eliminate this constant bombardment by the entertainment and advertisement industries once and for all, and I promise you I will only concentrate on the “positive”!

BOOK REVIEW

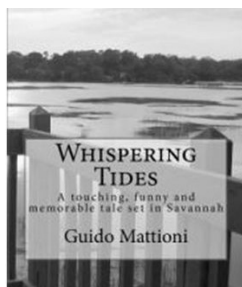


Whispering Tides
By
Guido Mattioni
Reviewed By
Dr. Tony
Arabia

Without a doubt, this is a brilliant first novel. The author, with translations by William Marino and Daniela Zoppini give us a tantalizing love story. His main character, Alberto and his late wife had fallen in love with Savannah, Georgia. He returns again from Milano, Italy to live in Savannah. Guido, a former journalist, writes in beautiful, descriptive phrases. His skill with figurative images, similes and metaphors, reminds me of another book also reviewed here, titled "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand, which in Goodreads is first of 36 Popular Prose Descriptive Books. "Tides" is by a very sensitive, emotional Italian. Nonfiction "Unbroken" is about a 93+ old war hero, Louis Zamperini, an Italian American who has achieved everlasting fame.

The simile, "snake-like" and the metaphor "steel beast" are comparisons to water inlets and his 737 as a metal monster arriving at its ramp. These are only a few of the many, many colorful devices the author uses. "Tides" is such a tour de force in its powerful details and characterizations. Mattioni's people and animals come alive and give the beautiful historic setting a throbbing reality. He lifts the reader up in so many ways in spite of the underlying sadness of his "aloneness."

I had the pleasure of speaking with him via transatlantic phone and was delighted to learn more about him. I mentioned that the surprise ending was absolutely delightful. He was pleased that I enjoyed it. While it is true that no novel is perfect, this one came quite close. Please find the "Whispering Tides" yourself. You may wish to return and enjoy it again and again!



PLAINFIELDS, NJ



Salvatore Mastrobattista, Jr. of North Plainfield High School was honored at the Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony as a Brian Piccolo recipient sponsored by the Plainfields' Chapter. From left: Jason Risoli, who served as Master of Ceremonies, Dr. M. Ann Walko, Scholarship Co-Chair, Salvatore, and Edward Esposito, Kean University Alumni Association President and Member of the Board who was the guest speaker for the evening.



EASTON, PA

The Easton Chapter of UNICO is proud to announce its 2012 UNICO Scholarship recipients. The recipients are from Easton Area High School and include Anthony Corpora, attending Kutztown University; Cheyenne DeRaymond, attending the University of Pittsburgh; Tyler Drago, attending Pennsylvania State University; Mitchell Minotti, attending Lehigh University and Casey Montague, attending Kutztown University.

The awards were presented at our annual Scholarship Dinner on June 11, 2012 at La Dolce Vita Restaurant, in Easton, PA. Our Chapter has awarded over 130 students with scholarships totaling over \$70,000.



From left: Cheyenne DeRaymond, Mitchell Minotti, Easton UNICO President Angelo LaDuca, Casey Montague, Tyler Drago, and Anthony Corpora.

MERRIMACK VALLEY, MA

UNICO of Merrimack Valley celebrating its 23rd year as a Chapter of UNICO National recently announced that it has raised and distributed over \$450,000 to local charities.

This year UNICO awarded \$2500 in scholarships to five high school students of Italian decent in the Merrimack Valley and one staff member from St. Anne's Home in Methuen

According to UNICO President Mark Girardi, "we distributed over \$35,000 to organizations and individuals this past year alone." Some of the local charities include: Lazarus House, Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence, COR Unum, Bellesini Academy, Esperanza Academy, Ironstone Farm, Essex Art Center, Prof. Center for Child Development, Family Services, Lawrence History Center and Foster Kids of Merrimack Valley, in addition to St. Ann's Home.

The UNICO Scholarship program has recognized and encouraged scholastic ability and academic performance among Merrimack Valley students since its inception 23 years ago.

According to Scholarship Program Chairman and President Elect Ken DeBenedictis, "Criteria such as grade point average and standardized test scores receive point values, as well as the individual's displayed financial need. The essays are unmarked so the judges can read them with impartiality and fairness. The selection process for UNICO scholarship recipients is a detailed one, involving reviews of academic achievement, results of a personal interview and careful evaluation of the candidate's application by the Scholarship Committee."

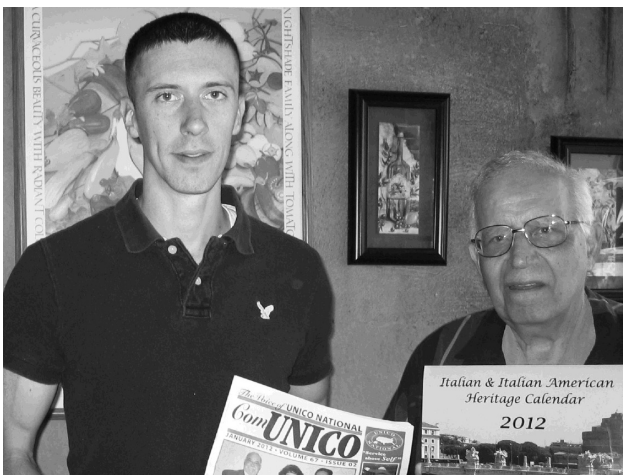
UNICO continues to award both need-based and merit-based scholarships. "We are committed to helping those with the greatest needs and will continue to evaluate and evolve our scholarship programs to fit the economic times," says DeBenedictis.

Following the Scholarship ceremony, Mark Girardi installed Ken DeBenedictis as President of the Merrimack Valley UNICO Chapter.



From left: Elizabeth Pugliese, Andover High School; Eric Lacroix, Methuen High School; Luke Chmielecki, North Andover High School; Ashley Santacroce, Lawrence High School; Nicholas DeFusco, Haverhill High School and Kate Batista, St Anne's Home Staff. Seated are Mark Girardi, President and Ken DeBenedictis, President Elect and Scholarship Chairman.

SAN ANTONIO, TX



Texas IDG Tony Arabia meets Capt. Kyle Wilkinson of Texas State University for an expansion Chapter in San Marcos, Texas.

VERONA, NJ



From left: Barbara Di Rocco, Membership Chairman Frank Di Rocco, Vice President Bonnie Sharkey, Lynne Mortimer, Fred Sambataro, UNICO National 2nd Vice President Rick D'Arminio and President Linda Gail Alati.



From left: Chapter Vice President Anthony Nigro, Jamie Wronski, Verona Cheerleader Representative; Richard Williamson, Verona Baseball League; Cyndi Hawkins, Verona Music Parents Association and Chapter President Linda Gail Alati.



National President Glenn Pettinato prepares to swear in new Chapter President as her son's Andrew and Alex look on.



National Sergeant-at-Arms Frank Greco, Jr. swears in new Officers from left: Anthony Nigro, Nicki Carpinelli, Lawrence Colombo and John Alati.



Former Chapter Presidents gather to congratulate outgoing President Linda Gail Alati and incoming President Bonnie Sharkey. From left: Nicki Carpinelli, John Alati, Lisa Aduato, Michael Festa, Lydia Bashwiner and Tom Malanga. Seated Linda Gail Alati and Bonnie Sharkey.

MONTVILLE, NJ



From left: Gerry Panitch, Sal Benvenuti and Montville Person of the Year Dr. Tom Panitch.



National President Glenn Pettinato swears in new President Michele Maddalena.

MENTAL HEALTH



John DiNapoli, UNICO Foundation President; Celeste Pandolfi, Mental Health Committee Member and Barbara Lipari Laborim, National Mental Health Chair present a \$3800 grant to representatives of the Garden Academy, Inc., Maplewood, New Jersey.



Presenting a \$5000 grant to MARC, Inc. of Manchester Connecticut are from left: Lionel Lessard, UNICO Foundation; Steve Springer, Manchester UNICO Member and Director of MARC, Inc.; Michael Farina, Manchester Chapter President; Barbara Lipari Laborim, National Mental Health Chair; Ken Charpentier, Marc, Inc. and Celeste Pandolfi, Mental Health Committee Member.



Barbara Lipari Laborim, Mental Health Chair and Tony Bocchimuzo, Brookhaven President along with UNICO Members present a \$5000 grant to Staff members of the John T. Mather Memorial Hospital for the Adolescent Behavioral Health Collaborative Problem Solving Project, Port Jefferson, New York.



Joan Tidona, National Scholarship Director and Barbara Lipari Laborim, Mental Health Chair present a \$2200 grant to members of Meaningful Movement, Inc., Midland Park, New Jersey.

FESTA DELLA REPUBBLICA



From left: Mary Ann Re, UNICO National Member; Paul DeGaetano, Nutley Chapter President and Minister Natalia Quintavalle, Consul General of Italy in New York.



Nutley Chapter President Anthony Malfitano and Past National President Joe Agresti.



From left: Peter Caruso, Past National President; Joe Agresti, Past National President; Jack DiPiazza, Settimo Gutilla and Consul Andrea Barbaria.

PITTSFIELD, MA 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Pittsfield Members elected a new slate of officers and celebrated its 25th Anniversary at the Chapter meeting held on May 21. The installation and celebration were held at the Cranwell Resort and Golf Club in Lenox, Massachusetts on Friday, June 8. The installation took place prior to an elegant gourmet dinner prepared by executive chef and Chapter member Carl Deluce while the 25th Anniversary celebration continued through the evening with a continuous slide show of Chapter photos from the past to the present provided by Chapter Member Julie Salatino.

The Chapter was honored at this event with the presence of several distinguished guests from UNICO National to include Third Vice President Joseph Paci and his wife Nurys, Office Manager and ComUNICO Editor Pat Pelonero and her husband Steve and Executive Administrator Sal Benvenuti and his wife Debbie.

The newly elected officers and board will continue, in the best traditions of the Chapter, to serve the local community and at the same time, maintain our proud Italian heritage.

The newly elected officers are: President - Catherine Mazzeo, Executive Vice President - Wayne Ditore, First Vice President - Domenick Sacco, Secretary - Linda O'Brien, Sergeant at Arms - Richard Gregory, Financial Chair - Michael Sorrentino, Immediate Past President, Kevin Dondi, and Scribe, Caterina Penna.

The newly elected Board of Directors is as follows: Vincent Marinaro, Joseph Bonacquisti, Scott Pignatelli, Tony Simonelli, Mike Quadrozzi, Francis Curley, Tom Blair, Francis Marinaro and Kevin Dondi Immediate Past President.



The New Executive Board from left: Rick Gregory, S.A.S; Mike Sorrentino, Financial Chair; Linda O'Brien, Secretary; Dom Sacco First Vice President; Wayne Ditore, Executive Vice President and Kevin Dondi, Immediate Past President.



Outgoing President Kevin Dondi congratulates incoming President Cathy Mazzeo.



The New Board of Directors are pictured from left: Joe Bonacquisti, Executive Vice President Wayne Ditore, Fran Marinaro, Tom Blair, Kevin Dondi, Chapter President Catherine Mazzeo, Tony Simonelli, Scott Pignatelli, Vin Marinaro and Fran Curley.



UNICO National Third Vice President Joe Paci presents Kevin Dondi with a 25th Anniversary patch.



From left: Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter President; Nurys and Joe Paci, UNICO National Third Vice President; Pat Pelonero UNICO National Office Manager; Sal Benvenuti UNICO National Executive Administrator and Kevin Dondi. President Dondi presented the National Office with a Stockbridge print from Norman Rockwell.



Kevin Dondi is pictured with Past Chapter President and award recipient Fran Curley.



Man of the Year Award and Chapter Treasurer Mike Sorrentino is congratulated by Kevin Dondi.



Kevin Dondi presents his dear friend and Past President Scott Pignatelli with the President's Award.



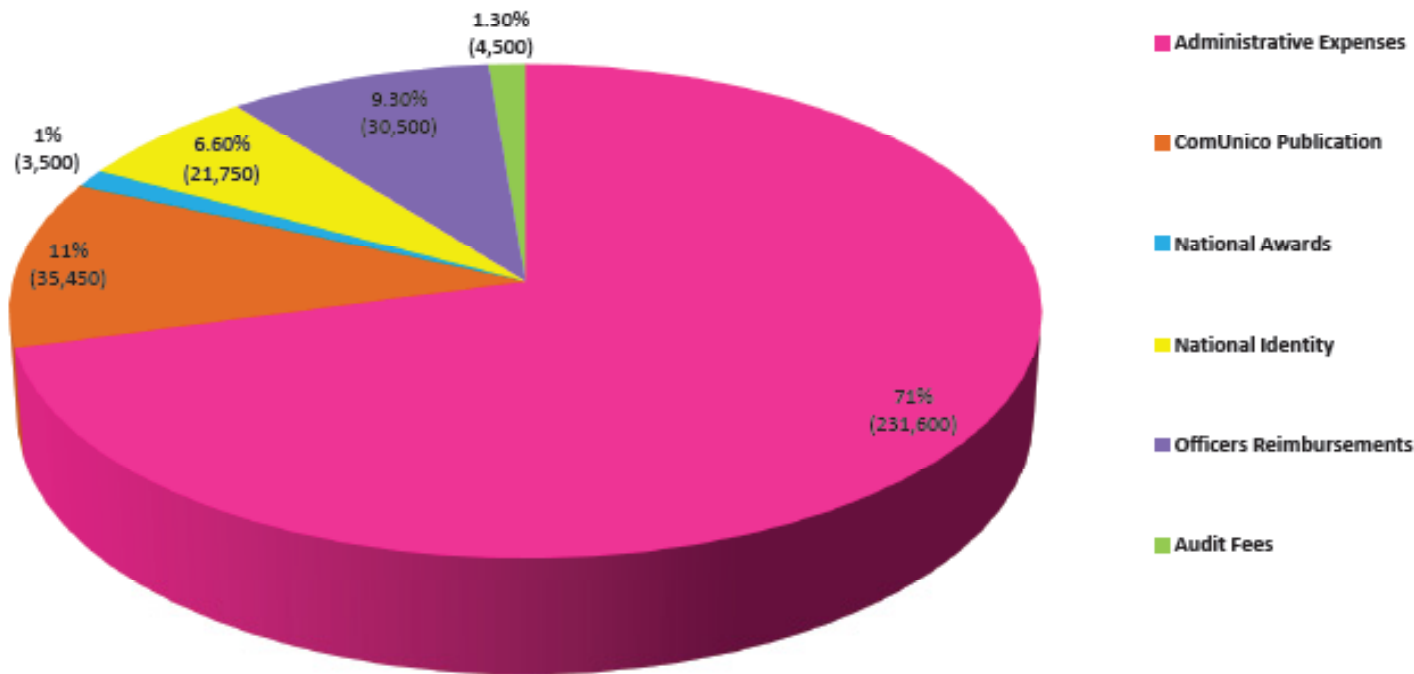
Kevin Dondi congratulates Volunteer of the Year Award winners Theresa Sorrentino and Annie Sorrentino.



Charitable donations to UNICO Charities are tax deductible! Send your check made out to UNICO Foundation:

**UNICO Foundation
271 US Highway #46 West
Suite A-108
Fairfield, NJ 07004**

PROPOSED 2013 UNICO BUDGET



Administrative Expenses - Salaries, Utilities, Rent, Postage, Printing, Insurance, Office Supplies, Computer Services, Office Travel, Tax Filing Fees
ComUNICO Publication - Costs for Printing and Making ComUNICO
National Awards - Costs associated with Marconi and National Awards, Costs of Plaques and Certificates
Officers Reimbursements - Administrative Costs for National Officers and Related Travel
Audit Fees - Costs of Certified Audit

Whenever I travel to Chapters, one of the first questions or comments deals with the amount of National dues. The attached chart shows how every dollar is allocated as a percentage of our total revenue. Again, all our revenue comes from member dues and UNICO National does not have any other source of income.

Once this budget is formally approved at the National Convention in August, a complete budget will be distributed to every Chapter President in their President's package. This will give you actual line items and amounts.

Should anyone have any questions about the National budget, please contact our Treasurer, Sam Prudente or the Executive Administrator, Sal Benvenuti.

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Smoked Hams
 (skinless, shankless, low salt, no fat)
Homemade Kielbasa
Free Range Organic Poultry
 (delivered daily)
Beef, Lamb, Veal, Pork
 (western fed)
Elegant Crown Roast (Pork or Lamb)
Fresh Ground Beef
 (cut & ground on premises)
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UNICO NATIONAL



Major Don S. Gentile Memorial Scholarship-Amy Marie Shick

Sponsored by the Scranton , PA Chapter, Judged in Wisconsin

Academic:

Graduated: Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School, Scholastic Average: 4.5 ACT: 31, Class Rank: 3/100

Interest:

Mathematical Economics/Computer Science, Cum Laude Society, Dean's List High Honor Roll National Society of High School Scholars, Times Leader Best and Brightest 2012, Pace University Seidenberg Scholars Summer Experience University of Rochester Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology

Activities:

St. Michael's College Book Award, Take the Lead: Mount Holyoke College, Blue Key Student Ambassador, Community Service Executive Committee, Swimming and Diving Team, Tennis Singles, Field Hockey Team, Math Club, Spanish Club, Medical Club, Student Activities Committee, Saxophone - Alto, Tenor, Base Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, Orchestra



William C. Davini Memorial Scholarship-John Cortina

Sponsored by the Northern Chesapeake, MD Chapter, Judged in Pennsylvania

Academic:

Graduated: Mt. Hebron High School, Scholastic Average: 4.67, SAT: 2270, Class Rank: 1/311

Interest:

Linguistics/Languages, National Honor Society, AP Scholar, National Merit Scholarship Program, American Nuclear Society Certificate of Excellence, Principal's Honor Roll, National Spanish Honor Society

Activities:

Mountain School Newspaper, Editor-in-Chief, Rotary Interact Club, Spanish Club, Class of 2012 Board, Secretary/Treasurer Foreign Born Information and Referral Network, Volunteer Mt. Hebron Stamp Out Intolerance Project, Vikings on the Horizon Mentoring Program, EYO Soccer, Howard County Walk for Water Fund Raiser, Rock for Uganda Concert Fund Raiser, Spanish Tutoring



Alphonse A. Miele Memorial Scholarship-Marissa Lynne Girgus

Sponsored by the Brookhaven, NY Chapter, Judged in California

Academic:

Graduated: Sachem North High School, Scholastic Average: 97.41, SAT: 2070, Class Rank: 9/546,

Interest:

Fine Arts in Vocal Performance/Arts Administration, National Honor Society, Principal's Honor Roll, National Foreign Language Honor Roll, Merit Scholarship to Usdan Center Summer Program, Tri-M Music Honor Society, Peer Tutoring

Activities:

Select Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Teacher Assistant and Section Leader, NYSSMA Women's and Mixed Choir, All-State, All-County Women's Treble Honor Choir, Section Leader, Smithtown Performing Arts Center, Dance Captain, Walk-a-thon for LI Cares, Children's Medical Fund of New York, STARS Award Winner Drama Club, Grace Gospel Church Vacation Bible School, Assistant Teacher, Grace Gospel Church Community Outreach, Assistant Softball Coach, Rebuilding Projects: Hurricane Katrina, F-5 Tornado, Joy Ranch for Children, Hope for Haiti Benefit Concert, Soloist



Theodore Mazza Memorial Scholarship-Danarenae Donato

Sponsored by the Westwood, NJ Chapter, Judged in New York

Academic:

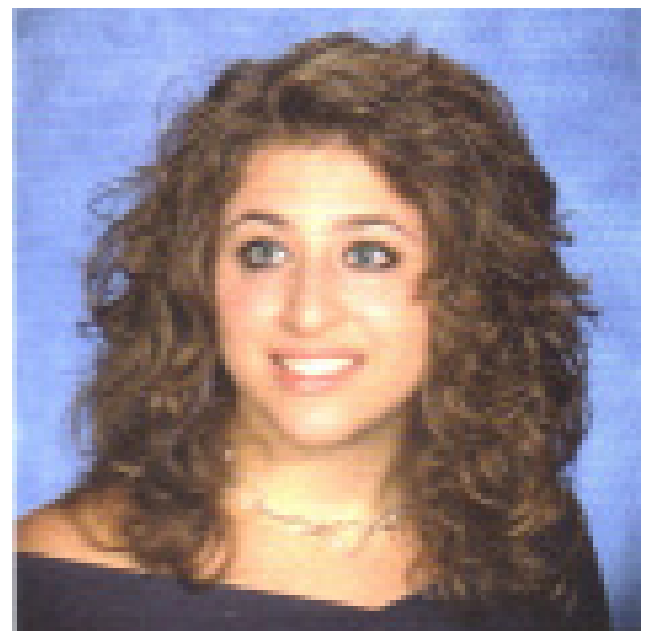
Graduated: Pascack Valley Regional High School, Scholastic Average: 4.6, ACT: 32, Class Rank: 5/291,

Interest:

Biology/History, Highest Honor Roll, National Honor Society, Italian National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Brandeis Book Award for Social Action and Civic Engagement, Science League Award

Activities:

Park Ridge Community Service Award, Peer Leadership Award, Pascack Pi-oneers Robotics Competition Team, Winners 2009-2012, American Legion Girl's State, Outside In, Inside Out Literary Magazine, National Student Leadership Conference, New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Assoc. Student Leadership Award, Global Young Leaders Conference for Global Scholars, Dr. Robert Gromberg Memorial Humanitarian Award Carol Goodell-Cyr Community Service Award, Relay For Life, Assistant Food Chairperson



2012 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Sgt. John Basilone Memorial Scholarship-Joel David Butterly

Sponsored by the Merrimack Valley, MA Chapter, Judged in Tennessee

Academics:

Graduated: Dartmouth College, Summa Cum Laude, Average: 4.0, To Attend: Harvard Law School

Interest:

Juris Doctor Degree, Rufus Choate Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, Jeffrey L. Pressman Prize, Rockefeller Memorial Fellowship, National Council for Geographic Education Award, Dartmouth's Honorary Class of 1914 – Sigurd S. Larmon Merit Scholarship

Activities:

Dartmouth War and Peace Fellows, Varsity Policy Debate Team, Dakota County Judicial Center, Assistant Clerk, Office of Governor John Lynch, Intern in Constituent Services, Federal Emergency Management Agency Researcher, Dartmouth Debate Institute, Coach and Researcher, Dartmouth Independent Magazine, Staff Writer and Assistant Editor, Dartmouth Boxing Club, Co-captain and Assistant Student Coach Power-lifting, currently holding four state weight lifting records, Personal Trainer, Beta Alpha Omega Fraternity



Dr. Benjamin J. Cottone Memorial Scholarship-Blake Edward Trabuchi-Downy

Sponsored the Greater Atlantic City, NJ Chapter Judged in New Jersey Confirmed by the Review Committee

Academics:

Graduated: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Average: 3.73, To Attend Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry

Interest:

Doctor of Medical Dentistry, College of Science Dean's List, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Golden Key International Honors Society, Atlantic Coast Conference Swimming Academic Team, Athletic Department Director's Honor Roll, Sigma Alpha Lambda National Leadership and Honors Organization

Activities:

Virginia Tech Varsity Swim Team, Captain, Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, American Student Dental Association, Virginia Tech's Pre-Dental Club, Officer, Special Olympics Swim Team Coach, H2Okie Swim Clinic Instructor, Sea Isle City Beach Patrol, Senior Lifeguard, Volunteer Instructor, Sea Isle City Junior Lifeguard Camp, Read Across America, Student Athlete Representative, Organized "Adopt a Family" Holiday Project, American Red Cross "Learn to Swim" Instructor



Bernard and Carolyn Torracco Memorial Nursing Scholarship-Francesca Olandesi

Sponsored by the Passaic Valley, NJ Chapter Judged in Pennsylvania

Academics:

Attending: The George Washington University School of Nursing, Scholastic Average: 3.74

Interest:

Advanced Practice Nursing Master of Science Degree, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, South University, SU President's List, SU Phi Sigma Omicron Honor Society, Associate Degree in Nursing, Rockland State University, Rockland SUNY Dean's List, Rockland SUNY Phi Sigma Omicron Honor Society

Activities:

Nursing Education Tutor, National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) Tutor, American Nurses Association Continuing Education, American Journal of Nursing, National Associate of Orthopedic Nurses, American Nurses Association, National and NJ District, American Nurse Today, Hackensack University Medical Center: Orthopedic/Trauma Registered Nursing, Medical/Surgical Competency, Epic Computer System



Bernard and Carolyn Torracco Memorial Nursing Scholarship-Evelyn Arcentales

Sponsored by the Kearney, NJ Chapter Judged in Pennsylvania

Academics:

Attending: Eastern International College, Belleville, New Jersey Campus, Scholastic Average: 4.0

Interest: Associate of Applied Science Nursing Degree

President's List

Fortis Institute Medical Assisting Graduate

Activities:

Medical Assistant, Medical Assisting Instructor, Translator, Full time Nursing Student, Mother of Three, PTA Committee Assistant





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INTEGRITY~COLLABORATION~
COMMUNICATION~
TEAMWORK~UNITY~
PROVEN LEADERSHIP**

- Membership & Retention Chair
- Chapter President
- Alternate Deputy District Governor
- One Voice
- Armed Services Committee
- Americanism Award Committee
- Anti-Bias Committee
- District Achievement Committee
- Heritage & Culture Committee
- Italian Studies Committee

**RECIPIENT:
NEW JERSEY DISTRICT X
AMERICANISM AWARD~
UNICO NATIONAL GRAND PATRIOT
AMERICANISM AWARD**



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ITALIANA

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

COURTHOUSE SQUARE, DOWNTOWN SCRANTON PENNSYLVANIA

11 A.M. TO 10 P.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY • 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M. MONDAY

80 vendors offering great food, crafts and displays • Continuous Live Entertainment
• Games and rides for the kids • Grass Bocce • Heritage Displays

La Messa Festiva

The Mass in Italian at **10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 2**, in St. Peter's Cathedral (one block from festival site)

Also broadcast live by CTV: Catholic Television.

Presider and Homilist: The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton. Celebrant: Father David Cappelloni

Join us!



FREE ADMISSION
FIREWORKS SUNDAY NIGHT

Check our Web site at www.lafestaitaliana.org
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entertainment schedule and directions.

FREE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ON TWO STAGES ALL 3 DAYS. ACTS INCLUDE:

"Carmello the Singer" in the
NEW Cappuccino Tent
back on Washington Avenue!

Frank Sinatra Tribute featuring
Chris DiMattio and the Brass
& Ivory Orchestra
with comedian Uncle Floyd

The POETS, Sunday, 8:30 p.m.

King Henry and the Original Showmen

Hi-Lites featuring Pat Aita

Italian Tenor Christopher Macchio

Los Vega, Saturday night

Italian Continentals

Dean Martin
Impersonator
Andy DiMino
Monday night



Italian Street Performers, Magicians, Jugglers, Italian Folk Dancing!

We invite all our UNICO friends to join us!
Don't forget to visit our tent for the best porketta!

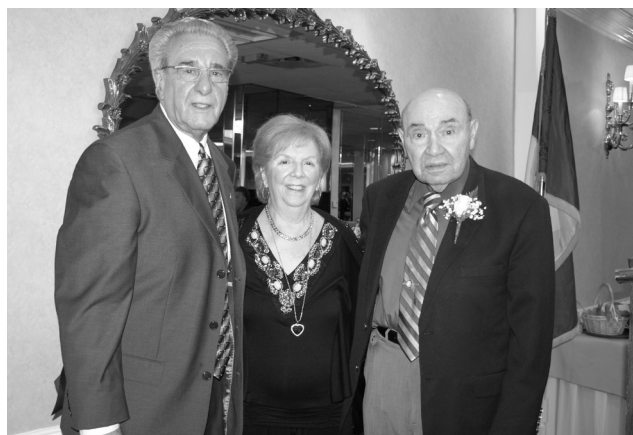


While you're in town,
check out Railfest '12, Sept. 1-2
For details, visit www.nps.gov/stea

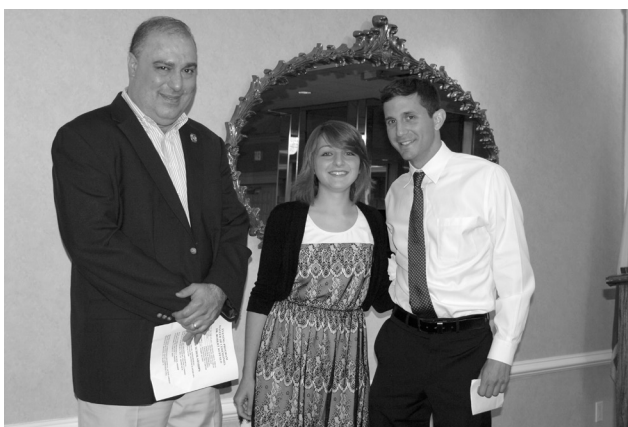
5K Run/Walk
Saturday To Benefit
Cancer Research

5K Run/Walk on Saturday, Sept. 1, sponsored by Scranton Chapter of UNICO to
benefit the Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research. Registration 8 to 9:30 a.m.
at Linden St. and N. Washington Ave. Entrance fee \$20. Race begins at 10 a.m.

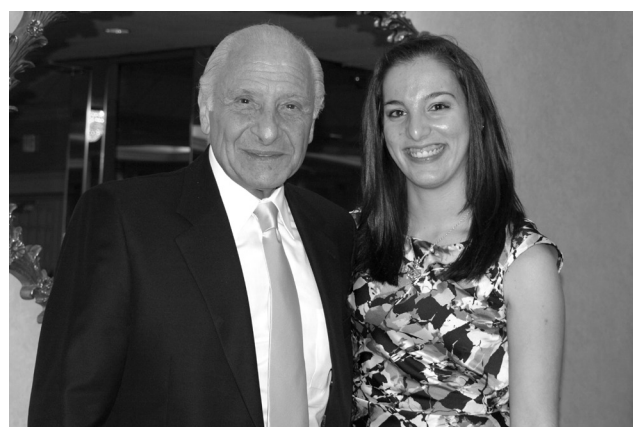
BLOOMFIELD, NJ



From left: Past National President Paul Alongi, Jeanette and Bob Sarcone.



From left: Michael Napolitano, Elisabetta Pedrocco and Jared Guglielmino.



Frank Candido, Scholarship Chair and Alexandra Tuorto.



Dr. Robert Ruffalo and Alexis R. Celluro.



From left: New Jersey IV District Governor Perry Russo, New Members Karen Pontrelli and Michael Maglione and New Chapter President Michael Sisco.



Paul Sant'Ambrogio, Esq. and Shannon E. Rennie.

PHOTO CONTEST

The UNICO National Italy Photo Contest

You have probably seen the absolutely beautiful photos of Italy that are in UNICO's Italian and Italian American Heritage Calendar each year. Well, did you know that these have all been provided by our own member, Passaic Valley, New Jersey Chapter President, and UNICO National photographer Steve Pelonero? Yes, they were and they have been just perfect for our calendar.

But, now here is your chance to help us produce our new calendar for 2013 with your own photos of Italy.

We are launching a photo contest to see who can provide us with their own photos of Italy to be chosen for our 2013 calendar. We know that many of our members enjoy trips to Italy and take some terrific shots of the land of our heritage. Well, why not share them with the world by submitting them to this contest.

Photos will be reviewed and the winning photos will be published in the 2013 calendar. Please submit all photos in electronic format (jpg, etc.) in the best resolution possible. Winning entries will be notified in advance of publication and will receive credit in the calendar for their published photos.

Please submit your photos as e-mail attachments to uniconational@unico.org and include your name and phone number in the e-mail. Also please provide a description of the photo which includes where it was taken (town, region, etc.) names or descriptions of buildings, or other prominent subjects in the photo as well as when it was taken. You can submit as many photos as you like!

We look forward to seeing all the great photos of Italy from our members and to finding out who will win this contest!



MANCHESTER, CT



The Manchester Chapter donated \$4,200 to ECHN Community Healthcare Foundation from their 16th Annual Breast / Prostate Cancer Screening Dance fund raiser held recently. This event has raised in excess of \$90,000 and has helped over 1,000 women. In attendance is member Peter Miller, Donna Cameron Nurse Navigator with ECHN, Chapter President Michael Farina, Dance Chairman Jeff Gentilcore and Past District Governor Joe Hachey.

RUTHERFORD, NJ



Presenting a plaque to each person who demonstrated at the Rutherford UNICO Italian Heritage Night were from left: Andre DiMino, Past National President; Robert Donato, Program Chairman; Mary Grace Casiello, Owner Georgio's Bakery; Michael Bucco, Citterio Products; Adolfo Siclari, soppressata demonstrator; Vincent Cantarelli, mozzarella demonstrator; and Frank Tidona, President Rutherford UNICO.



From left: Michael Bucco, Adolfo Siclari and Vincent Cantarelli are seen processing meat for soppressata making.

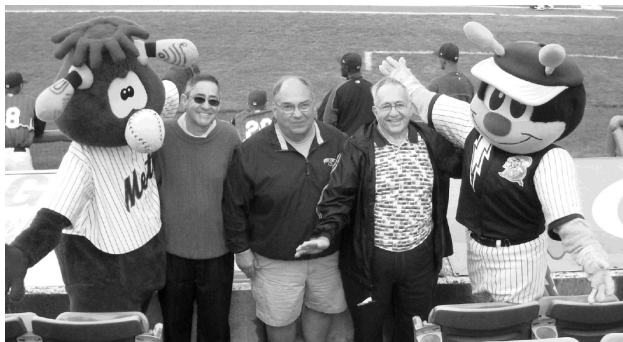


Mary Grace Castiello piping out the pignoli cookies.



Vincent Cantarelli forming a caciocavallo.

SAYRE, PA



On June 4, 2012 the Sayre Chapter of UNICO took close to 500 Special Needs children to a Binghamton Mets baseball game. Member Tom Salpino was the leader of this endeavor. From left: Past District Governor Felix DeSio, Nick Grego, and Past District Governor Tom Palumbo.



Sayre UNICO's Scholarship Winner Anne Kennedy receives the Mike and Ann DeSisti Annual Scholarship from member Tom Witmer. The evening saw the Chapter present almost \$20,000 in awards to be used for mentally and physically challenged children.

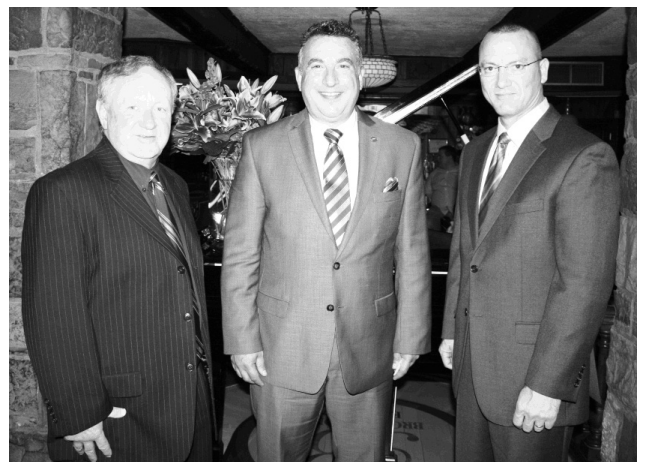
CEDAR GROVE, NJ

The Cedar Grove Chapter of UNICO National held their annual Awards Night ceremony and dinner at The Brownstone on Wednesday May 23, 2012. This year's recipients of the organizations scholarships were: Andrea Zatorski, Elizabeth Norton, Joseph Balesteiri, Gabriella San Roman and Julia Hegarty. These exemplary high school seniors reflected outstanding academic accomplishments, outstanding leadership and commitment to community service. Congratulations to them and their parents. Additionally the Chapter made donations to the Cedar Grove Fire Department and Rescue Squads. These organizations were represented by Chief Mike Tower and Doug Giblin.

The Chapter also welcomed in a new member, Jack Andonian.



Front row from left: Andrea Zatorski, Elizabeth Norton, Joseph Balisteiri, Julia Hegarty and Gabriella San Roman. Back row from left: President John Borgese, Dr. Ray Testa, Committee Chair Nick Brindisi, Will LaRusso, Past Chapter President Mike Picardi and Bob Maione.



From left: Cedar Grove Rescue Squad President Doug Giblin, President John Borgese and Cedar Grove Fire Chief Mike Tower.

The deadline for the September Edition of ComUNICO is Monday, August 20, 2012.
Send Chapter news to the UNICO National Office:
comunico@unico.org.
Please call
(973) 808-0035
with any questions.

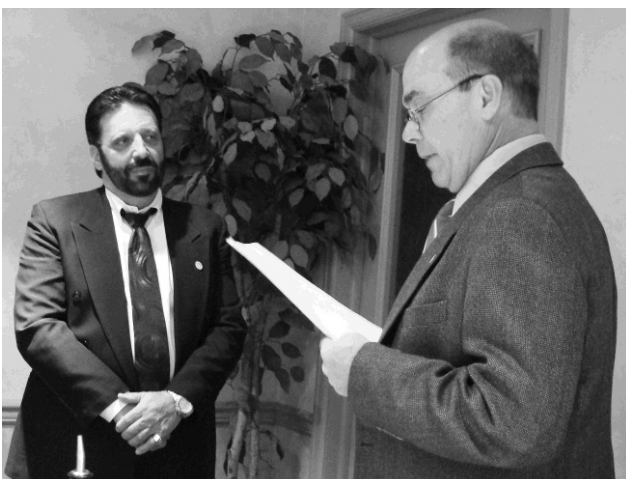
LYNDHURST, NJ

On Wednesday June 13, 2012 Lyndhurst UNICO held their annual Scholarship Dinner. This year Lyndhurst gave two \$500 scholarships to two local High School Students. Nicole Baratta, a Lyndhurst High School student who is ranked 1 in her class and plans to attend Ramapo College in the Fall. Carmine Lombardi is a Lyndhurst resident but attends St. Peter's Prep and is planning to attend Seton Hall in the fall. Carmine is in the top 10 of his class and also Class President. Both have many other outstanding accomplishments relating to education and community service.



Carmine and Nicole fill out applications to become active Lyndhurst UNICO Youth members.

CHICAGO SOUTH, IL



The Chicago South Chapter celebrated its 2nd Anniversary and Installation of Officers recently. From left: Anthony Michael Telelrino is sworn in as Chapter President by UNICO National 1st Vice President Michael Veselka.



Officers are sworn in by UNICO National 1st Vice President Michael Veselka. From left: Tony Folino, Mike Dillon, Frank Christensen and Carlo Caprio.

GREATER ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

As summer unfolds at the Jersey Shore, so do several wonderful recognition and fund raising events sponsored by the Atlantic City UNICO Chapter. Our premier summer event is the Annual Person of the Year Recognition Dinner at the famous Atlantic City Country Club. At this affair, the Chapter awards scholarships to high achieving local high school graduates as well as graduates in need. Our scholarship fund should top \$70,000 this year. I will publish the awardees names and their scholarship amounts along with their college of choice in next month's ComUNICO.

In addition to the scholarship program, a special Lifetime Achievement Recognition Program will be conducted to honor Atlantic City UNICO founder and long time member Paul Longo. Paul is highly respected in our South Jersey region, as a true humanitarian, visionary and consummate gentleman. Through his initiative and his devoted guidance and leadership of our Chapter's fund raising efforts over the years, many individuals and families have been blessed with financial and emergency aid. Paul has been the heart and soul of our Chapter and we are so fortunate to have had his "Service Above Self" attitude as a shining example of how to live and how to give.

Rounding out our Chapter's summer activity, a dinner cruise in the bays and ocean around Atlantic City is planned for July and a Chapter barbecue is planned for September.



Paul Longo, Greater Atlantic City Charter Member and recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.

HAZLETON, PA



The Hazleton Chapter raised over \$7000 for Charity at their recent festival. Bocce Tournament winners are from left: Jon Campanella, Ralph Campanella, Mark, Jim Pisano and Paul Santarelli.

SCRANTON, PA



Scranton Chapter Volunteers clean up Alden Memorial Park. Kneeling in front: Joey Grandinetti and Chet Manship. Standing from left: Jim Brogna, Joe Grandinetti, John Trapani, and Henry Salusti.



Scranton Chapter Volunteers doing spring clean-up at Scranton's Nay Aug Park. Rear from left: Jim Soranno, Sam Prudente, Steve Andrichak, Chairman; Bill Waerhouse, Jim Beress. Front row from left: Carl Noakes, Eileen Soranno, Ann Reilly, Marie Waerhouse, Nancy Lovagleo, Danny Lovagleo, Lou DiMattio and Paul Panzera.



UNICO National Scranton Chapter volunteers assisted in a recent fund raiser to benefit Nick Staback, a local soldier wounded in Afghanistan. The affair raised over \$200,000 to assist in his rehabilitation effort. From left: Past National President Chris DiMattio, Nick Staback and Ann DiMattio.



Outgoing Scranton Chapter President Palma Yanni passes the Gavel to new Chapter President Sal Mecca, from left: Pat Yanni, Jack Brunetti, Palma Yanni, Sal Mecca, Chris DiMattio, Past National President and Frank Castellano, Pennsylvania II District Governor.

SECAUCUS, NJ



The Secaucus Chapter of UNICO National awarded its 2012 Scholarships on June 11, 2012. Pictured from left: Scholarship Committee Chairman Anthony DeRienzo, Chapter President Debbie Santoro, Mary Capitol Scholarship winner Gabrielle Povolotsky, Luigi Rotundo Scholarship winner Allison Perricone, regular scholarship winners, Nicole White, Brianna Parella, Amanda Beckmeyer, and Angelica Barile, Chapter Executive Vice President Ed Rucki, incoming Scholarship Chair Stacy Havlicek, and Scholarship Advisor Sandra Lopez. This year Secaucus UNICO's awards amounted to \$8500, bringing the cumulative total to \$59,000 in nine years.

UNION, NJ

Carmen Scialfa, a 50-year member of the Union, New Jersey Chapter of UNICO National, celebrated his 50 years of service by making a sizeable donation to Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, New Jersey. Mr. Scialfa's generous gift enabled Saint Barnabas to establish the Carmen T. Scialfa Funds to assist Renal and Pulmonary patients and will be used to purchase medications, transportation, childcare and other items needed during an illness. Mr. Scialfa hopes to make the patients' lives a little easier by providing them with assistance. Mr. Scialfa and his wife, Marie, are longtime supporters of Saint Barnabas Medical Center and are members of the hospital's Harvey E. Nussbaum Society.



From left: Carla Andriola Patel, Manager, Major Donor Recognition and Stewardship Saint Barnabas Medical Center; Deborah Morrone-Colella, Vice President, Saint Barnabas Medical Center Foundation; Marie Scialfa, John F. Bonamo, MD, MS, President and Chief Executive Officer, Saint Barnabas Medical Center and Carmen Scialfa.

GREATER BINGHAMTON, NY



Felix DeSio, Jean DeSio, Angela Carro and Frank Carro of the Greater Binghamton Chapter attended the Binghamton Mets baseball game on June 4, 2012. The group went to support the project of the Sayre Chapter of UNICO, who were able to bring close to 500 special needs children to the game.



Greater Binghamton members Frank Carro, Angela Carro, Joe Doolittle, Barbara Wahila, Richard Wahila, and Connie Cardullo participate in STAP (Southern Tier AIDS Program) for UNICO National Service Day on Saturday April 21, 2012.



Greater Binghamton Youth Member Victoria "Tori" Harris held the role of Sandy in the Main-Endwell Spartan Theater Production of "Grease". The shows were April 20, 21, and 22, 2012 at Maine-Endwell High School where Tori is a senior. Tori is also President of the Spartan Theatre Company, President of Habitat for Humanity, Co-President of Challenge Team, and Vice-President of Women's Chorus at M-E High School. Many fellow UNICANS attended to show support of our Youth Member.



On May 5, several members of Greater Binghamton UNICO volunteered at the Special Olympics Spring Games at Chenango Valley High School. The day was truly rewarding for the members, seeing the joys the events brought to the participants was overwhelming.

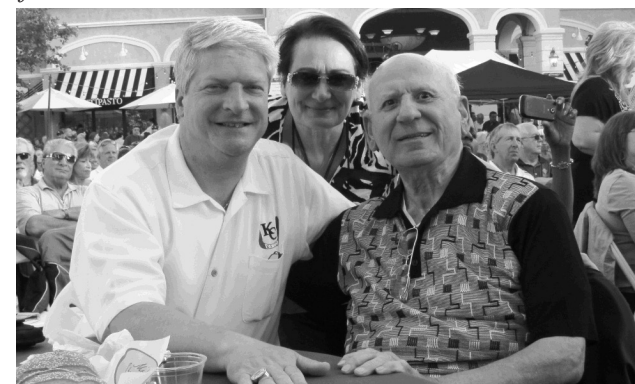


Greater Binghamton UNICO celebrated their 2nd Anniversary on May 9, 2012 at Frank's Restaurant. From left: Member Don Gioia and wife Joyce toast to this special occasion.

KANSAS CITY, MO



Kansas City Festa Italiana Co-Chairman Frank Cherrito and Past National President Chris DiMattio greet highlight entertainer Louis Prima, Jr. before his act.



Enjoying dinner before the "Rat Pack" show at Kansas City Festa Italiana are Chris DiMattio, Paula Varsalona and her dad, Paul Varsalona.

NEW JERSEY DISTRICT VI



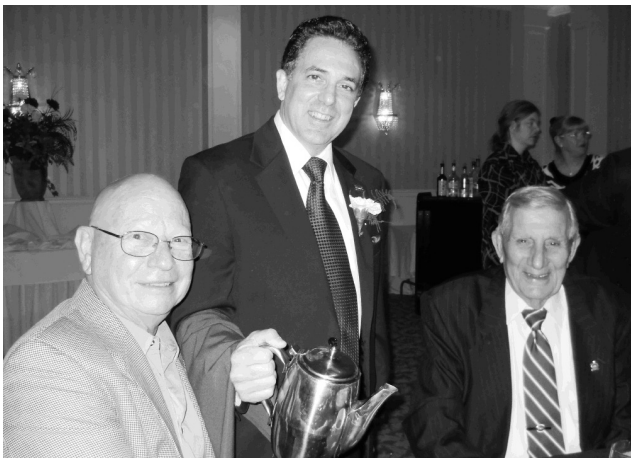
National President Glenn Pettinato presents Frank Sodano with the Man of the Year Award as Jim Fucci looks on.



Family and friends join President Glenn, First Lady Terri and Jim Fucci in congratulating Frank Sodano as their Man of the Year.



Past National President Frank Tidona, Scholarship Director Joan Tidona, Past Eastern Regional District Governor Joe Ruggiero, National President Glenn Pettinato, Frank Sodano and Past National Presidents Sal Mangano and Mike D'Arminio.



Past Eastern Regional District Governor Joe Ruggiero, National President Glenn Pettinato and Past National President Mike D'Arminio enjoy a cup of coffee.

ISLIP/SMITHTOWN, NY

On Tuesday May 8, 2012 the Islip/Smithtown Chapter held its Annual Scholarship awards event in conjunction with the monthly Chapter meeting. Each student was awarded \$500 and the Chapter is sponsoring each student as a Youth Member.



Front row from left: President Joe Petito, Past Recording Secretary Fay Fortunato, District Governor Roseanne Buckleman, students Taylor Patricia Trentadue and Julia Boitano. Back row from left: Sergeant-at-Arms Matthew Fortunato, students Megan Leun, Matthew Bernado, Tina Nicole Veilson and Christopher Carmo.

At the Islip/Smithtown Chapter meeting on June 12, 2012 a new President and Board of Directors were sworn in. Elizabeth Hansen was sworn in as President by District Governor Roseanne Buckleman and then President Hansen swore in the new Board members. President Hansen was warmly greeted by all the members and she presented her vision of the Chapter for the next two years. Outgoing President Joe Petito thanked the Chapter members for their support during his tenure and expressed his encouragement and support for President Hansen and the new Board members. The Chapter expressed its gratitude to Joe for his work as President by presenting him a book on String Theory whose rudiments were first formulated by Italian physicist Gabriele Veneziano in 1968.



From left: George Buckleman, Mickey Sabatino, Gary Carpenter, 2nd Vice President; Matthew Fortunato, Sergeant-At-Arms; Lou DeBenedittis, Corresponding Secretary; District Governor and Treasurer Roseanne Buckleman, Nicholas Romano, Recording Secretary; Elizabeth Hansen, President and Jerry Jiritano, Sergeant-At-Arms.



From left: Chapter President Elizabeth Hansen, New Members Stephanie Fodera and Josephine Franco and Past President Joe Petito.

PASSAIC VALLEY, NJ



At their Annual Scholarship and Brian Piccolo Awards Dinner, pictured from the left are: Past National President Joseph Agresti, Chapter Scholarship Chairman; award winners, Nicholas Pezzano, Melissa Radke, Jasmine Sconciafurno, Briana Smith, Elizabeth DeVenio and Marta Maria Saputo and Charles Russo, Chapter Member and co-chair of the Passaic Valley Chapter Scholarship Committee.



From left: New Chapter President Bob Appaluccio, Past President Steve Pelonero and National 3rd Vice President Joseph Paci.



New Jersey District IV Governor Perry Russo swears in Passaic Valley Officers: John Barbieri, First Vice President and Bruce Ponchak, Treasurer.

Attention District Governors and Chapter Presidents:

**Be on the lookout in September for
your information packets with all
you will need to know to run your
District or Chapter.**



CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

Conference of Presidents
Meet in New York City

By: Frank G. Cannata PNP

The Conference of Presidents held its spring meeting in New York City's Central Park. Among the attendees were Joseph Agresti, John Alati, John DiNapoli and Kathy Strozza. One of the featured speakers was Tony LoBianco who gave the gathering a brief glimpse at his one man show, "The Little Flower," the life of Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia.

This conference has provided an interesting balance of speakers and programs to make these meetings educational and fruitful. This year, in addition to LoBianco's presentation we were privileged to hear from Minister Natalia Quintavalle, Consul General of Italy to New York as well as Ambassador Sebastiano Fulci, Permanent Observer of Italy to the Organization of American States.

The group representing UNICO is rather significant and is led by John Alati who is Chairman Emeritus. Kathy Strozza is Vice Chair, Frank Cannata is Director of Public Relations and John DiNapoli represents our UNICO Foundation. Joseph Agresti represented the Coccia Institute. In my own personal experience, in attending these meetings for many years, is that they represent an opportunity for the leaders of the various Italian-American organizations to come together and discuss important issues of the day. It creates a platform to respond to calls for support for Advanced Italian Language Programs and a host of other important issues.

UNICO has a long history of involvement in the Conference with Paul Alongi, Marty Picillo and John Alati having served terms as President. We believe that this conference presents an opportunity for the high profile Italian American organizations to come together in common causes. LoBianco And LaGuardia

I was personally extremely pleased to learn that Tony LoBianco will reprise his one man show on the life of Fiorella LaGuardia. As your Editor in the March 1989 issue of ComUNICO I wrote a review of Tony's performance in Hizzoner, Fiorello LaGuardia. I would like to give you an excerpt from that piece. By the way he won a Tony Award for this performance.

There is an unfortunate aspect of this one man show and that is the Italian American community has virtually ignored it. How can a performance about one of the most high-profile Italian Americans in the 20th Century not enjoy a long run in New York City, with one of the largest concentrations of our ethnicity, anywhere in the world?

LaGuardia was a World War I fighter pilot, the first Italian American Congressman, spoke 7 languages and was Mayor of New York for 12 years; from 1933 – 1945.

During WWII he spoke out against internment of Italian Americans and historians believe he was able to limit the detention of Italians living in New York who were registered aliens. These

were migrants who had never become American citizens. My grandparents were considered aliens. They could not obtain citizenship papers because they could not speak English nor read or write. Were it not for people like Fiorello and others they too could have been incarcerated along with Ezio Pinza and the parents of Joe DiMaggio.

We often wonder why people have such a lack of respect for Italian Americans and love to laugh at the buffoons that play stereotypical characters such as those that make up the cast of MTV's Jersey Shore. It has long been my opinion that we suffer these indignations because we are not supporters of the arts and have consistently failed to attend the performances of those artists who have attempted to show the positive images of our culture.

You have an opportunity to right that wrong. LoBianco is offering this performance, one that you will thoroughly enjoy as vehicle to raise money for our various charities. What a great way to add to our endowments of scholarship programs. Our own John Alati and his partner Jerry LaGuardia are promoting this event and I encourage you to attend the public showing of this wonderful play and consider using it as a vehicle to serve our communities and enrich their knowledge of a great Italian American. For more information please contact John Alati.



From left: Joe Agresti, John Alati, Tony LoBianco and Kathy Strozza.

UNICO NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Dedicated members who are interested in serving on National Committees of UNICO should notify Dave Donnini at this time. He is in the process of assigning committee members and would like to know to which committees you would be interested in serving on.

To facilitate this process please return this form by JULY 31st to:

UNICO National
Attn: David Donnini
271 U.S. Hwy. 46 West
Suite A-108
Fairfield, NJ 07004

Please note: Preferences may or may not be approved as requested. Every effort will be made to honor each request and assign individuals to the committees of their choice

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UNICANS are well aware that the strength of the National Scholarship Program depends on the assistance of our members. This program could not exist without the support of Chapters, Districts and individuals who provide funding.

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GRANT CARDONE: The former reality TV star has moved from repairing businesses to fixing people's lives.

LOU&A

by Louis R. Carlozo

The king holds court

Making a life in sales is one thing; taking that life to the airwaves as part of a reality TV show is another matter entirely. Last year, Grant Cardone achieved that feat with his National Geographic TV show "The Turnaround King," where he entered struggling companies and demonstrated simple strategies for reviving them.

Much of Cardone's no-frills charisma and can-do attitude can be up to family values. With Neapolitan and Sicilian roots on his father's and mother's sides respectively, Cardone was raised in New Orleans with a keen sense of hard work and perseverance. That ethic is reflected on his unofficial motto, which he has had printed onto wristbands: "NO NEGATIVITY ALLOWED."

In life after reality TV, Cardone, 54, remains in the spotlight as a sales expert and author of the recently published book, "Sell or Be Sold" (Greenleaf Book Group). Fra Noi talked to Cardone about his upbringing, his life in sales and finance, and how his positive message harkens back to the

(See Lou&A on Page 44)

NEWSMAKERS Culinary ambassador

by Nicola Orichuia

Mary Ann Esposito has been the ambassador of Italian cuisine on American television for more than two decades. Her show, "Ciao Italia," has brought the delight of preparing an authentic Italian meal to millions of PBS viewers for 21 years, making it the longest-running television cooking show on the air today.

And as the show enters its 22nd season, it shows no signs of slowing down. "I think the secret to our show is approachability," Esposito tells Fra Noi in an exclusive interview. "It's food you can make. It's comforting to know anyone can make these dishes, because I use ingredients that can be easily found."

When it comes to conjuring up an Italian dish for an American audience,

Esposito is a realist. "You can't teach a recipe as if you were in Italy. You can't get the same fish, you can't get guanciale or pancetta," she says. "Ten years ago, hardly anyone knew what farro or polenta were. So I stick with what is available here and try to come as close as I can to the original Italian dish."

Esposito has perfected her culinary skills over the years, combining them with an inexhaustible interest in the regional cuisines of Italy.

"There is no such thing as Italian food," she says. "There are regional foods and cuisines. I go to Italy once a year in the summer on a 10-day tour with the group 'Under the Italian Sun.' Each year, we visit a different region of Italy and explore the local food tra-

(See Newsmakers on Page 44)



MARY ANN ESPOSITO: Nine cookbooks, more than 500 television episodes, countless classes, annual trips to Italy, a website and a foundation are all part of her mission to showcase Italian cuisine in America.

REVIEW Riding the Train

by Mary Racila

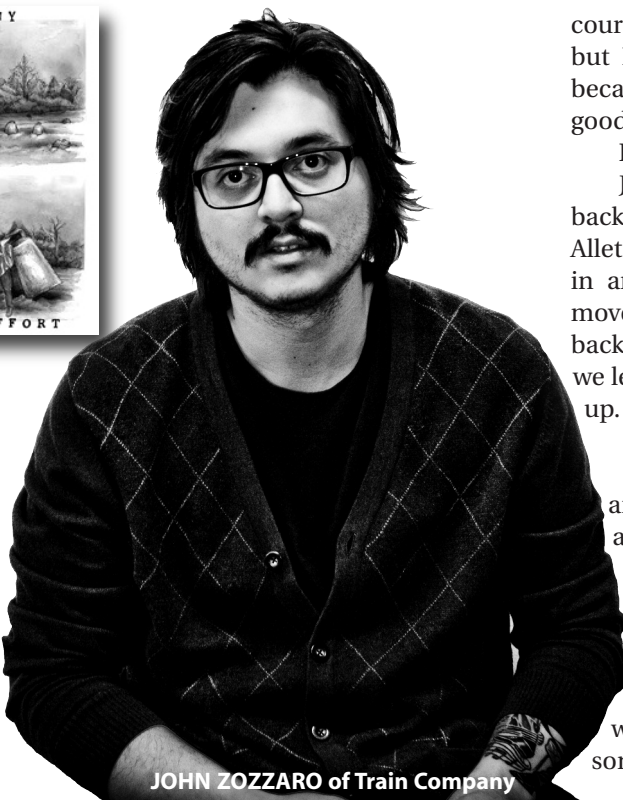
With vocals that hint of Bobby Darin and English Beat's Dave Wakeling paired with Johnny Depp's good looks, John Zozzaro is the memorable front man for Train Company. Conceived in the suburbs of Chicago more than six years ago, this bluesy rock band features horns, strings, drums and passion all rolled into one tight package. Fra Noi caught up with Zozzaro at the House Pub in St. Charles, and this is what he had to say ...

Fra Noi: When did you first get into music?

John Zozzaro: I've always been into music, but I really didn't start playing and singing until I was 13. I grew up on punk rock and ska, which you can't hear much of in the music I'm writing now, but it definitely played a huge part in my development as a musician.

FN: What instruments are in your arsenal?

JZ: I play guitar, bass, drums, piano and of



JOHN ZOZZARO of Train Company

course I sing. I get along with the guitar the best, but I do enjoy practicing on all of the above because you never know when, where or what a good idea for a song will stem from.

FN: How did the band get its start?

JZ: The roots for Train Company were set back almost a decade ago when bassist Mike Alletag, drummer Rob Lejman and myself were in another band. After the band broke up, I moved to New York for a while. When I came back, we almost immediately continued where we left off with a few minor changes to the lineup.

FN: Describe your unique sound.

JZ: I always tell people if the Black Keys and the Beatles made a musical love child and threw in a saxophone it would be Train Company.

FN: Who writes the band's material?

JZ: I am the songwriter for the group. But, each song goes through our own unique process. I don't come to rehearsal with an elaborately thought-out idea for a song. Instead, I create a blueprint so that

(See Review on Page 44)

LIBRI Reviewing how we're viewed

by Fred L. Gardaphe

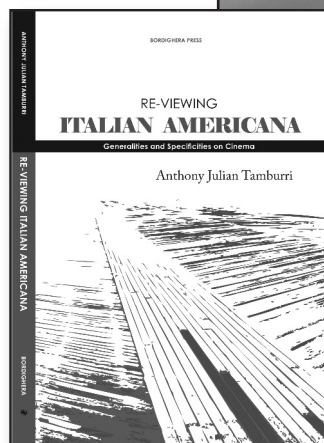
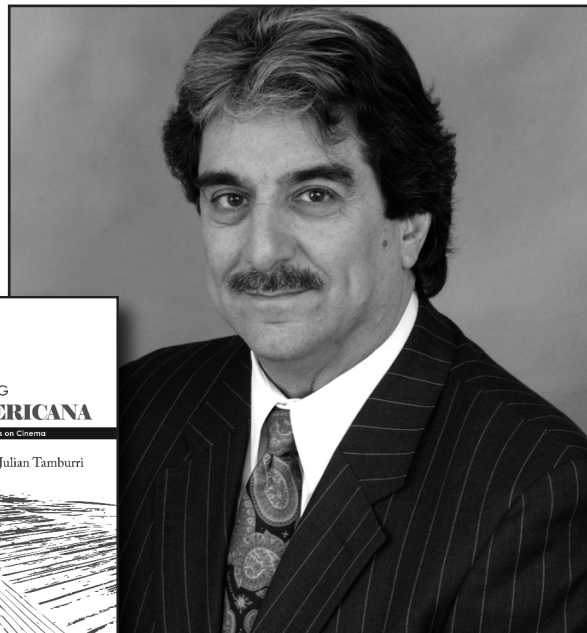
Anthony Julian Tamburri is the dean of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute at the City University of New York's Queens College, and a professor of Italian and comparative literature. The author of more than a dozen books and over 100 essays in the fields of Italian and Italian-American studies, Tamburri has edited more than 30 volumes and special issues of journals on the subject. These efforts, along with his contributions to i-italy.org and the television program "Italics," have made Tamburri one of the leading public intellectuals of Italian Americana.

His latest book, "Re-Viewing Italian Americana: Generalities and Specificities on Cinema," is a primer in the history and analysis of the Italian-American presence in film, video and television. Written with the general reader in mind, Tamburri's book offers a thorough survey of Italian-American films and videos, making the case that only by responding thoughtfully can we truly take control of our identity.

After establishing a strong theoretical foundation, Tamburri offers clear and logical arguments that reach beyond the academy into the streets, where popular culture is presented and consumed. Anyone who advocates for the accurate representation of Italian Americans by the media needs to read the five essays and concluding thoughts in this book.

Tamburri begins his intellectual journey by

posing questions that allow us to better analyze the impact of stereotypes on the development of Italian-American identities, past, present and future. In the book's first section, "Italian Americans and the Media: Cinema, Video, Television," he comments on what has been produced, and reminds us of what has not been and



what should be. In this historical survey, Tamburri lays out a plan for a more rigorous investigation into the cultural representation of Italians in the United States from the earliest silent films to the latest reality television shows.

From there, the author moves into four case

studies. In the first, he revisits the public persona of Frank Sinatra through a close viewing of Sinatra's Academy Award-winning short film, "The House I Live In." Tamburri reminds us that Sinatra held strong opinions of race and social relations, promoting a more liberal agenda than many might connect to his legacy. In "Michael Corleone's Tie," Tamburri shows us how something as seemingly insignificant as what tie the character wears throughout the film can be filled with meaning that counters the criticism Coppola has taken for his creation of the film.

"Old World vs. New: Opposites Attract" is the most technical of all the essays, but it's well worth the reader's effort. Here, Tamburri takes us through a unique reading of the film "Nuovo Mondo" ("The Golden Door" in the English version) that helps us better understand Italian notions of emigration from Italy. And his final essay on short films establishes him as the go-to authority when it comes to this neglected genre of cinematic art.

Tamburri's conclusions will challenge you to know our history and act on the forces that created our very identity.

**Re-Viewing Italian Americana:
Generalities and Specificities on Cinema**
by Anthony Julian Tamburri

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SPORTS Born to race

by Elena Ferrarin

NASCAR racer Joey Logano says people always ask him when he decided to become a professional racecar driver, but the truth is, that's all he's ever known.

"I always wanted to drive racecars when I grew up. I always had a lot of fun taking cars to an edge and trying to get the most speed out of a racecar," he says. "It's kind of how it's always been."

Logano, 22, started driving his first go-kart at just four years old, zipping around the shop of the garbage business his father owned. "I would drive around the tractor trailers and have so much fun. It probably wasn't the safest thing, but I'm still here," he says.

Ever since then, it's been a steady ascent in the world of car racing for Logano, whose nickname is "Sliced Bread," as in "the greatest thing since ..."

He started competing in Quarter Midget Racing at the age of 6, and racked up a record 14 consecutive wins at Atlanta Motor Speedway as a 12 year old. He was also the youngest winner in the history of the Pro Legends National Championship.

Logano was signed as a development driver by Joe Gibbs Racing in 2005, and began his NASCAR career in 2007. He won his first Sprint Cup Series race at age 19 in June 2009, becoming the youngest driver to do so.

Winning his second Sprint Cup race on June 10 was especially rewarding, Logano says. Not only was it his first "regular" win — the first time the race was stopped by the rain — but he ended up winning by slipping past veteran driver Mark Martin.



JOEY LOGANO: Launching his career at the age of 6, he has racked up an impressive series of firsts at the tender age of 22.

Martin is one of the racecar drivers he has always looked up to, Logano says. "Having him help me come up, then lining up against him, it's kind of a surreal experience," he says.

Logano, who now lives in North Carolina, grew up in a tight-knit Italian family in Portland, Conn. His grandfather was a really good soccer player, he says, while his father played baseball and basketball. "I tried that stuff, but I guess the genes didn't pass down to me. I couldn't do any stick-and-ball game for anything," he explains.

Though drivers take the spotlight, auto racing is definitely a team sport, Logano says. Sure, a driver has to know his surroundings, evaluate them and know when and what to do to pass opponents at just the right moment to get out in front, he says.

But mechanics are crucial, like making sure pits stops — as well as your car — are quick and efficient. "You put a great driver into a not-so-great car, and it's not going to work," he says. "You have to have the whole package."

NASCAR races can last three to four hours in very hot temperatures, so drivers have to have a lot of endurance, says Logano, whose training consists mostly of cardio and upper body strength. "Physically, you have to be in shape, but mentally you have to be there throughout the race," he says.

Despite its "good ol' country boy" reputation, NASCAR racing has evolved a lot in recent history, Logano says.

"It's not so much the southern sport that it was before. There are a lot of drivers from the West Coast, the East Coast, the Northwest. There are drivers from around the country and around the world, like Juan Pablo Montoya (from Colombia)," he says. "I think it's definitely getting away from that, even though it's staying true to its roots."

As for Logano's hobbies, well, you guessed it, they also involve driving. "I go four wheeling all the time. I have a blast," he says.

And letting anyone else drive is out of the question. "I gotta drive, because I'm always picking on someone if they're not doing the right thing," he says.



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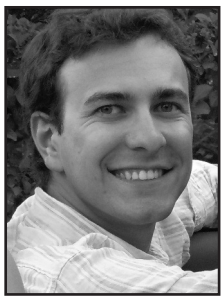
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by Nicola Orichuia



Feeling sheepish

The economic crisis is still being felt across Italy, and public officials are looking to raise funds in any way possible. But why should the poor mouflon suffer? The Campania region is trying to unload 30 of these exotic creatures, which are currently roaming across a 2,000-acre natural park in the province of Salerno, a home they never asked to inhabit in the first place. "What's a mouflon?" you may be asking. It's a sheep native to Sardinia and Corsica that's popular with poachers because of its sweet meat and the trophy-size spiraled horns sported by the male of the species.

Several years ago, a few of them were shipped across the Tyrrhenian Sea to the forest of Cerreto-Cognola, where the local administration had carved out a breeding ground. Wild boar and deer had already been imported to the preserve and had no trouble adapting to the environment. Rumor even has it that wolves also roam the grounds. The imported sheep liked their new home as well. Perhaps a little too well. Now, the Campania region is dealing with a mini population explosion that has placed the animals in harm's way.

So if anyone is interested in picking up a few of these grass-munching beasts at a discount, Salerno is the place to go. The prices are quite tempting: 146 euro (less than \$200) per male, 120 euro per female and 86 euro per kid under the age of 1. The asking price plummeted after an auction in 2011 proved to be a complete failure, with no one showing up to bid. Dampening interest, no doubt, is the fact that buyers are required to cart them away live. No small task, when you're dealing with a male that weighs as much as 120 pounds

(See *Circo Italia* on Page 45)

The boys are back in town

by Nicola Orichuia

"The boys" are ready to take America by storm ... again! The sensational singing trio known all over the world as Il Volo is coming back to the United States and Canada for an extensive two-month summer tour. One year after presenting their self-titled debut album, Italian teen phenoms Piero Barone, Ignazio Boschetto and Gianluca Ginoble will be adding new songs to the mix from their second album, which they're putting the finishing touches on as this article goes to press. "We have a lot of great surprises for our fans," says Piero Barone in an exclusive interview with *Fra Noi*. "There will be new sceneries and new songs. We're also very excited to perform alongside Barbra

Streisand for our New York show."

The young singer took time off to speak with us during a brief break in the action in June, while basking in the warm Sicilian sun of his hometown, Naro, just east of Agrigento. The oldest of the three tenors, Piero was unwinding before a grand party on June 24 in honor of his 19th birthday. "It's a great time of year," he says, "because it's my birthday, of course, but it's also when my hometown celebrates the Feast of San Calogero, with more than 20,000 people coming to celebrate. For the past three years, I'd be somewhere in the world for work in this period, so I want to make the most of it

(See *Personaggi* on Page 44)



IL VOLO: With two CDs under their belts and a third on the way, teen phenoms Piero, Ignazio and Gianluca are gearing up for a second North American tour in as many years.

CINEMA Ever the innovator

by Jeannine Guilyard

With a career spanning more than six decades, Bernardo Bertolucci never seems to run out of interesting stories to tell or innovative ways of telling them.

Born in the northern Italian city of Parma in 1940, Bertolucci grew up surrounded by culture. His father was a writer, film critic and art history professor who frequently took his son to screenings, and encouraged his interest in cinema.

By the age of 15, Bernardo Bertolucci had made two short films, and he soon emerged as a respected writer. His first book, "In cerca del mistero" (In Search of Mystery), won the Premio Viareggio, one of the top literary prizes in Italy. Bertolucci originally set out to be a writer and poet like his father, entering the University of Rome in 1958 to study literature. Fate intervened, however, when he began working for filmmaking legend Pier Paolo Pasolini.

Bertolucci's father had helped Pasolini publish his first novel, and Pasolini repaid the favor by hiring his son as a first assistant on his 1961 film, "Accattone." That's when Bertolucci's pas-



BERNARDO BERTOLUCCI: A protege of film legend Pier Paolo Pasolini, he went on to chart a uniquely controversial course rooted in complex stories and characters, poetically rendered.

sion for cinema took over. After his work on that film, he quit school and embarked on an independent study of the craft.

Bertolucci's first two films — "La commedia secca" (The Grim Reaper) and "Prima della rivoluzione" (Before the Revolution) — were created under the wing of his mentor. Neither were commercial successes, but they did earn some critical acclaim, and the second was even shown at Cannes.

After that, Bertolucci struck out on his own, creating a series of character-driven films with complex and sometimes-sensational subject matter.

He is best known, and most notorious for, his 1972 film, "Last Tango in Paris."

Critics and the public alike took issue with the violent rape scene that Maria Schneider's character, Jeane, was subjected to, and the fact that she was naked throughout the film while her male counterpart, Marlon Brando, was often fully clothed.

Schneider was just 20 years old at the

(See *Cinema* on Page 45)

VIAGGIO The road to peace

by Judith Anne Testa

The last thing you'd expect to find in the maze of medieval streets behind Piazza Navona is a little gem of a Baroque church. But there it is — S. Maria della Pace — rising like a pale gray pearl from among the darker-hued buildings that crowd around it. The church is small and its placement obscure (you may need a map to find it), but it's worth the effort, as this church is both a beautiful example of Baroque architecture and the focus of an ingenious work of small-scale city planning. As an added bonus, it boasts an unusual High Renaissance cloister.

In Rome, no matter what you're looking at, it's probably built on top of something else, and S. Maria della Pace is no exception. The first church on the site, of an uncertain date, was Sant' Andrea degli Aquarellari, or St. Andrew of the Water-Carriers: the church of the men who for centuries had carried wooden casks of water up from the Tiber and sold them in the many parts of Rome that lacked a direct water supply. But with the restoration of some of Rome's aqueducts in the 15th century, such work was no longer necessary. In 1482, Pope Sixtus IV ordered the water-carriers' church demolished and replaced with a church probably designed by his favorite architect, Baccio Pontelli, builder of the Ponte Sisto and the Sistine Chapel. The new church was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in honor of a venerated image from the previous church on the site that's said to have bled when struck by a rock thrown by a drunken soldier. The "della Pace" (of Peace) part of the name may refer to a Christian victory over the Turks, but it's more likely intended to celebrate the peace treaty that ended the war of the Papal States against Florence, Naples and Milan.

By the mid-1600s, this obscure little church had come to hold an unusual distinction. Due to its location near the papal law courts, and because it enjoyed the rare privilege of celebrating mass in the afternoon, it attracted a distinguished congregation: the many clerical judges and Vatican lawyers who spent their mornings in court, along with local nobility and church dignitaries who weren't early risers. These worshipers of high social standing of course had the latest in fashionable means of trans-



S. MARIA DELLA PACE: This tiny gem of a Baroque church traveled a circuitous route to its current position as the centerpiece of an equally diminutive piazza off a side street in Rome.

port — the large and elaborate horse-drawn carriages that were the Cadillac stretch limos of their day. But because S. Maria della Pace is tucked into a tangle of narrow medieval lanes, there was no easy way for these large vehicles to get close to the church, and God forbid their passengers should have to get out and walk any distance!

To the increasing despair and resentment of local residents, nasty traffic jams in the neighborhood streets around the church became the daily norm. These pile-ups gave rise to unseemly quarrels and shouting matches over a subject that obsessed the nobility and Church officials of the day: precedence. That burning matter of who outranked whom, who had the right to approach the church first, who had the privilege of parking his carriage where, and so on and on, was becoming a major civic embarrassment.

When Cardinal Flavio Chigi was elected pope in 1655, taking the name Alexander VII, he quickly decided that something had to be done about the daily uproar around S. Maria della Pace. This was an urgent matter to him

because he had a special interest in the church. It contained a chapel constructed by an ancestor of his, papal banker Agostino Chigi, the founder of the family fortune. (The pope was a descendent of Agostino's brother, Sigismondo Chigi.) Agostino had commissioned Raphael to decorate the chapel around 1511, and the new pope, already a sophisticated patron of the arts, understood the value of that family treasure, so he wasn't about to allow the church itself to be radically changed. He therefore chose an ingenious solution to the traffic and precedence problem. Instead of having the church torn down — which also would have solved the

problem by eliminating the source of the disagreements — he had the entire area in front of the church enlarged and redesigned, a plan that also included a new facade for S. Maria della Pace.

For this project, the pope chose Pietro Berrettini da Cortona. Although better known as a painter of impressively illusionistic ceiling frescoes, he proved himself an equally effective architect. In order to accommodate Cortona's plan, the pope purchased several buildings facing the church and had them torn down, thereby creating a space where those unwieldy carriages could stop or turn around without causing traffic jams. In addition to a new facade for the church, the architect also designed facades for all the buildings facing onto his newly created miniature piazza. The idea was to produce a 360-degree panorama — the kind of theater in the round dear to Baroque architects and patrons — that would meld the church and the piazza into a unified whole. Although the plan was never fully carried out, the church front is one of the jewels of Roman Baroque architecture.

The unusual entrance portal immediately attracts the eye. A semi-circle of paired columns surrounds the doorway, pressing forward into the piazza and highlighting an inscription on the frieze just above, a text from Psalm 72: "SUSCIPiant montes pacem populo et colles iustitiam." (The mountains shall bring peace to the people and to the hills, justice.) The pope's choice of text combines a reference to the name of the church (peace), with a reference to the mountains that appear on the coat of arms of the Chigi family, presumably alluding to the benefits of Pope Alexander's reign. The upper portion of the facade, set well back from the portico and also curving slightly outward, continues the motif of columns, although here they're part of the wall surface rather than freestanding. The tall central window allows the viewer to glimpse a portion of the circular window of the original 15th-century church, which remains intact behind Cortona's facade.

Although the interior of the church is only the width of the semi-circular portico, Cortona designed a pair of two-story-high side wings that make the church seem much wider. They also connect the church to the buildings that flank it. Although both wings appear to have doorways that would take the visitor into the church, they're actually false fronts. Neither side-wing doorway leads into the church, and the one on the right doesn't lead into any interior at all. Instead, it takes you to a narrow little street that meanders on through the neighborhood in the direction of Piazza Navona. The inward-curving shape of the side wings plays off against the outward-curving shape of the portico, creating a wonderful visual effect — as if the solid stone surfaces were curtains billowing in a breeze.

Although the interior of S. Maria della Pace is less interesting than its exterior, it contains at least one work of art well worth seeing: Rome's "secret Raphael." The works of this famous High Renaissance painter can be found in the Stanze,

Bramante Cloister



or rooms, he painted in the Vatican Palace (now part of the itinerary through the Vatican Museums), as well as in the Villa Farnesina and the church of Sant'Agostino, but few travelers find their way into S. Maria della Pace, which isn't often open. The arch above the entrance into the Chigi chapel (the first one on the right) displays



Psalm 72

levels, rather than the one found in the cloisters of most monastic houses. On the ground level the arcade is supported by square piers, each one decorated with a pilaster, a two-dimensional image of a column, topped with a carved capital in the simple Doric style. The second story displays slender piers, still decorated with pilasters, here topped with fancier Corinthian style capitals, and placed directly above the piers of the lower story. These alternate with delicate little columns, creating an effect that's highly original. If Bramante wanted to call attention to his ability to boldly manipulate ancient Roman architectural forms — piers, pilasters, columns and capitals — he succeeded.

The Bramante cloister and the other long unused monastic buildings attached to it have recently become a remarkable enterprise where contemporary designers have managed to use every last inch of available space for one profit-making purpose or another. There's a café called Le Sibille (The Sibyls) on the second floor of the cloister, and on the ground level, a bookstore, a gift shop and a number of large rooms used for art exhibitions. There is even a very expensive apartment, called the Spazio Torretta, located on the top floor of the monastic complex, which can be rented by visitors for short stays in Rome. Among the amenities offered to guests — along with the great view — are catered meals, scooter rentals and yoga lessons. The complex also includes a Children's Academy where youngsters can learn about art, and which can be rented out for children's parties. Still another space hosts theater

Raphael's fresco of the Four Sibyls who, according to legend, predicted the coming of Christ. Painted between 1511 and 1514, and restored in 2003, Raphael's graceful, feminine figures are very different from Michelangelo's muscular sibyls on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Raphael shows each of the four pagan prophetesses receiving inspiration from an angel, and each reacts with individual gestures of amazement and awe.

Another treat offered by S. Maria della Pace is a portion of the complex that predates Pietro da Cortona's facade by more than a century: the cloister designed by Donato Bramante between 1500 and 1504. This was the first Roman work of the great Milanese architect who soon would go on to design the original plan for the new St. Peter's, which owes its present gargantuan size to Bramante's High Renaissance imagination. In comparison, this little cloister is almost a miniature. Commissioned by Cardinal Oliviero Carafa, the cloister formed part of a now-defunct monastery. The design is unusual, mixing various ancient Roman elements in adventurous ways. It has two



workshops and small conferences having to do with the theater business. A loft space provides the setting for a variety of events, ranging from art "happenings" to cooking classes, flower-arranging and oriental meditation sessions. Here, it seems that the Church Universal has become the Church Commercial. Let's hope S. Maria della Pace, as well as the sponsoring company, derives income from this multi-faceted venture!

One final feature of the piazza in front of S. Maria della Pace deserves notice, and that concerns the street pattern. The via della Pace approaches the piazza at such an oblique angle that you can't see the church until you're almost on top of it. Although this is an accident of the medieval street layout, which Cortona could have altered if he'd wanted to, the architect no doubt understood the advantage of an eccentric approach — the element of surprise. The sudden appearance of the church comes as an unexpected and delightful discovery, a hidden treasure revealing itself as it falls into place in the giant three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle that is Rome.

TRAVEL TIPS

Caffé della Pace



WHERE IS IT?

First, get yourself to Piazza Navona, one of Rome's most prominent sites. Leave Piazza Navona by via di Tor Millina, on the west side. Continue past via di S. Maria dell' Anima, then turn right onto via della Pace. It will seem for a moment or two as if you're going nowhere, but then you'll suddenly see the church right in front of you, at the far end of its tiny piazza.

WHAT ELSE IS NEARBY?

To get to S. Maria della Pace, you'll probably have gone through Piazza Navona, one of Rome's most popular destinations. It's dominated at its center by Bernini's spectacular Fountain of the Four Rivers, and directly behind the fountain is Sant' Agnese, a church designed in part by Bernini's long-time rival, Borromini. Nearer to S. Maria della Pace is S. Maria dell' Anima, a fine Renaissance structure and the church of the German community of Rome.

DINING DELIGHTS

One of the surprises awaiting the visitor to S. Maria della Pace is the pleasant little café-restaurant on the second story of Bramante's cloister. In nice weather, there are tables outdoors in the loggia, and it's one of the few places in Rome that serves a Sunday brunch. The Caffé della Pace, located at the start of via della Pace, is fairly quiet during the day, but it's said to be one of Rome's hottest nightspots for the younger crowd, who flock there along with affluent guests from the nearby Hotel Raphael.

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RECIPES Caught between two worlds

by Dolores Sennebogen

The Northern Italian region of Trentino Alto-Adige straddles two cultures and two cuisines. It is bordered by Austria and Switzerland to the north and by the Italian regions of Lombardy and Veneto to the west and south. Trentino's cuisine is influenced by its Adriatic neighbors, while Alto-Adige's dishes have a pronounced Austrian flavor. But the hearty mountain cuisines of the two autonomous provinces do share certain elements. Apples, mushrooms and cured pork products are popular. Speck is a dry-cured ham, smoked with juniper over a wood fire, and cured for 20 to 24 weeks. It appears sliced or chopped in many dishes, notably popular dumplings known as canederli. As in other northern regions, polenta is served in endless imaginative ways. The region is also a prolific producer of dairy products, including cow's milk cheeses such as Asiago, Grana Alto Adige and Grana Trentino. One of the few Italian regions not touched by the sea, Trentino Alto-Adige's freshwater lakes abound with many varieties of trout. They include lake trout, brook trout, and even rainbow trout that were introduced into the region from the waters of North America.

TROTA CON SALSA VERDE

(Trout with Green Sauce)

4 trout, cleaned
Court Bouillon (recipe follows)
5 ounces of fresh spinach
2 bunches fresh basil
2 tablespoons drained capers
1 tablespoon chopped shallots
3/4 cup slivered almonds
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1/3 cup olive oil
Salt and pepper

Select trout that weigh about 7 ounces each. For the sauce, wash the spinach and remove any tough stems. Blanch it in a large pot of salted water. Drain and rinse the spinach with cold water. Let it drain in a colander. Squeeze the moisture from the spinach and chop it. Remove the basil leaves from the stems (you should have about a cup). Puree them in a food processor or blender along with the spinach, capers, shallots, almonds, and lemon juice. While pureeing, add the oil in a thin stream to make a creamy sauce. Season with salt and pepper. Prepare the court bouillon. Put the cleaned trout in a flat pan and barely cover with the hot court bouillon. Cover and simmer for 4 to 6 minutes or until the fish flakes easily with a fork. Serve with the Salsa Verde.

Court Bouillon: Combine 3 cups water, 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice, 3/4 teaspoon salt, 6 peppercorns, and 1 small bay leaf. Bring to a boil and cook for 3 minutes before using it for poaching fish.

Variation: Instead of poach-

ing the fish in Court Bouillon, you could bake the trout in the oven. Put the cleaned trout in a well-greased shallow baking pan. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and brush with melted butter. Bake in a preheated 400-degree oven for 10 to 15 minutes or until the fish flakes easily with a fork. Serve with the Salsa Verde.

— Dolores Sennebogen

CANEDERLI TIROLESI (Speck and Chive Bread Dumplings)

1/2 pound crustless, day-old country bread
1/4 pound speck
3 extra large eggs
1 cup whole milk
2 cups snipped chives, divided
2 tablespoons minced flat-leaf parsley
2 teaspoons caraway seeds
Salt
1/2 teaspoon finely ground black pepper
1 cup all-purpose flour
6 tablespoons unsalted butter

Cut the bread into 1/2-inch cubes. Purchase the speck in one piece and cut it into 1/8-inch dice. Beat the eggs and milk in a large bowl. Add the bread, speck, 1-3/4 cups of the chives, the parsley, caraway, 1/2 teaspoon of salt, and the pepper. Work with your hands until the bread breaks down.

Mix in the flour with your hands until the mixture holds together and forms a gluey paste. Add more flour by the tablespoon if it is needed. Shape into walnut-sized balls with moistened hands and roll on a generously floured work surface. Spread out the canederli in a single layer on a floured tray.

Meanwhile, bring four quarts of water to a boil with 2 tablespoons of salt. Drop in the canederli. Cook over medium heat for 15 minutes,

uncovered, just below the boiling point. Remove with a slotted spoon to a bowl. Melt the butter over medium-high heat in a 12-inch skillet. Add the canederli and cook for 5 minutes or until golden all over, turning to cook evenly. Serve hot, sprinkled with the remaining 1/4 cup of chives.

Variation: Serve cooked canederli in rich beef broth.

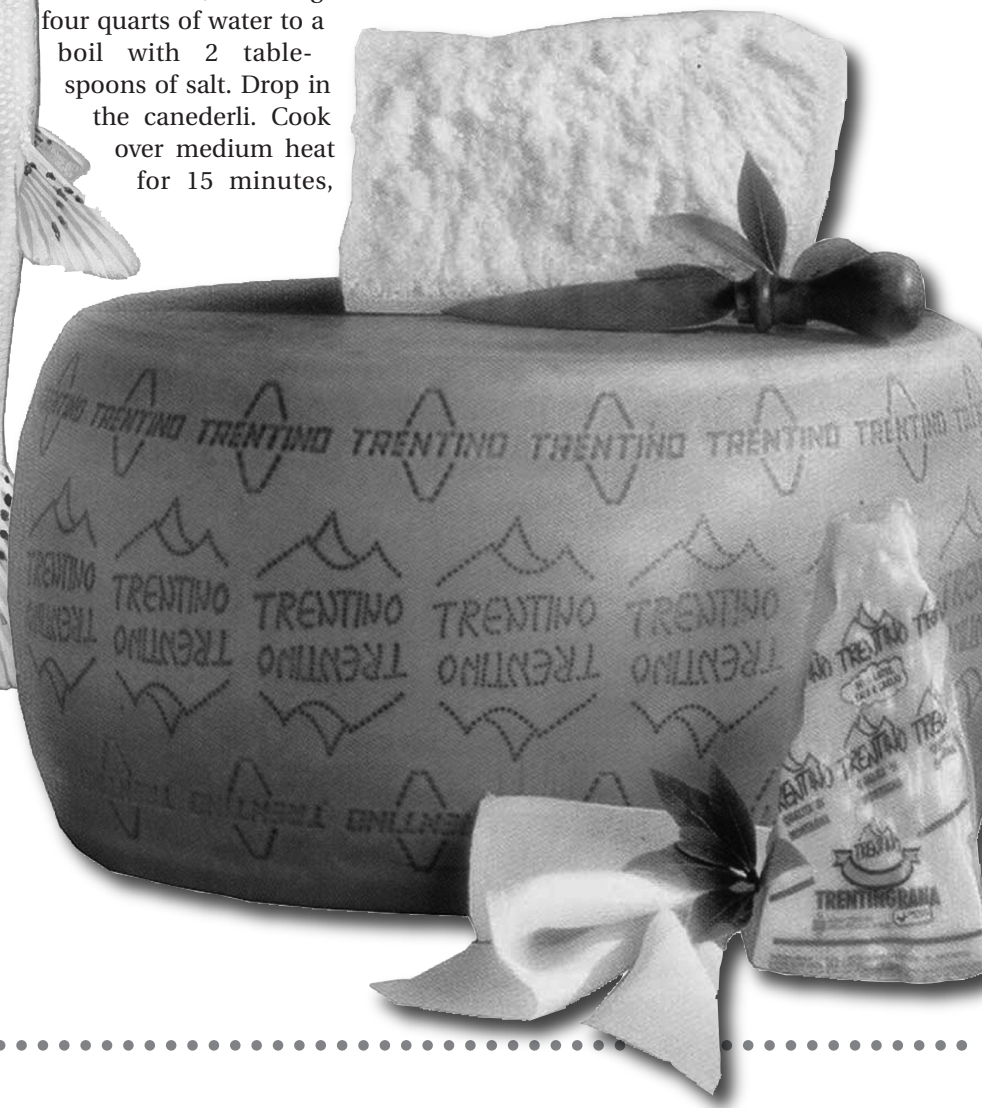
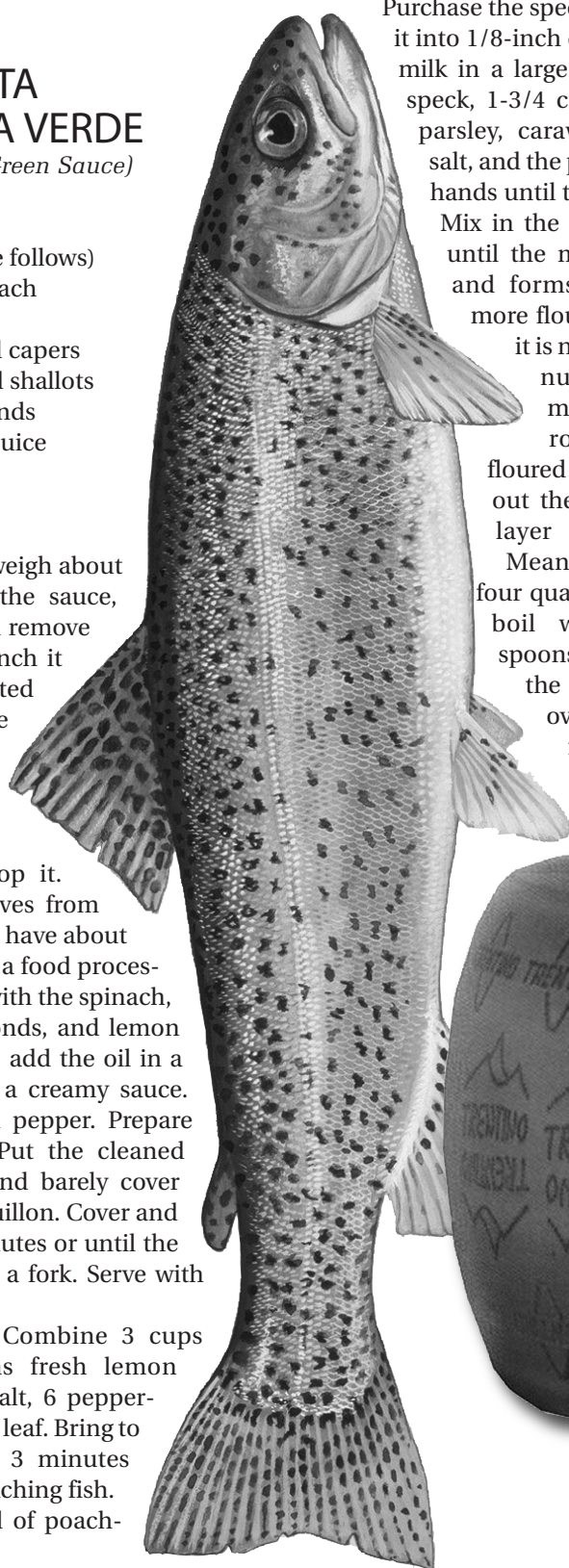
— adapted Micol Negrin
"Rustico"

INSALATA PAESANA (Country Salad)

1 pound cauliflower
3/4 pound small red potatoes
1 large or 2 small firm crisp apples
8 small radishes
1 cup diced red onion
8 ounces imported Italian Asiago (see note)
1/2 cup toasted coarsely chopped walnuts
1 teaspoon kosher salt
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
3 tablespoons cider vinegar
1 tablespoon chopped flat-leaf parsley

Core the cauliflower and break it into small florets. Drop them (along with any of small tender leaves of the cauliflower) into 3 quarts of boiling water. Cook until just tender, about 5 minutes. Lift the florets from the pot, but retain the water. Drain the cauliflower well in a colander, and when cool, place in a large bowl. Return the pot of water to a boil and drop in the potatoes. Cook them at a gentle boil until a knife can pierce the center easily. Don't let them get mushy. Drain the potatoes. When they are cool enough to handle but still warm, peel them and cut into 1/2-inch to 1/4-inch dice. Add them to the bowl with the cauliflower. Peel and core the apples,

(See Recipes on Page 45)



LOU&A

(Continued from Page 35)

lessons he learned in a hard-working Italian family.

Fra Noi: How did your family come from Italy to settle in New Orleans?

Grant Cardone: Lots of Italians came through New Orleans. My mother's side ended up in Lake Charles, La., and my father's side settled in Madisonville, which is just north of New Orleans. My mother's father, Anthony Niele, was born on the ship coming over here. He never had papers to be in this country legally. And when you don't have papers, how do you work? He did what he had to do. It was the 1910s and it was an underground life of trying to raise your family and get by. It was what so many of the immigrants had to do back then.

FN: What was it like growing up in an Italian family?

GC: My mother, Concetta, had twins at the age of 38. I have an identical twin brother — we weighed 15 pounds (combined, at birth), and there was an older brother and two older sisters, all five years apart. My mother raised us with scarcity: Every time we ate we had to eat it all up, because my parents were raised during the Great Depression. My father owned a grocery store in Lake Charles and they were living the American Dream of trying to get into the middle class. It was something you aspired to get into back then. Now it's something you try to get out of.

FN: But by the time you and your brother came along, some things had changed. Tell us about that.

GC: By the time I was born, my dad was selling stocks and bonds and participating in the bull market of the 1960s. But he died of a heart attack when he was 52, and he'd been having heart attacks when he was in his 40s. His brothers told me, "Your father wanted to be a millionaire." He bought his dream home a year before he died. He believed in working hard and saving everything. But the other part of it, the worry [and stress], killed my father.

FN: How did all that shape the man you are today?

GC: When my dad died, at least we had a car and clothes and we got to go to school, but there was just barely enough: There was fear every day. So that was a big motivation, to not live under that fear. I also learned that you have to work. That's what my father taught me and that's what the Italians did when they came here: They worked. But between 10 and 25 I had no direction in my life because there was no father in the household. My mother did the best she could, but she had no job or education, and wouldn't even date another man because she felt that wasn't right for the kids. That's as Italian as you can get.

FN: How did you convert your father's worry into something more productive?

GC: My father approached success as a duty. He did whatever it took, and I think that was in my family. But my grandfather, who was under the radar, lived into his 90s. I thought that there had to be the best of both worlds here.

I was told my whole life, "Be grateful for what you have." But a lot of people use that to settle. We're born with unbelievable gifts and we should be inspired to use the gifts we have before we expire. Use your gifts. If I talk to a crowd of 2,000 and I ask, "How many of you are not using all your gifts?" there's not a single hand that doesn't go up.

FN: "Sell or Be Sold" is an interesting title. What's the gist, in your own words?

GC: The guy who gets his way in life is selling something. My wife wouldn't go out with me for 13 months, but I knew she was the woman I wanted to have kids with. And now we've been married eight years and we just had our second kid.

"Sell" is a bad word in this country, but if you go to China or India, you can have a brain surgeon doing a seminar, and I'll outdraw the surgeon. They love sales over there. And all the great things in this country, they've been sold, whether it was by JFK or

Martin Luther King.

FN: It sounds like you're an evangelist for everyone kicking up their sales skills. Why is that?

GC: People are being broken in this country right now. The handcuffs are handed out to people — and I'm not being political here, this is on both sides — where you're told, "Vote for me and I'll take care of you." When you extend unemployment benefits, you end up with 67 weeks of a blank spot on your resume and you're done. Nobody's going to touch you. So again, if you want to get your way in your life, you have to learn how to sell.

FN: So it sounds like "The Turnaround King" has moved from repairing businesses to fixing people's lives.

GC: It's not a motivational thing. People need tools today. A lot of people are convinced the dream is over. And the middle class is failing. My message is that you need a skill set that makes you impervious to the economy and allows you to create your own economy. If you look at anybody who's successful today, they are above the radar and getting lots of attention. That's my game today, to create my own economy and my own business that's independent of the economy.

FN: Parting shot: Can you give us a glimpse of how that works for everyday people?

GC: When the Italians came to this country, if you had one revenue flow, you were making it. \$30,000? That's a lot of money. But you want multiple income flows from lots of different streams, four or five different flows that are open and dripping into your account. I'm not talking about greener pastures, but lots of pastures.

NEWSMAKERS

(Continued from Page 35)

ditions. This year, we're going to Lombardia and Liguria with 16 other people. We'll try to shoot three shows between Bergamo and the Cinque Terre."

Before heading off for Italy, Esposito gathers with her crew in mid-June to record 20 shows in 10 days. "Each one has a theme, with at least three different recipes per show. I have to keep in mind that many of these shows will air after several months, so I have to look at seasonality of foods and traditions."

The remaining six of the 26 total shows that Esposito delivers to PBS annually are shot on location, with at least two shows per season shot in Italy and another two dedicated to food picked from Esposito's home garden in New Hampshire.

"I really embrace the dirt-to-dish philosophy," she says. "My husband, Gaetano, is the one who takes care of most of the gardening, although it's a hobby for him. He also is a connoisseur of fine wines, and he takes care of that part on our trips to Italy."

During those trips, Esposito keeps a journal of all the new recipes and techniques she learns while in Italy. "I enjoy the process of writing," she says. "The first journal dates back to 1989. The minute I'm in them, I find myself right back where I was when I wrote them."

The journals also nourish Esposito's popular cookbooks. Her latest, "Ciao Italia — Family Classics," is a combination of delicious recipes, mouthwatering photographs by John Hession, and recollections of the three women to whom the book is dedicated.

"Everything I know about the traditions of real Italian cooking came not from any stint in culinary school but from three wise, clever, and strong-minded women with humble beginnings," she writes in the book's introduction. "My two southern Italian grandmothers (nonnas), Maria Assunta Saporito, born in Caltanissetta, Sicily, and Anna Cerullo Galasso, born in the little town of Bellizzi, near Naples, and my mother, Louise Florence Saporito, who was a second-generation Italian American and the only one of the three who had a for-

mal education."

Although all three have passed on, they live on in Esposito's book, which interweaves family memories with recent anecdotes. There are the Sunday dinners with "the relatives," her father's 100 tomato plants and his proclamation that there is "nothing like fresh tomatoes," and the "tempting pans of green lasagne" discovered during a trip to Bologna's Tamburini restaurant on Via Caprarie.

As if running a national TV show, writing books and taking yearly trips to Italy weren't enough, Esposito has also taken it upon herself to keep in touch with her fans through culinary classes around the country, as well as through her blog, website and Facebook page.

Sometimes her trips inspire location shoots for the TV show, like a recent visit to a famous Italian grocery store in Boston's Hyde Park neighborhood, where Esposito was joined by the Italian-American mayor of Boston, Thomas Menino.

The show will be featured next Easter, Esposito explains, noting that, "We made a special called 'Panini per Pasquetta,' and the mayor made an excellent sandwich with frittata, asparagus and Parmigiano. It was delicious!"

Almost all past episodes of Ciao Italia are available on the program's website, www.ciaoitalia.com, where Esposito also keeps a blog she updates regularly. "There are over 1,000 recipes, all for free," she says. "I also keep in touch with fans through Facebook."

The power to post videos for free on the website comes from the fact that the TV show is completely funded by private sponsors. "All the money for the show is raised privately," says Esposito. "We do not receive any money from PBS. There are companies that believe in us and have supported us for a very long time."

Aside from recipes, links to purchase her cookbooks and past show episodes, the website also spotlights the Mary Ann Esposito Foundation, whose mission "is to preserve authentic Italian and Italian-American experience by providing educational information and digital demonstrations for students who want to become the next generation of great Italian chefs."

To make this possible, Esposito is seeking funds to build and maintain a Ciao Italia Italian Heritage and Education Resource Center, where the young and talented chefs of tomorrow can learn from culinary maestros — a group that would not be complete without the expertise and passion of Mary Ann Esposito.

REVIEW

(Continued from Page 35)

everyone gets to add their own unique style and character.

FN: Train Company is putting the finishing touches on a new release. Tell us about it.

JZ: Yes! We are extremely excited for our full-length album, "Remains of an Effort," to be released on August 17. The primary goal was to record our best material and really go all out with instrumentation and composition. We added string sections, brass sections and trio vocals to songs that people have only heard as a five piece. We've worked on the album for over two years and I think it shows when you listen to it.

FN: You've opened for some pretty big acts. Which was the most memorable?

JZ: Opening up for Blues Traveler was definitely the most memorable to date. It was our first sold-out show at the House of Blues in Chicago. Hearing the roar of over 1,000 people is one of the best feelings in the world. We couldn't believe how cool the band was. We hung out with them after the show and John Popper said, "You were killin'!"

FN: Any plans for a tour of your own?

JZ: August 17 will be our CD release concert at the Arcada Theatre in St. Charles, Illinois. It's going to be huge! There will be 15 of us on stage. Plus, we're looking into going on tour this fall. There are lots of opportunities for Train Company and we're doing our best to keep on fighting the good fight.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT
Remains of an Effort
by Train Company
(Release August 14, 2012)

Hands down one of my favorite releases of the year, "Remains of an Effort" has something for everyone. If you want to get up and dance, there's "City Down By the Shoreline." Feel like rocking out? "Myself in Two" and "Still Can Feel the Heat" have got you covered. Want to kick it old school? Check out the title track, "Remains of an Effort," with its sexy 1950s nightclub vibe, and "Look at You," with its sunny '70s feel. My personal favorite is the hypnotic "The Otherside." I vividly remember hearing it live, and telling John after the show how much it blew me away.

Zozzaro's personal picks include "Leaving," because he says, "it really shows where we are mentally as a group and how we plan to move forward." "Myself in Two," he continues, "is definitely the hardest song on the album, and I love the energy you get from it. Performing this song live is always wild, we like to mess around with it and really lose ourselves."

www.traincompany.net

PERSONAGGI

(Continued from Page 39)

this time around."

All the sacrifices Piero and his two singing companions have made over the years are finally starting to pay off. Their first album — created by Grammy Award-winning producer Humberto Gatica and renowned Italian singer and producer Tony Renis — debuted at No. 6 on the Billboard Top 200 Chart, and worldwide sales are rapidly approaching the 1 million mark. All of the most popular TV shows wanted to showcase their talent during their tour last year, and they were able to perform on "American Idol," "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno, "Today," "Good Morning America," "The Talk," "Ellen" and "Rachael Ray" as well as the final episode of the HBO series "Entourage."

Earlier this year, the trio released a CD and DVD of the PBS broadcast "Il Volo Takes Flight — Live from the Detroit Opera House." With classics such as "O sole mio" and "Un amore così grande," (A Love So Grand) as well as a highly praised version of the classic Charlie Chaplin song "Smile," the program was so popular that PBS aired it over 80 percent of the country. Viewers across the United States had a chance to see the three young Italian singers perform their greatest hits, including "Il mondo" (The World) and "E più ti penso" (And the More I Think About You).

It's no surprise that Piero, Ignazio and Gianluca have become TV sensations. After all, they got their start on RAI Television's "Ti lascio una canzone" (I'll Leave You a Song). In 2009, the young tenors (14 and 15 at the time) stunned Italian audiences with their individual and group performances. Gianluca Ginoble's solo rendition of Andrea Bocelli's "Il mare calmo della sera" (The Calm Sea at Night) won that year's contest, earning the praise of Bocelli himself. "A lot of people told me about you," the famous Italian tenor told Gianluca during a television show in 2011. "So I was curious to hear you, and I got together with family members to listen to you. It was a really pleasant surprise. I could tell you listen to a lot of my albums. That's very important, because it means that young people like you are taking seriously the noble art of singing."

Bocelli is one of Il Volo's greatest inspirations, and they have taken to heart what he told them at the end of that same TV show: "I have three small bits of advice for you. First of all, always think with your own head. Second, always sing with your own voice. Finally, follow the commandments of your heart. They will lead you to the success you deserve." Having become worldwide pop icons, the members of Il Volo have some advice of their own for those who would follow in their footsteps. "I have a message for all the kids who are following their dreams," says Piero Barone. "Never

(Continued on the next page)

give up. If someone tells you that you won't make it, keep moving forward and pursuing your dream." Barone and his companions have reaped the benefits of that advice.

Before hitting the road in August, the trio will lay down tracks for their second studio album. "It will be recorded between Rome and Los Angeles," says Piero. After that, the bespectacled singer looks forward to touring North America, with stops — among others — in Chicago (Aug. 22), New York (Sept. 4-7), Miami (Sept. 16) and Los Angeles (Sept. 27). "Everything has changed so much since our last tour in the United States," says Piero. "Right after, we did a European and then a South American tour. We didn't expect such a positive reaction, especially in South America. We were singing in front of 8,000 to 10,000 people every night. It was unbelievable. We even had to walk around with bodyguards!"

In the end, what really matters to the three young tenors is the great relationship they have with their fans. "We love them so much," says Piero. Their popularity in Asia has grown so strong a tour there is definitely in the works, according to Piero. But tours aren't the only way Il Volo keeps in touch with their fan base. Piero, for example, uses Twitter to communicate with more than 9,000 followers. "It's a great way to stay in touch with my fans and let them know what I'm up to. But they need to look out for fakes! There are a lot of fake accounts, but my Twitter account is @piero_barone." The trio is also very active on Facebook, with more than 287,000 fans following their every move. Supporters from all over the world visit the page and post photos and videos they took with the boys, creating an online community that has one thing in common: a love of great musical talent. And with Il Volo, there's plenty of that to go around.

CIRCO ITALIA

(Continued from Page 39)

and has a battering ram for a head.

Park administrators would have been happy to slaughter them and sell them off for a tidy sum to some high-end restaurant. After all, the species is included among those that can be killed during hunting season. But they've been there, done that, with another species, and botched it so badly that their hands are now tied. For the past three years, jurisdiction over the park has been in the hands of the Procura della Repubblica, the rough equivalent of our state's attorney's office. In September 2009, a Salerno court seized control of the park after abuses of the wild boar population came to light. The boars had multiplied out of control, then began mysteriously disappearing. A police sting operation — dubbed "Operation Obelix" after the Gallic cartoon character who famously craved the hog's dark meat — revealed that the park was slaughtering the animals for profit, selling them to private citizens without respect for standards of hygiene and a host of European laws regulating the sale of game. To avoid a repeat of the same indecencies against the mouflon, the court decided they had to go.

In May, the region of Campania placed the beasts on the market via ads placed in newspapers and magazines. Luckily for the mouflons, some interest in the horned beasts has finally emerged. "These animals are being sold at a 20 percent discount," noted Vittorio Prinzi, a provincial councilor in Potenza, in the southern region of Basilicata. Prinzi would like to see the wild sheep roam free in his region's Parco Appennino Lucano, just south of the border with Campania. "They will have no problem adapting to our park, given it is so close to their current home, and they will attract many new visitors. We must absolutely avoid having to kill the animals." The mouflons would undoubtedly agree with Prinzi. They're hoping to avoid falling victim to the famous Italian saying, "cornuto e mazziato." Literally, it means "horned and beaten," but figuratively, it means cheated. In the mouflon's case, they have horns and they have been cheated. Let's hope they aren't beaten, too.

CINEMA

(Continued from Page 39)

time and claimed she did not know about the scene until just moments before it was filmed, and that she was crying real tears because she felt humiliated and violated by both Bertolucci and Brando.

Brando also said he felt deceived by the director, declaring that he was horrified at the way the scene was shot and edited. Criminal charges were leveled against Bertolucci in Italy, and the film was pulled from distribution by the censorship commission.

In the end, Bertolucci only received a four-month suspended sentence, and years later, a slightly censored version of the film found its way back into public distribution. The film had a far-reaching effect, forever changed the way such subject matter is dealt with cinematically.

Bertolucci made a number of films in the '70s and '80s, some successful and some not, but his relevance as an artist steadily increased. His 1976 film, "Novecento" (1900), featured an international A-list of actors, including Robert De Niro and France's beloved Gerard Depardieu, who portrayed two men who endured the political upheavals of the first half of the 20th century in Italy.

His next film was "The Last Emperor," a biopic that told the panoramic tale of Aisin-Gioro Puyi, the last emperor of China. The epic netted a whopping nine Oscars at the 60th Academy Awards, winning in every category in which it was nominated.

In the last couple of decades, Bertolucci has continued to pursue his vision of poetically shot movies with equally complicated story lines and characters. "Stealing Beauty" in 1996 and "The Dreamers" in 2003 were his biggest box office hits in recent years, and he just completed "Io e te" (Me and You), which was screened out of competition at this year's Cannes Film Festival.

RECIPES

(Continued from Page 43)

cut into pieces the same size as the potatoes. Add them to the salad bowl. Trim the radishes, quarter them into wedges and add them to the bowl along with the red onion, cubes of Asiago and the toasted walnuts. Sprinkle the salt over all and toss. Drizzle on the olive oil and vinegar and toss. Sprinkle with the parsley, toss once more and serve.

NOTE: In Trentino-Alto Adige, this salad would always be made with fresh young local Asiago that has a sweetness and a soft consistency. If you can't find genuine imported Italian Asiago, try Montasio or even a good American cheddar, younger and on the mild side.

— adapted from Lidia Bastianich
"Lidia Cooks from the Heart of Italy"

FUNGHI IMBOTTITI

(Stuffed Cremini Mushrooms)

16 to 20 medium cremini mushrooms
14 ounces spinach
1/4 cup heavy cream
1/2 cup chicken stock
Salt and pepper
Nutmeg
1 heaping cup of leeks, finely chopped
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1/4 cup olive oil, divided
1-1/4 cups ricotta
3/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
2 heaping tablespoons pine nuts, toasted
1 tablespoon chopped parsley

Trim off mushroom stalks flush with the head, leaving an open cavity. Blanch the spinach for 2 minutes in boiling water. Cool, squeeze the liquid out in a colander and then finely chop the spinach. When the

spinach has completely cooled, make a spinach sauce by placing a small handful of the spinach in a blender with the cream and chicken stock. All of the ingredients should be cold. Add a pinch each of salt, pepper and nutmeg. Blend until smooth and reserve the sauce.

Fry the leeks and garlic in half of the olive oil over low heat for 5 to 10 minutes, until soft. Place in a medium bowl. Let cool and then combine the mixture with the ricotta, Parmesan, most of the pine nuts, the remaining spinach, the parsley and a little salt and pepper.

Spoon or pipe the mixture into the mushroom caps, then place on a baking tray. Brush them with the remaining olive oil and bake in a preheated 425-degree oven for 15 to 20 minutes. Heat the reserved spinach sauce and spread on 4 warmed plates. Place 4 or 5 morels on each plate and garnish with the remaining pine nuts.

— adapted from Johnny Acton

POLENTA CONCIA

(Polenta Layered with Cheeses)

6 cups water
2-1/2 teaspoons sea salt
1/2 pound bitto or Fontina cheese
1-2/3 cups medium grind cornmeal
4 to 6 tablespoons freshly grated Parmigiano
Substantial amount of ground black pepper
4 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 garlic cloves, smashed with side of a knife
Fresh sage (optional)

In a very large heavy-bottomed pot vigorously boil the water with the salt. Reduce the heat to medium-low and let the cornmeal fall into the pot in a slow, steady stream with one hand while using a whisk in your other hand to keep lumps from forming. Continue to stir intermittently with a wooden spoon, crushing any lumps against the side of the pot to break them up. Keep the water at a steady simmer and stir from the bottom of the pot toward the top, almost like you were folding egg whites into cake batter. The polenta will thicken, bubble and hiss as it cooks. When it comes away from the sides of the pot, after 30 to 45 minutes, the polenta is ready. Taste for salt. Pour the polenta out onto a marble slab or wooden board covered with a kitchen towel. When it is cool, cut the polenta into 1/2-inch thick slices. Italian grandmothers cut slices of polenta using a thick cotton string. You can use a knife but be sure to dip it in hot water so it won't stick to the polenta. Butter a shallow 3-quart bak-

ing dish and layer the polenta slices in it to cover the bottom. Cover with a layer of finely sliced bitto or Fontina cheese, a large dusting of grated Parmigiano and generous amounts of freshly grated black pepper. Keep layering polenta, cheese and pepper, finishing with a layer of cheese. In a small skillet brown the butter with the garlic and optional sage. Discard the garlic and pour the butter over the top of the polenta. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 30 minutes or until the layers of polenta are very hot.

— Lina Vitali

MELE AL FORNO

(Baked Apples)

4 medium cooking apples
1-1/2 ounces slivered almonds
1-1/2 ounces chopped pecans
3 tablespoons butter
3 tablespoons sugar
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
1 tablespoon brandy
1/4 cup apple juice

Select apples that are uniform in size and will sit well in the baking dish. Golden Delicious, Cortland, Granny Smith or Rome apples are good choices. Starting at the stem end, core the apples up to, but not through, the bottom of the apple. Peel the top third of each apple. Chop the almonds along with the pecans. Work the butter with a spoon until it is soft and then add the sugar, spices, nuts and brandy. Fill the apples with this mixture. Select a baking dish that just holds the apples. Butter and sugar the dish, arrange the apples in it, and pour the apple juice in the bottom. Cover and bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake an additional 10 minutes or until the apples are tender. Serve warm.

— Dolores Sennebogen

COOK'S TIP

Conventional wisdom advises us not to wash mushrooms since they will absorb too much water. I try to select mushrooms that don't require excessive cleaning. If they aren't too muddy, they can be wiped down with wet paper towels. However, the truth is that mushrooms are mostly water anyway and a little more water is not going to ruin them. They can be placed in a colander and sprayed gently with cold water. Always dry thoroughly before cooking.



UNICO NATIONAL “SERVICE ABOVE SELF”



The Carbondale Chapter spruced up the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cemetery in time for the Memorial Day weekend. From left: Rich Ruggiero, Don Gibbs, Joe Carachilo, Joe Masco, National President Glenn Pettinato and Mike Dobrowski.



The Stamford Chapter devoted their hard labor to the storm clean up effort in the community. Thanks to the following members: Stan Esposito, Phil Schiavoni, John Servidio, Al Fusco, Mike DiSotto, Emilio Funicello, Joe DeRosa, Giuseppe Pampena, Nick Montagnese and Lee Rizzuto.

CULTURE AND HERITAGE DAY



You're Invited!!!

“Re-Discover your Italian Heritage”

Woodcliff Lake UNICO
Open House and Italian Heritage Reception
Tastings, Italian Lesson, Demos, Cultural

Sunday
January 27, 2008
2 to 5 PM
Tice Senior Center
Chestnut Ridge Rd

The Rutherford Chapter, following Past National President Andre’ DiMino’s program “Re-Discover your Italian Heritage”, which can be found in the Member Section of the UNICO National website, held a Culture and Heritage Day recently. The program is very easy to follow and if the Chapter makes the day or night all about Italian Heritage and not a membership drive people are more apt to attend to learn more about their heritage. If you need assistance in planning and running an event for your Chapter Andre’ and the staff at the National Office are here to help plan and execute a successful Heritage Day. This program is adaptable to both Chapters and Districts. Woodcliff Lake, Verona, Passaic Valley and the Rutherford Chapters among others have added substantial members to their rosters by implementing this program. The UNICO National is sure that these Chapters stated they would be happy to help another Chapter plan their event. (See page 29 for additional pictures from Rutherford’s Heritage Day.)

michéal CASTALDO



**Crooner/Composer/Connoisseur
Italian Cultural Ambassador and Entrepreneur**

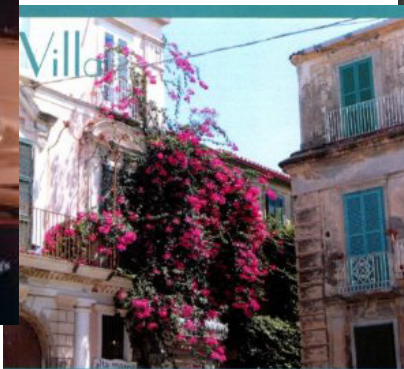
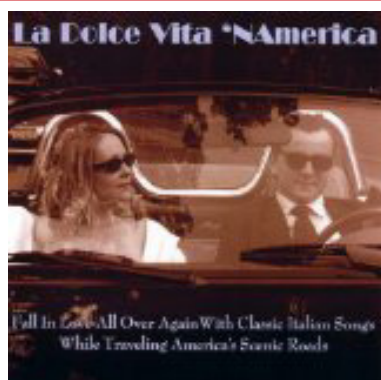
Award-winning songwriter/producer and recording artist has added the New York City Olive Oil Coop, the rebuilding of his family villa in Calabria and La Dolce Vita Foundation to his growing list of entrepreneurial accomplishments.

Do you need an Italian music fix? The taste of exquisite olive oil? A week in Calabria? michéal CASTALDO and Italian born Canadian, now New York City resident offers up all of these things and more. As he says, "Life is not a cup to be drained, but a measure to be filled."

CASTALDO's cup has filled several times over, each time bringing him closer to his roots in southern Italy. "All roads lead back to Calabria for me," CASTALDO says. "That's where I was born and where I spent the first three years of my life. And it's where I learned everything I love."

Everything michéal CASTALDO loves includes sharing the very best Italian music, the freshest olive oil from his family's groves, a stay at his family's enchanting villa, Villetta Mimma Vittoria, named for michéal's mother. To spend time with michéal is to drink in all things that go with "La Dolce Vita," the sweetest life imaginable.

www.VillettaMimmaVittoria.com www.NewYorkCityOliveOilCoop.com
www.LaDolceVitaFoundation.org www.michealCastaldo.com



The extra virgin olive oil is available direct to connoisseurs and not sold in stores. New harvest is available in North America by mid December.



The villa is available for rent 52 weeks of the year. Scenic Joy Rides are given once a week from May through October, weather permitting.



michéal CASTALDO



When the Academy of Calabria Rome-Toronto honored michéal in 1996 for his contributions to the Calabrian community in Canada, and when he received the "Calabria America" 2000 for his achievements as a composer/producer, michéal was inspired to rebuild Villetta Mimma Vittoria, the home where he was born, making it available to his family and friends as well as opening it up as a rental to anyone ready for a Calabrian adventure.

In 2004 he founded the first ever Olive Oil Cooperative in New York City, providing high quality organic olive oil from his family's estate-grown extra-virgin olive oil to connoisseurs in North America. The Private Reserve Estate EVOO was founded in 1907 by his great grandfather Giuseppe Frisina who had just returned from New York City as a "bird of passage" helping to build the subway system. With savings in hand he purchased a parcel of land that had centuries-old olive groves. By the 1920s his grandparents, Michelangelo Pellegrino and Maria Antonia Frisina took the olive grove to the next level and now michéal's uncles have over 20,000 orchards along the Tyrrhenian coast of Calabria in the foothills of Aspromonte. In short, The New York City Olive Oil Coop seed was planted a century earlier as a gift from great grandfather to great grandson.

To give back a bit of life's sweetness, CASTALDO now runs La Dolce Vita Foundation, whose mission is to take people suffering from the blues or illness on scenic joy rides in the country in his exotic convertible roadster, a customized Mazda Miata. His story and his car were featured as Miata of the Month in November 2007.

michéal will be performing at the Rockford Festa Italiano 8/3-8/5/12 and the Peekskill Italian Festival 8/10/12/12. For more information go to www.griiaa.com/festa.php and www.peekskillfestival.com/page-0#

LOOKING BACK AT THE YEAR WITH PRESIDENT GLENN

