

# *UNICO National*

*Italian & Italian American Heritage & Photo Calendar*

# 2025



*www.UNICO.org*  
*Our 14th Edition*

A field of vibrant red poppies is in full bloom, growing in front of a rustic stone wall. The flowers are scattered across a green lawn, with some taller stems reaching up. The stone wall is made of large, irregular blocks of grey stone, with some smaller stones and mortar visible. The background shows more greenery and a clear sky.



## *UNICO National Chapter States*

*California  
Connecticut  
Delaware  
Florida  
Illinois  
Massachusetts  
Minnesota*

*Missouri  
New Jersey  
New York  
Pennsylvania  
Tennessee  
Virginia  
Wisconsin*

# January | gennaio 2025

Photo Credit:  
Roman Forum Poppies  
Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ  
(The cover and back page photo credits are on the back cover)

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>The poppies in the Roman Forum usually bloom from May through June. They cover the ground and create a picturesque spectacle. They also have numerous traditional medicinal applications.</p>		<p>1 New Year's Day</p> <p>Dr. Ann Walko UNICO PNP Greater Westfield, NJ</p>	<p>2 366 The Roman Empire is invaded when the Alamanni crosses the frozen Rhine River</p>	<p>3 Marcus Tullius Cicero b. 106 BC - Dec. 7, 43 BC Roman philosopher, politician, lawyer, political theorist, consul and constitutionalist</p>	<p>4 Giantereso Vattimo Born 1936 Internationally recognized Italian author, philosopher, and politician</p>
<p>5 Umberto Eco Born 1932 Italian medievalist, philosopher, literary critic and novelist. Known for his novel <i>The Name of the Rose</i></p>	<p>6 The Epiphany It is a national holiday in Italy and celebrated on the 12th day of Christmas when La Befana, the good witch, arrives</p>	<p>7 David Marciano Born 1960 Actor who appeared as Detective Raymond Vecchio in TV series <i>Due South</i> and police drama <i>The Shield</i></p>	<p>8 Carl Anthony Pavano Born Jan. 8 Major League Baseball pitcher for the Milwaukee Twins</p>	<p>9 Salvatore Leopoldo Gullotta Born 1946 in Catania Known as Leo Actor, dubber and comedian</p>	<p>10 Gasparo Visconti b. 1683 - D. approx. 1713 Was a virtuoso violinist and composer</p>	<p>11 Felix Anthony Silla b. 1937 - d. April 16, 2021 Italian born American film actor, best known for his role as "Cousin It" on TV's <i>The Addams Family</i></p>
<p>12 Rick Santelli Born 1953 American on-air editor for the CNBC Business News network</p>	<p>13 Sergio Grieco b. 1917 - d. May 30, 1982 Italian film director and screenwriter. Best known for adventure and spy films</p>	<p>14 Louis Quilico b. 1925 - d. July 15, 2000 Canadian opera singer and a leading baritone of his day</p>	<p>15 John Alati (d.2021) UNICO PNP 2002 Verona, NJ</p>	<p>16 Ernesto Pietro Bonino b. 1922 - d. Apr. 29, 2008 Italian singer of pop and jazz. His speak of popularity was during the 1940s and 1950s</p>	<p>17 Antonio Verasini b. 1659 - d. Oct. 24, 1745 Italian composer and violinist of the Baroque era</p>	<p>18 Admiral Francesco Caracciolo b. 1752 - d. June 30, 1799 As a soldier of fortune he fought on the British side during the American Revolution</p>
<p>19 Joseph Bonomi the Elder b. 1739 - d. approx. 1808 Italian architect. He designed Longford Hall and Barrells Hall.</p>	<p>20 Walter Piston Jr. b. 1894 - d. Nov. 12, 1976 American composer of classical music, music theorist and professor of music at Harvard University</p>	<p>21 Frank Stella b. 1919 - d. Sep. 27, 2010 Entrepreneur, supporter of education, healthcare. Founder of The D.D. Stella Products Company</p>	<p>22 Angelo Joseph Rossi b. 1878 - d. Apr. 5, 1946 US political figure who served as mayor of San Francisco</p>	<p>23 Luisa, Marchesa Casati b. 1881 - d. Jun. 1, 1957 Eccentric Italian heiress, muse and patroness of the arts in early 20th century Europe</p>	<p>24 Vito Hannibal Acconci b. 1940 - d Apr. 27, 2017 Brooklyn –based architect, landscape architect, performance and installation artist</p>	<p>25 Don Mancini Born 1968 American screenwriter, producer, and film director</p>
<p>26 Joseph Azzolina b. 1926 - d. Apr. 15, 2010 Republican who served in the NJ General Assembly, representing the 18th legislative district</p>	<p>27 Anne Rudin b. 1924 - d. Nov. 25, 2021 51st Mayor of Sacramento. She was the first woman to be elected mayor by voters</p>	<p>28 Giorgio Lamberti Born 1969 Italian former swimmer. He was the first to win a world title and gold medal at the FINA World Championships</p>	<p>29 Flora Perfetti Born 1969 An Italian tennis star</p>	<p>30 John Elias Baldacci Born 1955 73rd Governor of Maine, Democrat. He also served as member of the US House of Representatives</p>	<p>31 Harry Wayne "K.C." Casey Born 1951 Musician, singer, songwriter, and producer. Known for his group <i>KC and the Sunshine Band</i>. His mother was Italian</p>	



## *Booster Sponsors*

*Bayonne Chapter, NJ*

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*Ralph & Marie-Rose Contini, NJ*

*Steve & Pat Pelonero, NJ*

*Wayne Chapter, NJ*

# February | febbraio 2025

Photo Credit:  
Sorrento, Italy  
Michele Maddalena, Montville Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>Sorrento is a town overlooking the Bay of Naples in Southern Italy. A popular tourist destination. The town is widely known for its small ceramics, lacework and marquetry (woodwork) shops. Having been a city victim of numerous attacks by pirates for its riches, Sorrento boasted in the past numerous castles and fortifications, especially on the strip of land that runs along the sea. The two main processions that take place in Sorrento on Good Friday are the Procession of Our Lady of Sorrows (or the "Visit in the Sepulchers"), organized by the Venerable Arciconfraternita of Saint Monica and the Procession of the Crucified Christ, organized by the Venerable Arciconfraternita of the Death.</p>					<p>1 William Lustig Born 1955 American film director and producer of horror films. Lustig is a nephew of boxer Jake LaMotta</p>
<p>2 Shakira Ripoli Born 1977 Columbian singer, songwriter, musician, dancer and philanthropist. She is of Lebanese and Italian descent</p>	<p>3 Thomas Calabro Born 1959 American actor known for starring on shows such as <i>Melrose Place</i> and <i>Touched by an Angel</i></p>	<p>4 Natalie Jane Imbruglia Born 1975 Australian singer – songwriter, model and actress, Her father is from Sicily</p>	<p>5 Bruce Marchiano Born 1956 American actor and author, best know for his portrayals of Jesus Christ in the Visual Bible film series</p>	<p>6 Ugo Foscolo b. 1778 - d. Sept. 10, 1827 Born Nocolo Foscolo, he was an Italian writer, revolutionary and poet</p>	<p>7 Albertina Marie Born 1985 American actress, as a child actor, starred in films <i>Andre</i>, <i>When a Man Loves a Woman</i>, and <i>Corrina</i></p>	<p>8 Giovanni Chell b. 1918 - d. Feb. 8, 2013 Catholic Cardinal and was a Vatican diplomat under Pope John Paul II</p>
<p>9 Dr. Frank DeFrank UNICO PNP 2019/2020 Roseto, PA</p>	<p>10 Cesare Siepi b. 1923 - d. July 5, 2010 Italian opera singer considered to be one of the finest basses of the post-war period</p>	<p>11 Chris Rush Born. 1948 American stand-up comedian, writer, actor, radio personality and author</p>	<p>12 Constance Albanese Morella Born 1931 Republican US politician. He represented Maryland's 8th cong. Dist. in the US House of Representatives</p>	<p>13 Bartolomea Capitanio b. 1807 - d. 1833 Was one of the founders of the Catholic religious order the Sisters of Charity of Loreve</p>	<p>14 Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15 Carlo Cecere b. Nov. 7, 1706 - d. 1761 Italian composer of operas, concertos and instrumental duets including mandolin duets</p>
<p>16 Charles Parlato b. 1919 - d. Sept. 8, 2007 American musician who performed with Lawrence Welk, His instrument was the trumpet</p>	<p>17 Presidents' Day</p>	<p>18 Kevin Tapani Born 1964 Was a pitcher for the Chicago White Sox and Minnesota Twins</p>	<p>19 Francis Anthony Iommi Born 1948 English guitarist and songwriter best know for playing with the heavy metal band Black Sabbath</p>	<p>20 Federica Moro Born 1965 Actress and Italian model. Miss Italy in 1982</p>	<p>21 Vicenzo Lavigna b. 1776 - d. Sept. 14, 1836 For many years was Concertmaster and Harpsichordist at La Scala. One of his students was Giuseppe Verdi</p>	<p>22 Giovanni Bolzoni b. May 15, 1841 - d. 1919 Italian composer and violinist, known for his Minuet for String Orchestra</p>
<p>23 Antonio Alice b. 1886 - d. Aug. 24, 1943 Argentine of Italian decent portrait painter. Awarded the Prix de Rome in 1904</p>	<p>24 Renata Scotto Born 1934 Italian soprano and opera director. Noted for her sense of style and as a remarkable singer-actress</p>	<p>25 Ronald Santo Born 1940 Former professional baseball player. Player 3rd base for Chicago Cubs and Chicago White Sox</p>	<p>26 Robert Alda b. 1914 - d. May 3, 1986 American actor is the father of actor Alan Alda</p>	<p>27 Maria Grace Sansone Born 1981 Correspondent / co-host of LX NY airing on the NBC flagship station WNBC</p>	<p>28 Lawrence Taliaferro b. 1794 - d. 1871 US Army officer of Italian descent known for his service as an Indian agent at Fort Snelling, Minn</p>	

## *UNICO National Executive Committee*

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Joseph Nasello  
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Steven Calantone  
Laura D'Uva  
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*General Counsel  
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Nicolina Carpinelli  
Geri Samuel  
Joan Tidona  
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*Eastern Regional Chair  
Mid West Regional Chair  
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Nina Held  
Vacant*



# March | marzo 2025

Photo Credit:  
Fountain at the Verrazzano Castle in Tuscany, Italy  
Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>The Verrazzano Castle &amp; Winery is situated on a 230-acre estate which holds 52 hectares of vineyards at altitudes between 260 and 420 meters above sea level. The grapes that grow here are mostly red, including Sangiovese, Merlot, Canaiolo, Cabernet Sauvignon and Colorino. There is only a small percentage of white grapes, such as Trebbiano Toscano and Malvasia lunga del Chianti. The harvest, which usually takes place between September 25th and October 25th, is done exclusively by hand through a careful selection of grapes.</p>					<p>1 Alvin Ray "Pete" Rozelle b. 1926 - d. Dec. 6, 1996 NFL commission 1960-1989 and credited with making the NFL one of the most successful leagues in the world</p>
<p>2 Rosa L. DeLauro Born 1943 American politician and Democratic member of the US House of Representatives representing Conn.</p>	<p>3 Stacie Joy Orrico Born 1986 American pop and R&amp;B singer-songwriter and actress</p>	<p>4 Tina Paternostro Born 1970 LPGA golfer from Williamsport. PA</p>	<p>5 Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>6 Gina Sicillia Born 1985 American blues singer by age 12 she began writing her own songs which were later recorded on her debut album</p>	<p>7 Giuseppe Capogrossi b. 1900 - d. Oct. 9, 1972 Was a painter</p>	<p>8 Antonello Venditti Born 1949 Italian singer-songwriter who became famous in the 1970's</p>
<p>9 Daylight Savings Starts Clocks forward 1 hour</p>	<p>10 Paul Masotti Born 1965 Former professional Canadian football player. Front office executive with the Canadian Football League</p>	<p>11 Thora Birch Born 1982 American actress, child actor in the 1990s received Golden Globe for starring in <i>Ghost World</i>. Italian descent</p>	<p>12 Dominic Anthony Galento b. 1910 - d. July 22, 1979 Italian American heavy-weight boxer. Nicknamed "Two Ton"</p>	<p>13 Marco Michael Andretti Born 1987 American auto racing drive. Drives # 26 car Andretti Autosport in Indy Racing League</p>	<p>14 Fiorenzo Marini b. 1914 - d. Jan. 25, 1991 Italian Olympic fencer, won the gold medal in the team epee event at the 1960 Summer Olympics</p>	<p>15 Ides of March March 15, 44 BC, Julius Caesar was stabbed to death by Roman senators</p>
<p>16 Blu Cantrell Born 1976 American R&amp;B and soul singer whose mother is Italian</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18 Antonio Salviati b. 1816 - d. Jan. 25, 1890 Italian glass manufacturer and founder of the Salviati family firm</p>	<p>19 St. Joseph's Day</p>	<p>20 Spring begins Ends June 20</p>	<p>21 Chris DiMattio UNICO PNP 2010 Scranton, PA</p>	<p>22 Virginia Oldoini b. 1837 - d. Nov. 28, 1899 Countess of Castiglione. Born to a aristocratic family from La Spezia, a 19th century Italian aristocrat</p>
<p>23  30 Mar. 30, 1282 - The people of Sicily rebel against king Charles I, in what becomes known as Sicilian Vespers</p>	<p>24  31 Paul Mercurio B. 1963 – Australian actor and dancer who was the start of <i>Strictly Ballroom</i> (1992)</p>	<p>25 Nicholas Quercetti UNICO PNP 1986 Philadelphia, PA</p>	<p>26 Don Mancuso Born 1955 American rock guitarist and songwriter for the rock band Black Sheep</p>	<p>27 Alessandro La Marmora b. 1799 - d. June 7, 1855 Italian general remembered for founding the military unit known as the Bersaglieri</p>	<p>28 Giuseppe Berardinelli b. 1922 - d. June 2, 2001 American boxer, light Heavyweight champion of the world. He took the name Joey Maxim</p>	<p>29 Donald Anthony Cerrone Born 1983 American professional mixed martial artist and kick boxer who fights out of Albuquerque, New Mexico</p>



***NJ District VII***

***Elmwood Park***

***Garfield***

***Hackensack***

***Kearny***

***Lodi***

***Nutley***



***Rutherford***

***Saddle Brook***



# April | aprile 2025

Photo Credit:  
Frank Tidona ancestors home town of Librizzi Sicily  
Frank Tidona PNP, Rutherford Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
		1 April Fools day	2 Giacomo Casanova b. 1725 - d. June 4, 1798 Italian adventurer and author from the Republic of Venice	3 Steven Pelonero UNICO PNP 2021 Passaic Valley, NJ	4 Melissa A. Hart Born 1962 American politician. Was the first Republican woman to represent Pennsylvania at the federal level	5 Bianca Maria Sforza b. 1472 - d. Dec. 31, 1510 A Holy Roman Empress as the second wife of Roman Emperor Maximilian I
6 Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino b. 1483 - d. Apr 6, 1520 Was an Italian painter and architect of the High Renaissance	7 On this day in history, in 397, the wearing of barbarian clothing in the City of Rome is banned by the Emperor Honorius	8 Adrian Bellani Born 1982 American actor known as the 2nd actor to play the role of Miguel Lopez-Fitzgerald on the daytime drama <i>Passions</i>	9 Alfredo Silipigni b. 1931 - d. Mar 25, 2006 Conductor and specialist is lesser known Italian operas. Founded the NJ State Opera and ran it for four decades	10 Giovanni Aldini b. 1762 - d. 1834 Italian physicist	11 On this date in history, in 1890, Ellis island was designated as an immigration station	12 Sal Mangano UNCO PNP 1997 Saddle Brook, NJ
13 Palm Sunday	14 Glenn Pettinato UNICO PNP 2011 Carbondale, PA	15 Pietro Antonio Cataldi b. 1548 - d. Apr. 14, 1981 An Italian mathematician	16 On this date in history, in 1071, Bari falls to Robert Guiscard, ending Byzantine rule in Italy	17 Frank Cannata UNICO PNP 1994 Orange/West Orange, NJ	18 Good Friday	19 Antonio Carluccio Born 1937 Italian-English chef and author
20 Easter Sunday  Michael Spano UNICO PNP 2006 Memphis, TN	21 On this date in history, in 763 BC, this is the tradition date that Romulus and Remus founded Rome	22 Ria Levi-Montalcini Born 1909 Italian neurologist who received 1986 Nobel Prize for discovery of Nerve Growth Factor (NGF)	23 Ken Auletta Born 1942 American writer, journalist and media critic for The NYer	24 Louis John DiMuro b. 1931 - d. Jun 7, 1982 American umpire in Major League Baseball who worked from 1963 until his death	25 Talia Shire Born Talia Rose Coppola Born 1946 American actress know for roles in the <i>Godfather</i> and <i>Rocky</i> films	26 On this date in history, in 1336.,Italian Renaissance poet Francesco Petrarch famously climbs Mont Ventoux
27 Francis Capra Born 1983 American actor known for his roles of Max Connor in <i>Kazaam</i> and the TV series <i>Veronica Mars</i>	28 Nicola Romeo Born 1938 Italian engineer and businessman	29 On this date in history, in 1945, the German army unconditionally surrendered to the Allies	30 Johnny Farina Born 1941 Brooklyn brothers Santo and Johnny, were an Italian rock band from Brooklyn, known for song "Sleep Walk"	Librizzi is a tiny village located in the province of Messina rich in wonderful ancient churches and incredible works of art. The village of Librizzi originates from the Middle Age and was founded by a noble named Bartolomeo Alangona in 1392. Later it was conquered by Lord Martin I, who donated it to Eleonora Centrelles.		

## *A Tribute to All of our Vastola Awardees*

- *For their service to UNICO Above and Beyond Self*
- *Exceptional service to UNICO on the National level*
- *Showed initiative, originality and dedication to UNICO*


1957 Theodore Mazza  
1958 Hugo Senerchia  
1959 Dr. Joseph Paolone  
1960 Emil Santacrose  
1961 Alphonse Miele  
1962 John Paolercio  
1963 Louis Sabella  
1964 Charles Flumefreddo  
1965 J. Anthony Christopher  
1966 James Napolitano  
1967 Dr. James Diner  
1968 Anthony Salmon  
1969 Charles Corso  
1970 Stephen Mastropietro  
1971 Joseph J Salerno  
1972 Mario DiGiovanno  
1973 Frank Castellano, Esq.  
1974 \*  
1975 Fred J. DiRossi  
1976 \*  
1977 General Vincent Ghioda  
1978 Mario Albi  
1979 \*  
1980 Nicholas Lombardo  
1981 Sam M. Tranchida  
1982 Joseph Coccia, Jr.  
1983 \*  
1984 Dr. Louis Badeen  
1985 Michael Corradino  
1986 Tony Della Monica  
1987 Dominick Frinzi, Esq.  
1988 Renato Biribin, Esq.  
1989 Alfred J. Dante Jr.  
1990 \*

1991 Edward Alleva  
1992 Harold Ferrese  
1993 Anthony Fornelli, Esq.  
1994 \*  
1995 Michael J Sutera  
1996 Salvatore B. Ceraso  
1997 Cav. Frank Milo  
1998 \*  
1999 Alphonse Lordo  
2000 James D'Angelo  
2001 Antonino Lombardo  
2002 Dr. Emanuele Alfano  
2003 \*  
2004 Michael J. D'Arminio  
2005 Charles Greenwald  
2006 Leno Sodini  
2007 John A. Botti  
2008 Frank DeMaio  
2009 Paul Alongi  
2010 Frank Tidona  
2011 John DiNapoli  
2012 Gerry Heytink  
2013 Joseph Agresti  
2014 Frank Paolercio, Sr.  
2015 Ralph A. Contini  
2016 \*  
2017 \*  
2018 Frank Blasi  
2019 \*  
2020 \*  
2021 \*  
2022 Father Robert Wolfec  
2023 Joan Tidona  
2024 Ralph Torracco

\* No Awardee these years

# May | maggio 2025

Photo Credit:  
Vietri sul Mare, Amalfi Coast Italy  
Jean DeSio, Binghamton UNICO NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	The Amalfi Coast is a stretch of coastline in southern Italy overlooking the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Gulf of Salerno. Celebrated worldwide for its Mediterranean landscape and natural diversity, the Coast is named after the town of Amalfi, which makes up its main historical and political center. It has been an attraction to Europeans since the 18th century.			1 On this date in 1893, was the World's Columbian Exposition (Chicago World Fair), celebrating Christopher Columbus's arrival in the New World in 1492	2 Lodovico Grossi da Viadana C. 1560 - May 2, 1627 Italian composer, teacher, and Franciscan friar of the Order of Minor Observant	3 Jackie Cooper d. Sep 15, 1922 - b. 2011 American actor, TV director, producer and executive. His mother was Italian (Polito)
4 Anthony Martin Sinatra b. 1892 - d. Jan 24, 1969 Father of Frank Sinatra. Was a Hoboken fireman, boxes, and bar owner. Called himself Marty O'Brien	5 Sage Moonblood Stallone Born 1976 - d. July 12, 2012 American actor, director, producer and writer. Son of Sasha Czack and Sylvester Stallone	6 Adriana Caselotti b. 1916 - d. Jan 19, 1997 American actress and singer. She was the voice of the title character in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs	7 On this date in history, in 1963, Bruno Sammartino becomes the WWF champion	8 Peter Cianchette was sworn in on this day in 2008 as the 56th US Ambassador to Costa Rica	9 Duke Mitchell (born Dominic Micelli) b. 1926 - d. Dec 2, 1981 Italian film actor, slapstick comedian, crooner and independent film director	10 Kathi Strozza UNICO PNP 2008 National Member, CA
11 Mother's Day	12 Bradley James "Dez" Fafara Born 1966 Vocalist for Devil Driver and ex-vocalist of Coal Chamber	13 Gregor von Rezzori b. 1914 - d. Apr 23, 1998 Austrian born novelist, memoirist, actor. He originated in a Sicilian aristocratic family in Ragusa	14 Robert Lee Zemeckis Born 1951 American film director of the movie <i>Back to the Future</i> and Oscar winning cartoon <i>Who Framed Roger Rabbit</i>	15 On this date in history, in 1941, Joe DiMaggio starts his 56-game hitting streak; Yanks lose 13-1	16 Andrew Houston Longino b. 1854 - d. Feb 24, 1942 Mississippi politician served in the State Senate (1880-84). Was Governor (1900-04)	17 Armed Forces Day
18 Stefano della Bella b. 1610 - d. 1664 An Italian printmaker	19 Costanzo Porta 1528 or 1529 - May 19, 1601 Italian composer of the Renaissance and representative of what is known today as the Venetian School	20 John J. Mari b. 1921 - d. Apr 25, 2009 NY State Senator who represented Staten Island for a record 50 years	21 On this date in history, in 878, Syracuse is captured by the Muslim sultan of Sicily	22 Giordano Benedetti Born 1989 Italian middle distance runner (900 m)	23 Michael S. Corona Born 1955 Former Sheriff-Coronet of Orange County, CA, gained prominence during the hunt for killer Alejandro Avila	24 Alessandro Cortini Born 1976 Italian musician best known for touring and recording with the rock band Nine Inch Nails from 2004-2008
25 On this date in history, in 567 BC, Servius Tullius, king of Rome, celebrates a triumph for his victory over the Etruscans	26 Memorial Day	27 Adam Carolla Born 1964 American radio personality, TV host, comedian and actor. Currently host of podcast <i>The Adam Carolla Show</i>	28 Angelo Dominick Roncallo b. 1927 - d. May 4, 2010 Member of the US House of Representatives from Nassau County, NY	29 Ascension of Jesus	30 Andrea Montermini Born 1964 Racing driver from Italy	31 Alessandro di Cristofano di Lorenzo del Bronzino Allori b. 1535 - d. Sep 22, 1607 Italian portrait painter of the Mannerist Florentine School


*PA  
District II*

*Greater Binghamton  
Carbondale  
Keystone  
Sayre*



# June | giugno 2025

Photo Credit:  
Privately owned boat in Venice  
Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato	
1 On this date in history, in the year 193, Roman Emperor Didius Julianus is assassinated	2 Zachary John Quinto Born 1977 American actor who appeared in the 2009 film <i>Star Trek</i> . Half Italian and half Irish descent	3 Tony Giglio Born 1971 American film director, graduated from Seton Hall University in 1993 with a Bachelor of Arts degree	4 Morgana King "Messina" Born 1930 American singer and actress. She is a noted jazz singer. Her parents were from Sicily	5 Ladislav Lazaro b. 1872 - d. Mar 30, 1927 Democratic U.S. Representative from Louisiana	6 1944 D-Day	7 Peter Wallace Rodino b. 1909 - d. May 7, 2005 He was a U.S. Congressman, from NJ, from 1949 to 1989	
8 Nancy Sinatra Born 1940 American singer and actress, daughter of Frank Sinatra. Know for her song <i>These Boots are Made for Walkin'</i>	9 Lee Norelli UNICO PNP 2018 Greater Philadelphia, PA	10 Frank Tidona UNICO PNP 2001 Rutherford, NJ	11 Gioia Bruno Born 1963 Popular music singer, most noted as a member of the vocal group <i>Expose'</i>	12 Armando Anthony Corea Born 1941 American jazz pianist and composer. One of the most important of his generation	13 Gnaeus Julius Agrippa b. 40 - d. Aug 23, 93 Roman general responsible for much of the Roman conquest of Britain	14 1775 Army's Birthday Flag Day	
15 Father's Day	16 Angelo-Giuseppi Luisetti b. 1916 - d. Dec 17, 2002 American college basketball player. He developed the one-handed running shot	17 Richard D'Arminio UNICO PNP 2014 Greater Ramsey, NJ	18 On this date in history, in 1511, Bartolomeo Ammannati, Italian architect and sculptor, designed the Pont Santa Trinita. He died in 1592	19 Mia Sarapochiello Born 1967 Known as Mia Sara, American actress, best known for her role as Ferris Bueller's girlfriend	20 Summer Begins Ends September 22	21 Giovanni Spadolini b. 1926 - d. Aug 4, 1994 Liberal Italian politician, the 65th Prime Minister, newspaper editor, journalist and noted historian	
22 On this date in history, in 1633, the Holy Office in Rome forces Galileo to recant his view that the sun is the center of the universe, not the earth	23 Giambattista Vico b. 1925 - d. Aug 4, 1994 Italian jurist, historian and philosopher	24 John Anthony Ciardi b. 1916 - Mar 30, 1986 American poet, translator and etymologist. He translated Dante's <i>Divine Comedy</i>	25 Robert Charles Venturi Born 1925 American architect. He was awarded the 1991 Pritzker Prize in Architecture	26 Flavius Claudius Julianus Roman emperor 361-63 and the last non-Christian ruler of the Roman Empire	27 Taimak Guarriello Born 1964 Martial arts actor and stuntman, best known as Leroy Green in the film <i>The Green Dragon</i>	28 Pietro Paolo Mennea Born 1952 Italian former sprinter and politician. He was the 1980 Moscow Olympic 200 m Champion	
29 Angelo Secchi b. 1818 - d. 1878 Italian astronomer and academic	30 On this date in history, in 1422, was the Battle of Arbedo between the duke of Milan and the Swiss cantons	Venice is a city of waterways and boats. The most famous boat is the gondola, a keelless boat that has existed for a few hundred years and offers tourists a rowing experience. Other types of boats include the traghetto, a ferry that crosses the Grand Canal at seven points, the vaporetto, a public boat that looks like a ferry, and the caicco, a boat that offers cabins and a sun deck. Some boats have hybrid engines or vintage designs. There are also a lot of boats that are owned by residents.					





***UNICO***  
***National***  
***Still Active***  
***Past National Presidents***

*Paul Alongi (1975)*  
*Nick Quercetti (1986)*  
*Frank Cannata (1994)*  
*Sal Mangano (1997)*  
*William Rocco (2000)*  
*\* Frank Tidona (2001)*  
*Frank Caperino (2003)*  
*Anthony Braico (2005)*  
*\* Michael Spano (2006)*  
*\* Joseph Agresti (2007)*  
*Kathi Strozza (2008)*  
*\* Chris DiMattio (2010)*  
*\* Glenn Pettinato (2011)*  
*\* Michael Veselka (2013)*  
*Richard D'Arminio (2014)*  
*Ann Walko (2015)*  
*Dominick Nicastro (2016)*  
*Thomas Vaughan (2017)*  
*\* Lee Norelli (2018)*  
*Dr. Frank DeFrank (2019/2020)*  
*\* Steven Pelonero (2021)*  
*\* Dr. Peter Pettinato (2022)*  
*\* Cav. Ralph Contini (2023)*  
*Anthony Bengivenga (2024)*

# July | luglio 2025

Photo Credit:  
One of many canals in Venice  
Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	 VENEZIA	1 The first day of the UNICO calendar year	2 Captain Humbert Versacre 1937 - Sep 26, 1955 US Army officer of Puerto-Rican-Italian descent. Awarded the Medal of Honor from Vietnam War	3 Alessandro Blasetti 1900 - Feb 1, 1987 Italian film director and screenwriter. Revived films of the struggling industries in the late 1920s	4 Independence Day	5 On this date in history, in 1943, during World War II: An Allied invasion fleet sails for Sicily (Operation Husky)
6  Tom Vaughan UNICO PNP 2017 Wethersfield, CT	7 Salvatore "Toto" Cutugno Born 1943 Italian pop singer-songwriter	8 Edward Daniel DiPrete Born 1934 American Republican Party politician from Rhode Island who served as Governor from 1985-1991	9 Thomas Ligotti Born 1953 Contemporary American horror author and reclusive literary cult figure	10 Dominick P. Costa b. 1925 - d. Jan 19, 1983 American pop music arranger best known for his work with Frank Sinatra	11 David Clayton Henrie Born 1989 American actor best known for playing Larry on <i>That's So Raven</i> and Justin Russo on <i>Wizards of Waverly</i>	12 Paul Charles Caravello b. 1950 - d. Nov 24, 1991 Better known by his stage name Eric Carr, American musician as the drummer with the rock band Kiss
13 On this date in history, in 1814, the Carabinieri is established. It is the national gendarmerie of Italy	14 Daniel B. Maffei Born 1968 American democratic politician from NY. US representative for NY's 25th Congressional District	15 On this date in history, in 1823, a fire destroys the ancient Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome, Italy	16 Mark Indelicato Born 1994 American actor and singer best known for his role in ABC comedy series <i>Ugly Betty</i> as Justin Suarez	17  Anthony Fornelli, Esq. UNICO PNP 1973 (d.2017) Chicago, IL	18 Cheryl Casone Born 1970 American anchor on Fox Business Network and on Fox News Network	19 Joe Fiorentino Born 1959 Cook County, IL, Deputy Sheriff, Martial Arts Champion. Volunteers his time to teach self-defense programs
20 Francesco Petrarca b. 1304 - d. Jul 19, 1374 Italian scholar, poet and humanist, often called the "Father of Humanism"	21 Dr. John Anthony Barrasso Born 1952 Republican U.S. Senator from Wyoming	22 On this date in history, in 1943, the American Seventh Army forces led by General George S. Patton, captured Palermo Sicily	23 Damiano Damiani 1922 - Mar 7, 2013 Screenwriter, film director and writer	24  Dominick Nicastro UNICO PNP 2016 Garfield, NJ	25 On this date in history, in 315, the Arch of Constantine is completed near the Colosseum in Rome	26 Dia Jorette DiCristino Born 1980 Italian American Jazz and Opera singer and professional photographer with a London based studio
27 Parents Day	28 Barbara Buono Born 1953 American democratic Party politician serving in the NJ State Senate, representing the 18th Legislative District	29 Michael J. D'Arminio UNICO PNP 1929 (d.2013) <a href="#">Hackensack, NJ</a> Renato Biribin UNICO PNP 1940 (d.2019) Plainfields, NJ	30 Eleanor Smeal Born 1939 Feminist activist, political analyst, lobbyist and grassroots organizer	31 Lawrence John Romano Born 1963 Better known as Larry Romano. Italian American film and TV actor	Venice has some 150 canals that range from tiny, quiet "side canals" to the busy Grand Canal (a former river) and the Giudecca canal (which is big enough for cruise ships).	

*Brian Guarco  
UNICO National VP  
Granby Chapter, CT*


*The Guarco family home in Italy  
Salogni Piemonte*





# August | agosto 2025

Photo Credit:  
House in Salogni, Piemonte, Provincia Alessandria  
Brian Guarco UNICO National VP, Granby Chapter CT

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>The village of Salogni belongs to the municipality of Fabbrica Curone, in the province of Alessandria, region Piemonte. There are in Salogni 116 buildings, but only 114 are used. 103 buildings are for residential use, 11 buildings are for commercial or productive purposes. Among the 103 buildings for residential use, 103 were built using bricks of tufts, 0 were built in concrete and 0 were built using other materials like steel, wood and so on.</p>				<p>1</p> <p>On this date in history, in 8 AD, Roman Empire General Tiberius defeats Dalmatians on the river Bathinus</p>	<p>2</p> <p>On this date in history, in 216 BC, was the 2nd Punic War: Battle of Cannae. Led by Hannibal defeated the Roman Army under command of Lucius Aemilius</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Paul Alongi UNICO PNP 1975 Bloomfield, NJ</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Giovanni Giuriati b. 1876 - d. May 6, 1970 Was an Italian Fascist Politicians</p>	<p>5</p> <p>John Saxon Born Carmine Orrico Born 1936 Actor known for his role as Roper in <i>Enter the Dragon</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>Vinnie Vincent Born Vincent John Cusano Born 1952 American guitarist, former member of the band Kiss known as The Ankh Warrior</p>	<p>7</p> <p>On this date in history, in 1427, the Visconti of Milan's fleet is destroyed by the Venetians on the Po River</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Leo Chiosso b. 1920 - d. Nov 26, 1970 TV journalist, he anchored numerous award-winning documentaries. He co-anchored ABC's 20/20</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Cav. Joseph Agresti UNICO PNP 2007 Passaic Valley, NJ</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Anthony Bengivenga UNICO PNP 2024 Greater Westfield, NJ</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Giorgio Cavaglieri 1911 - May 15, 2007 Italian American architectural preservationist and painter of Gouaches</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Louis II, the Younger Born 875 King of Italy and Roman Emperor from 844 until 855</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Martino Finotto b. Nov 11, 1933 - d. 2014 Former racing driver from Italy. Successful in touring car and sports car racing</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Ronald Gabriel Paolilio b. Apr 2, 1949 - d. 2012 American TV and film actor and teacher, best known as Arnold Horshack on ABC's <i>Welcome Back Kotter</i></p>	<p>15</p> <p>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p> <p>Ferragosto is a public holiday celebrated in all of Italy on this day</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Agostino Carracci (Caracci) b. 1557 - d. Mar 22, 1602 Italian painter and printmaker. Brother of the more famous Annibale and cousin Lodovico</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Giuliana Rancic Born 1974 Italian American celebrity news personality, host on E! News</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pietro Belluschi b. 1899 - d. Feb 14, 1994 American architect. Responsible for the design of over one thousand buildings</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Giovanni (Nanni) Moretti Born 1963 Italian film director, producer, screenwriter and actor</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Frank Joseph Guarini Born 1924 Democratic Party politician, represented NJ in US House of Representatives</p>	<p>21</p> <p>On this date in history, in 1911, the <i>Mona Lisa</i> is stolen by a Louvre employee</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Andrea Servi b. Jun 12, 1984 - d. 2013 Italian professional footballer who played as a defender</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Dean DeLeo Born 1961 American guitarist for the rock band Stone Temple Pilots</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Alessandro Marcello b. 1669 - d. Jun 19, 1747 <u>Italian nobleman</u></p> <p>31</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Larry LaRocco Born 1946 Democratic politician from Idaho. Served two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Frank "Frankie" Genaro b. 1901 - d. Dec 27, 1966 Form Olympic gold medalist and boxing world flyweight champion</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Tiziano Vecelli C. 1473/1490 - d. 1576 Better known as Titian. Italian painter. The most important member of the 16th century Venetian school</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Daniel "Danny" Seraphine Born 1948 Drummer, record, theatrical and film producer. Better known drummer and founder of the rock band Chicago</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Lea Michele "Sarfati" Born 1986 Known as Lea Michele, Actress and singer. Began working on Broadway in production of <i>Les Miserables</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>Joseph "Joe" DeNucci Born 1939 Former middle-weight boxer. Holds the record for the most fights ever in the Boston Garden</p>



*See you Labor Day Weekend*  
**From the Scranton Chapter of UNICO National**



&

**LAFESTA**  
ITALIANA

**Downtown Scranton**

# September | settembre 2025

Photo Credit  
Old Tuna Factory and Beach in Scopello, Sicily  
Anthony Pelonero, (d) National Member, VA

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	1 Labor Day	2 Romaldo (Aldo) Giurgola Born 1920 An Italian-American-Australian architect, professor, and author. Awarded the AIA Gold Medal in 1982	3 Benjamin Taliaferro b. 1750 - d. Sep 3, 1821 US Representative from Georgia. His family settled in Virginia in the early 17th century	4 On this date in history, in 476, Romulus Augustus is disposed when Odoacer proclaims himself "King of Italy", thus ending the Western Roman Empire	5 Rose Arianna McGowan Born in 1973 in Certaldo, Italy. An American actress known for her role as Paige Matthews in the WB Network series <i>Charmed</i>	6 Isabella Leonarda b. 1620 - d. Feb 25, 1704 Italian composer from Novara. At 16, she entered the Collegio di S Orsola convent. She taught music
7 Grandparents Day	8 Stefano Casiraghi b. 1960 - d. Oct 3, 1990 Italian sportsman, heir, socialite and businessman. Was husband of Princess Caroline of Monaco	9 Lucio Battisti B. Mar 5, 1943 - d. 1998 Italian singer and composer. Best known as author in Italian pop/rock music history	10 Noccolo' Jommelli B. 1714 - d. Aug 25, 1774 Neopolitan composer. Made important changes to opera and reduced importance of star singers	11 Renzo Montagnani B. 1930 - d. May 22, 1997 Italian film and theatre actor and dubber	12 Lorenzo di Piero de' Medici B. 1492 - d. May 4, 1519 Ruler of Florence, 1513-1519. Also Duke of Urbino 1516-1519. His illegitimate son was Duke of Florence	13 Allen Vizzutti Born 1652 American trumpeter, composer, music educator, Performed with Doc Severinsen and Chuck Mangione
14 Daniel James "Dan" Cortese Born 1967 American actor. Host of MTV Sports and was in the movie <i>Soccer Mom</i>	15 Silpa Bhirasri B. 1892 - d. May 14, 1962 Italian-born sculptor who Italian name as Corrado Feroci. The father of modern art in Thailand	16 Nicholas Jerry "Nick" Jonas Born 1992 American singer-songwriter, actor and musician with his brothers in the rock band " <i>The Jonas Brothers</i> "	17 Gerardo Luigi Colonna B. 1904 - d. Nov 21, 1986 Italian American comedian, signer and songwriter	18 Air Force Birthday	19 Antonio Margheriti B. 1930 - d. Nov 4, 2002 Aka Anthony M. Dawson. Was a prolific Italian filmmaker	20 Mia Martini B. 1947 - d. May 12, 1995 Italian singer. Her biggest hit was " <i>Piccolo Uomo</i> ", which was recorded in several languages
21 Bob Lido B. 1914 - d. Aug 9, 2000 American musician and singer who appeared as a regular on the Lawrence Welk Show as a violinist	22 Autumn begins Ends December 21st	23 Bruce Springsteen Born 1949 Nicknamed "The Boss". American singer-songwriter. His mother is Adele Ann (nee' Verilli)	24 Gerolamo Cardano B. 1501 - d. Sept 21, 1576 Italian Renaissance mathematician, physician, astrologer, philosopher and gambler	25 Mary Beatrice of Modena Born in 1658, was the wife and consort of James II of England. She was the only Italian queen	26 On this date in history, in 46 BC, Julius Caesar dedicates a temple to his mystical ancestor Venus Genetrix from a vow he made at the battle of Pharsalus	27 Francesco Totti Born 1976 Italian footballer with Serie A club Roma. Spent his entire career as the number one goal scorer
28 Adrian James "A.J." Croce Born 1971 American singer-songwriter. He is the son of singer Jim Croce and Ingrid Croce	29 Nicola DiBari Born 1940 He was born in Zapponeta, Apulia as Michael Scomegna. Won the Sanremo Music Festival in 1971/ '72	30 Dr. Peter Pettinato UNICO PNP 2022 Carbondale, PA	Scopello is a tiny village located in the municipality of Castellammare del Golfo, Sicily, about 23 miles from Trapani and 45 miles from Palermo. Tonnara di Scopello – a tuna fishing complex nowadays used as a sunbathing and swimming area and is located just a couple of kilometers away from Scopello's main square.			





*In Memory of  
Criss Mangano  
Past First Lady*

*October 6 ~ October 5, 2023  
Linda-Gail Alati*

*Sal and Debbie Benvenuti  
Frank and Linda DeFrank  
Gene and Michele Maddalena  
Steven and Patricia Pelonero*

# October | ottobre 2025

Photo Credit:  
Gondolas in Venice  
Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ



Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	In the 1500s an estimated 10,000 gondolas of all types were in Venice. In 1878 there was an estimated 4000. Now there are approximately 400.		1 Frank Madeloni Aka Earl Slick Born 1952 Worked with David Bowie, John Lennon, Yoko Ono, John Waite, and others	2 Antonio Cifra B. 1584 - d. Oct 2, 1629 Italian composer of the Roman School of the Renaissance and early Baroque eras	3 Fred Couples Born 1959 Professional golfer. Won the Masters in 1992. Birth name Frederick Steven Coppola	4 Aldo Vagnozzi B. 1925 - d. Mar 22, 2009 Democratic politician from Michigan and member of the Michigan House of Representatives
5 Francesco Lazzaro Guardi B. 1712 - d. Jan 1, 1793 Venetian painter of venduta, a member of the Venetian School	6 In memory of Criss Mangano B. October 6 - d. Oct 5, 2023 A Past First Lady and member of the Saddle Brook Chapter of UNICO	7 Bruce Frank Vento B. 1940 - d. Oct 10, 2000 American politician, A Democrat-Farmer-Labor member of the Us House of Representatives	8 Matthew Nicholas Biondi Born 1965 Three time US Olympic swimmer in the 1984, 1988 and 1992 Summer Olympics. Won 11 medals	9 On this date in history, in 1963, in NE Italy, over 2,000 people were killed when a large landslide by the Vajont Dam caused a giant wave of water to over top it	10 On this date in history, in 1922, UNICO is founded by Dr. Vastola in Waterbury, CT	11 Nello Pagani B. 1911 - d. Oct. 19, 2003 Italian Grand Prix motorcycle racer and Formula One racing driver. Born in Milan, Italy
12 On this date in history, in 1942, Christopher Columbus's expedition makes landfall in the Caribbean, specifically in the Bahamas	13 Columbus Day  Navy's Birthday	14 Joseph "Joey" Travolta Born 1950 American actor, producer, director and writer. Brother of actor John Travolta	15 On this date in history, in 1582, Pope Gregory XIII implements the Gregorian calendar in Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain	16 Edward Jeffrey Ardizzone B. 1900 - d. Nov. 8, 1979 Artist, writer and illustrator, chiefly of children's books	17 On this date in history, in 456, was The Battle of Placentia	18 Laura Nyro B. 1947 - d. April 8, 1997 American composer, lyricist, singer and pianist
19 Chester Biscardi Born 1948 Italian American composer and educator	20 Alessandro Achillini B. 1463 - d. Aug. 5, 1512 Italian philosopher and physician	21  Cav. Ralph Contini UNICO PNP 2023 Hackensack, NJ	22 Eddi Brigati Born 1945 American singer and songwriter	23 Philip Lamantia B. 1927 - d. Mar 7, 2005 American poet and lecturer. His visionary poems were ecstatic terror filled and erotic	24 Fahrid Murray-Abraham Born 1939 Won an Academy Award for Best Actor for his role as Antonio Salieri in <i>Amedeus</i> . His mother was Italian	25 Anthony Franciosa B. 1928 - d. Jan 19, 2006 American actor, usually billed as Tony Franciosa during the height of his career
26 Natalie Ann Merchant Born 1963 American singer, songwriter and musician. Joined the alternative rock band <i>10,000 Maniacs</i>	27 Gary Chester B. 1924 - d. Aug 17, 1987 Born Cesario Gurciullo One of the twentieth century's busiest studio drummers	28 Troian Avert Bellisario Born 1985 American actress. Co-star as Spencer Hastings in the ABC Family series <i>Pretty Little Liars</i>	29 On this date in history, on 1921, the second trial of Sacco and Vanzetti began	30 1941 (d. 1506) Christopher Columbus is born in Genoa, Italy	31 Louis Brian Piccolo B. 1943 - d.1970 He was a profession NFL football player with the Chicago Bears	

*Granby Chapter  
of UNICO National*



# November | novembre 2025

Photo Credit:  
Fortress in Rocca Albornoziata Spoleto  
Donna Gallina, Point Pleasant Beach Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>The Rocca Albornoziata is an imposing fortress that stands on Colle Sant'Elia, towering over the Spoleto valley. Its construction started in 1359 and it belongs to a series of fortresses whose construction was ordered by Pope Innocent VI to re-affirm the papal authority in central Italy. As time went by, the fortress also became the residence of the duchy's rectors, of the city governors and of the papal legates. It was decorated with frescoes, many of which were lost after 1816, when the Rocca was turned into a jailhouse which lasted until 1982.</p>					<p>1 All Saints Day</p> <p>Michael Veselka UNICO PNP 2013 Chicago, IL</p>
<p>2 All Souls Day</p>	<p>3 Benvenuto Cellini B. 1500 - d. Feb 13, 1571 Italian goldsmith, sculptor, painter, soldier and musician</p>	<p>4 Carmen A. Orechio Born 1926 American Democratic Party politician. Served as Mayor in Nutley, NJ. President of the NJ State Senate</p>	<p>5 Bernardino Ramazzini B. 1633 - d. Nov 5, 1714 Italian physician. Proponent of the use of cinchona bark of which quinine is derived in the treatment of Malaria</p>	<p>6 Dean Anderson Gallo b. Nov 23 1935 - d. 1944 Member of US House of Representatives, representing NJ's 11th cong. District</p>	<p>7 Dr. Alfred Maglio UNICO PNP 1989 (d. 2023) Milwaukee, WI</p>	<p>8 Gaetano Salvemini B. 1873 - d. Sep 6, 1957 Italian anti-fascist politician, historian and writer</p>
<p>9 Daylight Saving Time Clocks go back one hour</p>	<p>10 Marine Corp Birthday</p>	<p>11 Veterans Day</p>	<p>12 On this date in history, in 1920, Italy and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes sign the Treaty of Rapallo</p>	<p>13 Adrienne Corri Born 1933 in Edinburgh, Scotland is an actress of Italian parentage</p>	<p>14 Johnny Desmond Aka Giovanni DeSimone 1919 - Sept 6, 1985 Popular American singer</p>	<p>15 Annunzio Paolo Mantovani B. 1905 - d. Mar 29, 1980 Anglo-Italian conductor and orchestra entertainer</p>
<p>16 Anthony Gaglioti UNICO PNP 1984 (d.2017) Hackensack, NJ</p>	<p>17 Daniel "Danny" DeVito Born 1944 American actor, producer and director, first portrayed as Louie DePalma on TV show <i>Taxi</i></p>	<p>18 Eleonor Gonzaga B. 1630 - d. Dec 6, 1686 Holy Roman Empress as the wife of Emperor Ferdinand III</p>	<p>19 Nicole Marie Passonno Stott Born 1962 American engineer and astronaut. Served as a Flight Engineer on the International Space Station</p>	<p>20 Don DeLillo Born 1936 American author, playwright and essayist whose work paints a detailed portrait of American life</p>	<p>21 William Rocco UNICO PNP 2000 W. Springfield, MA</p>	<p>22 Thomas "Tom" Conti Born 1941 Actor, theatre director and novelist of Italian-Scotch descent</p>
<p>23 — 30 On this day in 1981, NY Yankee Dave Righetti wins AL Rookie of Year Award</p>	<p>24 Lorenzo Ricci, S.J. B. Aug 1, 1706 - d.1775 Italian Jesuit elected 18th Superior General of Society of Jesus</p>	<p>25 Pope John XXIII - Born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli 1881 - June 3, 1963 261st Pope of the Catholic Church, He is now a saint</p>	<p>26 Antonella Maria Barba Born 1986 American singer who placed sixteenth on the sixth season of American Idol</p>	<p>27 Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>28 Alberto Moravia Born Alberto Pincherile 1907 - Sept 26, 1990 Italian novelist which explored matters of modern sexuality and alienation</p>	<p>29 Janet Ann Napolitano Born 1957 American politician, lawyer and university administrator. Served as Governor of Arizona and Homeland Security</p>



*Serafini & Serafini*  
*Attorneys at Law*  
*Wayne, NJ*





# December | dicembre 2025

Photo Credit:  
The Opera House in Palermo, Sicily  
Anthony Pelonero (d), National Member, VA

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	1 Federico Faggin Born 1941 Italian-born and educated physicist, naturalized US citizen. Designed the first commercial microprocessor	2 On this date in history in 1939, NY City's LaGuardia Airport opens	3 Franco Sbaraglini Born 1982 Italian rugby union player. His preferred position is at Hooker, but he also played as a Prop	4 Gasparo, count Gozzi B. 1913 - d. Dec 26, 1786 Venetian critic and dramatist	5 Frank Caperino UNICO PNP 2003 National Member, CA	6 Cav. Joseph Coccia UNICO PNP 1976 (d.2013) Kearny, NJ
7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception This day is a National Holiday in Italy	9 Maddalena Sirmen B. 1745 - d. May 18, 1818 Italian composer, violinist	10 Carmine Gerard DeSapio B. 1908 - d. Jul 27, 2004 American politician from NYC, last head of Tammany Hall political machine to dominate municipal politics	11 Nikki Sixx Born Frank Carlton Ferrana Born 1958. Bassist, author, fashion designer, photographer. Main songwriter for the band Motley Crew	12 Augine "Og" Mandino II B. 1923 - d. Sep 3, 1996 American author. He wrote the bestselling book <i>The Greatest Salesman in the World</i>	13 National Guard Birthday
14 Fabrizio Giovanardi Born 1966 Tour car racing driver has won 10 titles. Was born in Sassuolo, not far from Modena	15 David N. Cicilline Born 1961 American Democrat politician, Mayor of Providence, RI. Member of US House of Representatives	16 Don Orsillo Born 1968 Play-by-play announcer for Boston Red Sox games, Boston College Eagles and Providence College Friars	17 On this date in history, in 497 BC, was the first Saturnalia festival which was celebrated in ancient Rome	18 Miland "Mille" Petrozza Born 1966. German (of Italian-Calabria descent) lead guitarist and lead vocalist of the band Kreator	19 Casey Crescenzo Born 1966 Singer, songwriter and multi Instrumentalist. Played with the band The Dear Hunter and Receiving End of Sirens	20 On this date in history, in 69, Vespasian, formerly a general under Nero, enters Rome to claim the title of Emperor
21 Winter Begins	22 John Patitucci Born 1959 American Grammy winning jazz double bass and electric bass player	23 Jose Greco B. 1918 - Dec 31, 2000 Flamenco dancer and choreographer known for popularizing Spanish dance on stage and screen	24 Michael Dana Gioia Born 1950 American poet and critic. Retired early from his career as an executive at General Foods to write full time	25 Christmas Day	26 Michael "Jimmy" Roselli B. 1925 - d. Jun 30, 2011 Was one of the most significant Italian-American pop singers of his time	27 Joseph Mantello Born 1962 American actor and director best known for his work on the Broadway productions of <i>Wicked</i>
28 On this date in history, in 1612, Galileo Galilei becomes first astronomer to observe the planet Neptune	29 Stefano Eranio Born 1966 Former Italian football player, most remembered for his time with AC Milan and Genoa	30 Alfredo Bracchi B. 1897 - d. Oct 11, 1976 Versatile Italian author whose production ranged from song lyrics to movie scripts	31 New Years Eve	The Massimo Theater, Opera House, in Palermo is the largest opera house in Italy, and is third in size after the Paris Opera and Staatsoper in Vienna. The architectural complex is massive and the halls, galleries and grand staircases make it a real attraction to visit.		

# What is UNICO?

UNICO National is America's largest Italian American service and charitable organization with many local chapters across the country. UNICO was founded on October 10, 1922 in Waterbury, Connecticut, by Dr. Vastola. Dr. Vastola was a physician and was denied membership in a service organization solely because of his Italian Heritage. To counteract this bias, he assembled a group of 15 professional men of Italian heritage to create, what has become a very special and proud organization to engage in charitable works, support higher education, and perform patriotic deeds to counteract bias against Italians and Italian Americans.

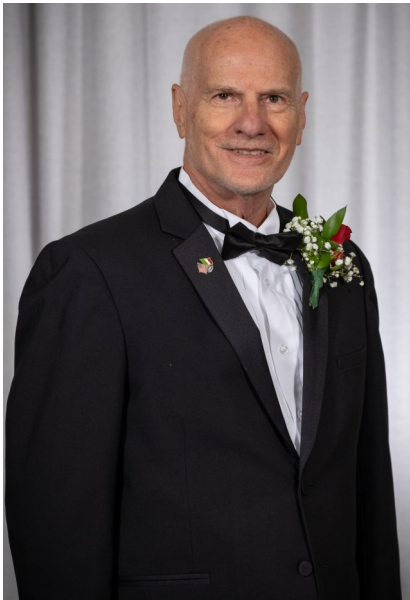


The name UNICO was selected as best representing the nature and character of this fledging organization. UNICO is the Italian word for unique - one of a kind. The founders believed that UNICO would be the only one of its kind because it placed service to the community before and above fraternity.

In order to do this, members would have to make sacrifices, not for personal gain, but for service to others. In later years UNICO also became an acronym that stood for Unity, Neighborliness, Integrity, Charity and Opportunity.

## A Promise that Continues to be Delivered

Since the inception of UNICO National, thousands of people and causes have been the recipients of UNICO's charity and service. Significant funds have been raised for national and international disasters. Scholarships continue as the primary focus with over one-third of funds raised going to deserving students from chapter locations across the USA.



***Anthony Bengivenga***  
***UNICO National President***  
***2024-2025***  
***Greater Westfield NJ UNICO***

UNICO has funded for many years, major research in Cooley's Anemia and Mental Health. Through its association with the Jimmy V Foundation, UNICO has funded many direct annual cancer research grants. UNICO has taken a head position in combating negative stereotyping of Italian Americans through the efforts of its Anti-Bias Committee.

All of these, plus more efforts have exceeded the objectives of UNICO founders. Through the local UNICO chapters across the country, this organization is living up to its motto of "Service Above Self" every day, along with enjoying the camaraderie and friendship of our extended UNICO family across the country.

## Photo Credits:

Cover: Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Roman Forum Ruins  
January: Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Poppies in the Roman Forum  
February: Michele Maddalena, Montville Chapter, NJ: Sorrento, Italy  
March: Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Fountain at Verrazzano Castle, Tuscany  
April: Frank Tidona PNP, Rutherford Chapter, NJ: Frank's ancestors Home Town of Librizzi, Sicily  
May: Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY: Vietri sul Mare, Amalfi Coast Italy  
June: Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Privately owned boat in Venice  
July: Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: One of many canals in Venice  
August: Brian Guarco, Granby Chapter, CT: House in Salogni, Piemonte, Provencia Alessandria  
September: Anthony Pelonero, (d) National Member, VA: Old Tuna Factory and Beach, Scopello, Sicily  
October: Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Gondolas in Venice  
November: Donna Gallina . Point Pleasant Beach NJ Chapter . Rocca Albornoziata Spoleto  
December: Anthony Pelonero, (d) National Member, VA: The Opera House in Palermo, Sicily  
Back Cover: Sharon Kessinger, National Member, Midlothian, VA : Roman Forum Ruins

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