



2026

# *UNICO National*

*Italian & Italian American Heritage & Photo Calendar*



[www.UNICO.org](http://www.UNICO.org)  
*Our 15th Edition*



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# January | gennaio 2026

Photo Credit:  
 Castello Aragonese Ischia  
 Donna Gallina, Point Pleasant Beach 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
	Aragonese Castle (Italian: <i>Castello Aragonese</i> ) is a castle built on a small tidal island east of Ischia at the northern end of the Gulf of Naples, Italy. The castle stands on a volcanic rocky islet. A first castle was built by Hiero I of Syracuse in 474 BC. At the same time, two towers were built to control enemy fleets' movements. Around 1700, about 2000 families lived on the islet. There were also 13 churches .			1 New Years Day  Dr. Ann Walko UNICO PNP 2015 GreaterWestfield Chapter NJ	2 Gino John Marchetti B. 1927 - d. Aug 19, 2019 Professional football player for the Dallas Texans and the Baltimore Colts	3 Marcus Tullius Cicero B. 106BC - d. 43BC Roman philosopher, lawyer, statesman
4 On this day in 1493, Christopher Columbus began his journey back to Spain in search of his third ship, the <i>Pinta</i> , which was not seen for six weeks	5 Luigi P. Carnesecca B. 1925 - From NYC, he was a former basketball coach at St. John's University	6 The Epiphany A national holiday, it is the 12th day of Christmas where children celebrate the arrival of La Befana, a good witch	7 Robert Longo B. 1953 - American painter and sculptor. Born in Brooklyn, NY	8 Marco Polo B. 1954 - d. Jan 8, 1324 He was a Venetian merchant, explorer and writer	9 Domenico Modugno B. 1928 - d. Aug 6, 1994 Was a two-time Grammy Award-winning Italian singer. He made famous the song "Volare"	10 Sal Mineo Jr. B. 1939 - d. Feb 12, 1976 Film and theatre actor, best known for his performance in <i>Rebel Without a Cause</i>
11 Girolamo Francesco Maria Mazzola B. 1503 - d. Aug 24, 1540 He was a prominent painter and printer in Florence, Roma, Bologna and Parma	12 Willibald C. Bianchi B. 1915 - d. Jan 9, 1945 An officer in the Philippines in WWII. He received the Medal of Honor for actions in Bataan, Philippines	13 Generoso P. Pope, Jr. B. 1927 - d. Oct 3, 1988 An American Media mogul, best known for creating <i>The National Enquirer</i>	14 Alberico Gentili B. 1522 - d. Jun 19, 1608 An Italian priest, professor and one of the first writers on public international law	15  John Alati UNICO PNP 2002 (d. 2021) Verona Chapter NJ	16 Francesco Scavullo B. 1921 - d. Jan 6, 2004 An American fashion photographer known for some of the covers of celebrities on the <i>Cosmopolitan</i> magazine	17 Constantine "Cus" D'Amato B. 1908 - d. Nov 4, 1985 Boxing manager and trainer who handled the careers of Floyd Patterson, Jose Torres and Mike Tyson
18 Anthony Galla-Rini B. 1904 - d. July 30, 2006 American music composer, conductor and arranger. He promoted the accordion as a concert instrument	19 Nicholas Colasanto B. 1924 - d. Feb 12, 1985 An American actor known for his role as Coach Ernie Pantusso on the sitcom <i>Cheers</i>	20 Fr. Alessandro Volignano B. 1539 - d. Jan 20, 1606 He was the first Christian missionary to Japan and credited with some 300,000 conversions	21 Salvatore A. Giunta B. 1985 - Staff Sergeant in the US Army. He received the military decoration for valor, the Medal of Honor	22 Guy Fieri B. 1968 - Born as Guy Ramsay Ferry. He is an American restaurateur and author. Known for his TV series on the Food Network	23 Ralph DePalma Born 1884 - d. Mar 31, 1956 An Italian-American race car driver. He was noted for winning the 1915 Indianapolis 500	24 Vito Hannibal Acconci B. 1940 - d. 2017 He was a landscape architect and installation artist. He was born in the Bronx
25 Alicia Keys B. 1981 - An American singer and songwriter. Her mother is of Italian, Irish and Scottish descent	26 Anthony Cortese B. 1947 - From Massachusetts, he has been an active supporter of environmental awareness	27 Bartolomeo di Francesco B. 1655 - d. 1731 He was an Italian maker of musical instruments and regarded as the inventor of the piano	28 Giovanni Alfonso Borelli B. 1608 - d. Dec 31, 1679 He was a Renaissance Italian physiologist, physicist and mathematician	29 Luigi Nono B. 1924 - d. May 8, 1990 An Italian composer of classical music. He was one of the important composers of the 20th century	30 Colonel Henry Mucci On this day in 1945, during WWII, he led a force of 121 Army rangers on a mission that rescued 513 survivors in the Philippines	31 Anthony M. LaPaglia B. 1959 - An Australian actor, best known for his role as an FBI agent Jack Malone on the American TV series <i>Without a Trace</i>

## *NY District II*

*Brookhaven  
Brooklyn/Staten Island  
Harrison  
Islip/Smithtown  
North Shore, L.I.  
Queensboro*



# February | febbraio 2026

Photo Credit:  
The Church of San Lorenzo Maggiore, Naples  
Gene Jannetti, Greater Westfield Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
1 Emilio Gino Segre' B. 1905 - d. Apr 22, 1989 An Italian physicist. He discovered antiprotons	2 Lodovico Ferrari B. 1522 - d. Oct 5, 1565 An Italian mathematician known for quartic equations	3 Frank Coraci B. 1966 - Born in Shirley, NY, he is an American film director best known for his work with Adam Sandler	4 Ida Lupino B. 1918 - d. Aug 3, 1995 She was an English-American actress, singer, director and producer	5 On this day in history in 62 AD, there was an earthquake in Pompeii	6 Amintore Fanfani B. 1908 - d. Nov 20, 1999 He was an Italian politician who was elected Prime Minister of Italy five times	7 Cerina Vincent B. 1979 - She was born in Las Vegas, NV. She is a film actress most associated with horror films
8 Super Bowl Sunday	9 Dr. Frank DeFrank UNICO PNP 2019/2020 Roseto Chapter PA	10 John Vincent Calipari B. 1959 - He was born in Moon Township, PA. A basketball coach at the University of Kentucky	11 Jennifer Aniston B. 1969 - She is an American actress. Her maternal great-grandfather was from Italy	12 Christina Ricci B. 1980 - An American actress. She has appeared in many films and on TV. She has stated she has Italian, Irish and Scotch ancestry	13 On this day in history in 1633, Galileo Galilei arrived in Rome to face charges of heresy for his theory that the earthy revolves around the sun	14 Valentine's Day
15 Antonio "Toto" Gagliardi B. 1898 - d. April 15, 1967 An Italian comedian, writer, singer, songwriter, film and theatre actor	16 Presidents' Day	17 Billie Joe Armstrong B. 1972 - An American musician and lead guitarist and vocalist from the band <i>Green Day</i> . His great-great-grandparents were from Viggiano, Italy	18 Ash Wednesday	19 Luigi Rodolfo Boccherini B. 1743 - d. May 28, 1805 An Italian classical music composer and cellist	20 Enzo Anselmo Ferrari B. 1895 - d. Aug 14, 1988 He was an Italian race car driver and founder of the Ferrari Race Team	21 Lidia Matticchio Bastianich B. 1947 - She is an American chef who was born in Croatia. She specializes in Italian cuisine on her cooking shows
22 Renato Dulbecco B. 1914 - d. 2012 He was an Italian violinist	23 Mirco Bergamasco B. 1983 - An Italian rugby union footballer	24 Pope Gregory XIII On this day in 1582, he announced the Gregorian calendar, after whom the calendar was named	25 Téa Leoni B. 1966 - She is an American actress. She has appeared in TV sitcoms. Born in NYC. Her paternal grandfather was Italian	26 Giulio Natta B. 1903 - d. May 2, 1979 An Italian chemist, he won the Nobel Prize in 1963 for his work on high polymers	27 Kate Mara B. 1983 - An American actress born in Bedford, NY. Her ancestry is one quarter Italian	28 Bernadette Peters B. 1948 - Born Bernadette Lazzaro in NYC. She is a Tony Award winning actress and singer
	<p>San Lorenzo Maggiore is a church in Naples, Italy. The name "San Lorenzo" may also refer to the new museum now opened on the premises, as well as to the ancient Roman market beneath the church, the Macellum of Naples. The church's origins come from the presence of the Franciscan order in Naples during the lifetime of St Francis of Assisi, himself. San Lorenzo is both a church and monastery and the new museum takes up the three floors above the courtyard.</p>					

## *NJ District VII*

*Elmwood Park   Lodi  
Garfield   Nutley  
Hackensack   Rutherford  
Kearny   Saddle Brook*



# March | marzo 2026

Photo Credit:  
 Ruins in the city of Paestum Salerno Campagna Italy  
 Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
1 Harry Caray B. 1914 - d. Feb 18, 1998 Born Harry Carabina, he was an American baseball announcer. He covered 4 major league ball clubs	2 John Francis Bongiovi B. 1962 - An American singer, songwriter, guitarist and actor. Born in Perth Amboy, NJ. His father was of Italian ancestry	3 Goffredo Petrassi B. Jul 16, 1904 - d. Mar 3, 2003 An Italian composer of 'modern classical music, teacher and conductor	4 Antonio Vivaldi B. 1678 - d. Jul 28, 1741 Was a classical music composer and Roman Catholic priest	5 Giovanni Cabato C. 1450 - c. 1498 Known as John Cabot, he was a Venetian navigator and explorer. He discovered Newfoundland	6 Lou Costello B. 1906 - d. Mar 3, 1952 Born in Paterson, NJ. An American comedian, actor and producer. Known for his routine, "Who's on First"	7 Anna Magnani B. 1908 - d. Sep 26, 1973 Italian stage and film actress. She won an Oscar for her role as a Sicilian widow in <i>The Rose Tattoo</i>
8 Daylight Saving Time Clocks ahead one hour	9 David Rizzio C. 1533 - d. Mar 9, 1566 He was an advisor to Mary, Queen of Scots. Mary's jealous husband killed him on this day	10 Corrado Giuseppe Parducci B. 1900 - d. Nov 22, 1981 An Italian American architectural sculptor	11 On this day in history, in 1851 the opera <i>Rigoletto</i> was first performed. It was written by Giuseppe Verdi	12 Liza Minnelli B. 1946 - An American actress, singer, dancer and choreographer. She was born in Hollywood, CA	13 Enrico Toselli B. 1883 - d. Jan 15, 1926 He was an Italian pianist and composer	14 Quincy Jones B. 1933 - A jazz musician who worked with Frank Sinatra. His father had some Italian ancestry
15 Ides of March 44 BC - Julius Caesar is assassinated in Rome. As many as 60 conspirators, led by Brutus and Cassius, were involved	16 Alexandra Daddario B. 1983 - An American actress born in NYC. She is of Italian, Irish, English and Slovak descent	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Frederick II, at the age of three, was crowned King of Sicily. On this day in 1229, he declared himself King of Jerusalem during the 6th Crusade	19 St. Joseph's Day	20 Spring Begins	21 Christopher DiMattio UNICO PNP 2010 Scranton Chapter PA
22 Cpl. Anthony Peter Damato B. 1922 - d. Feb 20, 1944 Was a US Marine who received the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously for service in WWII	23 Victoria Pedretti B. 1994 - She is an American actress. Her father is of Italian American descent	24 Donald Manzullo B. 1944 - An American politician and member of the House of Representatives representing Illinois; 16th district	25 This day in Italy is celebrated as Dantedì to honor the achievements of writer/poet Dante Alighieri, He is considered the father of the modern Italian language	26 Nicholas Quercetti UNICO PNP 1986 Philadelphia Chapter PA	27 Quentin Tarantino B. 1963 - He is an American filmmaker, his father is of Italian descent	28 Julia Stiles B. 1981 - She is an American actress that was born in NYC. She is of English, Irish and Italian descent
29 Palm Sunday	30 Sicilian Vespers On this day in 1282, this was a successful uprising in Palermo, Sicily which ousted the French occupiers in Sicily	31 Ed Marinaro B. 1950 - An American actor and former professional football player for the Minnesota Vikings	Paestum was a major ancient Greek city on the coast of the Tyrrhenian Sea. The ruins are famous for their three ancient Greek temples in the Doric order dating from about 550 to 450 BC that are in an excellent state of preservation. The city walls and amphitheatre are largely intact, and the bottom of the walls of many other structures remain, as well as paved roads. The site is open to the public, and there is a modern national museum within the area.			



## ***Booster Sponsors***

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***UNICO NJ District IX***  
***Waterbury UNICO, CT***  
***Westwood UNICO, NJ***

# April | aprile 2026

Photo Credit:  
Rialto Bridge in Venice  
Michele Maddalena, Montville Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	The Rialto Bridge is the oldest of four bridges in Venice. It was first constructed in 1173 as a pontoon bridge. The bridge as it stands now was completed in 1591. The covered ramp houses stores and shops.		1 April Fools' Day (Pesce d'aprile) This day is also common in Italy as April Fish Day	2 Carmine Basilio B. 1927 - d. Nov 7, 2012 He was a two-weight world boxing champion	3 Good Friday Steven Pelonero UNICO PNP 2021 Passaic Valley Chapter NJ	4 James Alberione - Aka Blessed Giacomo Alberione B. 1884 - d. Nov 26, 1971 An Italian priest, founder of the Society of St. Paul
5 Easter Sunday	6 Sergio Franchi B. 1926 - d. May 1, 1990 He was an Italian tenor. He studied music and engineering simultaneously. His sister is Dana Valery	7 Francis Ford Coppola B. 1939 - An American film director, producer, and screenwriter. Considered to be one of the greatest film directors of all time	8 George Francis Musso B. 190 - d. Sep 5, 2000 He was an American NFL lineman. He played offence and defense. He had a 12 year career with the Bears	9 On this day in history in 1454, The Treaty of Lodi was signed which brought peace to Venice, Milan, Naples, Florence and the Papal States	10 Admiral Guido Venturini B. 1934 - He was Chairman of Italy's Joint Chief of Staff. In 1999 he was appointed Chairman of the Military Committee	11 On this day in history in 1934, Renato Donati, an Italian navigator, set the high altitude record of 47,352 feet
12 Salvatore Mangano UNICO PNP 1997 Saddle Brook Chapter NJ	13 Thomas Jefferson Birthday  Bill Conti B 1942 - Is an Italian-American film music composer	14  Glenn Pettinato UNICO PNP 2011 Carbondale Chapter PA	15 Leonardo daVinci B. 1452 - d. May 2, 1519 He was a painter, draftsman, engineer, scientist, theorist, sculptor and architect	16 On this day in history in 1071, Byzantine rule in Italy ended when the city of Bari, Italy fell under the leadership of Robert Guiscard	17  Frank Cannata UNICO PNP 1994 Orange/W. Orange Chapter NJ	18 On this day in history in 1518, Bona Sforza, who was born in Milan, Italy, became the Queen of Poland
19 Ashley Judd B. 1968 - An American actress and activist. Her paternal grandfather was from Sicily. She had a few roles in <i>Star Trek</i> movies	20  Michael Spano UNICO PNP 2006 Memphis Chapter TN	21 Tony Danza B. 1951 - An American actor, was born in Brooklyn, NY. Was a boxer. He starred in the TV series <i>Taxi</i> and <i>Who's the Boss</i>	22 Jack Nicholson B. 1937 - An American actor and filmmaker. Born in Neptune City NJ. His father was an Italian-American	23 John Anthony Felix Cena B. 1977 - An American actor and professional wrestler. He was born in West Newbury, Massachusetts	24 Vince Anthony Ferragamo B. 1954 - An American football player quarterback in the NFL. In 2009 he received the UNICO National Lombardi Award	25 Al Pacino B. 1940 - An American actor. Alfredo James Pacino. Born an only child in Manhattan. His parents are Sicilian Italian-American
26 Giancarlo Esposito B. 1958 - An American actor best known for his role in the crime series <i>Breaking Bad</i> . Born in Denmark, his father was from Naples, Italy	27  Mario Joseph Ciampi B. 1907 - d. Jul 6, 2006 An American architect best known for his influence in buildings in the San Francisco Bay area	28  Jay Leno - An American television host, comedian, and writer. He was the host of the <i>Tonight Show</i> . He then started his own show, <i>The Jay Leno Show</i>	29 B. Mar 25, 1347 - d. 1380 She is the patron saint of Italy. She worked to bring the papacy back to Rome from France	30 On this day in history in 1849, Garibaldi defends Rome against the French		



## *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 Pantaleone  
1960 Emil Santacrose  
1961 Alphonse Mele  
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 Mastropetro  
1971 Joseph J Salerno  
1972 Mario DiGiovanna  
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 Lena Sodini

\*No Awardee these years

# May | maggio 2026

Photo Credit:  
The Trulli of Alberobello in Puglia  
Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	A <b>trullo</b> (plural, <b>trulli</b> ) is a traditional Apulian dry stone hut with a conical roof. Their style of construction is specific to the Itria Valley, in the Murge area of the Italian region of Apulia. Trulli were generally constructed as temporary field shelters and storehouses or as permanent dwellings by small proprietors or agricultural labourers. In the town of Alberobello, in the province of Bari, whole districts contain dense concentrations of trulli. The golden age of trulli was the nineteenth century, especially its final decades, which were marked by the development of wine growing.				1 Allen Lee "Zeke" Zarilla B. 1919 - d. Aug 28, 1996 He was a right fielder for many major league baseball teams. He batted left-handed and threw right-handed	2 On this day in 1945, the Italian WWII Campaign ends when General Heinrich von Vietinghoff signed the official instrument of surrender in Italy
3 On this day in 2008, Dr. Riccardo Giacconi won the Nobel Prize. He was the project manager of the Hubble Space Telescope Mission	4 On this day in 1494, Columbus landed in Jamaica and claimed it for Spain	5 Cesare Florio B. 1939 in Turin Italy, he was a former sporting director for Ferrari and team manager of Lancia's World Rally Championship Team	6 Rudolph Valentino B. 1895 - d. Aug 23, 1926 He was an Italian actor and sex symbol. He was most recognized as a star of the silent film era	7 Val Bisoglio B. 1926 - d. Oct 18, 2021 He was an Italian American character actor mainly known for his work on TV	8 Luigi Cornaro B. 1484 - d. May 8, 1566 He was the world's first published health enthusiast who recommended a diet of just one egg a day	9 Giovanni Paisiello B. 1740 - d. Jun 5, 1816 He was an Italian composer of the Classical era
10 Mother's Day  Kathi Strozza UNICO PNP 2008 San Diego Chapter CA	11 Giuseppe Garibaldi On this day in 1860, he and his 1,000 Red Shirts land in Sicily to free the island from 400 years of the Spanish-Neopolitan rule	12 On this day in history, in 1294, the building of the Basilica of Sante Croce began. It is the largest Franciscan Church in the world	13 Justin Tuveri B. 1898 - d. Oct 5, 2007 He died at the age of 109, and was one of the last Italian Veterans of WWI	14 Ascension of Jesus	15 On this day in history, Joe DiMaggio's 56 game hitting streak began	16 Henry Fonda B. 1905 - d. Aug 12, 1982 He was an actor who family were Italian Protestants who fled Holland during the 17th century
17 Louis John DiBella, Jr. Born 1960 - A boxing promoter and TV and Film producer	18 Perry Como B. 1912 - d. May 12, 2001 An Italian-American singer. He was born in Canonsburg, PA	19 Jojo Siwa B. 2003 - She is an American singer, dancer, actress and media personality. Her mother is of Italian descent	20 Armed Forces Day  Randy Mario Poffo Aka Randy Savage B. 1952 - d. May 20, 2011 He was a WWF wrestler	21 Girolamo Fabricius B. May 20, 1533 - d. 1619 He founded the science of embryology	22 Saint Rita of Cascia D. 1457 - She is an Augustinian saint celebrated on this day. Saint of impossible causes and patroness of abused wives	23 Andrea Luca Luchesi B. 1741 - d. Mar 21, 1801 He was an Italian composer and one of eleven children
24 Pentecost Sunday  31 ____	25 Memorial Day	26 Dante "Dan" Pastorini B. 1949 - Born in Sonora, California, he was an American Football League quarterback in the NFL *	27 Dolores Hope B. 1909 - d. Sep 19, 2011 Born in NYC to Italian and Irish parents, she was the widow of entertainer Bob Hope	28 On this day in history, in 1999, Da Vinci's <i>Last Supper</i> , went back on display in Milan, Italy	29 Nicodemo "Nick" Mancuso B. 1948 - An Italian-Canadian cinema and stage actor	30 Pietro Alberti On this day in history, he was the first Italian immigrant to step ashore at Fort Amsterdam, now NYC

# *Serafini & Serafini*

*Attorneys at Law*

*Wayne, NJ*



# June | giugno 2026

Photo Credit:  
Venice from the Rialto Bridge  
Lou Coviello, Wayne Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	1 On this day in 1192, Enrico Dandolo was elected Doge of Venice at the age of 85. He was an instigator of the 4th Crusade to recapture the Holy Land	2 Morena Baccarin B. 1979 - Born in Brazil. Through her father she is of Italian heritage with his roots from Veneto, Italy	3 Giovanni Antonio Scopoli B. 1723 - d. May 8, 1788 He was an Italian physician and naturalist	4 On this day in 1859 the French Army, under Louis Napoleon, defeated the Austrian Army at the Battle of Magenta	5 David A. Caprio B. 1967 - He is an American attorney and politician. He was first elected as a Rhode Island State Representative in 1999	6 1944 D-Day
7 Dean Martin B. 1917 - d. Dec 25, 1995 He was an American singer, actor, comedian and legend. He is known as a member of the Rat Pack	8 Gian Domenico Cassini B. 1625 - d. Sep 14, 1712 He was an astronomer. He and his descendants made France preeminent in astronomy	9 Lee Norelli UNICO PNP 2018 Greater Philadelphia Chapter	10 Frank Tidona UNICO PNP 2001 Rutherford Chapter NJ	11 Joe Montana B. 1956 - Born in New Eagle, PA. Former NFL Football Quarterback for the San Francisco 49'ers	12 Ramond "Ray" Barbuti B. 1905 - d. Jul 8, 1988 He was an American athlete and winner of two Gold Medals in the 1928 Summer Olympics	13 Chris Evans B. 1981 - An American actor best know for his role as Captain America in Marvel Films. His mother was of Italian descent
14 Army Birthday 1775 Flag Day  Anthony Braico UNICO PNP 2005 Avon Chapter CT	15 Leah Remini B. 1970 - An American actress with a starring role on <i>The King of Queens</i> . Born in Brooklyn, her fathers roots are from Sicily	16 Nicholas Anthony DiMarzio B. 1944 - He served as Bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn from 2003-2021. He was born in Newark, NJ	17 Richard D'Arminio UNICO PNP 2014 Greater Ramsey Chapter NJ	18 Vincenzo Montella B. 1974 - Born in Pomigliano d'Arco, Italy. An Italian soccer striker and manager for Fiorentina, Sampdoria, Milan, Sevilla,	19 Antonio Abetti B. 1846 - d. Feb 20, 1928 An Italian astronomer. He earned his degree from the University of Padua	20 Pierfrancesco Chili B. 1964 - Born in Bologna, Italy. An Italian motorcycle racer
21 Father's Day  Summer Begins	22 Cynthia "Cindi" Lauper B. 1953 - An American singer, songwriter and actress. Her mother was an Italian American	23 Peter J. "Pete" Biondi B. 1942 - d. Nov. 10, 2011 An American politician who had served in the NJ General Assembly	24 George Elmer Pataki B. 1945 - An American politician who was the 53rd Governor of NY. His maternal grandfather was born in Calabria	25 Linda Cardellini B. 1975 - An American actress of Italian, Irish, German and Scottish descent. Born in Redwood City, CA	26 Ariana Grande B. 1993 - She is an Italian-American singer, songwriter and actress with Sicilian Abruzzese roots	27 Anna Moffo B. 1932 - d. Mar 9, 2006 She was an Italian opera singer and one of the leading lyric-coloratura sopranos of her generation
28 Luigi Pirandello B. 1867 - d. Dec 10, 1936 He was an Italian dramatist and novelist who won the Novel Prize for literature	29 Giacomo Leopardi B. 1798 d. Jun 14, 1837 He was an Italian poet, essayist, philosopher and philologist	30 Vincent Philip D'Onofrio B. 1959 - He is an American actor and producer. He is noted for his roles in Full Metal Jacket and Law and Order	The Rialto Bridge. (Italian: Ponte di Rialto); (Venetian: Ponte de Rialto) is the oldest of the four bridges spanning the Grand Canal in Venice, Italy. The present stone bridge is a single span designed by Antonio da Ponte. Construction began in 1588 and was completed in 1591. It is one of the top tourist attractions in Venice.			



**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)
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- \* Cav. Ralph Contini (2023)
- Anthony Bengivenga (2024)
- Joseph Nasello (2025)

# July | luglio 2026

Photo Credit:  
The Grand Canal in Venice  
Allan Focarino, Garfield Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	The Grand Canal in Venice is the largest channel in Venice, Italy, forming one of the major water-traffic corridors in the city. Its backwards "S" shape is 2.4 miles long and has an average depth of 16 feet. The banks of the canal have more than 170 buildings which date back from the 13th to the 18th century	1 The first day of the UNICO Calendar Year With National President Anthony Bengivenga	2 Lindsay Lohan B. 1986 - She is an American actress, singer-songwriter, and producer. Born in Bronx, NY. She is of Irish –Italian descent	3 Alessandro Blasetti B. 1900 - d. Feb 1, 1987 An Italian film director and screen writer. He is sometimes known as the father of Italian cinema	4 Independence Day	
5 Alberto Gilardino B. 1982 - He is a professional football (soccer) team manager and former player as a striker	6 Thomas Vaughan UNICO PNP 2017 Wethersfield Chapter CT	7 Vittorio De Sica B. 1901 - d. Nov 13, 1974 He was an Italian film director and actor. Four of his films won Academy Awards	8 Milo Ventimiglia B. 1977 - He is an American actor best known for his role in the <i>Gilmore Girls</i> . Born in Anaheim, CA, his father is of Sicilian descent	9 Mitchel Tate Musso B. 1991 - An American actor and musician, best known for his role as Oliver in the Disney sitcom <i>Hannah Montana</i>	10 On this day in history, in 1976, was the Seveso Disaster which was an industrial accident resulting in the highest known exposure to a chemical in a residential area	11 Connor Paolo B. 1990 - An American actor best known for his portrayal of the adolescent Alexander the Great in "Alexander"
12 Leopoldi Mastelloni B. 1945 - An Italian actor, comedian and singer	13 Gaius Julius Caesar B. 101BC - d. 44 BC A Roman military and political leader who has a role in the transformation of the Roman Empire	14 Peter Panto B. 1910 - d. Jul 14, 1939 An Italian American longshoreman who was murdered by the mob for attempting to revolt against union leaders	15 On this day in 1823, fire destroyed the Basilica of St. Paul in Rome	16 Giuseppe Piazzi B. 1749 - d. Jul 22, 1846 He was an Italian priest, mathematician and astronomer. He established an observatory in Palermo	17 Anthony Fornelli, ESQ UNICO PNP 1973 (d.2017) Chicago, IL	18 Salvatore A. Davino B. 1971 - d. Jan. 17, 2021 An American businessman. He was the Commissioner of the NJ Italian American Heritage Commission
19 Giuseppe Castiglione B. 1688 - d. Jul 17, 1766 He was an Italian Jesuit brother, missionary in China, and painter at the court of The Emperor	20 Francesco Petrarca B. 1304 - d. Jul 19, 1374 He was an Italian scholar, poet and one of the earliest Renaissance humanist	21 On this day in history in 1899, in Tallulah, LA, five Italian American grocers were hung	22 The start of the UNICO National Convention in Orlando Florida Ice Breaker	23 Sergio Mattarella B. 1941 - Born in Palermo, he was the first Sicilian to become president of Italy	24 Dominick Nicastro UNICO PNP 2016 Garfield Chapter NJ	25 Matt LeBlanc B. 1967 - He is an American actor. His first major role was in the TV sitcom <i>Friends</i> . His mother is of Italian ancestry
26 Parents Day	27 Peppino di Capri B. 1939 - A singer, songwriter and pianist in Italy. He was known as the Buddy Holly of Italy	28 On this day, every year, the residents of San Marino, Italy celebrate the anniversary of their liberation from Fascism	29 Michael J. D'Arminio UNICO PNP 1929 - d. 2013 <a href="#">Hackensack Chapter NJ</a> ... Renato Biribin UNICO PNP 1940 - d. 2016 Plainfields Chapter NJ	30 On this day in history in 1626, there was an earthquake in Naples, Italy. It is estimated that approximately 70,000 people were killed	31 Alessandro Algardi B. 1598 - d. Jun 10, 1654 He was an Italian sculptor active exclusively in Rome. He is admired for his portraits	

*Brian Guarco  
State Line Propane  
Granby Chapter, CT  
UNICO National Executive VP*

**PRO & LOCAL**



***Ferrari***

# August | agosto 2026

Photo Credit:  
1995 Italian Ferrari 348GT Spyder Cabriolet  
Brian Guarco UNICO National VP, Granby Chapter CT

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	The Ferrari is an Italian luxury sports car manufacturer based in Maranello. Founded in 1939 by Enzo Ferrari (1898–1988), the company built its first car in 1940, adopted its current name in 1945, and began to produce its current line of road cars in 1947. In all, World War II was good for Ferrari, as the associated military contracts allowed the company to raise significant capital for postwar automotive production. It would continue to produce grinding machines, its most lucrative wartime contract, into the late 1940s in order to finance its racing operations.		1 Dominick “Dom” DeLuise B. 1933 - d. May 4, 2009 He was an American actor, comedian, film director, television producer, chef and author			
2 Jon R. Caviani B. 1943 - d. Jul 29, 2014 He was an Army soldier and recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions in the Vietnam War	3 Paul Alongi UNICO PNP 1975 Bloomfield Chapter NJ	4 Michael DeLuise B. 1969 - An American actor and the second son of Dominick DeLuise and Carol Arthur	5 Antonio Cesti B. 1623 - d. Oct 14, 1669 An Italian composer, organist and tenor during the Baroque era	6 Barbara Strozzi aka Barbara Valle B. 1619 - d. Nov 11, 1677 She was an Italian Baroque singer and composer	7 On this day in history, in 1427, the Visconti of Milan's fleet was destroyed by the Venetians on the Po River	8 On this day in history, in 117 AD, Hadrian became the Emperor of Rome at the death of Trajan. Imperial Italy was at its greatest expanse
9 Cav. Joseph Agresti UNICO PNP 2007 Passaic Valley Chapter NJ	10 Anthony Bengivenga UNICO PNP 2024 Greater Westfield Chapter NJ	11 Joe Rogan B. 1967 - An American podcaster, comedian, actor and former television host. He was born in Newark, NJ	12 Giovanni Gabrieli B. 1554 - d. Aug 12, 1612 He was an Italian composer and organist	13 Salvador Edward Luria B. 1912 - d. Feb 6, 1991 He was an Italian born American microbiologist and winner of the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine	14 Paolo Sarpi B. 1552 - d. Jan 15, 1623 He was an Italian patriot, scientist and church reformer	15 The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary
16 Steve Carell B. 1962 - An American actor and comedian. He starred in the sitcom <i>The Office</i> . Also has been a producer, writer and director	17 In 1908, The Bank of Italy (now The Bank of America) opens their new headquarters (The Bank of Italy Building) in San Francisco	18 Ralph Celli An Army US Air Corps Major who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for actions in 1943 in Wewak, New Guinea	19 Emperor Augustus D. 14 AD - He was the founder of the Roman Empire, which he ruled for 40 years	20 St. Theresa of Jesus B. Jan 9, 1843 - d. 1897 Born as Teresa Jornet Ibars, she was the founder of the Little Sisters of the Abandoned Elderly	21 Hayden Panettiere B. 1989 - An American actress and singer. She starred in the superhero series <i>Heroes</i> . She is a Golden Globe Award Winner	22 Giada DeLaurentis B. 1970 - She is an Italian-American chef, writer and television personality
23 _____	24 On this day in history, in 79 AD, Mt. Vesuvius erupted burying Pompeii and Herculaneum	25 Regis Philbin B. 1931 - d. Jul 25, 2020 He was an American television presenter, talk show host, game show host, actor and singer	26 Salvatore Quasimodo B. 1901 - d. Jun 14, 1968. He was an Italian author. He won the 1959 Nobel Prize for Literature in Poetry	27 The Sacking of Rome in 410. After 3 days of looting and devastation, this is known as the day of the beginning of the end for the Western Roman Empire	28 Vittorio Sella B. 1859 - d. Aug 12, 1943 An Italian photographer and mountaineer who is regarded as the finest mountain photographer ever	29 On this day in 1862 was the Battle of Aspromonte, in Calabria. It was an inconclusive battle for the Liberation of Italy. The Royal Army beat Garibaldi's Army
30 On this day in history, in 30 BC, Cleopatra committed suicide	31					

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



Downtown      Scranton



# September | settembre 2026

Photo Credit  
Amusement Pier in Bari, Italy  
Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
		<p>1 Rocky Marciano B. 1923 - d. Aug 31, 1969 Was a professional boxer. He was the only boxer to remain undefeated until the end of his career</p>	<p>2 Romaldo (Aldo) Giurgole B. 1920 - d. May 16, 2016 He was born in Rome and was an Italian-American academic architect, professor and author</p>	<p>3 Shaun White B. 1986 - A former professional snowboarder and skateboarder. A five time Olympian and three time Olympian Gold Medalist</p>	<p>4 On this day in history in 476, was the fall of the Roman Empire.</p>	<p>5 Tommaso Campanella B. 1568 - d. 1639 Baptized Giovanni Domenico Campanella, he was an Italian Dominican friar and philosopher</p>
<p>6 Luciano Pavarotti B. Oct 1935 - d. Sep 6, 2007 He was an Italian operatic tenor</p>	<p>7 Labor Day</p>	<p>8 Gaten Matarazzo B. 2002 - An American actor born in New London, CT. He started his career on Broadway in the play <i>Les Misérables</i></p>	<p>9 Francesco Carrozzini B. 1982 in Monza, Italy Director of music videos and documentaries. A noted photographer of portraits for the rich and famous</p>	<p>10 On this day in 1960 in Rome, the Opening Ceremonies of the Summer Olympics were held</p>	<p>11 Patriot Day - 911 This day remembers all those that lost their lives or were injured in 2001</p>	<p>12 Peter Scolari B. 1955 - d. 2021 An actor best known for his roles in <i>Bosom Buddies</i>, <i>Newhart</i> and <i>Honey, I Shrunk the Kids</i></p>
<p>13 Grandparents Day</p>	<p>14 On this day in history in 23 AD, Drusus Julius Caesar died, possibly after being poisoned by Sejanus or his wife Livilla</p>	<p>15 Marco Polo B. 1254 - d. Jan 8, 1324 He was a Venetian merchant, explorer and writer. His travels are recorded in the book <i>Travels of Marco Polo</i></p>	<p>16 Cpl. Joseph Vittori He was a U.S. Marine and killed in action this day during the Korean War. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor</p>	<p>17 Maj. Thomas W. Hyde American born, he died this day in 1862 in the American Civil War. He was awarded the Medal of Honor</p>	<p>18 Air Force Birthday</p>	<p>19 Mario Batali B. 1960 - Born in Seattle, WA, he is an American chef, writer, restauranteur and media personality. His father is of Italian descent</p>
<p>20 Sophia Loren B. 1934 - Born as Sofia Costanza Brigida Villani Scicolone, she is an Italian actress</p>	<p>21 Joseph Mazzello III B. 1983 - He is an American actor and director, best known for his role in <i>Jurassic Park</i></p>	<p>22 Autumn Begins</p>	<p>23 On this day in 63 BC, Augustus, the first Roman Emperor, was born. He was related to Julius Caesar</p>	<p>24 Riccardo Illy B. 1955 - An Italian businessman. Born in Italy, he is now the CEO of the coffee making firm <i>Illy</i></p>	<p>25 Angelo Morresi B. 1950 - He is a member of the NJ Italian and Italian American Heritage Commission that he helped establish as a lawyer</p>	<p>26 Pope John Paul VI B. 1897 - d. Aug 6, 1978 Born Giovanni Battista Enrico Antonio Maria Montini. He was Pope for 15 years</p>
<p>27 Grazia Deledda B. 1871 - d. Aug 15, 1936 She was a Sardinian writer who works won her the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1926</p>	<p>28 Mira Sorvino B. 1967 - She is an American Academy Award winning actress for her role in <i>Mighty Aphrodite</i></p>	<p>29 Halsey - Born as Ashley Nicolette Frangipane B. 1994 - An American singer, song writer and actress. She was born in Edison, NJ</p>	<p>30 Dr. Peter Pettinato UNICO PNP 2022 Carbondale Chapter PA</p>	<p>Bari, Italy, is the capital city of Puglia. It is also the hub for ferry and cruise ships departing the port to other parts of the Mediterranean. Bari is also a hidden gem with stunning treasures such as top-notch cuisine and historic castles</p>		

A scenic landscape featuring a classical temple with six columns and a triangular pediment, situated on a grassy hillside. A paved path leads up the hill towards the temple. In the background, there are more hills and mountains covered in green vegetation under a clear blue sky.

## *NJ District IV*

*Belleville  
Bloomfield  
Cedar Grove  
Passaic Valley  
Pequannock  
Sparta  
Wayne*

*UNICO NJ District IV*

# October | ottobre 2026

Photo Credit:  
 Ancient Ruins in Segesta Trapani, Sicily  
 Steven Pelonero PNP , Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	The ruins of Segesta are located in western Sicily, near Palermo and Trapani. The site features a well-preserved Doric temple dating from around 430 BC. Segesta was one of the major cities of the Elymian people and was built by non-Greek ancient Elymians. The ruins are situated on the top of Monte Bärbaro, offering a view over the valley towards the Gulf of Castellamare.			1 Allied forces captured Naples, Italy in 1943	2 Donald (Don) McLean B. 1945 - An American singer-songwriter. Most famous for the 1971 song <i>American Pie</i> . His mother was of Italian descent	3 Gwen Stefani B. 1969 - An American singer-songwriter. Her father was an Italian-American
4 Susan Sarandon B. 1946 - An American actress with Italian heritage on her mothers side from Tuscany and Sicily	5 Francesco Lazzaro Guardi B. 1712 - d. Jan 1, 1793 He was an Italian painter of veduta, and a member of the Venetian School	6 Mario Renato Capecchi B. 1937 - An Italian born, American molecular geneticist and co-winner of the 2007 Nobel Prize in Medicine	7 On this day in 1990, was founded the Center for Italian and Italian American Culture with a mission to preserve and promote the Italian Culture	8 Bella Thorne B. 1997 - An American actress who became popular with her portrayal of CeCe Jones on the sitcom <i>Shake it Up</i>	9 On this day in 1963, a landslide at the Vajont Gorge in Northern Italy led to the deaths of more than 2,000 people in the town of Longarone	10 1922 UNICO is founded by Dr. Anthony P. Vastola, with the first chapter of UNICO being Waterbury, CT
11 On this day in 1492, the Christopher Columbus ships sited land on the horizon (the Bahamas)	12 Columbus Day	13 Navy's Birthday	14 Joseph Elliot Girardi B. 1964 - Was the manager of the NY Yankees who led them to their 27th Championship in 2009	15 Lido "Lee" Iacocca B. 1924 - d. Jul 2, 2019 He is best known for his revival of Chrysler in the 1980's when he served as their CEO	16 Maria Goretti B. 1890 - d. Jul 6, 1902 She was an Italian martyr of the Catholic Church and one of the youngest canonized saints	17 Bartolomeo Brandini B. 1493 - d. Feb 7, 1560 He was an Italian Renaissance sculptor, draughtsman and painter
18 Louis DeFillipo B. 1915 - d. Mar 19, 2008 He was a decorated member of the Army's European Theater. He served as UNICO's Sgt. Of Arms	19 Jon Favreau B. 1966 - An American filmmaker and actor. He directed moves such as <i>Iron Man</i> , <i>Chef</i> and the <i>Lion King</i> just to name a few	20 Angela Alioto B. 1949 - An attorney, politician and a member of one of the best known political families in San Francisco	21 Cav. Ralph Contini UNICO PNP 2023 Hackensack Chapter NJ	22 Brian Anthony Boitano B. 1963 - An Italian American figure skater and winner of the Gold Medal in the Winter Olympics for Men	23 Francis "Frank" Rizzo B. 1920 - d. Jul 16, 1991 A American police officer and politician. He was the mayor of Philadelphia and Police Commissioner	24 Tito Gobbi B. 1913 - d. Mar 5, 1984 He was an Italian baritone with an international reputation
25 Primo Carnera B. 1906 - d. Jun 29, 1967 He was the Heavyweight Boxing Champion of the World. He lost his title to Joe Louis	26 Natalie Anne Merchant B. 1963 - A professional musician who played for the band "10,000 Maniacs"	27 Roberto Benigni B. 1952 - An Italian award winning actor, writer and director. Most widely known as a comic if Italian cinema	28 Paul DeGaetano B. 1953 - An American politician who served on the NJ General Assembly and on the Vietnam Veterans Commission	29 Charles Atlas B. 1892 - d. Dec 24, 1972 Born Angelo Siciliano, he was an Italian born body-builder	30 Christopher Columbus B. Between August 20 and October 31st, 1451 Bon in Genoa Italy, he died May 20, 1506	31 Joseph Nasello UNICO PNP 2025 Saddle Brook Chapter NJ



## *Mid West District*

*Chicago West Suburban UNICO*

*Kansas City UNICO*

*Memphis UNICO*

*St. Louis UNICO*

*Milwaukee UNICO*

# November | novembre 2026

Photo Credit:  
One of the five villages of Cinque Terra  
Louis Coviello, Wayne Chapter, NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
1 All Saints Day Daylight Saving Time Ends  Michael Veselka UNICO PNP 2013 Chicago West Suburban, IL	2 All Souls day	3 On this day in 1867 Garibaldi was defeated by the French-Papal troops in the Battle of Mentana, where he tried to capture Rome	4 Ralph Macchio B. 1961 - An American actor best known for playing in three <i>Karate Kid</i> movies. His mother is of Italian ancestry. His father is part	5 Eddie Pepitone Born 1958 - An American character actor, stand-up comedian and podcast host. His father was Sicilian	6 Peter John DeLuise Born 1966 - An American actor, director and producer. He is the son of the later Dom DeLuise	7  Dr. Alfred Maglio UNICO PNP 1989 - d. 2023 Milwaukee Chapter WI
8 Vincent Cavallaro B. 1912 - d. May 22, 1985 He was a painter and sculptor. He was a US citizen raised and educated in Milan, Italy	9 Louis Ferrigno B. 1951 - He is best known as a bodybuilder and actor. His most known role was as the Incredible Hulk	10 Marine Corps Birthday	11 Veterans Day	12 On this day in history, in 2003, at least 23 Italians were killed in the Iraq War in Nasiriyah, Iraq	13 Joe Mantegna B. 1947 - An American actor who starred in the TV series <i>Criminal Minds</i> . His parents were born in Italy	14 Travis Barker B. 1975 - An American musician who Rolling Stone Magazine referred him as the First Punk Rock Drummer. His parents were part Italian
15 On this day in history, in 1512, was first seen Michelangelo's ceiling painting in the Sistine Chapel	16 Anthony Gaglioti UNICO PNP 1984 - d. 2017 Hackensack Chapter NJ When he was the National President he was with the Cliffside Park Chapter NJ	17 Danny DeVito B. 1944 - An American actor and filmmaker. Born in Neptune Township, NJ. He is of Italian-Albanian descent.	18 On this day in history, in 1493, Christopher Columbus sighted Puerto Rico	19 Roy Campanella B. 1921 - d. Jun 26, 1993 He was an American baseball player and a Hall of Famer. He played for the Brooklyn Dodgers	20 Jerry Colangelo B. 1939 - An American businessman. He owned the NBA basketball team Phoenix Suns and the MLB team Arizona Diamondbacks	21  William Rocco UNICO PNP 2000 W. Springfield Chapter MA
22 Mark Ruffalo B. 1967 - An American actor. He has had received many Emmy, Grammy, Academy and Tony Awards and nominations	23 On this day in 1980 was the Irpinia Earthquake. Over 2400 died and left 250,000 people homeless and at least 7,000 people injured	24 Carlo Lorenzini B. 1826 - d. Oct 26, 1890 Better known as Carlo Collodi, he is best known as the author of <i>"The Adventures of Pinocchio"</i>	25 Joe DiMaggio B. 1914 - d. Mar 8, 1999 Born <i>Giuseppe Paolo DiMaggio</i> . He played his entire 13 year MLB career with the NY Yankees	26 Thanksgiving Day	27 Giovanni Giorgi B. 1871 - d. Aug 19, 1950 He was an Italian physicist who invented the Giorgi International System of Measurement	28 David "Dave" Righetti Born 1958 - He was a pitcher for the NY Yankees and the first known to pitch a no hitter and to lead the league in saves
29 Janet Napolitano Born 1957 She was the first woman to serve as the Secretary of Homeland Security the US	30 Andrew Marcello Nocioni B. 1979 - A member of the NBA's Sacramento Kings and the Argentina National Basketball Team	The Cinque Terre (meaning 'Five Lands') are a coastal area within Liguria, in the northwest of Italy. It lies in the west of La Spezia Province, and comprises five villages: Monterosso al Mare, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola, and Riomaggiore. The coastline, the five villages, and the surrounding hillsides are all part of the Cinque Terre National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Cinque Terre area is a popular tourist destination. Over the centuries, people have built terraces on the rugged, steep landscape right up to the cliffs that overlook the Ligurian Sea.				

*UNICO National  
Wishes you a  
Merry Christmas  
and a Safe and  
Happy New Year*



# December | dicembre 2026

Photo Credit:  
Royal Palace in Naples  
Jean DeSio. Binghamton Chapter, NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	 <i>Buon Natale</i>	1 Stephanie Finochio Born 1971 - Better known as Trinity. She is an Italian American stunt woman and a retired professional woman wrestler	2 On this day in history, in 1971, Fiorello LaGuardia, while the Mayor of NYC and Director of the Office of the Civil Defense, created the Civil Air Patrol	3 Alicia Marie Sacramone Born 1987 - She was a member of the Silver Medal U.S. Artistic Gymnastics Team at the 2008 Beijing Olympics	4 Marisa Tomei B. 1964 - An American Actress (My Cousin Vinny). She is of Italian descent from Tuscany, Calabria, and Campania	5 Frank Caperino UNICO PNP 2003 San Diego Chapter CA
6  Cav. Joseph Coccia UNICO PNP 1976 - d. 2013 Kearny Chapter NJ	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception (This is a National Holiday in Italy)	9 Baldassare Ferri B. 1610 - d. Sep 10, 1680 He was an Italian castrato singer	10 Roberto Cassinelli Born 1956 - Born in Genoa, Italy. He is an Italian politician and lawyer and member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies	11 John Buscema B. 1927 - d. Jan 10, 2002 Born Giovanni Natale Buscema. He was an American comic book artist with Marvel Comics	12 Frank Sinatra B. 1915 - d. May 14, 1998 He was born in Hoboken NJ to Italian immigrants.
13 National Guard Birthday  Steve Buscemi B. 1957 - An American actor who was one of the stars in the TV sitcom <i>30 Rock</i>	14 Craig Biggio Born 1965 - He was a Major League Baseball player for the Houston Astros. His records is at 3,060 hits	15 Nicholas "Nick" Buoniconti Born 1940 - He was an NFL Hall of Fame middle linebacker for the Boston Patriots and Miami Dolphins	16 On this day in history in 1994, the Coccia Foundation was formed by Joseph and Elda Coccia	17 Giovanni Ribisi Born 1974 - An American actor best known for his roles in <i>Saving Private Ryan</i> and <i>A Million Ways to Die in the West</i>	18 Jeremy Lee Accardo Born 1981 - He was a Major League baseball pitcher for the Toronto Blue Jays	19 Casey Crescenzo Born 1983 - A singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Most noted for the band <i>The Deer Hunter</i>
20  Benito "Veleno" Lorenzi B. 1925 - d. Mar 3, 2007 He was an Italian soccer player	21 Winter Begins  Frank Zappa B. 1940 - d. Dec 4, 1993 He was an American music composer and song-writer	22 Cesare Cremonini B. 1550 - d. Jul 19, 1631 He was an Italian professor of natural philosophy	23 Susan Victoria Lucci Born 1946 - An actress best known for her iconic role as Erica Kane on the soap opera <i>All My Children</i>	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Frederick II of Hohenstaufen B. 1194 - d. Dec 13, 1250 He was Holy Roman Emperor, King of Jerusalem, King of Germany, Italy Burgundy and Sicily
27  Christopher Del Sesto B. 1907 - He dies this day in 1973. He was the 64th Governor of Rhode Island	28 Venessa Ferlito Born 1980 - She was born in Brooklyn. She was an American actress	29 Stefano Erario Born 1966 - An Italian soccer player best known for his time on AC Milan and Derby County	30 Concetta Tomei Born 1945 - An actress in the American theater, film and television	31 New Years Eve	 <i>Buon Natale!</i> ITALIAN CHRISTMAS	

# 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.

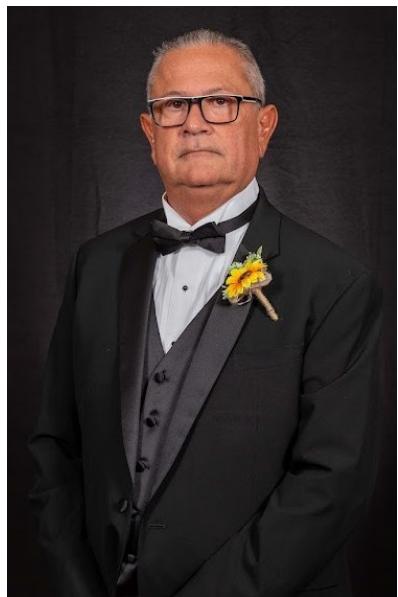
The name UNICO was selected as best representing the nature and character of this fledgling organization. UNICO is the Italian word for unique - one of a kind. The founders believed that UNICO would be the only one of its kind because it placed service to the community before and above fraternity.

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.



**Joseph Nasello**  
UNICO National President  
2025-2026  
Saddle Brook, 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 lead 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:	Pete Cervino, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Town of Sicignano degli Alburni on Alburni Mountains
January:	Donna Gallina, Point Pleasant Beach Chapter, NJ: Castello Aragonese Ischia
February:	Gene Jannetti, Greater Westfield Chapter NJ: The Church of San Lorenzo Maggiore in Naples
March:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY: Ruins in the city of Paestum Salerno Campagna Italy
April:	Michele Maddalena, Montville Chapter, NJ: The Rialto Bridge in Venice
May:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY: The Trulli of Alberobello in Puglia
June:	Louis Covielo, Wayne Chapter, NJ: Venice from the Rialto Bridge
July:	Allan Focarino, Garfield Chapter, NJ: The Grand Canal in Venice
August:	Brian Guarco, Granby Chapter, CT: 1995 Italian Ferrari 348GT Spyder Cabriolet
September:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY: Amusement Pier in Bari, Italy
October:	Steven Pelonero PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter, NJ: Ruins in Sicily
November:	Louis Covielo, Wayne Chapter, NJ: One of the five villages of Cinque Terra
December:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter, NY: Royal Place in Naples
Back Cover:	Allan Focarino, Garfield Chapter, NJ: Venice Gondolas

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*We are the largest Italian-American  
Service Organization in the USA*

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