

2021

*UNICO National*

*Italian & Italian American Heritage & Photo Calendar*

*www.UNICO.org*

*Our 10th Year Edition*



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# January | gennaio 2021

Photo Credit:  
 Venice from a bridge inside Doge's Palace  
 Anthony Bogash, Clark 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>Doge's Palace is one of the main landmarks in Venice. It was the residence of the Doge of Venice, who was the supreme authority of the former Venetian Republic. It was founded in 1340 and became a museum in 1923. It is one of 11 museums in Venice.</p>				<p>1 <i>New Year's Day</i></p> <p>Dr. Ann Walko                      PNP 2015                      GreaterWestfield NJ Chapter</p>	2
3	4	5	<p>6 <i>Epiphany</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>1797                      The modern Italian Flag is first used</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Marco Polo                      Merchant from the Venetian Republic. He died this day in 1324. he was born in 1254</p>	9
10	11	<p>12</p> <p>1935                      The Amazing Kreskin                      George Joseph Kresge Jr                      Polish father, Italian mother                      Born in Montclair, NJ</p>	13	14	<p>15</p> <p>John Alati                      PNP 2002                      Verona NJ Chapter</p>	16
17	<p>18 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i></p>	19	20	21	22	23
<p>24</p> <hr/> <p>31</p>	25	26	27	28	29	30





*PA II*

*Greater Binghamton  
Carbondale  
Keystone  
Sayre*



# February | febbraio 2021

Photo Credit:  
Wisteria Tree in San Gimignano, Tuscany  
Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	1	2 <i>Ground Hog Day</i>	3	4	5  1783 The Calabria Earthquake Began this day and left 50,000 dead	6
7	8	9  Dr. Frank DeFrank NP 2019/2020 Roseto PA Chapter	10	11	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>	13
14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 <i>Presidents' Day</i>	16	17 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	18  1404 (d.1472) Leon Battista Alberti Inventor of the Anemometer	19	20
21	22	23	24	25  1955 Francesca Michielin Italian singer-songwriter and winner of the show X-Factor	26	27
28			Wisterias climb by twining their stems around any available support. They have been known to choke out other plants. Some species can grow as high as 66 ft. with a width of 33 feet. The seeds grow in pods and are poisonous.			

## ***UNICO National Charities***

*Armed Services  
Columbus Day  
Heritage Calendar*

## ***UNICO Foundation Charities***



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Mental Health  
Scholarships  
Torraco Food Bank / Shelter*

*You can now donate using our pledge form.  
Refer to the inside last page*



# March | marzo 2021

Photo Credit:  
The salt flats in Trapani, Sicily  
Anthony Pelonero, National Member, Richmond VA

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12  1946 Liza Minnelli Actress and singer. She is the daughter of Judy Garland	13
14 <i>Daylight Saving Time (Clocks forward)</i>  1940 Maria Mazziotti Gillan Poet, born in Paterson NJ's Riverside section	15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19 <i>St. Joseph's Day</i>	20 <i>Spring Begins</i>
21  Chris DiMattio PNP 2010 Scranton PA Chapter	22	23	24	25	26  Nicholas Quercetti PNP 1986 Wilkes-Barre PA Chapter	27
28 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	29	30	31  1980 Kate A. Micucci American actress, singer- songwriter, artist	Trapani is a city and comune on the west coast of Sicily. It is the capital of the Province of Trapani. It is still an important fishing port. Some important export items from Trapani are salt, coral, marble and marsala wine. This coast area is filled with numerous salt pans.		

# *NJ District VII*



*Garfield  
Hackensack  
Kearny  
Lodi  
Nutley  
Rutherford  
Saddle Brook*





# April | aprile 2021

Photo Credit:  
One of the many hotels on Lake Como  
Michael Fortunato, Wethersfield Chapter CT

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>Lake Como is a lake of glacial origin in Lombardy, Italy. It is the 3rd largest lake in Italy with an area of 56 square miles. It is a popular retreat since Roman times with many villas and palaces.</p>			1	2 <i>Good Friday</i>	3
4 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12  Salvatore Mangano PNP 1997 Saddle Brook NJ Chapter	13 <i>Thomas Jefferson Birthday</i>	14  Glenn Pettinato PNP 2011 Carbondale PA Chapter	15	16	17  Frank Cannata PNP 1994 Glastonbury CT Chapter
18	19	20  Michael Spano PNP 2006 Memphis TN Chapter	21	22	23	24
25  1940 Al Pacino Alfredo James "Al" American actor, filmmaker	26	27	28	29	30	

# *UNICO National Executive Committee*

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*Mid West Regional Chair*   *Nina Held*



# May | maggio 2021

Photo Credit:  
 Sciacca, Sicily, Provincia di Agrigento  
 Anthony Pelonero, National Member, Richmond VA

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato	
	Sciacca is a town and comune in the province of Agrigento on the southwestern coast of Sicily. It has views of the Mediterranean Sea.						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9 <i>Mother's Day</i>	10  Kathi Strozza PNP 2008 Temecula CA Chapter	11	12	13 <i>Ascension of Jesus</i>	14	15 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>	
16 1928 (d.1989) Alfred "Billy" Martin Jr Baseball manager for the Yankees. First Italian man- ager to win a World Series	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23 <i>Pentecost</i>	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31 <i>Memorial Day</i>		The origins of the town's name have been much debated, with Latin "ex acqua", as a reference to the springs of thermal water of the area, or Arabic "Syac", meaning bath, and al Saqquah, dating back to the cult of the Syrian god "Shai al Quaaum". The city walls, the bastions and the Old Castle owe their existence to Roger the Great Count.				

# *UNICO National Chapter States*



*California  
Connecticut  
Delaware  
Florida  
Illinois  
Massachusetts  
Minnesota*

*Missouri  
New Jersey  
New York  
Pennsylvania  
Tennessee  
Wisconsin*



# June | giugno 2021

Photo Credit:  
Medieval Castle in the town of Itri, Province of Latina, Lazio  
Sergio Marricone, Wayne Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
		1	2	3	4	5
6 <i>1944 D-Day</i>	7	8	9  Lee Norelli PNP 2018 Greater Philadelphia Chapter	10  Frank Tidona PNP 2001 Rutherford NJ Chapter	11	12
13	14 <i>Flag Day Army Birthday</i>  PNP Anthony Braico 2005 Avon CT Chapter	15	16	17  Richard D'Arminio PNP 2014 Ramsey NJ Chapter	18	19
20 <i>Father's Day</i>	21 <i>Summer Begins</i>	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Itri is an agricultural center divided in two parts by a small river, the Pontone. It lies in a valley between the Monti Aurunci and the sea, not far from the Gulf of Gaeta. The more ancient part, with the Castle, was partly destroyed during World War II.		



## *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  
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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  
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1970 Stephen Mastropletro  
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1974 \*  
1975 Fred J. DiRossi  
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1977 General Vincent Ghioda  
1978 Mario Albi  
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1984 Dr. Louis Badeen  
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1990 \*  
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1997 Cav. Frank Milo  
1998 \*  
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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

# July | luglio 2021

Photo Credit:  
An evening view of Venice  
Joe Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>Venice is a city in northeastern Italy and is the capital of the Veneto region. It is situated on a group of 118 small islands that are separated by canals and linked by over 400 bridges.</p>			<p>1 <i>The first day of the UNICO calendar year</i></p>	2	3
<p>4 <i>Independence Day</i></p>	5	<p>6  Tom Vaughan PNP 2017 Wethersfield CT Chapter</p>	7	8	<p>9  1928 (d.1996) Vince Edwards Vincent Edward Zoino III Actor, director, singer aka Dr. Ben Casey</p>	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	<p>21 <i>98th UNICO Convention Fort Myers, FL</i></p>	<p>22 <i>98th UNICO Convention Fort Myers, FL</i></p>	<p>23 <i>98th UNICO Convention Fort Myers, FL</i></p>	<p>24 <i>98th UNICO Convention Fort Myers, FL</i>  Dominick Nicastro PNP 2016 Garfield NJ Chapter</p>
<p>25 <i>Parents Day</i></p>	26	27	28	29	30	31




***UNICO National  
Our Past  
National  
Presidents***

*Paul Alongi (1975)  
Nick Quercetti (1986)  
Frank Castrignano (1988)  
Dr. Alfred Maglio (1989)  
Frank Cannata (1994)  
Sal Mangano (1997)  
William Rocco (2000)  
Frank Tidona (2001)  
John Alati (2002)  
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)*



# August | agosto 2021

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

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
1	2	3 Paul Alongi PNP 1975 Bloomfield NJ Chapter	4	5	6	7
8	9 Joseph Agresti PNP 2007 Passaic Valley NJ Chapter	10 1933 Rocco "Rocky" Colavito Former right fielder with the Cleveland Indians MLB	11	12	13	14
15 <i>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	16	17	18	19	20	21 <i>Senior Citizen's Day</i>
22 1970 Giada DeLautentis Italian-American chef, writer, and TV personality	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<p>Vietri sul Mare is a town and comune in the province of Salerno, in the Campania region of southern Italy. The town is known for its ceramics which is a tradition since at least the 15th century. The town is considered to be the gateway to the Amalfi Coast.</p>			

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

&


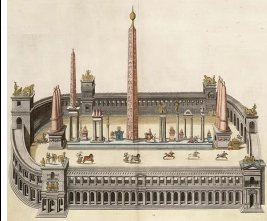

**LAFESTA**  
ITALIANA

**Downtown  
Scranton**



# September | settembre 2021

Photo Credit:  
Circus Maximus was held here in Rome  
Joe Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	The Circus Maximus is an ancient Roman chariot-racing stadium and entertainment venue located in Rome. It was the first and largest stadium that could accommodate over 150,000 spectators. It is now a public park.		1	2	3	4
5	6 <i>Labor Day</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>Grandparents Day</i>	13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Air Force Birthday</i>
19	20	21	22 <i>Autumn Begins</i>	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		


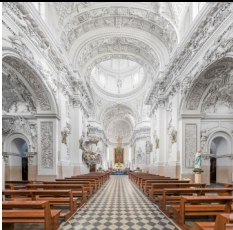

## 9 Truths

### Christopher Columbus (our Italian Heritage Month)

1. Columbus was the first to discover a sustainable, wind-powered, trans-Atlantic route and return to Europe with proof of a new world
  2. Columbus's breakthrough application of magnetic declination gave birth to modern navigation
  3. Columbus revolutionized world-wide human migration enduring for more than five centuries with the immigrants of today
  4. Columbus introduced the wheel for widespread use in the Western Hemisphere
  5. He adopted an indigenous boy into his family as his own son
  6. He encountered a world where indigenous peoples practiced cannibalism, human sacrifice, and slavery
  7. Columbus owned no slaves when slavery prevailed in the indigenous cultures
  8. He is emblematic of the millions of immigrants and their pursuit of economic opportunity, religious freedom and hope for a better life
  9. In 1892, Italian-American immigrants gifted the Columbus memorial in the heart of New York City
  12. with these inscribed words:
  13. "To the world, he gave a world"
- [www.ColumbusHeritageCoalition.com](http://www.ColumbusHeritageCoalition.com)

# October | ottobre 2021

Photo Credit:  
Church Ceiling Architecture in Rome  
Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ



Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>There are over 64,000 churches in Italy. A cathedral is the town's main church but it can also be called a duomo or basilica. St. Peter's Basilica, St. Mark's Basilica, and the Orvieto Cathedral are just three of them.</p>				1	2
3	4 <i>Feast of St. Francis</i>	5	6	7	8 2008 Official Ribbon Cutting Day of the Italian-American Museum on Mulberry Street, NYC	9
10  1922 UNICO is founded by Dr. Vastola	11 <i>Columbus Day</i>	12	13 <i>Navy's Birthday</i>	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24  31 <i>Halloween</i> 1943 Brian Piccolo (d.1970)	25	26 Meet the UNICO National President / NJ-NY-PA	27	28	29	30 <i>1451 (d.1506)</i> <i>Christopher Columbus</i> <i>He was born in Genoa, Italy</i>

A scenic view of a Tuscan-style landscape. In the foreground, there are rolling green hills with rows of olive trees and a dirt road winding through them. A large, light-colored stone building with a tiled roof is situated in the middle ground. In the background, a small village with a prominent church tower is visible on a hillside, surrounded by more vineyards and trees. The sky is overcast and hazy.

*Serafini  
&  
Serafini  
Attorneys at Law  
Wayne, NJ  
973-595-9500*

# November | novembre 2021

Photo Credit:  
A view of Tuscany from San Gimignano  
Sal Nocella, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	<p>1 <i>All Saints Day</i></p> <p>Michael Veselka PNP 2013 Chicago IL Chapter</p>	<p>2 <i>All Souls Day</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1916 (d.1945) Sgt. John Basilone, Marine Born in Buffalo, NY</p>	<p>5 Eastern Region Meeting Pittsfield, MA</p>	<p>6 Eastern Region Meeting Pittsfield, MA</p>
<p>7 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends Clocks go back one hour</i></p> <p>Dr. Alfred Maglio PNP 1989 Milwaukee WI Chapter</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 <i>1775 Marine Corp Birthday</i></p>	<p>11 <i>Veterans Day</i></p>	<p>12 <i>National Pizza Day USA</i></p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>William Rocco PNP 2000 W. Springfield MA Chapter</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i></p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Tuscany is a region in central Italy. Its capital, Florence, is home to some of the world's most recognizable Renaissance art and architecture, including Michelangelo's "David" statue, Botticelli's works in the Uffizi Gallery and the Duomo Basilica.</p>			






*UNICO National  
Wishes everyone  
A safe  
And a Merry Christmas*





# December | dicembre 2021

Photo Credit:  
Mt. Vesuvius from Campania  
Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter NY

Sunday domenica	Monday lunedì	Tuesday martedì	Wednesday mercoledì	Thursday giovedì	Friday venerdì	Saturday sabato
	Campania is a region in southern Italy. It has a population of around 5,800,000 people.		1	2	3	4
5  Frank Caperino PNP 2003 San Diego CA Chapter	6	7 <i>1941 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8 <i>Feast of the Immaculate Conception This day is a National Holiday in Italy</i>	9	10	11
12	13 <i>1636 National Guard Birthday</i>	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>Winter Begins</i>	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>
26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Years Eve</i>	

# 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.



***Dr. Frank DeFrank***  
*UNICO National President*  
*2019-2020*  
*2020-2021*  
*Roseto, PA*

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:	Sal Nocella, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ: Venezia Venice Canals and Gondolas
January:	Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter NJ: Venice from a bridge inside Doge's Palace
February:	Anthony Bogash, Clark Chapter NJ: Wisteria Tree in San Gimignano, Tuscany
March:	Anthony Pelonero, National Member Richmond VA: The Salt Flats in Trapani, Sicily
April:	Michael Fortunato, Wethersfield Chapter CT: One of the many hotels on Lake Como
May:	Anthony Pelonero, National Member, Richmond VA: Sciacca, Sicily, Provincia di Agrigento
June:	Sergio Marricone, Wayne Chapter NJ: Medieval Castle in Itri, Province of Latina, Lazio
July:	Joe Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ: An evening view of Venice
August:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter NY: Vietri sul Mare, Amalfi Coast Italy
September:	Joe Agresti PNP, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ: Circus Maximus was held here in Rome
October:	Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ: One of many church ceilings in Italy
November:	Sal Nocella, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ: A view of Tuscany from San Gimignano
December:	Jean DeSio, Binghamton Chapter NY: Mt. Vesuvius from Campania
Back Cover:	Steve Pelonero, Passaic Valley Chapter NJ: Wine Barrels in the Verrazzano Winery, Tuscany

# A special thanks to all of our 2021 Calendar Sponsors

## Page Sponsors

<b>January</b>	<b>Booster Sponsors</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>PA District II</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>National &amp; Foundation Charities</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>NJ District VII</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>UNICO Executive Committee</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>UNICO Chapter States</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Vastola Awardees</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>Past National Presidents of UNICO</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>LaFesta Italiana Scranton &amp; Scranton PA UNICO</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Tribute to Christopher Columbus</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Serafini &amp; Serafini, Attorneys at Law, NJ</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Christmas Wish from UNICO</b>



## Booster Sponsors

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<b>Sparta Chapter</b>	<b>NJ</b>
<b>Steven Pelonero</b>	<b>NJ</b>
<b>Frank Travisano</b>	<b>CT</b>

### Please help Support one of our Charities

Send Checks to: 271 US Hwy 46 West, Suite F-103, Fairfield, NJ 07004

#### UNICO National Heritage/Culture Please make your donation to either

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Armed Services | UNICO National or to the         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calendar       | UNICO Foundation                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbus Day   | with a memo to which charity you |

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|--|--|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer Research & Prevention          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 donation                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooley's Anemia                       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 donation                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Italian Studies                       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 donation                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships                          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00 Calendar Booster Sponsor |
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"Before September 1st, 2021"  
973-808-0035

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**Or to get more information about UNICO**  
Please give us a call  
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We are the largest Italian-American  
Service Organization in the USA

"Service Above Self"  
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