NUTLEY UNICO

(*nutleyunico.org)*

P.O. Box 43, Nutley

MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

Next Dinner Meeting – THURSDAY, April 3, at 7:00 pm at Mama Vittoria

Only dues paying members should be attending our dinner meetings.

**March Meeting:**

* Dan Marucci coordinated the Culture and Heritage theme of the night. We had St. Joseph pastries, shaped bread, (cross, staff) and a dinner of appetizers, pasta, cous cous with asparagus, salmon and chicken piccata, all with limoncello to top off the night.
* Dan highlighted the power of music in explaining the impact of the song “That’s Amore”. This was an attempt to soften the opinion of Italy after their role in WW II.
* District VII Governor, Ed Donofrio, attended and swore in new members, Anthony Ferrara, Arlene Ferrara, Kathy Flaherty, Caro Neri and Ethel Obenauer.
* Tom Sposato announced the selctions for the annual awards, Unican of the Year (Danny Carnicella) and Lifetime Achievement (Joe Zarra). These will be presented at the April 3 dinner meeting.
* NHS senior, Damiano Farro, will be our male Piccolo recipient. The Piccolo scholarships and two Piro, Arcuti and the Cocchiola Scholarship will be awarded at the Sunday, May 18, Piccolo Breakfast at the Chandelier. Tickets will be $35. Our guest speaker will be Elena (Primerano) Wise, a former Bergen County and All-State track athlete, All-American at Rutgers and a member of the 2002 Women’s bobsled Team.

**Good & Welfare:**

* Members shared a moment of silent reflection for Chiara Russionello who passed away recently at the age of 66.
* Tina Cervasio, Joe and Maria’s daughter, was introduced by Superior Court Judge Joanne Cocchiola as the recipient of the PASS THE CROWN AROUND WOMAN OF THE YEAR award at the 4th annual International Women’s Day Power Brunch.
* Dan Geltrude’s new book, “Dogs Taught Me Everything I Know About Business”, debuted on March 14 on Amazon and Barnes & Noble. A portion of the profit from the book will go towards supporting Robert E. Williams Animal Rescue Inc.

**Activities/Events:**

* Thanks to all members who participated in the annual Nutley **St. Patrick’s Day Parade** on Saturday, March 1.
* The Nutley-Belleville Columbus Day Parade Committee will be holding its annual Pasta Dinner fundraiser on Sunday, March 23, from 2-6:00 pm. The cost is $40 per adult and $20 for children over 6. Two Nutley Unico members are being honored at the October parade; Andy Garruto, Esq., Nutley Man of the Year and Frank Cocchiola, Jr., Grand Marshall.
* Our three top scholarship winners will also be presented at the April 3 meeting.

**National Business:**

* The 2025 National Convention will be July 30 – Aug. 3 at the Westin, Ft. Lauderdale.
* Scholarships are available on the national website (www.unico.org/cholarships).

**District VII Business:**

* The most important District announcement in regard to our Chapter is that Dan Carnicella will be sworn in as NJ District VII Governor at a dinner on Tuesday, June 17, 2025. Details to follow.

**Chapter Business:**

* If you plan on sponsoring a new member please remember that he/she must attend one of our dinner meetings or events before the application is reviewed by the Executive Committee. Applications are available on our website (nutleyunico.org) or at our dinner meeting.
* Scholarship Committee Chair, the Honorable Alan Genitempo, announced that we will be awarding $44,400 in scholarships this year. This year we are setting aside a special night for the awarding of donor scholarships. This will be Tuesday, June 10, at 7:00 pm at the Chandelier, Belleville, and will be in addition to our regular June meeting on June 5. The cost will be $35 per person for guests and members.

**Upcoming Calendar of Events -**

(All dinner meetings will be on Thursdays at Mama Vittoria with noted exceptions)

April 3 – Dinner Meeting (Three Scholarships and Awards)

April 8 – Dist. VII Piccolo Awards Dinner (Graycliff, Moonachie)

May 1 – Dinner Meeting

May 18 – Chapter Brian Piccolo Scholarship Breakfast (Chandelier)

June 5 – Dinner Meeting

June 10 – Special Scholarship event (Chandelier) – Donor Scholarships

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Please forward any changes in email addresses, good & welfare items, questions for the Executive Committee or questions concerning the newsletter to me at *fcoch1212@gmail.com*.

F. Cocchiola