



# LOCAL 338 RWDSU/UFCW

WWW.LOCAL338.ORG

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Winter 2006 - 07

# NEWS

97-45 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, New York 11374



by John R. Durso,  
President

## Viewpoint...

As we approach the holiday season, we look back on 2006 knowing that it was a tough yet successful year for our Local. Many of our grocery contracts expired, leading to some of the toughest negotiations I have seen in my 22 years with this Local. As the cost of health care continues to increase, the companies continued to fight for reductions to our health care and pension benefits. Most of these negotiations were long and very heated but with your support we were able to hold the line on health care and pensions while securing a strong wage increase for all of our membership.

This year began with a successful conclusion to the Duane Reade battle.

After 5 years we were able to reach a contract agreement for 2600 workers. Then, in October, we stood together, united and determined to earn a strong contract for nearly 12,000 members working at Walbaums, A&P, Food Emporium, and Stop & Shop. In recent weeks, we successfully reached agreements with several of our independent employers. All of these negotiations were long and tedious and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the Local 338 staff. They worked many long days and nights fighting on your behalf. I would also like to thank all of the Local 338 members and their families who came out and supported this union at our meetings and rallies. It was your support that pushed the companies to finally

agree to fair contract for all of our members.

2006 was also a successful year politically for the working people of this nation. After years of corruption and tax breaks for billion dollar corporations by the Republican-led Congress, there was a need for change in this country and that change came in the November elections. In January we will have a Democratic Congress, one that is committed to fighting the health care and prescription drug industry, and fighting to allow cheaper drugs to be imported from Canada. We will finally have a Congress that will put an end to corporate welfare and fight against billion dollar tax breaks for the oil

**While there is much to look forward to in the New Year, we must remain vigilant in our fight for working Americans. We must hold the new leadership in governments' feet to the fire and make sure that they back up their words with actions.**

and prescription companies at a time when these companies make record profits. Most importantly, we will finally have a Congress that will stand up and do the right thing for working Americans and vote to increase the national minimum

wage.

In New York State, we elected Eliot Spitzer Governor and Andrew Cuomo Attorney General. This new leadership will determine the direction and priorities of New York State for the next 4 years. Both men have made a commitment to work with Labor unions to pass legislation and programs that will ease the burden on working New Yorkers.

While there is much to look forward to in the New Year, we must remain vigilant in our fight for working Americans.

We must hold the new leadership in governments' feet to the fire and make sure that they back up their words through actions. We must stand together as a union and support the Labor Movement. That means more rallies & picket lines and it also means supporting labor businesses. So as the holiday season approaches and you do your shopping, I ask that you shop only at stores that employ union labor.

Our union is only as strong as its membership. Throughout 2007 we will be holding and attending many rallies and campaign events. We are always looking for members willing to help at these events. Whether it is attending a Wake Up Wal-Mart Rally, standing a picket line, or helping one of our endorsed candidates, we need your help. We need you to get involved and volunteer as we fight to protect our jobs. As anti-union companies like Wal-Mart & Target move into a community, smaller supermarkets, grocery stores, and pharmacies close their doors as they are forced out of business. Your support and a few hours of your time a month can make a huge difference. Throughout the upcoming year we will be asking you to attend more rallies and picket lines. I know your personal time is precious but your union family needs your support as we fight to protect our jobs!

From all of us at Local 338, we wish you and your family a safe and joyful holiday season and a very happy new year.

**And remember we are truly Stronger Together!!**

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periódico hay una versión  
abreviada en español.  
Si le gusta esta idea,  
¡llámenos y dénos su  
opinión!**

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## So, the Democrats Won. Now What?

by Stuart Appelbaum  
President, RWDSU

**I**t is no secret that the Democratic victory this past Election Day had less to do with who the Democrats are than who they are not. But while voter outrage over the Republicans' handling of just about everything carried Democrats across the finish line, it will take more than Bush-bashing to keep them there.

What should they do? Here is my suggestion: reform labor laws first. This may seem obscure, but the truth is that it is one of the most significant problems the Democrats could take on. It is also one that could yield enormous political dividends for them in years to come.

Unions, of course, have been under the gun for some time. Today, the illegal firing of workers who attempt to organize is commonplace. Under the control of Republican appointees, the National Labor Relations Board has further fanned the flames of employer resistance to organized labor. In a series of recent decisions the labor board even gave a green light to business efforts to reclassify millions of workers as supervisors, thus robbing as many as eight million Americans of their right to collective bargaining.

While the decline in unionization has thrilled labor's conservative opponents, it has exacted a huge toll on New York families. Historically, unions have enabled Americans, who might otherwise live in poverty, to join the middle-class. They still can. On average, unionized workers' wages are 29 percent higher than their nonunion counterparts. What's more, only 16 percent of nonunion workers have guaranteed pensions, compared to 73 percent of union workers. No less significant, more than 90 percent of unionized workers have jobs that provide health insurance

benefits, by virtue of having the right to collectively bargain.

The problem is not that Democrats in Congress are anti-union. Today, virtually all of them are cosponsors of the Employee Free Choice Act - a bill to ease the ability of workers to organize and more effectively punish employers who violate labor laws. And many of the Democratic candidates who won elected office in New York and elsewhere did so with the active support of unions like the RWDSU. The problem is that Democrats too often consider reforming labor laws to be a niche issue: a priority for union officials alone. It doesn't have to be that way. Instead, Democrats can make the revitalization of America's unions a cornerstone of their economic agenda. It would be in their interest to do so.

A new study by labor expert Jim Grossfeld for the Center for American Progress points out that even well educated white collar workers feel they are treading water as they face growing economic uncertainties. Many see their careers tanking. Instead of shying away from unions, he urges political progressives to show how organized labor can help them succeed in the new economy.

Now that Democrats have won the power to set the agenda in the next Congress they will need to move fast to demonstrate that they have something substantive to offer U.S. workers, blue and white collar alike. Sure, let's raise the minimum wage and make college more affordable. But Democrats can do more than that; they can move to strengthen the right to organize and, with it, give all Americans a stronger voice on the job and more control over their own future. Unions, they may discover, are an old idea whose time has come.

## STAYING INFORMED



by John DeMartino,  
Secretary-Treasurer

**A**s 2006 comes to a close, we look back at a tough yet successful year for Local 338. We completed our major industry contracts with Walbaums, A&P, Food Emporium and Stop & Shop. With your support we were successful in maintaining our current level of medical and retirement benefits with no cost to you, the members. In fact, after months of negotiations we were able to secure a 76% increase in employer contributions to our medical fund and a 37% increase to our pension fund. We also were able to protect our Sunday premium pay while securing a modest but competitive wage increase throughout the term of the contract.

We were also able to ensure no givebacks of benefits enjoyed by our current members, although there will be some necessary modifications for future employees. I have to say that in my 21 years working for Local 338, I have never seen and could not believe the amount of rhetoric coming from the companies. One company that claimed to be struggling to survive during negotiations actually issued a special cash dividend to its shareholders totaling approximately \$300 million just six months earlier. At that time the company's Executive Chairman said "We're very pleased to reward our stockholders with this special dividend. The strong financial position we find ourselves in makes it possible to demonstrate our commitment to driving shareholder value and rewarding our stockholders for their support in the past."

Well, it's nice that they want to reward the shareholders but what about you - the employees? Where is the reward for your loyalty and hard work for the company? If they had it their way, you would lose your Sunday premium time and all of your health care and pension benefits. This was a true battle for our union and I can honestly say we held the line for our members.

It took months of negotiations for the companies to realize that we would not accept a contract unless we had the necessary increases to our various funds. The increases were necessary to maintain our current level of service and to secure it for the future. In fact, one company started negotiations with a full page list of cuts they wanted to make to our medical plan. These cuts would have rendered our medical plan useless to you. Another company wanted to make cuts to your medical benefits without having financial experts to back up their position.

I could go on for hours with examples of their ludicrous demands and their utter disrespect for your hard work. The employers actually expected the union to accept and recommend these cuts to you. To that, we had one thing to say to them... NOT A CHANCE! But, I am probably not telling you anything you didn't know working for these companies every day.

This Holiday season, remember who and what is important to the employers. Remember that it was a strong financial position and \$300 million for the stockholders, and cuts in pay and benefits for you - the employees. Remember that it was your union that fought for you and your family to have a strong medical and pension plan. It was your union that fought to protect your Sunday premium pay. And we were only able to do that by remaining united, by remaining a Family. After all, we are STRONGER TOGETHER!

Best wishes to you and your family for a very healthy and happy holiday season & a joyous New Year.

### Local 338 at Work for its Members

since June of this year, local 338 RWDSU/UFCW, through grievances and arbitrations, has won and recovered over **\$91,631 in back wages and monies** to our various funds. since January of 2006, the **total monies refunded is \$258,697.00**

### IT REALLY PAYS TO BE UNION!



# Political Arena



by Ernesto Mattace, Jr.  
Political Director

Now that we have completed another election cycle, what next?? The answer is that we now have a lot of work to do with our newly elected democratic Congress. Labor was instrumental in the election of a new Congress, one with a democratic majority. It is time for our representatives to listen to the needs of working families and deal with our issues, instead of catering to the rich and big business.

When Congress starts its new season in January, a few of the issues that they will be acting upon are:

1. a new ethical reform bill
2. the current structure of student college loans, by reducing the interest by half
3. putting together a bill on stem cell research
4. Addressing the alternative minimum tax and how it is harmful to the working class.

Labor has and will be involved in issues that affect working people in many areas. One you need to be aware of immediately is that anyone who was a 9/11 worker or volunteer

must register now to protect your right to workers' compensation in the future. If you become disabled from 9/11 and have not been documented, it will hinder your possibilities of receiving workers' compensation in the future.

If you did paid or unpaid rescue, recovery or cleanup work in Lower Manhattan during the year after 9/11, you may be eligible for medical and wage replacement benefits – but only if you register first with the New York State Workers' Compensation Board. It is important that you register before the deadline, which is August 14, 2007.

As long as you register you will have the right to file a workers' compensation claim for 9/11 related disorders, no matter when it develops in the future. Whether it is for yourself or a relative or friend please let them know that they need to register. For complete information, eligibility requirements and to obtain all the necessary forms for registration visit [www.nycosh.org](http://www.nycosh.org) or call 1-866-WTC-2556.

If you have any questions please contact me at the Local office at 718-997-7400 or 516-694-1565, ext 247 for both numbers. I wish you all a happy holiday season and a safe and happy New Year.

**Local 338**  
RWDSU/UFCW  
Stronger Together

# Getting Involved

Murray J. Morrissey  
Executive Vice President



It never ceases to amaze me how fast time flies. Here we are facing the end of another year, one that has been memorable for so many reasons, among them the finalization of our long running battle with Duane Reade, the remarkable election results, and last but not least our own difficult contract negotiations with several major employers. When you consider all of this, along with our regular ongoing community events and daily schedules, it's no wonder that the year seems to fly by.

As you probably know by now, our long battle with Duane Reade over the contract for 2600 Local 338 members in their stores was finally brought to a successful conclusion. That contract was overwhelmingly ratified and now provides contract protections and benefits for all of those members, some of whom worked for five years with no contract at all.

Another major event this year was the astounding election results, an election where not only the people let their feelings be known, but Organized Labor played a significant role. Labor's influence was particularly felt on Long Island where a relatively unknown Democrat challenged a well established, nationally prominent Republican incumbent. Although the Democrat was defeated, because of Labor's input, he made a major impact and presented a real challenge where previously none had existed. That challenge helped establish the Long Island labor movement as a major player in the political scene. This influence will go a long way to helping provide a better life for working men and women, regardless of their party or Union affiliation. The influence of organized labor was felt throughout the State and the Country. The lesson that we need to remember here is that when we speak as one, we will be heard. We can't ever again remain on the sidelines and let others determine our destiny. And now that

we have changed the face of the electorate we need to hold them accountable for how they represent our interests.

On a much more local level I have to comment briefly on the contract negotiations that we just completed. While we still have some independent employers to negotiate with, the contracts with the major employers for approximately 12,000 people have been completed. On a personal basis I have never experienced a more difficult negotiation. This was not just a battle of words and wills, this was truly about survival. The underlying issue was survival for the employers and thereby our own. In the final analysis it was the support of the rank and file that made the difference. It is, after all, the people in the stores that make the difference on every level.

Finally, the event that is playing on every American's mind is the war in Iraq and the other difficulties on the horizon. Regardless of anyone's political, religious, or ethnic background, our hearts go out to the men and women serving overseas and to their families especially at this time of the year. Whatever your feeling towards the war and whether we should even be there, the fact is that these are our children, brothers, sisters, and even our mothers and fathers. That reality is what makes this a difficult time. No matter what, it is and was not their decision to be there and we must support them at all costs.

In that light, I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season and wish only the best to you all in the coming New Year.

Local 338 Wishes You a  
*Happy Holiday!*

## Dues increase for all Full-Time and Part-Time members.

Please be advised that in accordance with the International UFCW Constitution, effective January 1, 2007, there will be a mandatory dues increase of \$1.00 per member per month, or \$12.00 per year for all Full-Time and Part-Time members

# HEALTH & SAFETY

Ernesto Mattace, Jr.,  
Health & Safety Director



**O**ur goal has always been to inform our membership and their families about issues that affect our everyday lives. Those issues include possible medical conditions. As most of you know, I recently had a pulmonary embolism. For that reason I have selected this information to share with you.

Knowledge is a powerful force that can save your life; it certainly saved mine. This overview and much more detailed information about pulmonary embolisms can be found on the web at WebMD.com.

## PULMONARY EMBOLISM

Pulmonary embolism is the sudden blockage of an artery in the lung. Once the artery is blocked, usually by one or more blood clots, oxygen levels in the blood drop, and blood pressure in the lungs rises.

Pulmonary embolism caused by large clots can cause sudden death, usually within 30 minutes of when symptoms begin. Smaller clots may cause permanent damage to the heart and lungs.

### What causes pulmonary embolism?

The most common cause of pulmonary embolism is a blood clot that forms in a deep vein in your leg, breaks loose, travels to the lungs, and becomes trapped in one of the smaller lung arteries. Other substances, such as tumors, air bubbles, amniotic fluid or fat that is released into the blood vessels, may also block an artery, but such causes are rare.

### What are the symptoms?

Shortness of breath is the most common symptom of pulmonary embolism. You may have sharp chest pain, which can spread to your shoulder, neck, jaw or arm. You may also have a cough that produces a pink, foamy mucus. Other symptoms may include anxiety, sweating, lightheadedness, fainting, rapid heart rate or palpitations, and an impending sense of doom. Symptoms of pulmonary embolism often begin suddenly.

### What increases your risk of pulmonary embolism?

A blood clot in the deep leg veins (deep vein thrombosis) is the greatest risk factor for pulmonary embolism. Inactivity, especially long periods of bed rest, long flights or car trips, increases your risk of pulmonary embolism because of reduced blood circulation. Recent surgery, stroke, heart attack, heart failure, cancer, lung disease, being overweight, using birth control pills and smoking are also risk factors for pulmonary embolism.

Some people have blood that clots too quickly, and they are more likely to develop clots that cause

deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism. Conditions that cause increased clotting include inherited factors, cancer and severe infections. Injury to a blood vessel also increases the risk of deep vein thrombosis.

### How is pulmonary embolism diagnosed?

Many different types of tests, such as a chest X-ray, spiral CT scan, lung scan or ultrasound, can be used to diagnose pulmonary embolism. However, it can be difficult to diagnose because other conditions, such as a heart attack, panic attack or pneumonia, can cause similar symptoms.

Your doctor will consider your symptoms and risk factors for pulmonary embolism before deciding which tests you should have first. If you are at risk for pulmonary embolism and have symptoms, you should seek emergency care immediately. Some people with this condition, however, have no symptoms.

### How is it treated?

Treatment focuses on preventing another clot from developing and preventing existing clots from growing. Heparin and warfarin are anticoagulant medications that are most commonly given to prevent the growth of existing blood clots or the development of new blood clots. Blood clots that cause pulmonary embolism often will dissolve on their own in a few weeks or months, although they may never dissolve completely.

In rare cases, other treatments for pulmonary embolism may be considered. Clot-dissolving drugs (thrombolytics) may be used, or a surgeon may remove the clot in a procedure called an embolectomy. To prevent future pulmonary embolism, a filter may be placed inside the large central vein (vena cava) of the body to trap clots and prevent them from traveling to the lungs.

Our concern for our families and their health and wellbeing is a powerful force. We tend to overlook ourselves and tend only to the needs of our loved ones. I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to take care of yourself as well, because if something tragic happens to you, who will be there for the needs of our loved ones? Your family needs you.

If you are able to visit the above web site, why not also visit ours, [www.local338.org](http://www.local338.org). You will find a multitude of information with many links to other sites for gathering important information for your everyday lives.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at the union office at 718-997-7400 or 516-694-1656, both have ext. 247. I wish you all a happy holiday season and a safe and happy new year.

# YOU HAVE THE POWER TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH

Charles Hamilton - Funds Administrator

For some time Funds, insurance companies, government agencies, research foundations, the medical and pharmaceutical establishments and others, all have conducted or sponsored studies to understand how the ever-rising costs of health care can be controlled. Short-sighted employers seek to simply shift costs more and more to their employees. That shift merely provides temporary relief, and, in fact, studies show that shifting costs too far onto the backs of employees will backfire in the long term. One thing is for certain, no one can afford to have health care costs continue to skyrocket.

There is no easy solution. However, consider the following: If you, the Funds' participants and dependents, stay healthy, not only do you all enjoy a better life but your healthcare costs and those of your Funds will be lower. Study after study proves that you have the power to improve your health. The concept is not a new one, but we must all take an active role in making "healthy choices" in order to be healthy.

Research shows that most of the top ten causes of death in the U.S. are tied, at least in large part, to personal behavior – to lifestyle choices we make. These negative choices are topped by tobacco use, poor diet and lack of physical activity. These choices have a direct impact on our health – resulting in high blood pressure, cardiac conditions, cancer, etc. We all have read about the dangers of smoking for years, and we have all heard about the growing obesity epidemic among adults and, more frightening still, now reaching our children. Yet, too many of us still smoke, and too many of us do not eat responsibly nor take the time to add some physical activity to our lives. Even just 20 minutes a day of some physical activity helps improve your health.

In 2007 and beyond, your Funds will be examining ways to encourage and promote better choices. Your Funds are here to serve you, and what better service can we provide than offering education, information, ideas, suggestions, opportunities, and encouragement to our participants so that they may lead healthier lives? The New Year is approaching, as good a time as any to get serious about making good choices, particularly about what we eat and about increasing our activity! Just a modest adjustment can make a meaningful difference. In future articles, your Funds will offer other suggestions intended to help each of us take charge of our health.



## BENEFIT FUNDS - TELEPHONE LINKS

Member Services Department -  
(718) 997-7400 or (516) 694-1656, ext. 776

- o All Fund eligibility questions
- o Member, dependent and beneficiary changes
- o All claims issues
- o All general Plan information and questions
- o Virtually any other Medical inquiry or problem
- o All optical voucher requests
- o All dental issues

Express Scripts Member Services - (800) 467-2006:

- o All questions about the prescription plan
- o All prescription eligibility questions
- o Requests for prescription ID cards

Pension/COBRA Department/Death Benefit  
(718) 997-7400 or (516) 694-1656, ext. 230:

- o All Pension questions
- o All COBRA issues
- o All Death Benefit questions

Disability Benefits - (718) 997-7400 or (516) 694-1656, ext. 232:

- o All Disability Benefit questions



# With Your Help, They Won!

2006 was an extremely important year politically.

It saw a change in administration and direction in New York State and in the House and Senate in Washington D.C.

With your help, many of Local 338 Friends were elected to office or re-elected to serve and fight for the rights of working families. Here are just a few that wanted to say "Thank You!"



**Hillary Rodham Clinton**  
US SENATOR • NEW YORK



**Bob Menendez**  
US SENATOR • NEW JERSEY



**Eliot Spitzer**  
NY STATE GOVERNOR ELECT



**David Paterson**  
NY STATE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ELECT



**Andrew Cuomo**  
NY STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ELECT

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT RETIREES

Thomas Adams  
Anthony Angieri  
Charles Blanck  
Gary Brooks  
William Braun  
Florrie Braxton  
Phyllis Brunelle  
Freda Burstein

Zelma Castro  
Imogene Curry  
Carmela Diaz  
Eustace Duncan  
Dorothy Gobetz  
Aniela Goraj  
Vincent Grabinsky  
Rafael Guishard

Nestor Juarez  
Lillian Julian  
Bridget Komons  
Carol Kroll  
Louis Martinez  
Robert Miller  
Loretta Moore  
Juan Nieves

Aurora Parsons  
Manda Patel  
Ursula Piechotta  
Esperanza Polesinelli  
Karen Przebowski  
John Ribar  
Ralph Ruosto  
Rosemary Savarino

John Serrano  
Helen Stathis  
Lynn Tracy  
Lorraine Valentine  
Monroe Walton  
Jeremiah Wilson  
Claudeth Wylie  
Pratoom Zakrzewski



# RWDSU CONVENTION

Officers, staff and members of Local 338 attended the 20th Quadrennial Convention of the International Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union which brought together locals from across the United States and Canada.

The 2006 “Strength to Win” Convention planned our union’s future and brought forth ideas on organizing, immigration, minimum wage, social security, women’s rights and civil rights here in North America but also across the world.

Speakers such as Ron Oswald, President of the IUF (International Union Federation) spoke about creating a union “global network” in order to fight international corporations. UniteHere! President Bruce Raynor gave examples of “corporate greed gone wild.” Several resolutions were also adopted by the convention. They included calling for health care, a repeal of NAFTA and condemning human rights abuses in Darfur.



Ruben Diaz, John R. Durso, Frank Bail and Ida Torres are elected RWDSU International Vice Presidents

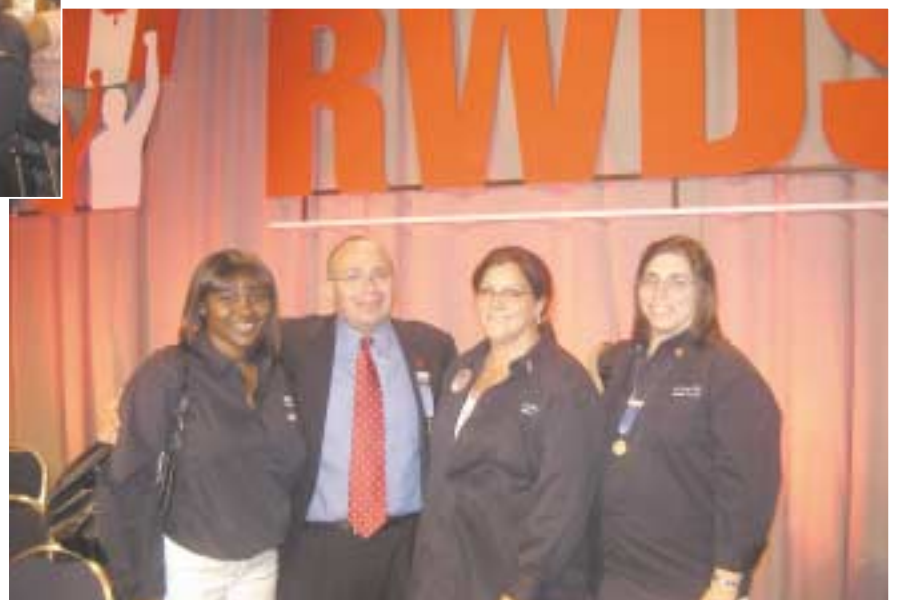


Nelson Resto addresses the convention

UniteHere! President Bruce Raynor salutes Local 338 members.



Jack Wurm, Stuart Appelbaum and Amelia Tucker are elected our international officers



Fallon Ager, Stuart Appelbaum, Teri Noble and Debra Servido



## \$500,000 FOR THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY!

On Sunday, October 15, 2006, with your help, Local 338 crossed over the line having raised over half a million dollars for the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides against Breast Cancer."

Over the past seven years, Local 338 members and their families, our officers and staff have marched in Queens, on Long Island at Jones Beach and on Staten Island to raise money to fight this terrible illness. "Hundreds of our members marched to show their support; thousands of our members gave their hard earned dollars to keep a commitment that we made in 2000 to finding a cure," said President John Durso. "Raising this money for research may one day help our mothers, sisters and daughters."

October has been designated Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This year alone close to 200,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 40,000 will die.

We want to thank everyone involved for making this day a success and bringing us one day closer to the cure.



## COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services Liaison Lisa Rivera has had a busy few months. Not only did she run this year's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" March in October but she joined thousands of women in Washington, D.C. to lobby Congress for increased funding for cancer research.

Lisa also coordinated Local 338's fifth

annual 9/11 blood drive where enough blood was collected to affect the lives of over 500 individuals. In addition Lisa collected over 100 pre-owned cell phones that were donated to the Queens Family Court in Jamaica which are then re-programmed and given out to victims of domestic violence.

Way to go Lisa!





# 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Rapid Response Team/ Shop Steward's Conference

The 6th annual RRT/Shop Steward's Conference was held on September 18, 2006 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Queens and took a whole different direction from past RRT/Shop Steward's meetings.

Executive Vice President, Murray Morrissey and Secretary-Treasurer John DeMartino brought greetings and thanked everyone for coming. Local 338 President John R. Durso also welcomed those assembled and thanked everyone for the hard work they do on behalf of all the members and their families and introduced our guests throughout the day. They included:

Father Brian Jordan  
Dr. Annie B. Martin  
Frank S. Bail, President of Local 1102 RWDSU/UFCW  
Mike Mareno, Secretary/Tres. Local 342 UFCW  
Dave Mejias, Congressional Candidate  
Stuart Levine, Author And Lecturer  
Rich Whalen, International Vice President, UFCW  
Stuart Appelbaum, RWDSU International President  
Denis Hughes, NYS AFL-CIO President

During the day, the over 350 RRT members, shop stewards, guests and Local 338 staffers that were in attendance attended classes and checked out the 30 exhibit and informational tables.

"Over the past 5 years, we have focused on issues like health and safety, domestic violence and organizing," said John R. Durso. "This year, right now, we are in the middle of contract negotiations and must be prepared to hold the line, so the emphasis needs to be on RRT/Shop Steward duties, contracts and communication skills. Our activists must be ready to stand up for all of the membership."





# 6 YEARS AND IT JUST GETS BETTER!

On Sunday July 9, 2006, Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW held its sixth annual family picnic at Coleman Country Day Camp in Merrick, Long Island. Over 1800 members and their families came together from across New York and New Jersey

Attendees were welcomed by Local 338 staff and our officers, John R. Durso, John DeMartino and Murray Morrissey. Everyone that attended was automatically entered in the door prize raffle, with a chance to win one of many exciting prizes.

This picnic's activities included: swimming, canoeing, rock wall climbing, volleyball and basketball. There were three pools that were filled with adults and kids alike taking a break from the heat. Our kids enjoyed a petting zoo featuring sheep, chickens, goats, pigs and pony rides were also available. Special games and activities were

held throughout the day just for the kids, and the camp was filled with activities for anyone who wanted to partake of them. Some folks played softball, while other folks just curled up under a shady tree and napped.

All the guests were able to enjoy delicious food like hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, corn, salads and chicken nuggets for the kids. Dessert included ice cream, cookies and watermelon. The food was served buffet style, allowing everyone to have as much food as they could possibly eat.

The Local 338 family picnic was again a huge success, and was a chance for all of us to get together and have fun. We're looking forward to 2007 and hope that even more of you will join us. Look for flyers in your stores next summer.





# Local 338 Scholarship Winners & Emanuel Laub Winner



Local 338 Scholarship Committee and the 2006 winners.

**F**or 24 years, Local 338 has been pleased to offer scholarships to its members and their families.

Our 10 winners are chosen from hundreds of applications that are received by our Scholarship Committee, which is chaired by Dr. Thomas Germano. Each winner receives \$1000 towards their first year's tuition.

As in the past, this year we received a remarkable set of wonderful and talented applicants. The committee thanks everyone who submitted and wishes them well.

We offer congratulations to all our 2006 winners. They are:

Alexa Atria  
Christina McDonnell  
Michael A. Cruz  
James K. Mahoney  
Stephanie Martinez

Eric D. Nagler  
Kevin Orlic  
Danielle Petrosino  
Samantha C. Schiro  
Hyoung Cheol Yoon

And a very special congratulations to **Nikki May Kateman** on winning the 2006 Emanuel Laub Memorial Scholarship. She will receive a total of \$4000 over the next 4 years.



Nikki May Kateman

## UNION PLUS SCHOLARSHIP



Julian Castillo and Lauren Castillo

**L**auren M. Castillo, daughter of long-time Local 338 member Julian Castillo, was selected to receive a 2006 Union Plus Scholarship award in the amount of \$1000.

"My father served as a Local 338 Shop Steward for many years and my mom is a member of a UFCW local. We marched in the Labor Day Parades and walks to fight against Breast Cancer and to help the union raise money for other good causes." Lauren continued, "My parents would always tell me, no matter what profession I chose, I should join that profession's Union."

"While we fight to restore the American dream for all working America," stated RWDSU International President Stuart Appelbaum, "Union Plus Scholarships provide crucial help to working families seeking to realize that dream."

Lauren Castillo was among 108 students from 44 unions that were chosen to receive the scholarship.





## 2007 Regular and Emanuel Laub Scholarship Awards Programs Open

## 2007 la beca regular y de Emanuel Laub concede los programas abiertos

**L**ocal 338 is now accepting applications in the Union's twenty-third annual scholarship awards program. All members and children of members in good standing in the Union, in accordance with provisions of the Local's constitution and bylaws, are eligible, providing that the applicant or applicant's parent has been a member for at least one year. Children of Union officers, employees and staff members are not eligible.

Only students who will be graduating from high school in February or June of 2007 may apply. Students who have already started college are not eligible to take part in this competition.

Students wishing to apply should fill out the short form application below and mail it to the Scholarship Awards Committee, Local 338, 97-45 Queens Blvd., Rego Park, NY 11374. Upon receipt of this application, the Union will forward to each applicant a long form application. This, in turn, should be filled out and sent to the Scholarship Awards Committee at the above address. Also required is a transcript of each student's official high school record. (This is usually sent by each high school upon request of the student.)

In addition, every applicant should arrange to have

a character reference written by a high school official – teacher, guidance counselor, etc. Finally, every student is invited to submit a statement on his or her own stating why he or she is applying for the scholarship.

The scholarship applications are screened by an impartial committee of judges – including educators associated with outstanding colleges and universities. The final selections will be made in the Spring of 2007 and announced in June.

**E**l local 338 ahora está aceptando usos en el programa anual de las concesiones de la beca de la unión vigésima tercera. Todos los miembros y niños de miembros en la buena situación en la unión, de acuerdo con las provisiones de la constitución y de las ordenanzas municipales del local, son elegibles, proporcionando que el aspirante o el padre del aspirante ha sido un miembro por lo menos un año. Los niños de los oficiales de unión, de los empleados y de los miembros del personal no son elegibles. Solamente los estudiantes que graduarán de High School secundaria en febrero o junio de 2007 pueden aplicarse. Los estudiantes que han comenzado ya la universidad no son elegibles

participar en esta competición. Los estudiantes que desean aplicarse deben completar el uso de la forma corta abajo y enviarlo a la beca concede a comité, local 338, 97-45 reinas Blvd., parque de Rego, NY 11374. Sobre recibo de este uso, la unión remitirá a cada aspirante un uso de la forma larga. Esto, alternadamente, debe ser completada y enviado a la beca concede a comité en la dirección antedicha. También se requiere una transcripción del expediente oficial de la High School secundaria de cada estudiante. (esto es enviada generalmente por cada High School secundaria por el requerimiento del estudiante.) Además, cada aspirante debe arreglar hacer que una referencia del carácter sea escrita por un funcionario de la High School secundaria – profesor, consejero de la dirección, etc. Finalmente, se invita a cada estudiante que someta una declaración sobre el suyo o su propia indicación de porqué él o ella está solicitando la beca. Los usos de la beca son defendidos por un comité imparcial de jueces – incluyendo los educadores asociados a las universidades y a las universidades excepcionales. Las selecciones finales serán hechas en el resorte de 2007 y anunciadas en junio.



## 2007 Scholarship Awards Program Application (Short Form)

## La Beca 2007 Concede El Uso Del Programa (Forma Corta)

All applicants for a Local 338 Scholarship Award in the Unions 2007 program must fill out this short form and mail it to the Scholarship Awards Committee, Local 338, RWDSU/UFCW, 97-45 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, NY 11374. You or your parent must have been a member of the Union for at least one year in order to be eligible to enter this competition

When this application is received by the committee, the applicant will be sent a long form application This should be filled out by the applicant and should be countersigned by an authorized official of the applicants high school — principal, guidance counselor, etc. — and returned to the Local 338 Scholarship Awards Committee no later than April 15, 2007. Also, each applicant must arrange to have a transcript of his or her official complete high school record sent to the Scholarship Awards Committee. Please answer all questions. Be sure to record your Social Security number, or that of your parent, if your parent is a member of Local 338.

Todos los aspirantes para una concesión de la beca del local 338 en el programa de la unión 2007 deben completar esta forma corta y enviarla a la beca concede a comité, local 338, RWDSU/UFCW, bulevar de las reinas 97-45, parque de Rego, NY 11374. Usted o su padre debe haber sido un miembro de la unión por lo menos un año para ser elegible incorporar esta competición cuando este uso es recibido por el comité, el aspirante será enviado un uso de la forma larga que esto se debe completar por el aspirante y que se debe contrasena por un funcionario autorizado de la High School secundaria del aspirante -- principal, consejero de la dirección, etc. -- y vuelto al comité de las concesiones de la beca del local 338 no más adelante que de abril el 15 de 2007. También, cada aspirante debe arreglar tener una transcripción de su o su expediente completo oficial de la High School secundaria enviado a la beca concede a comité. Conteste por favor a todas las preguntas. Sea seguro registrar su número de Seguridad Social, o el de su padre, si su padre es un miembro del local 338.

Applicant's Name:

Applicant's Name:

Home Address:

Home Address:

Please supply the appropriate information:

Please supply the appropriate information:

☐ I am a member of Local 338.

I am a member of Local 338.

☐ My parent is a member of Local 338.

My parent is a member of Local 338.

Applicant's date of birth:

Applicant's date of birth:

☐ My Social Security Number is:

My Social Security Number is:

☐ My parent's Social Security number is:

My parent's Social Security number is:

Home telephone:

Home telephone:

Place of employment of applicant:

Place of employment of applicant:

Place of Employment of parent:

Place of Employment of parent:

Note: Only children of members or members themselves in good standing in the Union, in accordance with the Local 338 Constitution and Bylaws, are eligible to take part in this competition. Elected officials of the Union, staff employees or their children are not eligible. This application also is used when applying for the Emanuel Laub Scholarship.

Nota: Solamente los niños de los miembros o de los miembros ellos mismos en la buena situación en la unión, de acuerdo con la constitución y las ordenanzas municipales del local 338, son elegibles participar en esta competición. Los funcionarios elegidos de la unión, de los empleados de personal o de sus niños no son elegibles. Este uso también se utiliza al aplicarse para la beca de Emanuel Laub.



# Alvin Heaps Memorial Scholarship Winner



(l to r) Union Representative Ali Syed, Yelizaveta Matatova,  
ATC Director Jack Caffey, Jr.

**C**ongratulations to Local 338's own Yelizaveta Matatova on being chosen a winner of the 2006 Alvin E. Heaps Scholarship.

Yelizaveta works at Duane Reade and is a student at St. John's University in Queens, NY. She is studying to become a pharmacist.

Winners are chosen based on scholastic performance and an essay demonstrating an understanding and appreciation of the labor movement.

*Alvin Heaps served as President of the International RWDSU from 1976 to 1986.*



**UFCW**  
Women's Network

## UFCW REGION 1 SOUTH WOMEN'S NETWORK DAY CARE SCHOLARSHIPS

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE  
RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 2007.

In order to receive your day care scholarship  
application contact:

**Andrea Goldberger**  
UFCW Local One  
5911 Airport Road  
Oriskany, NY 13424

**OR**

**Meredith Larson**  
RWDSU Local 1102  
1587 Stewart Ave.  
Westbury, NY 11590



# THE \$500 PLUS CLUB

We salute the members listed below. Each of them successfully raised over \$500.00 for Breast Cancer. They belong on everyone's honor roll.

THE 10 MEMBERS ARE:

**Maryann Taliercio/Baez**  
Guintas Meat

**Grace Ingenito**  
G and L Meat Corp.

**Mel Gershonowitz**  
Waldbaum's 465

**Mary Bridges**  
Waldbaum's 434

**Josephine Lopez**  
Waldbaum's 235

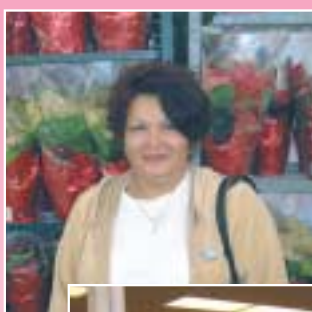
**Bernice King**  
Gristedes 601

**Rosa Guzman**  
Food Emporium 779

**Fay Green**  
Little Neck Meats

**Norma Freedman**  
Waldbaum's 632

**Eileen Carcano**  
PSK Foodtown





## We Were Busy...Labor Day 2006

**Labor Day** is more than a 3 day weekend. It's a day to celebrate working men and women and to thank them for building America over the past 228 years. It's a day to remember...

*"my work counts."*

On Saturday September 9, 2006, over 400 unions and 250,000 working families marched up New York's 5th Avenue with one thought in mind - **Labor's back!**

RWDSU International President Stuart Appelbaum served as Parade Chairman with Denis Hughes and Edgar Romney as co-Grand Marshals.

Local 338 joined with our sister locals: 1-S, 3, 88, 108, 377, 670, 1102 and the staff from the RWDSU International. Together, as a family, we marched well over 1,000 strong. In addition, the RWDSU contingent hosted a marching band, floats, giant puppets and the famous monster truck from Canada.

Our float also carried the "Roadhouse Band" led by Vic Fusco, a great friend of Local 338 and a partner of Fusco, Brandenstein & Rada, Esq. RWDSU members were also treated to a cruise around Manhattan after the parade.





# NassauCounty - Long Island Fed PICNIC

**Over 7000 working families**, union families, came to Eisenhower Park in Westbury, NY on Sept. 10, 2006 to celebrate the 4th Annual Nassau County/Long Island Federation of Labor "Labor Day" picnic.

The L.I. Fed is made up of over 108 affiliated unions and 250,000 members. Local 338's own John R. Durso also serves as its elected president.

Everyone was treated to food, fun, games and prizes along with speeches from official guests. "We are one family," stated John Durso. "Plumbers, teachers, state & county employees, retail, it doesn't matter. We are all union members."

More that 600 Local 338 members attended and came away having a wonderful day.





# *We Were Having More Fun !*

Over 300 tickets to the June 26th game of the Brooklyn Cyclones were given out to members who attended the May area meetings.

The Cyclones are the New York Mets' minor league team based in Brooklyn. This was the 5th year that Local 338 members and their families came together to enjoy America's favorite pasttime, baseball!

Everyone who came was treated to a BBQ lunch and a chance to see baseball as it ought to be, up close, personal and family-friendly. Our kids played on the practice fields and ran the bases at the end of the game. Eight Local 338 kids threw out the first balls to begin the game.

We had a terrific time. We made new friends and we look forward to the 2007 season and a chance to share this wonderful day with even more members in the future.

You never know what could see, learn or win at a Local 338 area meeting.



**LOCAL 338**  
RWDSU/UCFW  
Stronger Together



# 65<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ITALIAN-AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL CONFERENCE

President Franklin D. Roosevelt once spoke about “Four Freedoms” that we enjoy in the United States. They are:

- **Freedom of Speech • Freedom of Religion**
- **Freedom from Want • Freedom from Fear**

He said these freedoms should be granted not only to Americans but to people across the world. At the start of World War II, the Italian-American Labor Council adopted these freedoms as a motto and has followed their thoughts and meanings ever since. They have honored those leaders who exemplify these traits. Local 338 was proud to attend this year's 65th Annual Conference honoring our dear friend Dr. Annie B. Martin.



l to r: IALC President Louis LaCarbonara, Dr. Annie B. Martin, Fallon Ager, Joe Fontano



## 338 BOWLS 300!

**Y**ou wouldn't know it but Tom Kunkel, who works at Waldbaum's #278 in Smithtown, Long Island has a secret. It's not that he works in the deli department or that his nickname is “TK” or even that he has been a member of Local 338 for over 8 years. It's that he is a proud wearer of a ruby ring presented to him by the United States Bowling Congress in honor of a perfect game

where he bowled a score of 300! The USBC represents over 3 million members and is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee.

“Bowling is fun,” said Tom Kunkel, “but it also takes practice, coordination, skill, dedication and a little luck.”

Tom dedicated his perfect game in memory of his two friends Chris Dombo and Joe Barbagallo.



## Assemblyman Alessi Visits Oak Hollow



New York State Assemblyman Marc S. Alessi, who represents the 1st Assembly District in Suffolk County, Long Island recently visited Local 338 members at Oak Hollow and Crest Hall facilities to review the sites and speak to members.

## LOCAL 338 STANDS WITH LOCAL 108



Local 338 members join with other RWDSU and UFCW locals in support of Local 108 members working at Academy Bus in New Jersey.

Local 108 President Charles Hall, Jr. addressed the over 100 assembled and called upon the company to come to the table and negotiate a fair contract.



# ★★ SALUTING AMERICA'S VETERANS ★★

**Veterans' Day** should not be looked at as another holiday. Some schools are closed; there are "Veterans' Day" sales and parades, which seem to be getting smaller - just another holiday. Well it's not to Local 338 member Lorraine Boccio.

For three years, Lorraine Boccio, her family, co-workers at Waldbaum's #449 in Huntington Station, Brownie Troop #431 and dozens of local small businesses donate time, money and food to honor our veterans on Veteran's Day.

Close to 1,000 veterans came together at St. Peter's Church to meet, eat, dance and hear the words many have forgotten - "thank you."

Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW is proud to have a woman such as Lorraine Boccio as part of the 338 family and we thank her for letting us be part of this special day.



l to r: Bill Froiseth, James Sebesta, Darryl Solomon, Lorraine Boccio, Amanda Sebesta, Debra Servido, Jen Corcoran



Brownie Troop #431 served "KP" duty & cleaned up



2 Thankful Veterans



Makayla Sebesta & Denise Sebesta



A Proud Veteran & Local 338 Retiree



# Members at Work



Mike Iacono, Waldbaums #611 Rocky Point



Michael Sharkey, Waldbaums #611 Rocky Point



Carolyn Johnson, Ramon Genog, Michele Altebrando,  
Waldbaums #611 Rocky Point



Walter Yakaboski, Waldbaums #611 Rocky Point



Liz Connolly, Waldbaums #278 Smithtown



Melissa Campana, Waldbaums #278 Smithtown

# Members at Work



# Awards to Local 338 President John R. Durso

As you may know, John R. Durso is the President of Local 338 and is also the President of the Long Island Federation of Labor. John is constantly recognized and thanked for his work in local charities and civic organizations. Such as...



### JFK DEMOCRATIC CLUB

NY State Senate Minority Leader Malcolm Smith's Representative  
John R. Durso  
Mike Sigault, Sr. Pres. NY State Court Clerks  
Dr. Barbara Singer, St. Johns University

### SOUTH ASIAN-AMERICAN POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

(l to r:) Ali Syed,  
Sal Alladeen, President SEIU Local 74 & SAAPAC  
John R. Durso  
Jainey Samaul



### 2006 LONG ISLAND MARCH OF DIMES

Keith Edwards, President CWA Local 1105  
John R. Durso  
Cheryl A. Felice, President Suffolk County Assoc. Of Municipal Employees  
Victor Fusco, Esq.

## I N M E M O R I A M

Rudi Weber  
Marie Barsalone  
Patricia Alex  
Ralph Ammirati  
Jack Askinazi  
Kalman Berger  
Sarah Berkofsky  
Joseph Brathwaite  
Abe Broitman  
Ethel Buckley  
Maureen Canterbury  
Irving Cohen  
Nancy Cole

Madeline Conti  
Domenico Consolito  
Fred Cucinello  
Joseph Cucurullo  
Marie De Nigris ?  
James De Tinea ?  
Angelo Di Meo  
William Feiring  
Viola Foster  
Jerry Fusco  
Anastasio Garcia  
Gary Hess  
William Herschkowitz

George Holfester  
Paul Hymowitz  
Calvin Kong  
Max Klein  
Harry Levine  
George Lucas  
Abraham Lustig ?  
Marie Miller  
Max Mittelman  
Joseph Mooski  
Peppino Montesano  
Morton Schwartz  
Sarafino Mucci

Carmelo Nicolosi  
Thomas Parrino  
Joseph Montag ?  
Fortunato Romano  
Elena Santana  
David Schochetman  
Theresa Signorelli  
Leslie Stewart  
Alexander Tober  
Jean Trudell  
Jose Ventura  
Harry Woda  
Joseph Zipkis