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NEWS

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We have all seen the ads and heard the Wal-Mart slogan of “rolling back prices” but the real question is how are they able to cut prices? And the answer is actually simple; they reduce prices by cutting costs. And who pays the price when this company cuts costs? *We all do!*

Wal-Mart is able to roll back prices by using unscrupulous business practices. The first thing Wal-Mart does when it moves into a community is to use cutthroat pricing to eliminate the competition. This purposeful undercutting of local retailers is designed to put a stranglehold on any

When Wal-Mart goes to such great lengths to lower production costs it is almost impossible for more responsible merchants to compete. Consequently, a Wal-Mart's opening means the mass closing of local hardware stores, clothing retailers and supermarkets. Both independent & government studies from across the country have concluded that for every Wal-Mart that opens 2 supermarkets are forced out of business.

The most comprehensive study of Wal-Mart's impact on workers found that the retailer actually affects the wages of workers in the entire community. This study was conducted in 2005 by an economist from the National Bureau of Economic Research. It used Wal-Mart's own store data as well as government data

So when Wal-Mart says they are rolling back the prices, what they mean is they are rolling back the wages and benefits of not just their employees, but of the workers in the entire community. In fact, in 2005 the average supermarket employee made 20% more an hour then the average Wal-Mart employee. And as far as health care, 2/3 of all Wal-Mart employees do not participate in the company health plan because to do so would require them to pay roughly 1/5 of their take home pay. That's 20% of a person's take home pay and they still would face a hefty deductible.

But it's not just the Wal-Mart employees who pay the price. When a Wal-Mart opens in your community we all pay the price, because the largest company in the world also has the largest percentage of its employees on public assistance. In fact they hold seminars explaining to their employees how to apply for welfare & food stamps. Think about that, a company turning an \$11 billion dollar a year profit, shifting cost of health care & wages to you the taxpayers.

The bottom line is this, when Wal-Mart moves to town, responsible businesses and good paying jobs move out! So, think about that before you shop at a Wal-Mart or Sam's Club. Because the next store to close could be yours.

*See Centerfold for
more Wal-Mart news!*

*Al reverso de este
periódico hay
una versión
abreviada en
español.*

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Viewpoint...

We are a quarter of the way through the New Year and so far, it has been a successful one for the labor movement. We are moving in the right direction with the new leadership in Washington and Albany – the direction of Labor! Over the past decade or so, our state and federal governments have seemed to be in the pocket of corporate America, as they shot down every piece of labor-friendly legislation that came before them.

Well, things are changing, and Labor is playing a big part. Within the first 100 hours that the U.S. House of Representatives was in session, we saw the passage of a bill that would increase in the national minimum wage for the first time since 1997. In fact during that same 10-year period, the Republican-led Congress provided corporations with a whopping \$276 billion in tax cuts and provided small businesses with another \$36 billion in dedicated tax breaks, while America's lowest paid workers received nothing. The House also passed the Employee Free Choice Act which if enacted would allow employees to organize and be recognized after a simple card check process, evening the playing field in the organizing process.

While it seems as if the Democratic-led Congress is attempting living up to the promises they made during the campaign, they can do more! The House and Senate passed two different Minimum Wage bills that both call for the same \$2.10 increase but the Senate Bill also gives business an \$8.3 billion tax break. Both bills must be reconciled by both houses and it is not clear when that will take place. The Senate has also failed to act on the Employee Free Choice Act and has not said if a vote will take place. I urge all of you to write to your local members of Congress and urge them to move on both of these critical pieces of legislation.

At the state level, Labor was very supportive of the choice of Thomas DiNapoli for State Comptroller. I have known Tom for many years. He served as the former chairman of the Nassau Democratic Party & as a member of the NYS Assembly for the past 20 years. He was instrumental in creating the Nassau Interim Finance Authority, which helped Nassau County emerge from its serious fiscal distress and is responsible for restoring fiscal responsibility to the county. Tom is a longtime supporter and good friend to Local 338 and we are proud to have helped with his bid to become Comptroller.

While, the new power structure in Albany has led to some well publicized



by John R. Durso, President

battles between the Governor and the Legislature, it has also led to some real action. Recently, there has been an agreement on the long awaited workers compensation reform package. The reform package addresses some of the most pressing needs and concerns of injured workers and immeasurably improves a system long believed to be broken beyond repair.

Under the agreement, benefits for injured workers will be increased for the first time in more than a decade, and employer costs, which are among the highest in the nation, will be reduced by 10 to 15 percent with savings to grow over time. These are steps in the right direction and we hope that we can improve upon our workers comp system even further.

There is reason to be both excited & skeptical about the changing face of our government. We must make it clear to our representatives that we hold them accountable for their actions, and work to support those who support us. This is why it is vital that you get involved with your union and actively support our endorsed candidates. Labor has finally regained a seat at the political table and we need your help as we lead the fight to ensure that every working American has access to quality health care and a secure retirement.

We face many potential challenges in the year ahead. We have many contracts coming due, organizing targets being developed and our largest employer, A&P, is seeking to buy Pathmark Supermarkets. These will all present many challenges to us over the course of 2007 but with the support of our members and the hard work of our 338 staff, I am confident of another very successful year.

Throughout the remainder of the year we will be holding several rallies & campaign events. We encourage you to attend as many functions as possible and stand with us as we fight to protect our future. Whether it's protesting the opening of a Wal-Mart, standing a picket line, or helping one of our endorsed candidates, your support can make a huge difference.

As anti-union companies like Wal-Mart, Whole Foods, CVS & BJ's move into a community, smaller supermarkets, grocery stores, and pharmacies close their doors. Your support and a few hours of your time a month really will go a long way to help our union grow. After all, there is strength in numbers; there is strength in the union and when we speak with a united voice we are truly

STRONGER TOGETHER!!

THE EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT

by Stuart Appelbaum - President, RWDSU

Too often, workers are unprotected Under current law; The Employee Free Choice Act would change that.

Last November voters sent a strong message that this country was moving in the wrong direction. Too many people were being left behind; too many problems were going unsolved.

The new Congress has started to tackle some of these problems by trying to raise the minimum wage and seeking to seriously reform our dysfunctional system of labor laws.

There is no question that the current system for forming unions and bargaining is broken. Under the current system, millions of workers are being denied their right to form a union at their workplace. The Employee Free Choice Act would change that by stopping employer intimidation during union organizing drives and allowing workers to more easily express majority support for a union.

A UNION CONTRACT MEANS A BETTER JOB

We all know that having a union means better wages and benefits for workers. Workers who belong to unions earn 30 percent more than nonunion workers. They are also 62 percent more likely to have employer-provided health coverage and four times more likely to have pensions. Simply put, union contracts build the middle-class.

It's no wonder that more than half of U.S. workers - nearly 60 million - say they would join a union right now if they could. Unfortunately, too few ever get that chance. Every day, corporations deny employees the freedom to decide for themselves whether to form unions to bargain for a better life. They routinely intimidate, harass, coerce and even fire people for exercising their legal and human right to form a union and bargain for better wages and benefits.

In one recent RWDSU organizing campaign workers were seeking to become part of the union to bring some much needed improvements to their low-wage, no-benefit retail jobs. To stop the workers, the employer went so far as to have one outspoken union supporter, a woman who was six months pregnant, dragged out of



the store by police on a trumped-up charge. She was later released and there are charges pending at the labor board over what happened to her.

It's easy to imagine, though, the impact this kind of employer tactic has on other union supporters. The message is loud and clear – if you speak up you are in danger. In this particular situation the workers were able to stick together and win union representation despite management's vicious attacks. But all too often, an employer can get away with outrageous abuse with little or no repercussions under the law.

LAWLESS COMPANIES WILL KILL THE MIDDLE CLASS

This kind of tolerated lawlessness has led to desperate times for the labor movement. There was a time when unions represented more than a third of all workers in the U.S. That number is now about one in eight – and it continues to shrink. There is simply no way that unions will have the clout they need to deliver decent contracts if we continue to shrink. And all of us ultimately pay the price. It is no accident that as the percentage of workers organized in unions has declined, the gap between the rich and poor has increased.

What we in the labor movement are saying is, give us the tools, give us fair labor laws, and we'll transform what are now low wage jobs into middle-class careers.

That's what the Employee Free Choice Act is all about.

WORKING TODAY FOR 2008

Supporters of the act are under no illusions. Only so much can get done as long as the White House is occupied by someone who is resistant to change. Even if Congress passes the measure, there is little doubt that President Bush will veto it. But 2008 will be our moment to change that.

We may not be able to get the Employee Free Choice Act enacted into law right now. But the issue will be far from dead and we should see this as a rallying cry for our efforts in winning back the White House in 2008.

STAYING INFORMED



by John DeMartino,
Secretary-Treasurer

When we were in negotiations less than six months ago we were told that the required contribution rate for health care and pension benefits was too high and the companies would not pay. They claimed that since they were “hemorrhaging money” there was a need for you, the members, to pay for a portion of your health care and pension benefits. It took months of some of the toughest negotiations I have ever sat

through until they understood that we would never settle for cuts to our health care and pension benefits.

Now, one of these companies that was in such dire financial shape when it came to your wages and benefits has recently purchased another major supermarket chain in the NY metro area. In the deal they laid out \$679 million in cash and assumed debt that will bring the overall cost of the deal to approximately \$1.3 billion. This same company about a year ago gave out a \$300 million “special bonus” to its shareholders because the chairman thought that they “deserved it.” In total the company has shelled out \$1.6 billion (\$1,600,000,000) in shareholder bonuses and store acquisitions (that’s a lot of zeros.)

I don’t understand it. First, the company claims that your health and pension benefits were too much of an expense, and then they pay off their shareholders and spend \$1.3 billion to buy another company. Maybe, the answer is that they JUST DON’T THINK YOU ARE WORTH THE EXPENSE!

It’s apparent that the people who work hard every day in the stores - whether you are a cashier who has to smile at another nasty customer, come to work to slice cold cuts, pack out produce, receive the deliveries or work every day at 11pm or 12am and pack out groceries through the night - YOU REALLY DON’T MATTER TO THE COMPANY.

Someone once told me that the company “really doesn’t want to sell groceries anymore; what they really want to sell is their stock and at the highest price possible, even if that means cutting customer service or not performing routine maintenance such as fixing broken heaters, air conditioners, floor tiles, drains, back door plates, U boats and the list goes on and on!” I find myself more and more agreeing with that person’s theory.

We were told that the company is “becoming profitable again and has turned the corner.” Let’s hope that they haven’t turned the corner too fast and made a u-turn, heading back in the direction we just came from.

Well, in closing let me say this; it seems to be the sad reality that the company you work hard for and are loyal to cares about one thing and one thing only – Profit! It was your dedication to each other that allowed the union to stand together to secure our health care & pension benefits, despite the company rhetoric. And it is because of you that we truly are Stronger Together!

Getting Involved

Murray J. Morrissey ■ Executive Vice President



The year 2006 was an incredibly busy one for this organization. We were involved with intense negotiations and major events such as our industry contract negotiations, a dispute with a major employer and local and national elections, just to name a few.

At this time, however, we are in one of those rare periods where it is relatively quiet. So now is the perfect time to review where we are and where we would like to be as an organization. The goal of this Union has been the same since its inception in 1925 – to improve our lives and the lives of our families. We do that in several ways including negotiating contracts, fighting the expansion of Wal-Mart, and supporting candidates who will fight for our issues. One of the main objectives in writing this article is to promote involvement and participation from you, the member. After all we will succeed only by remaining united and working together.

Whether it is standing on a picket line, protesting the construction of a new Wal-Mart or handing out leaflets for an endorsed political candidate, we need you to be involved. None of us can afford to leave all of the work & responsibility to the next guy. No matter how busy you are there is always something that you can do. This organization is involved in so many different things, at different times and in different locations you are sure to find something that interests you and fits your schedule. The smallest contribution will go a long way.

Every event we attend is significant and has an impact on our membership. The very fact that we show up at these different events sends a message of strength and unity, and that can be more important than the event itself. All of our expressions; “Stronger Together” “There is Strength in Unity” etc. are all very true. Whenever you hear someone say “what can I do, I’m only one person?” remind them of how important their single contribution can be.

There is always a need for volunteers to help this Local and other labor organization with everything from picketing during labor actions to organizing new shops. Organizing is an area in which you can help with very little effort. Everyone knows someone who works in a non-union job. Many of these people would be better off if they

were represented by a union. All they need is a little incentive from you; tell them about the Union and explain all of the benefits that come with it. Give your Union or Service Rep a call with the contact information and they will make sure the right people get it. By taking just a few minutes you can help a non-union worker better themselves while at the same time building and strengthening the union.

We also work with Community Groups that do some pretty amazing work. Every year we organize blood, food, clothing and book drives for many wonderful organizations as well as a toy drive for sick and underprivileged children during the Holidays. These are events that are personally very gratifying to be involved in and help build this organization as a community friendly entity.

Many Americans are turned off by politics. However, it is the political world that most greatly impacts our lives each day. Everything from the minimum wage to the cost of health care to the cost of a gallon of gasoline is influenced by government. As a labor organization we support those candidates that support our issues and concerns. In supporting those candidates we are always looking for people to volunteer on various campaigns. Supporting the right candidates will have a real impact on promoting the agenda of working America.

Later this year you will be hearing about a program that will promote everyone’s involvement and interest in union sponsored events. The program will involve some very nice incentives and rewards for those members who support this Local. All the details will be published as soon as they are complete. But nothing you do now will go unnoticed.

To make sure you are involved give your name, contact information and availability to your Union or Service Rep or call the Union office and speak to Joe Fontano at 718-997-7400 extension 263.

Starting off with a Bang!
Local 338 at Work
for its Members

Since January 1st of 2007, Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW, through grievances and arbitrations, has won and recovered over \$34,540 in back wages and monies to our various funds!

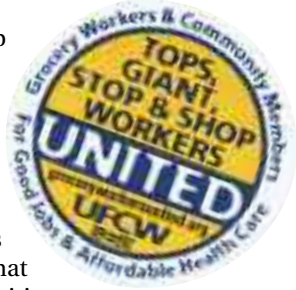
IT REALLY PAYS TO BE UNION!

RWDSU/UFCW STANDING TOGETHER

Over 43,000 UFCW members in New England are fighting for their lives and the health care of their families and our union, Local 338, is out there right beside them!

Ahold, a Dutch-based company that owns Stop and Shop and Giant supermarkets, is in contract talks with our brother and sister UFCW locals and are demanding benefit cuts in the workers' health care that, if realized, will affect our contracts in the future.

Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW, UFCW Local 342 and others across the country are letting customers of Stop and Shop know that we stand together and that what affects working families affects entire communities.



Local 342 Shop Steward Joe Musmeci
Local 338 Shop Steward Gloria Prisco



Local 338 member Mike Basilanta
Local 342 member Jashina Foster
Local 342 member Ed Roldan

HEALTH & SAFETY



Ernesto Mattace, Jr.,
Health & Safety Director

In this issue we will be reviewing the safe lifting and carrying techniques that must be followed everyday to avoid back injury.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE

- * Bend to lift an object - don't stoop
- * Keep your back straight by tucking in your chin
- * Lift with the strong leg muscles, not the weaker back muscles

Improper lifting techniques are responsible for a large percentage of back injuries among all workers.

Proper methods of lifting and handling protect against injury, and make work easier. You need to "think" about what you are going to do before bending to pick up an object. Over time, safe lifting technique should become a habit.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE BASIC STEPS OF SAFE LIFTING AND HANDLING:

1. Size up the load and check overall conditions. Don't attempt the lift by yourself if the load appears to be too heavy or awkward. Check that there is enough space for movement, and that the footing is good. "Good housekeeping" ensures that you won't trip or stumble over an obstacle.
2. Make certain that your balance is good. Feet should be shoulder width apart, with one foot beside and the other foot behind the object that is to be lifted.
3. Bend the knees; don't stoop. Keep the back straight, but not vertical. (There is a difference. Tucking in the chin straightens the back.)
4. Grip the load with the palms of your hands and your fingers. The palm grip is much more secure. Tuck in the chin again to make certain your back is straight before starting to lift.
5. Use your body weight to start the load moving, and then lift by pushing up with the legs. This makes full use of the strongest set of muscles.
6. Keep the arms and elbows close to the body while lifting.
7. Carry the load close to the body. Don't twist your body while carrying the load. To change direction, shift your foot position and turn your whole body.
8. Watch where you are going.
9. To lower the object, bend the knees. Don't stoop. To deposit the load on a bench or shelf, place it on the edge and push it into position. Make sure your hands and feet are clear when placing the load.

Make it a habit to follow the above steps when lifting anything - even a relatively light object.

TEAM LIFTING MUST BE COORDINATED:

If the weight, shape, or size of an object makes the job too much for one person, ask for help.

Ideally, workers should be of approximately the same size for team lifting. One individual needs to be responsible for control of the action to ensure proper coordination. If one worker lifts too soon, shifts the load, or lowers it improperly, either they or the person working with them may be injured.

LIFTING HEAVY OBJECTS

Safe lifting of heavy items requires training and practice. For example, we've probably all seen a small person move heavy product with apparent ease. The secret lies in taking the proper stance and grip. When equipment is available, it should be used to lift and carry heavy objects. Loaders, forklifts, hoist, etc. are made for this purpose.

Finally, let's take a moment to review some of the "Do's" and "Don'ts" of safe lifting and carrying.

DO:

1. Tuck in the chin to keep the back as straight as possible while lifting.
2. Lift with the strong leg muscles.
3. Ask for help with the heavy, awkward items.
4. When possible, use mechanical equipment to move heavy items.

DON'T

1. Use your back muscles to do lifting.
2. Try to lift an item that is too heavy or awkward.
3. Twist your body while carrying an object.
4. Attempt team lifting without proper coordination.

Remember only you can protect yourself from injury. Don't be a hero, request help if you feel it is needed. The warm weather is on its way so be careful so that you can enjoy it with your family and friends. If you have any questions, I can be reached at the union office at 718-997-7400 or 516-694-1656, ext 247.

The BITZAS[®] Union Advantage For Members and Their Families

Fees for Mortgage Financing

	Non-Member	Member
Application Fee	\$350	\$0
Credit Report Fee	\$16	\$0
Processing Fee	\$695	\$0
Appraisal Fee	\$350*	\$0**
Courier Fee	\$25	\$0
Total	\$1436	\$0

Total Savings:
\$1436.00

*Appraisal fee for single family home
**\$50 to be reimbursed at closing

Our Most Popular Programs

- Stop Paying Rent—100% Financing
- No Income Verification
- Bad credit
- Bankruptcies and Judgments OK
- Investment Property Loans
- Vacation/2nd Homes
- Debt Consolidation
- Home Improvement Loans
- Home Equity Loans
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- First Time Home Buyer
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Political Arena



Ernesto Mattace, Jr., Political Director



As always, we must understand how the political environment we live in affects us every day. The New York State AFL-CIO, along with NYCOSH, attorneys and individuals have been working on legislation to increase the Workers' Compensation benefits. The last increase in Workers' Compensation was on July 1, 1992. On March 13, 2007, Governor Spitzer signed Workers' Compensation

Legislation (Chapter 6 of Laws of 2007).

Below is a list of issues as well as improvements to streamline the system. The information was taken from the Legislative Alert, from the New York State AFL-CIO for March 12, 2007.

- Increase maximum benefit from \$400 per week to \$500 later this year, \$550 in 2008, \$600 in 2009 and indexed beginning 2010.
- Indexes the maximum benefit to 2/3 of the average weekly wage beginning in 2010.
- Raises the minimum benefit from \$40 per week to \$100 per week.
- Death benefit is raised to the same level as maximum benefit.
- Establishes maximum benefit weeks for permanent partial disabilities.
- Maximum benefit weeks do not begin until injured worker is classified.
- Medical care continues for LIFETIME for all permanent partially disabled workers.
- Permanent Partial Disability claimants can resubmit for total industrial disability at any time while they are collecting benefits.
- Extreme hardship re-determination can be sought to extend benefits for those with 80% to 90% or greater disability.
- Increases civil and criminal penalties for employers who fail to obtain Workers' Compensation insurance.
- Grants Workers' Comp Board Chair various investigative powers, including the issuance of subpoenas to determine if employers are maintaining coverage.
- Workers' Compensation coverage is required for all employed on a public work project.
- Insurance certificate will have a scanable device to check for current coverage.
- CIRB no longer specified in statute to continue in its current role.
- Elimination of second injury fund for future cases, thus reducing employer assessments and reduces number of hearings for claimants.
- Development of Rocket Docket to speed the hearing process.
- Increases training for Workers' Comp judges; benefits stop if claimant is incarcerated.
- Raises threshold of pre-approval of medical testing and radiology to \$1,000.
- Allows special funds to partake in Section 32 agreement.
- Grants discount in premium to employers who have safety training program, return to work program, alternate work programs and drug and alcohol assistance program.
- Institutes a filing fee for any claim on second injury fund.
- Mandates lump sum settlement offer by employer.
- Creates a task force with deadline for advancing California type security bond program for self insured.

See It? REPORT IT!

Does this look familiar? It's your responsibility to report safety concerns and violations. Tell your shop Steward or call your Service or Union Representative. Safety is up to all of us!



- Creates a task force to determine data collection requirements.
- Creates a task force to examine retraining requirements for permanent disabled claimants.

In conclusion, the following is a chart which states the degree of disability and the number of weeks to be covered under the new legislation.

Degree of Disability = Weeks of Benefits

95-99%	=	525 weeks
91-95%	=	500 weeks
86-90%	=	475 weeks
81-85%	=	450 weeks
76-80%	=	425 weeks
71-75%	=	400 weeks
61-70%	=	375 weeks
51-60%	=	350 weeks
41-50%	=	300 weeks
31-40%	=	275 weeks
16-30%	=	250 weeks
1-15%	=	225 weeks

Spring is here and summer is on the way, and we at Local 338 wish you a safe and enjoyable summer with your families. If you have any questions, I can be contacted at the union office at 718-997-7400 or 516-694-1656, ext 247.



CONGRATULATIONS

Local 338 wishes to again congratulate Ruben Fort, President, Local 377, our own President John R. Durso, Frank S. Bail, President, Local 1102 and Ida Ines Torres, President, Local 3 in being elected International Vice Presidents of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU) at the 2006 Convention.

Congratulations to some old friends

Your union, Local 338, has been involved in political action for many years and we have helped to shape the political landscape, not only in New York City and Long Island but also all across the State. Our political friends help to form and enact "Working Family" friendly legislation that protects you, our members and our brothers and sisters everywhere.

We extend congratulations to two leaders and friends on their new positions here in New York State.



above:
Tom DiNapoli
New York State
Comptroller



left:
Malcolm Smith
Minority Leader of the
New York State Senate



LOCAL 338 6th Annual Picnic

*ONLY 338 members and
their immediate families*

The 6th annual Local 338 Picnic will be held this year on July 1st at Coleman Country Day Camp in Merrick, NY.

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Local 338's Annual Day at the Ballpark

For over six years, Local 338 has sponsored a "Day at the Ballpark" for our members and their families at the Brooklyn Cyclones Stadium in beautiful Coney Island. This year, we are going to be bringing America's favorite pastime even closer to home.

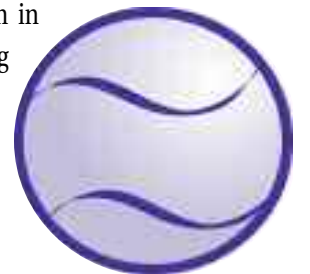
7/22/07 with the Brooklyn Cyclones

8/12/07 with the Staten Island Yankees

9/16/07 with the Long Island Ducks

All games will be held on a Sunday & at the team's home field.

Members attending the *May Area Meetings* will be eligible to win tickets for these games and enjoy special reserved seating and a picnic meal. event!



Change of Address Form:

PLEASE NOTE:

It is **NOT** the responsibility or obligation of your employer to inform the Union of your change of address, name or phone number. This is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to promptly **NOTIFY LOCAL 338** of any address changes!

For change of name or address, please fill out coupon below.

Clip and send to Local 338 • 97-45 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, New York 11374

Name _____ SS# _____

New Address _____

City _____

New Phone # (_____) _____ State _____ Zip _____



338 MEMBERS CARE

As Local 338 President John Durso says, "Who knows food better than us?" Well, over the years Local 338 members also know about caring and charity. Through our Special Projects Division, we delivered hundreds of Thanksgiving and holiday meals straight through to New Years. Churches, food pantries, veteran's homes and shelters across New York City and Long Island received the help they needed to make this past holiday season a little bit brighter.

Your donations at 338 area meetings, to the union & service reps and even right here at the Local's offices, made a difference in the lives of others. Thank you.



\$15,000 BACK PAY AWARDED

Congressman Steve Israel (D-L.I.) joins with Neil Gonzalvo of Local 338's Health and Human Services Division in presenting a check for back pay in the amount of \$15,000 to George Rio Frio when he was unjustly terminated during an organizing drive.

Thank you George, for believing in the rights of workers to organize and fighting for that right.



Congressman Steve Israel, George Rio Frio, Neil Gonzalvo

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Your union, Local 338, through our Community Services department, has again sponsored courses in Defensive Driving here at our offices in Rego Park.

The classes are being taught by the LaSalle Driving School of Uniondale, NY and are certified by the National Safety Council. As of March, over 100 members have passed the training program.

More than 40,000 people are killed or injured in traffic collisions every year. Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW is committed to making the lives of our members and their families safer.



LOCAL 338 AND ASSEMBLYMAN JOSE PERALTA JOIN FORCES TO KEEP NEW YORKERS WARM

Again, the members of Local 338 came forward to help others in need. Together with Assemblyman Jose Peralta (D- Jackson Heights) local members donated and distributed over 500 winter coats. "These coats will aid families in Queens and Brooklyn in their battle to stay warm this winter," stated Assemblyman Peralta. "I know that wherever and whenever there is a need, Local 338 is there to help."

(l to r) Julissa Sosa, 338 Community Services Liaison Lisa Rivera, Assemblyman Jose Peralta, Cornelia Inoa, Roberto Matias



WHO HASN'T HEARD OF LOCAL 338?

Unionized supermarket workers in Jerusalem, Israel salute the hard-working members of Local 338.

If you're taking a trip in the USA or anywhere around the world, don't forget to wear your 338 logos proudly. Please submit pictures of you, your family or friends of 338 (with a T-shirt, button or bumper sticker) and we will print in upcoming issues of this paper. Let's show the world... we're



A VERY FINE YOUNG MAN by Lenny Camarda

Recently, I was visiting Waldbaum's #253 in Centereach, NY when I met Vinny Sandtorn. Vinny has been a Local 338 member for about one year and works as a part time cashier.

He is a senior at Centereach H.S., quarterback for their varsity football team and if that's not enough, he is also a midfielder on the varsity Lacrosse team, again, all while working and keeping up his grades.

What truly struck me about this young man was that he was accepted at both West Point and the Air Force Academy. After meeting with Congressman Tim Bishop and receiving his Congressional Endorsement, the hard decision was made.

Vinny starts boot camp at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado this summer. "The decision was hard," said Vinny. "The choice was easy." The Air Force Academy is one of the top rated schools in America for Engineering and a Division 1 Lacrosse school.

When I asked about his interest in military colleges, he responded, "since I was young, I always had an interest in serving my country." I wish to congratulate Vinny and his family. We here at local 338 are very proud to have him as part of our family.



TELEPHONE LINKS

Union Representative Call Center
(718) 997-7400, ext. 775
o 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
o Speak to union representative
o Improved efficiency
o Provide better service

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

SHE'S ONE IN A MILLION!

Congratulations to Local 338's own Peggy Wilkins on winning \$1 million dollars in a New York State scratch-off lottery.

Peggy has been a member of Local 338 for over 28 years and was surprised at first. "I thought I won \$1000 dollars." But after a co-worker checked the card, Peggy's smile just got bigger. Then she went back to her line and began bagging groceries.

She looks forward to helping her family which includes 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

Everyone at Local 338 congratulates Peggy Wilkins and wishes her all the best.



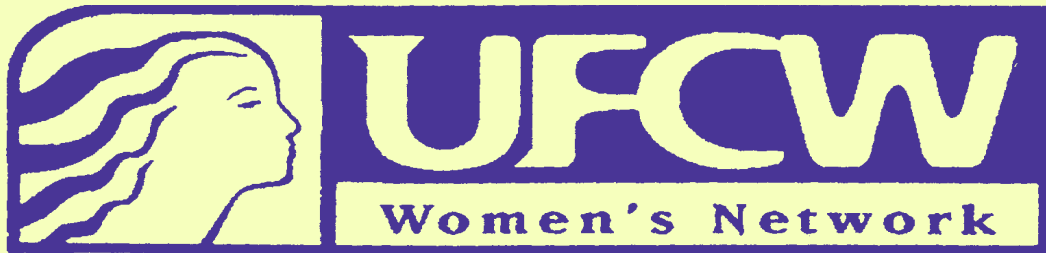
I N M E M O R I A M

Anne Abraham
Jack Angerman
Aurelio Aviles
Marie Barsalone
Jack Blum
Ann Bronner
Elmer Chandler
Orazio Clemente
Rita Demartino

Mary Diamant
John Dirodio
Paul Feignblum
Carmen Figueroa
Michael Guarneri
David Hackett
Adrienne Hadzidakis
Otilie Johnsen
Rosie Jones
Milton Kamler

Luke Mahoney
Carmela Maraseo
Eli Milchman
Morris Newman
Gloria Nowak
Martin Oliveras
Morris Pitt
Abram Peterson
Golda Plutno

Sebastian Rizzolo
Claudine Saunders
Robert Schinnerer
Ruben Seda
Aaron Strollerman
Eleanor Thumm
Mendel Tune
Sieglinde Weinert
Frances Williams-Smith
Dorothy Woda



UFCW REGION 1 SOUTH WOMEN'S NETWORK DAY CARE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

In order to be considered for a scholarship*, an applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- Have a dependent child (children) in need of dependent care
- Parents must work outside of the home
- Use a qualified child care provider either licensed by the state, or on file with the IRS
- Applicant must be a member of UFCW or RWDSU in good standing for one year
- Scholarship winners from the prior year are not eligible for the following year, but may apply in future years.

Directions

To receive an application or if you have any questions, please contact your union's business representative.

Include the following documentation with your completed application:
(Applications will not be processed until all necessary documentation is provided)

- Previous year's Income Tax form (1040 Form)
- Must include form or page showing childcare expense paid in previous year, if any.
- Proof of child care expenses** to include care givers signature on invoice/bill or receipts
- Please feel free to attach a note or use the back of this application for any additional information that you believe would be helpful to the selection committee.

Return completed applications by **OCTOBER 31, 2007** to:

Andrea Goldberger
UFCW
106 Memorial Parkway
Utica, New York 13501

OR

Meredith Larson
RWDSU Local 1102
1587 Stewart Ave
Westbury, New York 11590

*This scholarship award is considered a *taxable benefit* by the IRS, and as such must be reported as income on your 1040 (Income Tax) form.

**Scholarship awards will be sent directly to the day care provider(s)

In the event that you change childcare providers after sending in your grant application, you must notify us immediately and provide the required written documentation for the new provider. Failure to notify could result in your application being disqualified.

All RWDSU members, their spouses or their children who will be attending a college or a university during the 2007-08 academic year are eligible to apply for an Alvin E. Heaps Memorial Scholarship.
Winners are chosen based on scholastic performance and for an essay demonstrating an understanding and appreciation of the Labor Movement.

Alvin E. Heaps Memorial Scholarship

Your application and supporting materials must be completed and postmarked by **June 15, 2007**.

TO RECEIVE YOUR APPLICATION, CONTACT:



Alvin E. Heaps Memorial Scholarship Committee
c/o RWDSU
30 E. 29th Street
New York, NY 10016

UFCW Scholarship WINNER!



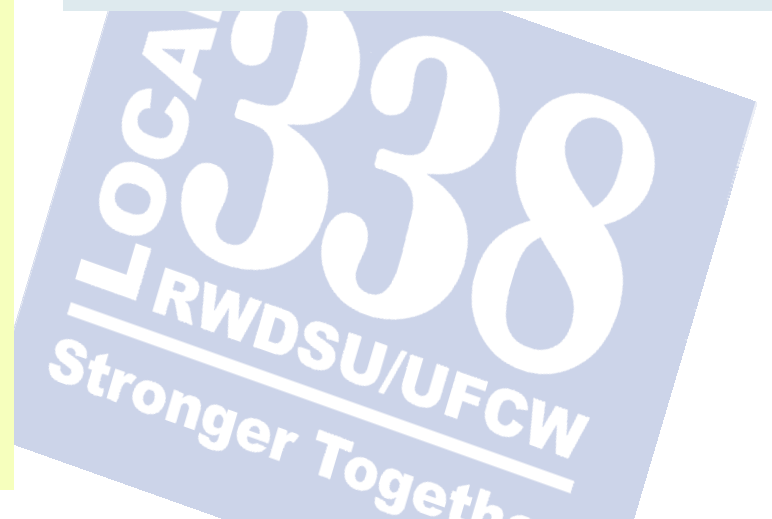
Congratulations to Local 338's own Joann Cordaro for winning a 2006 UFCW Women's Network Child Care Scholarship.

Joann works as the bakery manager in Waldbaum's 279 in Merrick.

The UFCW Women's Network was founded in 1988 and works to encourage women to become active and involved in their local union.



Joann Cordaro accepts \$1000 scholarship check from 338 representative Teri Noble.





Anthony Angieri
Waldbaum's 630

*Retired from work...
not from my union!*



Karen Przebowski
Waldbaum's 630



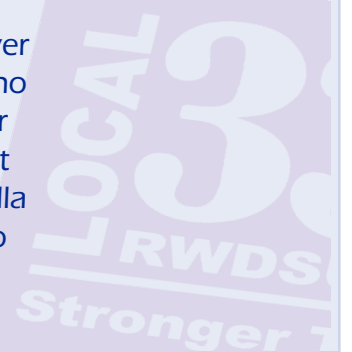
Rosemary Sauarino
Waldbaum's 434

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT RETIREES

Lydia Alayo
Lela Barra
Salvatore Belmonte
Fred Clark
Paul Cuva
Elsie Dockins

Donald Fields
William Higgins
Leo Kirschenbaum
Marilyn Laub
James Leftwich
Michael Mintern
Audrey Offerman

Abraham Oliver
Frank Palladino
Cora Skinner
Charles Scott
Thomas Tanella
John Turano





*Working together
with Local 338
to provide a healthier life
for all of its members.*



It's to all working people's benefit that we support Farmland Dairies, not only for health reasons, but also because its employees enjoy decent wages, medical coverage and good working conditions. they are members of ***OUR UNION!***

SOME WAL-MART FUN FACTS!

Discrimination against Women:
In 2001, six women sued Wal-Mart in California claiming the company discriminated against women by systematically denying them promotions and paying them less than men. The lawsuit, *Dukes v. Wal-Mart*, has expanded to include more than 1.6 million current and former female employees, and was certified on June 21, 2004 as the largest class action lawsuit ever. *Walmart Stores Inc., November 1, 2004*

Crushing Competition - the Saturation Strategy:
Wal-Mart purposefully undercuts local retailers with a strategy designed to put a stranglehold on all markets it enters. Studies conducted in New York, Pennsylvania, & California concluded that Wal-Mart had a detrimental impact on local commerce. The study found that over the course of the next several years of a local Mart entering a community, retailers' sales of mens' and boys' apparel dropped 49 percent on average. *The Fulton Mall has over 85 retailers selling mens' and boys apparel.*

NAACP Gives Wal-Mart a C- on Business Practices:
Wal-Mart received a C- grade on the NAACP's 2005 Economic Reciprocity Initiative (ERI) industry report cards which grade major corporations on their business practices with respect to the African-American community. NAACP Interim President & CEO Dennis Coakland says said, "The report cards are a good indicator for the NAACP to measure efforts or the lack thereof of major corporations in the areas of hiring, promotion, procurement, philanthropy and marketing." *Walmart Stores Inc., November 1, 2004*

Wal-Mart's Latest Strategy: Monopolize Retail Electronics:
Wal-Mart has been upgrading its electronics offerings to draw in more shoppers by adding flat-panel TVs, DVD players and digital cameras. Electronics at Wal-Mart average as much as 20% cheaper than competitors. The Fulton Mall alone has over 30 Electronic stores, who combined sales for a year could not gross what one Wal-Mart makes in one month.

For More Fun Facts head to
www.walmartfreenyc.com

Local 1102 RWDSU and the UFCW Region 1 Women's Network brought Hempstead Councilmember Dorothy Goosby, Assemblywoman Earlene Hooper and hundreds of UFCW and RWDSU women activists together in East Meadow L.I. to shed light of Wal-Mart's anti-women, anti-family policies. Paulette Falkikoff-Amadeo (of Local 1102) serves as International Chair of the UFCW Women's Network.



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Kate Keller of UFCW Region 1, Kevan Abrahams, Nassau County Legislature (1st LD) and Dave Mertz, from the RWDSU address the assembled.

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All across New York City, Long Island and W
community groups and elected officials

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RWDSU International President Stuart Appelbaum tells Wal-Mart that they're not wanted in Brooklyn or anyplace else in New York City!

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Good
B

Wed., March 28, 2007

Wal-Mart

"I don't care if we
executive) said. M
led by unions. O
wages will under

Union espanol Union espanol Union espanol Union esp
Union espanol Union espanol Union espanol Union esp

Westchester, Local 338 along with our brother and sister locals, officials brought news of Wal-Mart's bad neighbor policies.

UFCW Local 888 President Max Bruny calls on Wal-Mart to change its ways



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"America, Pray for Wal-Mart to Change" was not only the call, but the wish in Union halls, Churches, Synagogues and Mosques across the United States during the week of December 11-15, 2006. Here in New York, your Local joined the RWDSU, UFCW and a dozen other unions at the St. Francis of Assisi Church for a prayer vigil that overflowed into a march to the headquarters of Wal-Mart on 5th Avenue.

Imam Samer Alraey calls for peace and justice for all Wal-Mart workers



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News!

Business Day

The New York Times

Chief Writes Off New York

"We are ever here," a frustrated Lee Scott (Wal-Mart's chief executive officer) wrote in a letter to the residents of New York City. Much of the opposition to Wal-Mart in cities like New York is organized labor, fears the retailer's low prices and modest wages cut unionized stores.

Dave Mertz, RWDSU Father Brian Jordan, St. Francis of Assisi Church Rev. Maria Isabel Santiviago, Mision San Juan Bautista Rabbi Michael Feinberg, Labor-Religion Coalition Christina Hajagos-Clausen, UFCW Region 1



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www.walmartfreonyc.com

Union español Union español Union español Union español Union español Union español

Members at Work



WALDBAUM'S 279 • MERRICK

Nassau



Kathleen Steimer, Sebamalai Jesurasa, Elsav Herrera



Frank DeLuch, Culma Hernandez, Christine Ullrich



Eugenia Zelaya



William Tejeda, Ron Trucchio



Ken Franco



Dani DeRose, Sabitri Grappone, Marguerite Garcia



Marion Ribaudo, Barbara Johnson, Danielle Maldarelli

members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work

STOP & SHOP 578 • INWOOD



Shanell Johnson



Anthony Mancuso, Wayne Slifken



Steve McKoy



Denise Pilozo



Harry Gusman, Mike Basilata, Mario Marchese



Latoya Walker



Gina Kelly



Sheila Ufret, Elizabeth Robinson, Sandy Holodar



Veronica Thompson, Barbara Williams, Ida Gerrera



Derrick Gordon

WALDBAUM'S 601 • STONY BROOK



Rosario Pilocane, Steven Castrogriouanni, Barbara Salerno, Barbara Lopez



Pam Hansen, Karol Alipert, Eileen Killackey, Kim Catania

Suffolk



Ronald Moroch



John F. DePrano, Mike Delligatti



Jim "Ziggy" Marazigiano, George Kurz

STOP & SHOP 585 • LAKE GROVE



Lillian Herrmann, Virginia Karcich, Michelle Foronjy



Gloria Prisco, Mike Troiani, Ruth Monk



Joe Lombardo

WALDBAUM'S 270 • WHITESTONE

Queens



Ado Pizzuti, Cathy Faraci, Miguel Taranto, Mario Vokov, Guillermo Yepes, Prince Hendrickson



Ursula Brzozowski, Paula Maldarelli



Horst Friedel, Frank Horwath, Pepe Huyhua



Giuseppina Macchiarulo, Doris Foster, Marven Steward, Yury Rudman, Peter Cuomo



Damon Clift



Lisa Carrieri, Helen Tostaine



Jack Leane



Stefania Scarcella, Linda Aut



Maria Gattuso



Brenda Crossbie

WALDBAUM'S 613 • GLEN OAKS

Queens



Bernice Reuland, Christine Trybulski, Lucy Negrino



Nicasio Castrillo



Eric Stouger, Mario Silva, Steve Zeiner, Flora Penamante



Mike Polito, Winston Shakespeare



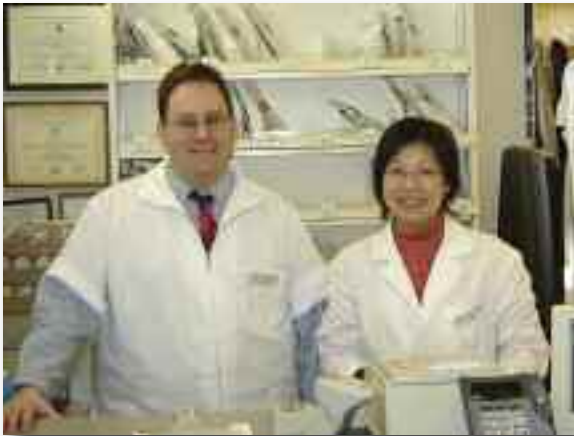
Nelson Cedeno, Jennifer Failla, Terry Cutler



Nita Desai



Kevin Hoskins, Debra Rappaport



Frederick Schwartz, Donna Ho Lam



Janie Pemdavis, Surinder Bal, Melvina Forrester



Richard Pittman



Richie McKenna, Parmeet Reehal, Indo Chowdhry

WALDBAUM'S 632 • BAY TERRACE



Andre Richardson, Vaughn Modest, Nancy Smith, Mohamed Nazarry



John Catrucci, Willy Rodriquez, Herman Flax, Cliff Floyd



Joe Borg, Rabi Maharaj



Jonathan Horwitz



Roxanne Berrosei



Afroditi Vitoratos, Yolette Dateau



Lauren Honya



Angeles Finerty



Cassandra Roundtree, Denise Davis, John Butano, Phyllis Hirsch



Ruth Boya, Peggy Wilkins, Gina Trochi



Norma Freeman



Kevin Medina, Sebastian Collura, Michael Chapman

PARK LANE FOODS • LONG ISLAND CITY

Queens



Alejandro Lopez



Luis Gualpa



Rodrigo Balderas



Miguel Pacheco

Health & Human Services

BY NEIL GONZALVO

We are pleased to announce that the name of the Health Care Division has changed to the Health & Human Services Division. The change was made in part to recognize newly organized members of the union and to broaden the scope of the division.

Shops who have recently collectively bargained their first union contract (which covered wages, benefits and working conditions) and joined this division include: Carnegie East, Hope Community, Staten Island Children's Center and the Ecumenical Community

Development Organization.
We are proud of our new division name and are proud to serve these hard working members!
If you are a Health & Human Services Division member and there is something specific you want the union to address in an upcoming edition of the newspaper or you know someone who wants our union to represent them, please call (718)-997-7400 ext. 400 and leave a message for your union representative, Neil E. Gonzalvo. Take the time, make the call and get involved. Remember, it's your union!

ST. JUDE

Westchester



(in front l to r) Nellie, Natalie, Jose, Julia, Julia, Liz
(above on stairs l to r) Michelle, Charmaine



Benedito Perez



Arthur Aricaoya

HOPE COMMUNITY • MANHATTAN



George Rio Frio, David Gilchrist

THE HEALTH CENTER AT BLOOMINGDALE



Ahma Hernandez, Clana Lateurion, Gladys Ore



Eric Castro



Sarita Gonzabay

FYI...

since the beginning of the new year, Local 338 RWDSU/ UFCW Health & Human Services Division has won its members \$6,800 in back wages and funds.

It pays to be union.



Health Center at Bloomingdale Negotiations 2007

At press time the members at the Health Center at Bloomingdale were still negotiating their next union contract. Outstanding issues included the Local 338 health and welfare benefits and salary increases.



Artidoro Minchola



Merzelie Cherilus, Sharon Williams, Elimine Revange



Youdeline Sanrelus, Estrella Luciana Ollila



Deivy Montalvo, Jeane Pierre Ore, Alice Tolentino, Haider Talibong

CARNEGIE EAST • MANHATTAN



Bogumila Gruszka and Perpetina Gonzales



Winsome Cousias



Danubia Bruno



Betsy Reyes



Deborah Santiago



Judy White



Clarence Hickson



Shirley Murray

members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work ■ members at work

GIUNTA'S MEAT FARM • PORT JEFFERSON STATION



Matt & Paul Giordano



Grace Ingenito



Bob Morabito



Jack Coyne



Ed Santiago

STOP & SHOP 587 • PORT JEFFERSON STATION



Lou Henninger



Jack Ellis



Gladys Rios, Loretta Tobe, Jen Pascullo



Ellen Piniella



Diane Cadolino

The next issue will cover Members at Work in Manhattan, Brooklyn & Staten Island

Punto de vista...

Llevamos un trimestre del año nuevo, y hasta la fecha ha sido exitoso para el movimiento laboral. Vamos en la dirección correcta con nuevo liderazgo en Washington y Albany, ¡la dirección de la fuerza laboral! En los últimos diez años aproximadamente, los gobiernos estatal y federal parecen haber estado en el bolsillo de las Corporaciones Estadounidenses, ya que descartaron todas y cada una de las leyes que se les presentaron a favor de la fuerza laboral.

Aunque las cosas están cambiando, y la fuerza laboral está jugando un papel más importante, está ocurriendo lentamente. Dentro de las primeras 100 horas que estuvo en sesión la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos, vimos que se aprobó una ley que aumentaría el salario mínimo nacional por primera vez desde 1997. De hecho, durante ese mismo período de 10 años, el Congreso liderado por los Republicanos proporcionó a las corporaciones una increíble reducción de impuestos de \$276 mil millones y dio a las pequeñas empresas otros \$36 mil millones en ventajas impositivas especiales, mientras que los trabajadores con más bajos ingresos en los Estados Unidos no recibieron nada. La Cámara de Representantes aprobó también la Employee Free Choice Act (Ley sobre la libertad de elección de los empleados) la cual si se promulga permitirá a los empleados organizarse y ser reconocidos después de un simple proceso de verificación de tarjeta. De esta forma se nivelará el terreno de juego organizando a los trabajadores no sindicalizados.

Aunque parezca que el Congreso liderado por los Demócratas está intentando cumplir con las promesas que hicieron durante la campaña, ¡podrían hacer más! La Cámara de Representantes y el Senado aprobaron dos leyes diferentes de Salario Mínimo, las cuales pedían el mismo aumento de \$2.10, pero la Ley del Senado también da a las empresas un descuento de \$8,300 millones en ventajas impositivas especiales. Ambas cámaras deben reconciliar las dos leyes y no está claro cuándo eso pueda ocurrir. El Senado tampoco ha podido actuar en cuanto a la Employee Free Choice Act y no se sabe cuándo vaya a haber una votación o si es posible que la haya. Les insto a todos ustedes que les escriban a sus representantes locales en el Congreso y les pidan que aceleren los procedimientos para estas dos leyes cruciales.

A nivel del estado, la fuerza laboral dio su apoyo para la elección de Thomas DiNapoli para el cargo de Contralor del Estado. Conozco a Tom desde hace muchos años. Él ha prestado servicio en su calidad de Ex-presidente del directorio del Partido Democrático de Nassau y ha sido miembro de la asamblea durante los últimos 20 años. Tuvo un papel importante en la creación de la Nassau Interim Finance Authority, la cual ayudó al Condado de Nassau a salir de problemas fiscales serios y es responsable de restaurar la responsabilidad fiscal en el condado. Tom ha apoyado por largo al Local 338 y es buen amigo del mismo, y estamos orgullosos de haber ayudado en su candidatura para Contralor.

Aunque la nueva estructura gubernativa en Albany ha causado batallas bien conocidas entre el Gobernador y el poder legislativo, ha logrado también algo de acción concreta. Hace poco tiempo, hubo un acuerdo acerca del muy esperado paquete de

reformas de compensación de los trabajadores. El paquete de reformas cubre algunas de las necesidades y preocupaciones más apremiantes de los trabajadores lesionados y mejora en gran medida un sistema que se creía ya inservible. Gracias al acuerdo, los beneficios para los trabajadores lesionados aumentarán por primera vez en más de una década, y los costos del empleador, los cuales están entre los más altos del país, se reducirán entre un 10 y un 15 por ciento, aumentando los ahorros con el transcurso del tiempo. Estos son pasos en la dirección correcta y esperamos poder mejorar aún más nuestro sistema de compensación de trabajadores.

Tenemos motivos para estar a la vez felices y escépticos acerca del cambio de disposición de los gobiernos estatal y federal. Debemos hacerles ver claramente a nuestros representantes que los haremos responsables de sus actos y trabajaremos para apoyar a quienes nos apoyen. Por esta razón es tan importante que usted participe en su sindicato y respalde activamente los candidatos que apoyamos. La fuerza laboral ha recuperado por fin un asiento en la mesa política y necesitamos su ayuda a medida que lideramos la lucha para asegurar que cada trabajador estadounidense tenga acceso a una atención de salud de calidad y una jubilación segura.

Enfrentamos muchos desafíos potenciales en lo que resta del año. Tenemos muchos contratos por vencer, estamos desarrollando objetivos de organización y nuestro empleador más grande, A&P tiene intenciones de comprar los Supermercados Pathmark. Todos estos temas nos presentarán muchos desafíos en el curso de 2007 pero con el apoyo de nuestros miembros y el arduo trabajo de nuestro equipo del 338 estoy confiado en que tendremos otro año lleno de éxito.

Durante lo que resta del año llevaremos a cabo varios eventos de rallies y campañas. Le pedimos que asista a todas las funciones que le sea posible y esté junto a nosotros mientras luchamos para proteger nuestro futuro. Ya sea protestando contra la apertura de un Wal-Mart, participando como piquetero, o ayudando a uno de los candidatos que apoyamos, su respaldo puede hacer una gran diferencia. A medida que las compañías anti-sindicatos como Wal-Mart, Whole Foods, CVS y BJ's entran en una comunidad, los supermercados pequeños, almacenes y farmacias cierran sus puertas. Su apoyo y unas pocas horas de su tiempo cada mes pueden hacer una gran diferencia. Después de todo, hay fuerza en los números; hay fuerza en el sindicato y cuando hablamos con una sola voz es verdad que

¡¡LA UNIÓN HACE LA FUERZA!!



by John R. Durso, Presidente

Marque su calendario!



6to Picnic Anual DEL SINDICATO LOCAL 338

*SÓLO para miembros del 338
y sus familias inmediatas*

Marque su calendario
para el 6to picnic anual del sindicato Local 338 que tendrá lugar el 1 de julio en el Coleman Country Day Camp en Merrick, NY.

6ta jornada anual en el estadio



¡Pronto viene el verano y con él vuelve el pasatiempo estadounidense favorito: el béisbol!

Todos los miembros que asistan a nuestras reuniones del área serán elegibles para ganar entradas a la "Jornada Anual en el Estadio" del sindicato Local 338 que se celebrará este verano con los Brooklyn Cyclones en el bello KeySpan Park de Coney Island.

Los miembros que asistan tendrán acceso a un picnic con parrillada y asientos especiales reservados para los miembros del sindicato Local 338 y sus familias.

¡No deje de venir a nuestras reuniones del área en junio y participe para ganar unas entradas a este divertido evento veraniego!

Formulario de cambio de dirección:

NOTA:

No es responsabilidad ni obligación de su empleador informar al Sindicato sobre su cambio de dirección, nombre o número de teléfono. ¡Es su responsabilidad notificar rápidamente al sindicato local 338 sobre todo cambio de dirección!

Para cambios de nombre o dirección, llene el cupón a continuación.

Recorte y envíe sus datos al sindicato Local 338 • 97-45 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, New York 11374

Nombre _____ Núm. Seg. Social _____

Dirección nueva _____

Ciudad _____

Teléfono nuevo (____) _____ Estado _____ Código postal _____



LOCAL 338 RWDSU/UFCW

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NOTICIAS

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¡WAL-MART LLEGA AL VECINDARIO...



Y USTED PUEDE PERDER SU TRABAJO!

A Wal-Mart le gusta proyectar una imagen de compañía estadounidense sana, de pueblo pequeño y que es sólo una coincidencia que sea la más grande del mundo. La verdad es que solamente el año pasado la compañía tuvo ventas brutas que superaron los \$312 mil millones y logró \$11,200 millones en utilidades. Y por cada Wal-Mart que se abrió en este país, 2 supermercados se vieron forzados a cerrar sus puertas.

Todos hemos visto los avisos y escuchado los lemas de Wal-Mart de "reducir los precios" pero la verdadera pregunta es ¿qué están haciendo para reducir los precios? Y la respuesta es realmente simple; reducen los precios bajando los costos. ¿Y quién paga en definitiva cuando esta compañía baja los costos? ¡Todos pagamos!

Darle herramientas a la competencia

Wal-Mart puede reducir los precios usando prácticas comerciales inescrupulosas. Lo primero que hace Wal-Mart cuando se instala en una comunidad es usar precios extremadamente bajos para eliminar la competencia. El hecho de minar intencionalmente a los comerciantes locales tiene

competir es prácticamente imposible para los comerciantes más responsables. Por consiguiente, la apertura de un Wal-Mart indica el cierre en masa de ferreterías, tiendas de ropa y supermercados locales. Estudios independientes y gubernamentales en todo el país han concluido que por cada Wal-Mart que se abre, 2 supermercados se ven forzados a cerrar sus negocios.

El crecimiento de Wal-Mart tiene un impacto negativo en los salarios y beneficios de los trabajadores

Esta ausencia de competencia y el aumento en la fuerza laboral perjudica los salarios en todo el mercado laboral. Cuando un empleador paga bajos salarios a sus empleados, los empleados tienen menos dinero para gastar en bienes y servicios en la comunidad, lo cual a su vez reduce el ingreso y gastos de otros en la comunidad. En otras palabras, una reducción en los salarios tiene un impacto multiplicador de la tendencia en el área circundante.

El estudio más integral acerca del impacto de Wal-Mart indica que las tiendas redujeron los

por objeto ahogar todos los mercados donde ingresa. El control del mercado por parte de Wal-Mart provoca una reacción en cadena que perjudica la economía local del área.

Cuando Wal-Mart llega a estos extremos para bajar los costos de producción, el

ingreso por persona en un 5 por ciento. Este estudio lo llevó a cabo en 2005 un economista de la National Bureau of Economic Research (Oficina Nacional de Investigación Económica). Utilizó los propios datos de las tiendas Wal-Mart y datos gubernamentales correspondientes a todos los condados donde Wal-Mart ha operado por 30 años. Descubrió que la tienda Wal-Mart típica reduce los ingresos persona en un 5 por ciento en el condado donde opera.

Por lo tanto, cuando Wal-Mart dice que está reduciendo los precios, en realidad está reduciendo los sueldos y beneficios no sólo de sus empleados, sino también de los trabajadores en todo el mercado laboral. De hecho, en 2005 el empleado promedio de un supermercado ganaba 20% más por hora que el empleado promedio de Wal-Mart. Y en lo que respecta a la atención de salud, 2/3 de todos los empleados de Wal-Mart no participan en el plan de atención de salud de Wal-Mart debido a que el hacerlo les exigiría pagar aproximadamente 1/5 de la remuneración neta que reciben. Eso representa un 20% del salario neto de una persona y de todas maneras tendrían que pagar un deducible alto.

Todos pagamos cuando Wal-Mart llega a la ciudad

Pero no son sólo los empleados de Wal-Mart los que sufren las consecuencias. Cuando Wal-Mart llega a su comunidad todos sufrimos las consecuencias, debido a que la compañía más grande del mundo también tiene el mayor porcentaje de sus empleados en asistencia pública. De hecho, llevan a cabo seminarios que explican a sus empleados cómo solicitar bienestar social y cupones de alimentos. Imagínese, una compañía que tiene una utilidad anual de \$11 mil millones, transfiere los costos de atención de salud y salarios a ustedes, los contribuyentes.

¡Consulte el documento central para ver más noticias de Wal-Mart!