

A Message from the President John R. Durso



Staying Engaged in the New Year

As we approach the end of another year, I'd like to take a moment to reflect upon all of the hard work that Local 338 members have displayed throughout 2018. The dedication that you put in at your place of work, assisting customers, keeping students safe, caring for patients and consumers, does not go unnoticed. I would like to take a moment to thank all of you for all that you do and if I could, I would personally thank each and every one of you.

What also does not go unnoticed is your dedication to our union and supporting the rights of not just your fellow Local 338 members, but also your fellow New Yorkers. This past year, many of you attended rallies and volunteered in Get Out the Vote efforts to help elect our endorsed candidates. You also helped spread the word that elections do matter and encouraged your friends, family, and coworkers to vote. The results of this year's elections are a direct result of your political engagement.

One of the most exciting outcomes on Election Night was the change in the New York State Senate, which now holds a Democratic majority, including the influence of six Senators from Long Island. This is great news for members of Local 338, as well as our brothers and sisters in other unions. These elected officials who were elected and re-elected, have a long history of standing by working people locally and we know that they will fight to support legislation in our State Capital that will better the lives of all working New Yorkers. In the new year, we will work closely with our State Senators, as well as the members of the New York State Assembly, to ensure that crucial funding is included in the State Budget that supports subsidies for affordable childcare and wage increases for our members working at IAHD and Community Resources.

However, we cannot accomplish this without your continued support. It is essential that you remain engaged in your community, which includes being politically active. This is not merely because of our legislative agenda, no matter how important it is to us as members of Local 338. We also rely on our partnerships with elected officials as another avenue to place pressure on employers during contract fights and as we unionize new worksites. Many of these elected officials also provide another opportunity for us to access community services for members who might have fallen on hard times.

Protecting our rights as the working men and women will continue to be a priority in 2019. However, do not lose sight of the importance of remaining involved in your community and to make every effort to attend the various union events that will take place throughout the year. Remember, we are only as strong and impactful as you allow us to be.

I hope that 2019 brings you and your family joy, success, and good health.



May you and yours have a wonderful holiday!











Helping Those in Need Have a Warm Thanksgiving Meal

In keeping up with our annual holiday tradition, Local 338 hosted a turkey donation drive. This year we visited several charitable organizations that ensure that all of the members of the communities they serve have the opportunity to enjoy a turkey meal on Thanksgiving.

We delivered over 200 turkeys that were all donated on behalf of members of Local 338. Our donations supported the work of the following organizations:

- Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church in the Bronx
- Project Hospitality on Staten Island
- The Variety Boys & Girls of Queens (where we partnered with State Senator Jose Peralta)
- The Sharing Community in Yonkers
- The INN in Hempstead
- Food pantries located on the campuses of Nassau and Suffolk Community Colleges

By providing these wonderful organizations with donated turkeys, they were able to provide hope and spread holiday cheer to those less fortunate. We are so proud to be able to give back to our communities every day, but especially during the holidays.



Click here to view more photos from this year's Turkey Drive. If you'd like to see the video highlighting our charitable work, click the iPhone on the left.







Helping Children in Need Have a Happy Holiday!

On December 14th, Local 338 staff and members volunteered at the John Theissen Children's Foundation for a day of giving back during the holiday season. All of the toys that are donated are delivered to local hospitals for infants, toddlers, and adolescents who are currently receiving treatment for a number of different conditions.

We would like to thank the John Theissen Children's Foundation for allowing us to be a part of this inspiring day and for the amazing work that they do each and every day for families and children throughout Long Island communities.

And most importantly, we'd like to thank our members who made our day of service possible as we brought dozens of toys, games and books, which were all donated because of your generosity and commitment to helping make the holidays a little brighter for children in need!





A Day of Service at

The Mary Brennan INN

On Friday, November 16th, Local 338 paid a visit to the Mary Brennan INN located in Hempstead, New York. At the Mary Brennan INN, those in need can access hot meals five days a week, along with additional services, such as a shower and receiving personal care items. The volunteer staff at the INN work incredibly hard to ensure that all the guests who come in can enjoy a meal, as well as have any other needs met with dignity. On this day, Local 338 volunteers were assigned to help feed the many guests that came in through the doors of the INN.

Our day began with sorting through all of the non-perishable items that were donated to the INN's food pantry, which is available for guests to select the items they need to make fully balanced meals. Next, we prepared to help serve meals to the guests of the day. Our volunteers were tasked with serving the hot food and assist the families with children and the elderly by bringing the meals over to their tables. It was a joy to see all the guests and the expression on their faces as they received a plate of hot food. Many of them even struck up conversations and expressed their gratitude for the help Local 338 was providing. After the guests had finished their meals, we helped distribute turkeys to the same families for their Thanksgiving dinner.

The INN is a great example of how our communities can come together to overcome the challenge of hunger and homelessness. Thank you so much to the staff at the Mary Brennan INN and all of their hard work!



Manhattan

Long Island | Queens

Tuesday, March 12th at 5pm

Monday, March 11th at 5pm

RWDSU Office

Local 338 Office 370 Seventh Avenue, Suite 501, Manhattan 1505 Kellum Place Mineola, New York (7 Penn Plaza - Between 30th and 31st Streets)

Refreshments and food will be served at each location starting at 4:30pm



WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER

A Message from



Stuart Appelbaum RWDSU President

Amazon Doesn't Deserve - or need - Taxpayer handouts



Stuart Cappellaum

It's troubling to see Amazon, a trillion-dollar company controlled by the wealthiest man on the planet, be given billions in public subsidies to build its new headquarters in New York. This is money that Amazon doesn't need or deserve. Amazon is one of the most anti-worker and anti-union companies on the planet, and New York City and State should require Amazon to change its behavior before it can be welcomed here.

Amazon workers in Germany, Italy, and Spain have gone on strike, and we've seen massive demonstrations bγ Amazon workers in Great Britain over the way they are being mistreated. Amazon's business model is based on taxpayer subsidies, paying little or no taxes, and mistreating and dehumanizing their employees. Their conduct should be treated as unacceptable - not rewarded with \$3 billion in subsidies.

Amazon warehouse workers face outrageous work quotas and cruel working conditions that have left many with illnesses and injuries. Contracted workers, such as those making "last mile" deliveries, have described inhumane working conditions

and demands. These couriers say they cannot take bathroom breaks and often feel compelled to drive dangerously to satisfy the stringent demands of Amazon.

In the United Kingdom alone, there have been 600 ambulance calls to the online retailer's warehouses in the past three years, and, according to a study by the GMB union, roughly 80 percent of workers experience pain on the job.

We need to call upon our elected officials to demand that Amazon respect their workers. Amazon needs to change the way it does business - by agreeing to labor peace, accepting workers' wishes to unionize, by providing wages, good benefits, and stable hours for workers - if it wants to be welcome in New York. Amazon can and must do better by its workers and our communities.









A Message from

Joseph Fontano Secretary-Treasurer

The Importance of Our Political Action Committee

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As this year comes to a close, it's important to reflect on the outcome of the elections and how much more of a spotlight was placed on politics. Whether it is at the local, state or federal level, we are becoming more involved and informed about the policies that directly impact us all. The results of our hard work were particularly evident as we had a big victory for New York's working families on Election Day. The New York State Senate is now a Democratic majority and that is owed in part to Local 338 members' involvement with our Political Action Committee.

We should all support candidates who support policies and legislation that improve the lives of working men and women. In 2019 we will be working closely with the New York State Legislature and Governor to ensure that any changes to New York's cannabis laws also guarantee that these hard-working men and women have jobs with strong union contracts. We will also be fighting for funding in the State Budget for wage increases

for direct service providers. This is especially crucial as this directly impacts Local 338 members working at IAHD and Community Resources, who provide quality care to New York's most vulnerable men and women.

I cannot stress the importance of voting and making your voices heard at the polls enough. However, another simple way to show your support of Local 338's political and legislative work is through our Political Action Committee. The Local 338 PAC truly helps open the necessary doors in protecting your rights individually, as well as helping others across the State. Your voluntary contributions to the Local 338 PAC allow us to advocate the issues that impact you more effectively and work with our partners in government to pass meaning reforms and protections for working New Yorkers. If you haven't done so yet, please sign up to contribute to the Local 338 PAC. For as little as a weekly contribution of 25 cents, you can make a huge difference in the lives of your coworkers and fellow Local 338 members!

Did you know that you can sign-up to contribute to the Local 338 PAC online?

Visit local338.org/paccard to register!

Already contributing to the Local 338 PAC? You can also use the above link to increase your weekly contribution!

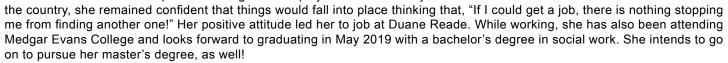


member SPOILIGHT

Donna BrowneCongratulations on your Citizenship!

Donna Browne has been a Local 338 member for the past year working at Duane Reade. She began her career there first, as a customer service representative and then was promoted to her current position of shift leader. In addition to working at Duane Reade full-time, she is a mother to two boys, a full-time student, and now, she is proud to also add that she is an American Citizen and recipient of the New American Citizen Grant, which is a program offered to Local 338 members by the UFCW United Latinos.

Since coming to New York from Trinidad & Tobago on Christmas Day eight years ago, Donna has been on a path with goals to accomplish – one of which was to become a citizen. She says that the decision to come to New York was an easy one to make, but that life here was hard. Despite not having been employed the first three years she was in



When Donna began to focus on her goal on applying for citizenship, she heard that there were services available through Local 338 for members interested in help regarding immigration. She knew it would be a big sacrifice financially, but she was determined to receive her citizenship so that she could continue to provide a better life for her boys. When the Immigration Clinics, held in partnership with our national union the RWDSU were held earlier this year, Donna took her paycheck and put it towards the fees associated with obtaining American citizenship. Her sacrifice was well worth it, and she was encouraged to apply for the New American Citizen Grant, which also helps towards the cost of her citizenship application fees.

For Donna, the opportunity to become a citizen was just another stepping stone towards a better future. She came to New York with the goal to attend college, earn a degree, and obtain her citizenship. She invested so much of herself in reaching these goals and says, "Anything is possible so long as you put your mind to it." Donna encourages all Local 338 members to take the chance! Whether it is for themselves or their family, she says the program through the RWDSU and UFCW is "a benefit to yourself and you only pay yourself towards achieving your own goals and getting what you want out of life."



Congratulations, Donna!

338 News is Your News Source

Do you have a unique hobby, a special talent or a great accomplishment that you would like to share? Maybe you love to woodwork and have a back porch to prove it. Perhaps your coworker recently won an award but is too humble to brag about it.

Our unique abilities are what make us different but our togetherness as a union is what makes us strong. Contact Betsy Mercado at 516-294-1338 Ext. 1313 or email her at BMercado@Jocal338.org to be considered as a feature in the next issue of 338 News.





Neil E. Gonzalvo Executive Vice President

Looking Forward to 2019



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With the year coming to a quick close, I am pleased to announce that we have successfully concluded contract negotiations with several additional ShopRite operators! Members working at these shops can review your new contracts by logging in to your "My Local 338" account (mylocal338.org). We also continue to negotiate contracts with a number of employers including, Duane Reade, Giunta's Meat Farms, and CVS. Of course, our goal is to ensure that the we set a standard for our members both inside and outside of your workplace, meaning that your new contracts will continue to include the benefits, guaranteed wage increases and rights that you deserve in your workplace.

Throughout 2018 I have reviewed the needs of our members and found that some of your worksites would benefit from more Shop Stewards and Rapid Responders who can better assist their co-members. This is why one of our top priorities in the upcoming year is to look to increase the number of shop stewards across our union. We currently have 100 outstanding shop stewards who serve the important role of acting as the first line of communication between our members, Union Representatives and Funds/Service Representatives, and in some cases, management.

In addition to providing crucial 338 related news, our shop stewards are responsible for assisting new members become oriented to the union, as well as answering questions on how to access information about their union contract or member benefits. They are tasked with helping to register their fellow members to vote and how they can get involved politically through our Local 338 PAC. Shop Stewards attend and in turn, also encourage their fellow members to attend union meetings and events. The role of a shop steward is vital to our organization so of course, they must also be Union proud! I encourage you all to speak to your Union Representative to better understand the roles and responsibilities of a shop steward, especially if this is something you or a co-member might be interested in taking on.

On a final note, I am excited to report that 60 workers at Kosher First (Tuv Taam), which is located in Brooklyn and makes and delivers Kosher meals, have voted to join Local 338. We are excited to welcome these new members to our 338 Family and look forward to continuing to grow our membership in the year to come.

Happy Holidays to all!





Since January 2018, Local 338, through grievances and arbitrations, collected funds and returned back wages to our members in excess of \$98,543.37!





Get to Know your Representatives



Josselin Paz

In January 2018, I joined the Local 338 family as a Communications Representative Intern. I was able to sign many members up for their "My Local 338" accounts, where they had access to all their union information (including discounts!). I truly enjoyed the opportunity to interact with members all across Long Island, Staten Island, and Upstate New York. I am now a Funds/Service Representative in Nassau County and I assist members with all of

their medical questions and concerns.

As a Funds/Service Representative, I work to address the concerns of our members while also expanding their knowledge of union provided benefits and how to best utilize all those benefits. I love speaking to our members and learning about their different cultures, families and favorite union memories. I am dedicated to the movement for workers' rights and economic justice and I could not be prouder to do so with Local 338.

Kathy Pimentel

I started working for Local 338 earlier this year as an intern. I am 23 years old and I am from Puerto Rico. I moved to New York to complete my studies for a Master's Degree in Labor. While I was living in Puerto Rico, beginning in my early years at University of Puerto Rico, I have been actively involved in the labor movement. I am very passionate about social work and unionism.



I strongly believe that in uniting we can take back our power. Everybody deserves decent job conditions and fair wages. Trade unions are the way in which we can achieve social equity and justice.



Remembering State Senator Jose Peralta

All of us at Local 338 would like to take a moment to remember a great friend of working people, State Senator Jose Peralta who passed away last month. He was a dedicated public servant working at the New York City Central Labor Council before holding elected office, first as an Assembly Member

and then, State Senator. As an elected official he supported the efforts of labor unions and passed important pieces of legislation intended to protect both immigrants and workers, including the Wage Theft Prevention Act.

In addition to standing with Local 338 members on picket lines and legislative campaigns, we had the pleasure of working with State Senator Peralta in a variety of community efforts. We proudly partnered with him in support of turkey drives at Thanksgiving as well, his annual event in honor of Three Kings Day which distributed toys to children in need.

State Senator fought tirelessly for the rights of all New Yorkers and he will be remembered for his dedicated service to his district in Queens. We extend our deepest condolences to the Peralta family and those who loved him during this difficult time.











Improved Benefits Coming January 1st!



We are pleased to announce that the Local 388 Benefits Fund will feature the following benefit improvements beginning on January 1, 2019:



Optical Plan

- Plans 1P, 2G, 3S and 1B go from \$175 to \$225 and Plan 2B will increase from \$150 to \$200.
- PLUS, in all plans, the benefit goes from once every two years to once per year for anyone 18 and under.

Dental Plan

- There will be no copay for all dental services, other than implants and orthodontics, when you use an in-network (DDS) provider.
- The **lifetime orthodontic benefit** is increased from \$2,100 to \$2,700. (If you use an in-network provider, for a 24-month orthodontic case (\$3,000), with retention (retainer -- \$400), your copay will be a total of \$522, which can usually be paid off over time.)
- The implant benefit will be increased from \$500 to \$1,000.



We hope this new announcement will help you and your family.

Should you have any questions about the changes, please speak to your Funds/Service Representative or contact the Funds Office at 516-294-1338 ext. 1776.



New Year, New Set of Frames

As we are approaching the new year, we are reminded of all those yearly visits we have to make – yearly physical checkups, dental cleanings, and of course, getting our vision checked. Members of Local 338 who are eligible through the Benefits Fund enjoy an optical benefit that allows them to get an eye exam along with new glasses or contact lenses at a discounted price.

To utilize this benefit, we encourage all members to first obtain an optical voucher. If you are unsure of how to obtain a voucher, you can log in to your "My Local

338" account or speak to your Service/Funds Representative who can assist you. This voucher is good for your visit, and if you don't use all of its value, you can request a new voucher for the remaining balance. The voucher is good for use up to six months from the original date used. If you have any questions about your benefit amount or how to request a secondary voucher, you can give a call to our Optical Department at 516-294-1338, ext. 1324.

With many conveniently located providers to choose from, you can easily obtain a comprehensive eye exam as well as glasses

which are covered within the optical plan, including certain frames and lenses covered with NO out of pocket expenses! Be sure to take advantage of this amazing benefit and get into a pair

of new frames for the new year!



Don't miss out on all of the member discounts, benefits, negotiations, news and other events that are important to you as a Local 338 member or retiree!

local338.org/contact-form.cfm











WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

with Jennifer Lipack

MAP Director

Dealing with Depression During the Holidays



For most, the holidays can be a joyful time that is spent celebrating with friends, family and loved ones. However, this time of year can also be more difficult for others and can potentially heighten feelings of depression, loneliness or anxiety.

It's normal to feel sad sometimes, but if the feeling lingers and is hard to get rid of, it could be something more serious like depression. Depression can interfere with a person's work life, personal life, and sleep schedule. Other symptoms include significant weight loss or weight gain, feelings of worthlessness or "emptiness." Although it's not easy to talk about the feelings or thoughts you may be experiencing, it is also nothing to be ashamed of! It is important that you take the first step and reach out to someone you trust, whether it's a loved one, a friend, or coworker, to ask for help.

Depression can be treated and with the right regimen, those living with depression lead normal and fulfilling lives. Treatments include therapy or even medication, like antidepressants. If you feel like any of these symptoms apply to you, the Member Assistance Program may be able to help. MAP has tools that can help pair you or even a coworker who may be struggling with depression with counseling services that will allow them to work towards living a happier life.



Our MAP Director Jennifer Lipack can be reached at (516) 294-1338 ext. 1304 and all calls are strictly confidential.







NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Scholarship Winner

Tylen Heinsohn

Tyler Heinsohn, the 2018 recipient of the Local 338 Scholarship at Nassau Community College, is the son of long-time Local 338 member,

Janet Grassa. Janet works at Stop & Shop in Long Beach and heard about this new scholarship opportunity through her Union Representative.

When Tyler graduated from Saint John the Baptist High School in 2014, he began his college studies at SUNY Old Westbury. After completing his fall semester there, he decided he was going to take some time off from school to figure out what he really wanted to do. Tyler began working and saving money to go back to school. He found that trying to graduate with very little student loan debt, while also having enough money to not work and focus on his studies was a tough balance.

In 2017, he began at Nassau Community College to pursue an associate degree in Computer Science and hopes to graduate after next year's fall semester. With the help of the Local 338 Scholarship, Tyler says he is not working at the moment so that he can focus all of his energy on his studies. After having taken time off, Tyler

finds himself very motivated to continue learning and in his free time he explores and learns more about the computer science field.

About his experience so far, he says, "I would like to take a moment to say thank you to everyone involved in awarding me with this scholarship. I truly can't express how thankful I am and how much I appreciate it. Also, many thanks and much love to my mother who has worked so hard to ensure that I can do anything I choose in life." The Local 338 Scholarship at Nassau Community College is making it possible for Tyler to complete his associate degree without any student loans, which as he put it, "is a huge load off my shoulders!" After NCC, Tyler looks forward to transferring to SUNY Farmingdale to pursue a bachelor's degree in Computer Programming and Information Systems.



and best of luck to you in your studies!



At Local 338, we understand the importance of going to college and are also aware that the costs of college continue to rise. Many people find themselves deep in debt after college or struggle to maintain a balance between work and their studies. A scholarship really can help alleviate some of that stress. When our members and their dependents take advantage of these amazing benefits, we know it's something that works for them. For more information about scholarships that are available to you, visit: local338.org/scholarships









Going To College?

WE CAN HELP! Local 338'S 5UIIU Awards Program

Local 338's Scholarship

The 2019 Local 338 Charities Inc. Scholarship Awards Program is now open!

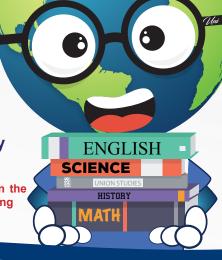
The Scholarship Awards Committee reviews all applications and awards:

- One (1) individual with the Emanuel Laub Scholarship which is \$2,000 a year for all four years in annual installments (totaling \$8,000);
- Ten (10) individuals attending college, vocational training, or other accredited institution with a one-time Scholarship Award of \$2,000
- Ten (10) individuals with a one-time Book Award Scholarship of \$500 each; and
- Two (2) individuals pursuing a continuing education program, master's degree or doctorate degree with a one-time Continuing **Education Scholarship Award of \$2,000.**

The 2019 Local 338 Charities Inc. Scholarship Awards Program is open to Local 338 Members and their dependents who have been a member of the Union for at least one (1) year. You or your parent/guardian must have been a member of the Union for at least one year from the date of the award to be eligible to apply for the scholarship and remain a member in good standing until the scholarship is awarded.

Please supply the following information accurately, making sure to include the member's Social Security number or member ID number (RWD#).

The deadline to submit this Short Form Application is March 29, 2019. When the Short Form Application is received by the Scholarship Awards Committee, a Long Form Application will be sent to the applicant.





www.local338.org/scholarships

Local 338's mission is to better the lives of our members and all working people

Elected officials of the union, staff employees, or their children are not eligible











Apply for the Union Plus Scholarship

All Local 338 members and their families are entitled to apply for the Union Plus Scholarship Award to be used towards their college education. Scholarship awards vary from \$500 to \$4,000 and these one-time cash awards are for study beginning in the fall. However, students are encouraged to reapply each year!

The deadline is January 31, 2019

Click here to apply now!

Don't miss out on this great opportunity that can help with the costs of your college degree!



Exclusive Local 338 Member Discounts

As a member of Local 338, you and your family are eligible for a variety of discounts! Check out your "My Local 338" Account to view more benefits.

You can receive special discounts on: Movie tickets

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

Mystery Room NYC

Camelback Mountain Adventures

AT&T

New York Aquarium Continuing Education Epic Escape Room LI Blue Man Group

YMCA

Loon Mountain Ski Resort

And many more!

We encourage you to take advantage of these discounts and get the most of your Local 338 membership!

To view all the discounts you're eligible for, visit: mylocal338.org







Wishing Our Members a Happy Retirement!

(Local 338's recent retirees between November 1 -December 31, 2018)

Ruth Anson Hugo Baldeon Thomas Barauskas Herbert Barrett Joseph Bell Regina Beska John Bland Jayne Blunden John Bogovic Camillo Briguccia Robin Bruno John Calamusa Victor Clemente Cheryl Curtain Janet de Bello Priscilla Dean Thomas Defazio Joseph Desir Arthur Dolan Richard Farlese Lois Goodwin William Gregory

Julie Helmich Particia Huse Harold Jaret Lisaro Jimenez Daniel Kinard Lucser Lamarre Rosa Lambiris Michael Lange Oscar Luna Pater Mandas Margarita Mejia Miguel Mendez Earl Miller Lynn Miron Robert Mojica Allen Montalvo Shihadeh Musleh John Nielsen Edda Nieves Muawieh R. Obaid Lucille Palermo Paul Pretrosino

Melisa Pineiro Sara Pohlman Esther Rivera Charles Salerno Monica Samad Margaret Sanchez Carlos Santiago Wilbur Shuler Donna Sisson William Smith Barry Southard Cynthia Staley Steven Sullican Maria Tellone Vincent Tizio William Torres Ramiro Villamor Dennis Wahmann Mary Wood Lavdrim Zulali

"Retired from my job, not from my union"





Support Your Community With Our Upcoming Donation Drives



Coat Drive

Each year, Local 338 "spreads the warmth" with our annual coat drive. This year, Local 338 will be continuing our tradition of donating new and gently worn coats to those in need. The coats will be collected between November through the end of December, and will be distributed to local charities across the New York area.

Please take a look in your closet and ask your coworkers, friends, and relatives to do the same! Join us in making sure no one is left out in the cold!

Food Drive

We are pleased to announce that we have extended our annual Food Drive and donations will be accepted into the new year. All non-perishable food items will be collected for local food pantries and distributed to those in need in our communities.



Donations can be dropped off at our next Membership Meetings, at Local 338's Office during regular business hours, or with your Union or Funds/Service Representative.









For EVERYTHING Local 338 Follow Us On Social Media



- Know your Rights: Download Your Contract
- Quickly Send Emails Directly to Local 338 Staff
- View Benefits you May Have and are NOT Using
- Learn about the Member Assistance Program
- Stay up to Date Union News & Events
- Articles about Fellow Members
- Scholarships for you and your Family
- Access to Free College Programs
- See Exclusive Member Discounts
- and much, much more!

Be sure to stay involved with Local 338





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Joseph Fontano Secretary-Treasurer

John R. Durso

President

Neil E. Gonzalvo **Executive Vice President**

Mil E. M

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Our Mission: To Better The Lives Of Our Members And All Working People.