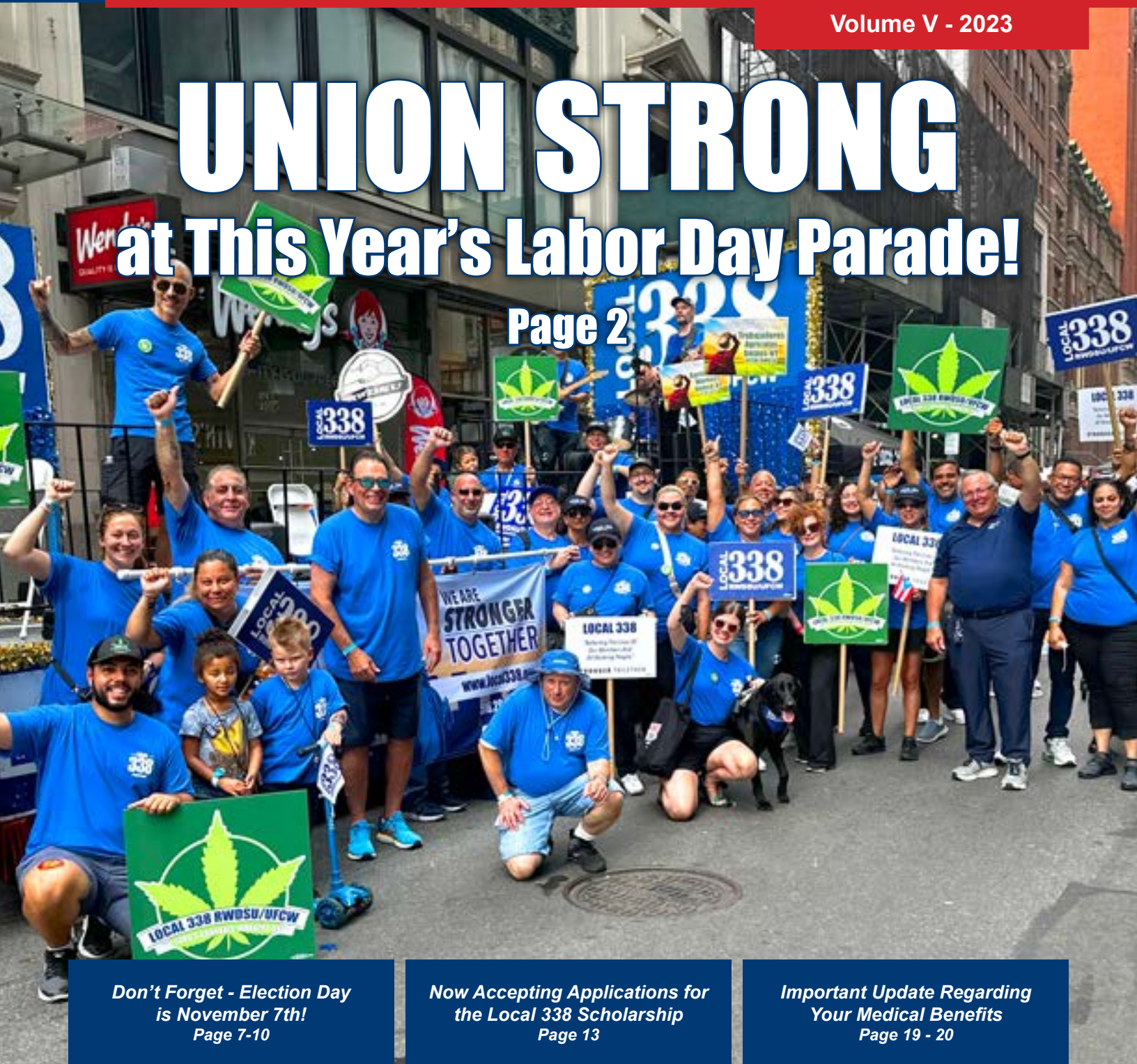


# 338 News

Volume V - 2023

## UNION STRONG at This Year's Labor Day Parade!

Page 2



**Don't Forget - Election Day  
is November 7th!**  
Page 7-10

**Now Accepting Applications for  
the Local 338 Scholarship**  
Page 13

**Important Update Regarding  
Your Medical Benefits**  
Page 19 - 20





# *John R. Durso*

*President of Local 338*

## *The Value of Solidarity*

Solidarity is a verb. It is something we must practice if we want to maintain and build upon the strength we possess as a labor movement. That means walking picket lines, standing with striking workers, showing support on social media, and most importantly, being engaged in your union. The power of solidarity lies in the support of union members. When they back their union, they're backing their sisters and brothers in the labor movement.

We've seen what solidarity can accomplish for working people. Just this year alone, there have been monumental victories for members of the New York State Nurses Association, the Writers Guild of America and the UPS Teamsters in their contract fights. These victories were made possible because of an outpouring of support from people across the country, who came together to fight one common cause: corporate greed.

The United Auto Workers and SAG-AFTRA are still fighting for fair contracts, and they need our support now more than ever. Local 338 has joined with other unions to picket with striking workers over the last several months. It has been reassuring to see support from our elected officials on these picket lines as well: New York State Attorney General Letitia James, Senator Chuck Schumer, and President Joe Biden have all walked

picket lines in recent months, showing that their support for working people goes beyond a campaign slogan.

The belief in unions that we've seen this year is unparalleled—people's support for unions is at the highest it's been in decades, marking an exciting time for us as a movement. This support is important for our members because it will help us as we take on various challenges. Whether it's fighting for a fair contract, addressing workplace safety issues, safeguarding member benefits, or any of the various fights we may encounter in the industries we represent, we will always need solidarity to get the job done.

All the things we want to accomplish for our members depends on the strength that we show as an organization. By

supporting your union, your sisters and brothers in the labor movement, and being a proud member of Local 338, you are showing how strong we are. It sends a message to employers, to legislators, and to the public that the membership is engaged, involved and a force to be reckoned with.

I encourage our members to reach out to find more ways to get involved with our union. It's as simple as coming to our quarterly member meetings, attending events like the Labor Day Parade, or keeping in touch with you Union or Funds Representatives. Those looking for more in-depth ways to be involved in our union should speak to their Representatives about becoming a Shop Steward. Our union is only as strong as our membership, and your engagement makes our ability to fight for you possible!



# Give Back This Holiday Season with Local 338's Annual Toy, Food and Coat Drives

As we approach the holiday season and the onset of colder weather, Local 338 is once again joining forces with local organizations to gather essential supplies for those in need. We will be accepting donations of food, coats, and toys this holiday season and working with our partner organizations to ensure they get to the families who need them the most. We consider ourselves fortunate to have the opportunity to give back to the communities we represent, and our annual holiday drives are some of the most impactful charitable opportunities we have every year. Local 338 members always step up when we need them to, especially when it comes to helping those who need it most.



This year, we will once again be donating toys to the John Theissen Children's Foundation, which brightens the days of sick children in hospitals by bringing them new toys every holiday season. We are also actively collecting nonperishable food items and warm coats. As temperatures drop and the holidays approach, ensuring people have food on their tables and can stay warm is incredibly important. If you are able to contribute in any way this year, your generosity is deeply appreciated! Members can coordinate with their Union or Funds Representatives to organize a collection of toys, nonperishable goods or coats. Every donation, regardless of size, makes a difference. Thank you for your continued support this holiday season!

For more details on how to contribute this year, please reach out to your Union or Funds/Service Representative.

## United Way



## Back to School with United Way

For 15 years, the United Way of Long Island has been dedicated to helping students in need reach their full potential in the classroom through their annual Stuff-A-Bus school supply drive. This drive, which has distributed over 1 million essential school supplies to students across Long Island, has been instrumental in helping students across Long Island prepare for the upcoming school year. Local 338 is a longtime supporter of the United Way of Long Island and everything they do, and we were proud to support their Stuff-A-Bus drive once again this year.

Thanks to donations from our members, Local 338 was able to donate a wide variety of essential supplies for this year's drive. Thank you to every member who was able to make a donation—your generosity is setting the next generation up for success!







## Showing Our Union

On Saturday, September 9th, Local 338 attended the annual Labor Day Parade in New York City! This year's theme was "We Organize! We Rise!," a celebration of all of the hard work done by workers fighting to join the union movement not just in New York, but across the country. The parade was led by Nancy Hagans, RN, President of the NYS Nurses Association and Mark Henry, the International Vice President of the Amalgamated Transit Union.

It has been a banner year for working people—from the SAG-AFTRA and WGA strikes, the UPS contract fight, and unionization waves among Starbucks and REI workers, the labor movement is getting stronger every day. The voice of working people is only getting louder





# Pride at the 2023 Labor Day Parade!

as they continue to fight for what they deserve!

We had a strong showing of Local 338 members across all the industries we represent. To all of you who came out and brought your friends, family, and coworkers: thank you! The Labor Day Parade is one of our favorite events because it gives us the opportunity to see so many of our members face-to-face! It was a great day filled with

music, fun, food, and most importantly, solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the labor movement.

After seeing all of our union sisters and brothers at the Labor Day Parade, we could not be more excited for the future of the union movement—we're just getting started! If you missed out on marching in this year's parade, make sure to save the date for the 2024 Labor Day Parade, which will be on Saturday, September 7th!

To see pictures of this year's Labor Day Parade visit [69p9.short.gy/LDP\\_2023](https://69p9.short.gy/LDP_2023) or scan the QR code







# Stuart Appelbaum

*President of the RWDSU*

## *Organizing Makes Us All Stronger*

We depend upon our union strength for better jobs; strong contracts that bring better pay and benefits, and a powerful voice that helps us improve our working conditions and ensures that we are treated fairly all come from union membership. For working people today, unions can make the difference between a good job and a bad one, and barely eking out survival to joining the middle class. Unions are just that important.

Better pay and benefits are of course one of the most important reasons that workers join unions, but that only scratches the surface of why there's a real need for unions in today's workplace. Workers are joining the RWDSU today because they are worried about security and safety at work; many workers say they are harassed by customers, management, and even vendors, and that the problem has only gotten worse since the pandemic. They are concerned about unstable and unpredictable scheduling, and about management favoritism that greatly affects how some workers are treated. Workers have reported issues with seniority; uneven and unequal raises that don't always reflect how somebody has been on the job. And, many have told the RWDSU that their job responsibilities aren't properly defined, and subject to change on the whims of management.

All of this can be addressed by joining a union and winning strong contracts.

### **Our Moment to Build Strength**

For our union, and the entire labor movement, it is an exciting time. Workers are organizing at workplaces and industries that have never seen organizing drives before, and Americans are seeing the difference that unions make in the lives of working people. A recent poll shows 7 in 10 Americans support unions – regardless of political affiliation – and almost 90 percent of people under 30 are pro-union. Now is the time to organize, and the RWDSU is rising to the challenge.

Our union is successfully organizing workers at Barnes & Noble bookstores and REI outdoor sporting goods stores in New York City and beyond. Over 200 employees at GrowNYC—greenmarket, farmstand, food distribution, composting, and nutrition and farming education workers throughout all five boroughs – have joined the RWDSU this year.

And, Local 338 continues its commitment to workers in New York's medical and adult-use cannabis industries. Thanks to Local 338's activism and political work, all adult-use cannabis growers, distributors, and dispensaries in New York must sign a Labor Peace Agreement,

which has helped organize workers throughout the industry and has created an industry in New York that gives back to our communities.

Local 338 also continues to transform New York's agricultural industry, bringing a union voice to farmworkers in New York who had previously been denied their right to unionize.



### **We Have the Power**

Union members like us have the power to help make our union stronger, which helps all of us negotiate stronger contracts with our employers. We have an important role; we can tell our friends and family about the difference that a union makes – having a voice at work, a say in our working conditions, and the strength to demand better pay and benefits and more control over our scheduling and working conditions. The more workers that are unionized, the louder our voice becomes.





# Donating a Little Can Make a Big Difference

We have a lot of members who ask how they can become more involved in the political or social efforts of their union to benefit working families across New York State and the rest of the country. We know voting is an incredibly important and powerful tool in determining the future and present of the labor movement, but there is more we can do! The Local 338 PAC, which is funded completely by voluntary contributions, supports all of our political and advocacy work focused on creating policies, laws, and budgets that directly support you and your family.

By donating as little as 25 cents per week, you will make a direct and tangible impact in the lives of your fellow members. Every dollar of the Local 338 PAC has helped us successfully advocate for:

- Programs to help Local 338 families offset the high costs of childcare
- State funding for wage increases for Local 338 members who work at non-profit and healthcare agencies
- Paid Family Leave to support our members who have to care for loved ones
- The legalization of adult-use cannabis, including protections to ensure the creation of good, union careers in the industry and the formation of a strong social equity program
- Policies that protect immigrant workers of Local 338

We now have a dedicated PAC Representative, Pablo Jarama, who has been visiting stores across New York to talk to members and educate them about the value of donating to the Local 338 PAC! The next time he's in your store, Pablo will be able to answer any questions members have about our Political Action Committee and can help get members who want to contribute signed up.

By contributing to our PAC, you'll be joining a team that helps every Local 338 member enjoy a better life. For more information and to get signed up, log in to your "My Local 338" account, the Local 338 app or speak to your Union or Service/Funds Representative. And remember, you can help make a big difference!

**LOCAL 338 VOLUNTARY POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS CHECK OFF AUTHORIZATION FORM**

I hereby authorize and direct my employer to deduct the sums indicated above from my paycheck each pay period and forward them to the Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW Political Action Committee.

I do so with the understanding that:

1. The signing of this authorization and the making of these voluntary contributions are not conditions of membership in Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW or of continuing employment with my employer;
2. I may refuse to contribute without reprisal from Local 338 or my employer;
3. Contributions or gifts to the Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW PAC are not tax deductible;
4. The Local 338 PAC will use the voluntary contributions it receives for political purposes, including but not limited to making contributions to and expenditures for candidates for state and local offices and addressing political issues of public importance;
5. This authorization shall remain in full force and effect until revoked by me in writing.

I am certifying that I am either a United States citizen or a permanent resident.

This authorization card to your Union or Representative or mail it to:  
RWDSU / Political Action Committee  
Minneapolis, New York 11501

Local338.org



# Support Candidates Who This Elec

This year, there are several important and highly competitive local races on the ballot. Below is a list of Local 338's endorsed candidates in several key elections across our area in the General Election on Tuesday, November 7th.

## *New York City*



### **Marjorie Velasquez for City Council – District 13 (Bronx)**

Since being elected to the New York City Council, Marjorie Velasquez has been an advocate for budget equity, open public spaces, and responsible business practices. Her focus is on promoting empowerment and advocacy for important issues such as racial and gender equality, public safety, and funding for schools. Marjorie is a dedicated individual who works to ensure children have a bright future, working individuals have reliable union jobs, and seniors can retire with dignity. As chair of the Committee of Consumer and Worker Protection, her priority has been making sure that all working people have safe workplaces and has been outspoken about not only protecting but expanding the rights of union members.

### **Justin Brannan for City Council – District 47 (Brooklyn)**

Council Member Justin Brannan has delivered for Bay Ridge's working people. Since taking office in 2017, he has secured over \$100 million in funding for his community. This funding has gone to projects that include the first new Bay Ridge public high school in 80 years, an express ferry to Manhattan, increased corner trash pickups, renovated public parks and playgrounds, and saving the Brooklyn VA Hospital. He is a leader who listens to the needs of constituents and prioritizes making sure local government works for them.



## *Nassau County*



### **Jake Scheiner for County Legislator – District 14**

A former advisor to Congressman Tom Suozzi, Jake Scheiner is no stranger to local government. His experience working for the former Congressman has helped Jake learn what works when it comes to supporting Nassau's working families. If elected to the Nassau County Legislature, Jake will fight to ease the financial burden on working families by lowering property taxes and reducing red light camera fines. He will work to improve overall quality of life for residents in District 14 by investing in new roads, parks and infrastructure and maintaining safe neighborhoods across the district.



# Support Working People tion Day!

## *Suffolk County*



### **Dave Calone for County Executive**

As a former federal prosecutor, Dave Calone prosecuted companies targeting military families and held companies in the gas and oil industries accountable for fraud. If elected as Suffolk County Executive, Dave will use his experience to continue to protect taxpayers against corporate price gouging and fraud. He understands that the cost of living has been going up despite wages being stagnant and will work to lower costs for working families and ensure that Suffolk County residents have access to strong union jobs. Dave is the best choice for Suffolk County Executive—he will invest in strengthening public education, combating climate change, and improving local infrastructure.

### **Ryan McGarry for County Legislator – District 7**

Ryan McGarry is a dedicated public servant and who has spent his entire career working to support of his fellow Suffolk County residents. Ryan is a proud member of Suffolk's labor movement—his role as Suffolk AME's Chief of Staff allows him to advocate on behalf of the dedicated municipal workers who help keep Suffolk County safe and operational. As a member of the Greater Patchogue Chamber of Commerce's Civic Association and the Patchogue Village Zoning Board of Appeals, Ryan sees firsthand the issues that matter most to residents of District 7 and will use this experience to fight for what matters most to them in the county legislature.



### **Lillian Clayman for Town of Brookhaven Supervisor**

Lillian Clayman has been heavily involved in local government and the labor movement throughout her decades-long career. The former Mayor of Hamden, Connecticut, 1199 SEIU organizer, and current adjunct professor of labor and industrial relations at SUNY Old Westbury, Lillian has spent her entire life fighting for working families. Now, she's running for Town of Brookhaven Supervisor to bring strong, proactive leadership and much-needed reform to the Town. If elected, Lillian will work with local stakeholders to find a solution for the Brookhaven landfill, balancing the town budget, and ensuring that the local government serves the needs of its constituents.



### **Christine Pellegrino for Islip Town Council**

Christine Pellegrino deeply understands the challenges facing Islip's working families. A former New York State Assembly Member and current community advocate, Christine will use her previous experience in local government to be a strong voice for community members in the Town of Islip. She has always been an ally to Long Island's working families, and we are confident that she will serve as a strong voice for working people in District 3 and across Long Island.



## **Westchester County**

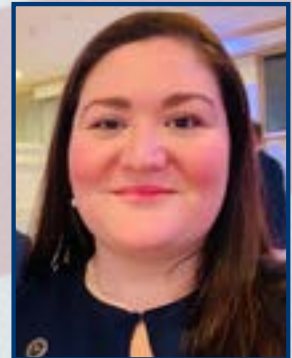


### **Vedat Gashi for County Legislator – District 4**

Vedat Gashi was first elected to the Westchester County Legislator in 2018 and has been hard at work improving the quality of life for his constituents. As Legislator and Chair of the Legislature, Vedat has prioritized solving everyday issues for New Yorkers in not only his district but across the County, including reducing property taxes, investing in local infrastructure, and improving the local economy. His focus has and will continue to be on ensuring that Westchester remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

### **Emiljana Ulaj for Westchester County Legislator – District 9**

Emiljana Ulaj has spent her life committed to serving working families in Westchester. An Albanian immigrant, Emiljana was first introduced to the value of the labor movement when her father became a member of NYSUT. The financial security that union job provided her family propelled Emiljana to pursue a career in public service, formerly as a staff member in the New York State Senate and now as a member of the Westchester County Board of Legislators. Currently, she works as an organizer for NYSUT, talking to working people every day about the issues that they want to see resolved in their workplaces. Her experience in labor organizing taught her how to connect and advocate for working people, something she will carry with her when elected to the Westchester County Legislature.



**For a full list of Local 338's endorsements in this year's election, please log into your My Local 338 account via [mylocal338.org](https://mylocal338.org) or the Local 338 app. You deserve to have representatives in office that support you and your rights as working people—make sure to early vote, return your absentee ballot or get to the polls on November 7th! To find out more about your early voting or regular polling place, visit: [voterlookup.elections.ny.gov](https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov)**

*How you vote is your personal decision. Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW believes that these candidates are the best choice for working people. This message is intended for the members of Local 338 as a union member communication and is not intended for public distribution.*





# *Are You Ready to Vote?*

As we approach Election Day, it is important to make sure you have a plan to vote—including checking your voter registration, polling place, early voting location and the candidates running in your district! Having a plan will simplify the voting process and help you make an informed decision when selecting which candidate to vote for.

We encourage our members to take advantage of the opportunity to vote on Tuesday, November 7th, and to support candidates who are going to fight for working families across the state. Local 338 members have the power to elect candidates who will protect and strengthen their rights as members of the labor movement. There are several ways to vote in the upcoming election:

**Early Voting:** You can vote at any early voting poll location in your county of residence from 10/28 to 11/5. For a complete list of Early Voting poll hours and locations, visit: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov>

**Absentee/Vote by Mail:** To vote by absentee ballot (or mail-in ballot), you must first request a ballot in advance by:

- Requesting one at your local Board of Elections office, in person, or
- Via the online NYS absentee ballot portal: <https://absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov>, or
- Downloading and printing an application from the NYS Board of Elections website: <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html>
- By requesting an application via mail or fax to your local Board of Elections office.

Once your application has been approved, you will be sent a ballot. Once you've filled out the ballot, you can then either mail or drop off the ballot to your local Board of Elections office, local polling place or early voting location. Please note that if you haven't mailed it back and would rather vote in person, under State law, you are now required to fill out an affidavit ballot at your poll site.

If you have any questions about absentee voting, you can visit <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html> or call 518-474-6220.

**On Election Day:** You can vote at your polling location on Election Day, Tuesday, November 7 from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM. To find your Election Day polling location, you can visit: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov> or call 518-474-6220. No identification is required at the time of voting.

**A clickable version of this article is available on our website:**  
[local338.org/already-a-member/338-news](https://local338.org/already-a-member/338-news).







# Joseph Fontano

*Secretary - Treasurer*

*Building a Cannabis Industry That Supports Workers*

Local 338 now represents workers at all 10 medical cannabis operators in New York. When we welcomed the workers at Columbia Care in Riverhead to Local 338 earlier this year, it marked an important turning point for both our union and the medicinal cannabis industry in New York. We have been involved in the cannabis space for over 10 years and seeing the medical industry become fully unionized has been an incredibly fulfilling process!

Since 2013, Local 338 has played a significant role in establishing the standard for jobs in the medical cannabis industry—we have made sure that workers receive fair wages, strong benefits, and have devoted years to making sure that the cannabis industry is one that supports working people. We recently ratified our second contract with Curaleaf, bringing the members at their dispensaries and grow facilities wage increases, bonuses, and additional holidays. This new contract also safeguards their medical coverage, which is 100% paid for by the employer and covers members and their families.

As we move into adult-use cannabis, Local 338's cannabis team is hard at work signing Labor Peace Agreements with license applicants hoping to enter the industry. All applicants are required to

sign a Labor Peace Agreement, which allows us to come and speak to workers without interference from the employer in exchange for us waiving our right to strike.

License applicants who are looking to enter New York's cannabis industry and need a Labor Peace Agreement are encouraged to reach out to Local 338's cannabis team—they will be able to answer questions and walk you through the application process. For more information, please visit [cannabislpa.com](http://cannabislpa.com).

Local 338's cannabis team has been incredibly as more dispensaries open and the opportunity for unionized cannabis jobs comes to communities statewide. We are now starting to organize workers in the adult-use sector of the cannabis industry as more dispensaries open and the industry ramps up. The workers at Housing Works Cannabis Co., the first licensed adult-use cannabis dispensary in New York, are already union members, and we recently welcomed the workers at Central Processors of New York to our union. They are the first unionized cannabis manufacturer and cultivator in the adult-use industry!

It is crucial that we emulate what we've accomplished for our members in the medical cannabis industry, ensuring that workers entering the adult-use industry have the same high wages, strong benefits and industry standards as those already in place for New York's existing cannabis workforce.

If you know a worker in the adult-use industry who wants more information on how join our union, please reach out to Local 338's Director of Cannabis Services, Saul Guerrero, at (516) 294-1338 ext. 1775.



11





# Local 338

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### Finding Inspiration with Kayla Gross



When you enter the meeting space at the PharmaCann grow facility in Hamptonburg, it's like entering a gallery. Adorning the walls are framed artworks from grow facility staff, including mixed-media pieces from 3-year Local 338 member Kayla Gross. The idea for a gallery came from a former secretary at the grow, who wanted to uplift his fellow grow facility staff and showcase their talents. In addition to Kayla's mixed-media work, there are photos and self-portraits, all created by Local 338 members!

Kayla works as an extraction technician who extracts the product needed to make vapes. She loved art and drawing as a child, something that she has carried into adulthood with her.

"My parents always said ever since I could pick up a crayon, I could draw," she said.

Kayla is mostly self-taught but took a few art classes in high school and parts of college. Her favorite medium is watercolor and micron pens, and she said that art has always been a great creative outlet for her. She draws inspiration from nature and music—based in the Hudson Valley, Kayla often visits small towns and villages along with taking hikes in the mountains.

"Most of my art is geometric shapes mixing with mountains. It's a 'man vs. nature' kind of thing."

Last year, Kayla had the opportunity to showcase her work in a gallery—it was her first art show, and the reception by the local community was amazing! She displayed a wide variety of her work and says that it was an extremely rewarding experience to have her art on view.

"It's nice to see people come in and admire the work that you've done. When you're drawing, you don't think much about it but when someone's staring at your art, you're like 'oh my god, this is why I do this.' It's very touching," she said.

The show pushed her to keep creating—now with fresh inspiration, Kayla is hard at work making art. If the art that's on display in the PharmaCann conference room is any indication, her future pieces are going to be beautiful! We can't wait to see what you accomplish, Kayla!

## 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 Caroline Leddy at 516-294-1338 Ext.1300 or email her at [CLeddy@local338.org](mailto:CLeddy@local338.org) to be considered as a feature in the next issue of 338 News.*



# 12





# Going To College?

## WE CAN HELP!

## Local 338's Scholarship Awards Program

### The 2024 Local 338 Charities Inc. Scholarship Awards Program is Now Open!

We are pleased to announce that this year's Local 338 Charities Inc. Scholarship Awards Program is now open to Local 338 Members (or their dependents). To be eligible, applicants must be active members of the Union and have been for at least one (1) year from the date the Short Form Application is due on March 15, 2024. Please note this scholarship program is open to students who are currently enrolled as High School Seniors, currently enrolled in college or trade/vocational school, or attending a graduate program.

The Scholarship Awards Committee reviews all completed applications and awards a number of individual scholarships, including:

- The Emanuel Laub Scholarship which awards \$3,500 a year for all four years of college in annual installments (totaling \$14,000),
- One-time Scholarship Award of \$3,500 for students attending college, vocational training, or other accredited institution,
- The Continuing Education Scholarship Award which is a one-time award of \$3,500 for students pursuing a continuing education program, master's degree or doctorate degree,
- And The Book Award Scholarship, a one-time award of \$1,000 to be used towards textbooks and course materials.

To receive one of the Local 338 scholarship awards, the applicant or their guardian must remain a member in good standing until the scholarship is awarded.

The deadline to submit the Short Form Application is

## March 15, 2024

Please supply the following information accurately, making sure to include the member's Social Security number or member ID number (RWD#). When the Short Form Application is received by the Scholarship Awards Committee, a Long Form Application will be sent to the applicant. (All completed Long Form Applications and supporting materials are due April 12, 2024.)

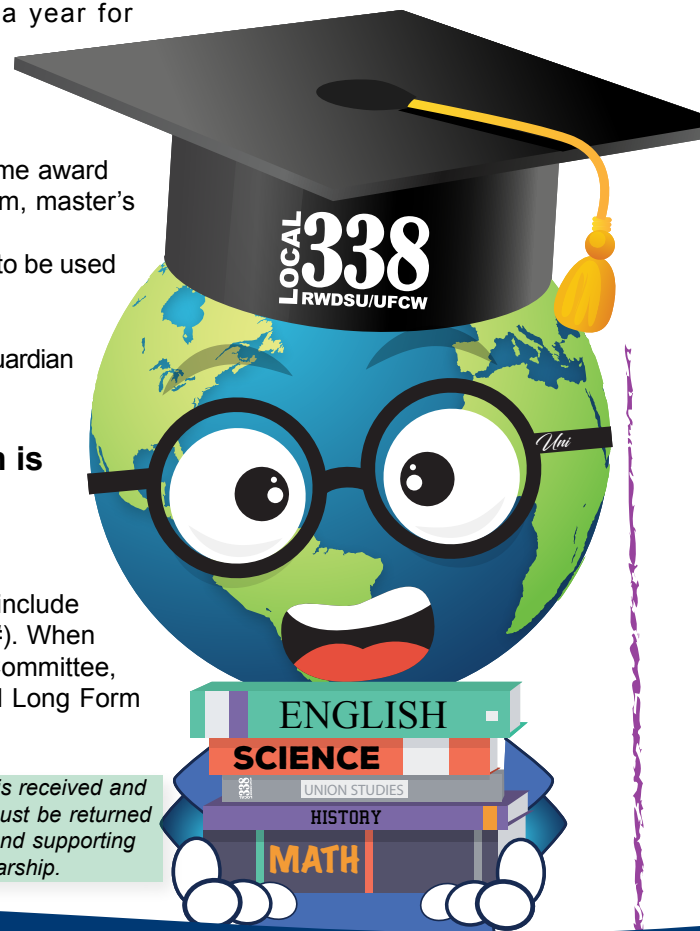
*NOTE: the Local 338 Scholarship is a two-part application. When the short form is received and your eligibility is determined, a long form application will be mailed to you and must be returned no later than April 12, 2024. If you do not send in both parts of the application and supporting documentation by the deadline, you will not be considered for the Local 338 scholarship.*



## 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*







# Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Memorial Scholarship

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Memorial offers a scholarship of \$1,000 to eligible recipients every year! The organization, which was established to memorialize the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire of 1911, offers the scholarship to students who is a child or dependent of someone who receives a disability benefit from the New York State Workers' Compensation Board.

Applicants must meet the following guidelines:

- Applicants must be a resident of New York State who is enrolled in an accredited program in higher education at a New York State public or private institution;
- Is in good academic standing;
- Demonstrates financial need;
- Is a child/dependent of a parent or guardian who presently receives disability benefit payments pursuant to the New York State Workers' Compensation Law for Permanent Total Disability, Permanent Partial Disability, or Death of a Spouse. **Please note: the only acceptable proof for this requirement is an official Decision of the New York State Workers' Compensation Board.**

Applicants can view a full list of Triangle Scholar Institutions on the [Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Memorial's website](https://trianglememorial.org/scholarship/). The application is available here and applications are being accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, please visit <https://trianglememorial.org/scholarship/>.

**DON'T WAIT,  
APPLY NOW!**

Click Here To Learn More

<https://trianglememorial.org/scholarship/>



14







# Local 338 Scholarship at Nassau Community College

Are you or your dependent a current or incoming student at Nassau Community College? You may be eligible for the Local 338 scholarship at NCC! This scholarship awards one winner \$2,000 per semester for two consecutive semesters for a total of \$4,000 for full-time students. Part time students will receive payment depending on the number of classes they are taking that semester, up to \$2,000 per semester.

To be eligible, the student must be:

- A Full Time or Part Time Student
  - In good academic standing
- A Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW member or the dependents of Local 338 member in good standing for at least one year
  - A Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW member enrolling at or already attending NCC

Winners must maintain a 3.0 or greater GPA in the first semester to receive second payment towards the following semester. If already attending, the applicant must have a 3.0 GPA to receive the scholarship.

The deadline to apply is November 17, 2023, and is open to both current and incoming Nassau Community College students. We encourage our members to apply—don't miss out on this excellent opportunity!

For more information on how to apply, please visit  
[local338.org/scholarships](https://local338.org/scholarships)



15





# Local 338 Scholarship at Suffolk County Community College



Two scholarship opportunities are available for Local 338 members and their dependents from the Suffolk County Community College Foundation. This scholarship has been established for Local 338 members and their dependents who have completed at least one semester at Suffolk County Community College and are currently attending, as well as students enrolling at the college for the first time.

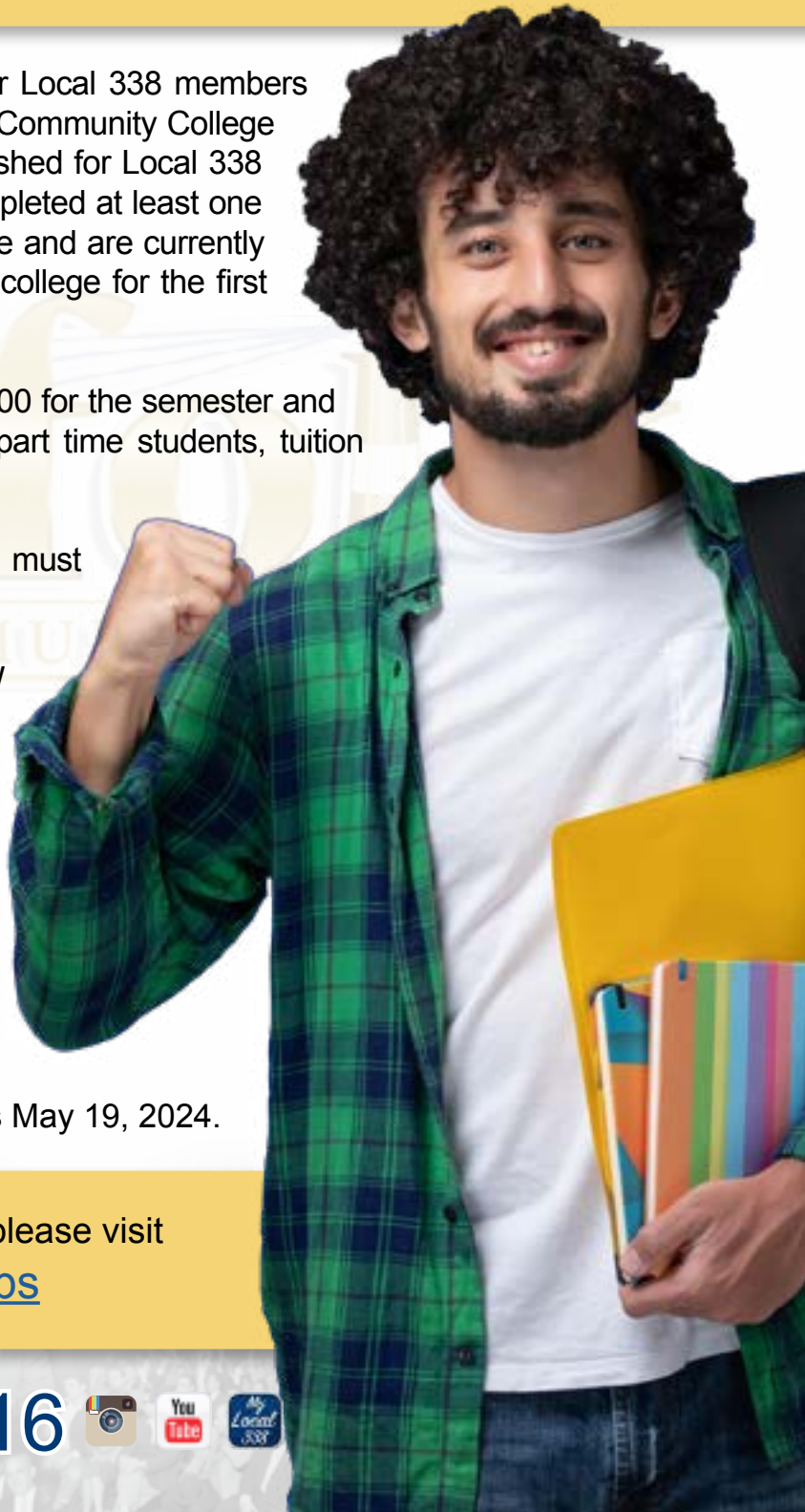
The scholarship awards the recipient with \$2,000 for the semester and is renewable for the following semester. For part time students, tuition charges will be covered, up to \$2,000.

To be eligible for this scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW member or dependent of a Local 338 member in good standing for at least one year. (Membership will be verified by Local 338.)
- Currently enrolled students must have and maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. New students must have a minimum of 85 high school GPA and maintain a 3.0 GPA to receive the award for the following semester.

The deadline to apply for both scholarships is May 19, 2024.

For more information on how to apply, please visit  
[local338.org/scholarships](https://local338.org/scholarships)



16







# Neil E. Gonzalvo

*Executive Vice President*

## *Growing the Strength of Our Union*

Since our last newsletter, Local 338's New Organizing and Contract Negotiations team have been hard at work welcoming new workers to our union and negotiating strong contracts for our members across all the industries we represent, including our members who work in health and human services, agriculture, and transportation!

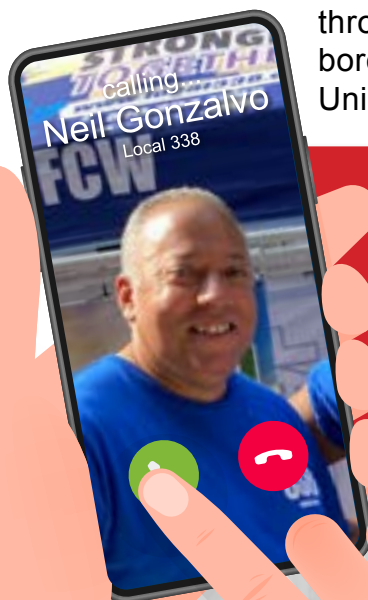
We are still seeking certification at Macari Vineyards, who initially chose to join our union in May of this year. There has been some pushback from the employer which has led to this delay, but when the workers' petition to join is approved, we will proudly welcome the 19 workers at Macari to Local 338!

The farmworker organizing wave has continued since May—we filed a petition last month to represent 20 farmers at Brooklyn Grange, which has several farms throughout the five boroughs. When the Union is certified, Brooklyn

Grange will be the first rooftop farm represented by Local 338, an exciting step forward for the unionized agriculture industry here in New York!

On the contract renewal front, the team has successfully negotiated renewal contracts for our members at First Student, Surge Rehab, and Quantum Nursing Homes over the last several months. The members at the CCNY-CASC Clinical Consultants unanimously and overwhelmingly voted yes and ratified their first contract in a huge win for the members! Congratulations to our members who have ratified new, strong contracts this Fall.

I would like to thank all the members who came out to the annual Labor Day Parade. It is always a great day spent with our membership and I enjoyed getting to hand out some Local 338 union swag to members and their families! If you missed out on the Labor Day Parade or want to receive some Local 338 swag, give me a call! I love hearing from our members about our union—you can reach me on my cell phone: (646) 261-4858.



**Call me at  
646-261-4858  
and land yourself some  
FREE Local 338 swag!**

If you know a worker who wants more information on unionizing and the benefits of being part of our union, I encourage you to contact our organizing team at: (516) 294-1338 ext. 1400.



17







## IT PAYS TO BE UNION

Since January 2023, Local 338,  
through grievances and arbitrations,  
collected funds and returned back  
wages to our members in excess of

**\$110,267.77**

### NOTICE

*You have the right not to be a union member. Non-members have the right to object to paying for union activities not related to the union's duties as bargaining agent and to obtain a reduction in fees for such activities. You have the right to receive sufficient information to enable you to intelligently decide whether to object, and the right to be told of the union's internal procedures for becoming an objector.*

*If you choose not to be a union member, you will lose all the rights of union membership, including:*

- the right to vote "yes" or "no" on your next union contract,*
- the right to vote for union officers and shop stewards,*
- the right to attend union meetings, and*
- the right to member benefits such as scholarship opportunities & union member discount programs.*

**Being a union member sends your employer the message that you are determined to protect your rights & benefits and to stand united with your co-workers.**

**For more information, please contact your Union Representative.**

**Do you have a new  
phone number, email,  
or home address?**



Let us know! It's important to keep your information updated in our systems so you're up to date on all things union. Having the correct information in our system ensures that you get everything you're supposed to, in terms of contract negotiation updates, news about your benefit packages, scholarship opportunities, our newsletter, and more! You can update your information by logging in to the Local 338 app!



18







# MY BENEFITS

With  
**Earl Mathurin**  
Funds Administrator



*Earl Mathurin*

## *Your Medical Benefits Will Change to Anthem Blue Access PPO Beginning January 1, 2024*



We are changing our insurance carrier to ensure that the members of Local 338 have access to the best care available. Beginning on January 1, 2024, medical coverage through Local 338 will be changing from MagnaCare to Anthem Blue Access PPO (formerly known as Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield).

### Things to Know:

- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield is one of the most widely accepted health insurance plans in the country, giving you access to a national network of providers when seeking care.
- All members now have access to the Hospital for Special Surgery, which has 13 locations across the state!
- There is no change in benefits, copays and deductibles for the Anthem Blue Access PPO.
- When traveling, you can use your Anthem Blue Access PPO card if you need to see a doctor—no more third-party insurance for doctors outside of New York.
- SUNY hospitals and providers, consisting of SUNY Downstate, SUNY Stony Brook and SUNY Syracuse, are no longer covered through the Anthem Blue Access PPO & are considered out of network.



19

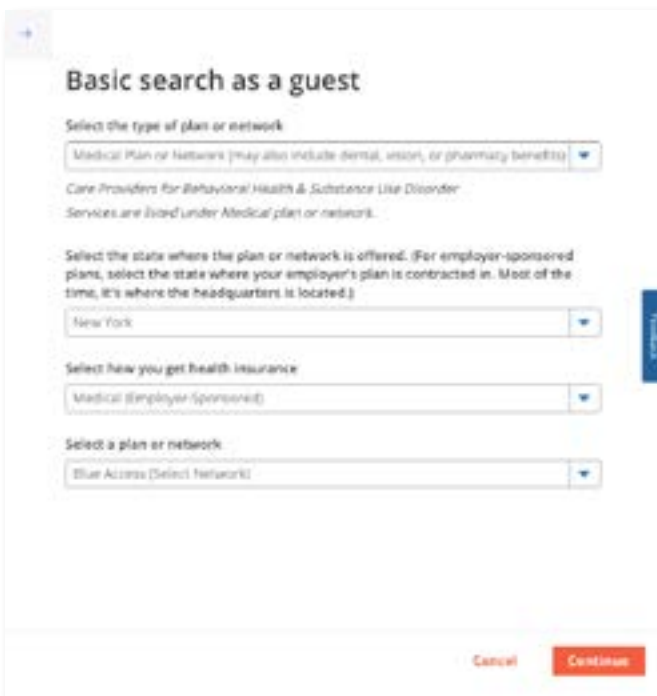




**Members who wish to remain with their current care team please contact the Fund Office at the number below.**

Most members will find that they get to keep their current care team, meaning the transition to Anthem should be seamless. You are encouraged to check that your primary care provider and any specialists that you use accept Anthem Blue Access PPO. You can check which doctors are in-network by visiting:

<https://www.anthem.com/find-care/>

A screenshot of the Anthem website's 'Basic search as a guest' form. The form has a title 'Basic search as a guest' and a subtitle 'Select the type of plan or network'. Below this is a dropdown menu with 'Medical Plan or Network (may also include dental, vision, or pharmacy benefits)' selected. A note below the dropdown reads 'Care Providers for Behavioral Health & Substance Use Disorder Services are listed under Medical plan or network.' The next section is 'Select the state where the plan or network is offered. (For employer-sponsored plans, select the state where your employer's plan is contracted in. Most of the time, it's where the headquarters is located.)' with a dropdown menu showing 'New York'. The third section is 'Select how you get health insurance' with a dropdown menu showing 'Medical (Employer Sponsored)'. The fourth section is 'Select a plan or network' with a dropdown menu showing 'Blue Access (Select Network)'. At the bottom right of the form are 'Cancel' and 'Continue' buttons.

1. Select “basic search as a guest.”
2. Under Plan or Network select “Medical Plan”
3. Under State choose your state (NY or NJ or CT)
4. Under Select how you get health insurance choose “Medical (Employer Sponsored)”
5. Under Select a plan or network choose “Blue Access PPO”
6. Hit continue.

If you have questions about the change in insurance carrier and how it may affect you, the Local 338 Funds Office is here to help! You can reach us at (516) 294-1338 ext. 1776 from 8:30AM – 4:30 PM, Monday-Friday.

**More detailed information regarding your individual coverage will be shared with you soon—please keep an eye on your email and mailbox.**





# Announcing Bloom!

## Digital Pelvic Therapy

Bloom is the most innovative digital pelvic therapy solution available. It was developed by Sword Health under the belief that physical location should never limit access to clinical-grade care. Bloom pairs members with Pelvic Health Specialists, all of whom have Doctor of Physical Therapy degrees. After a virtual consultation, the Specialist monitors biofeedback from a pod and mobile app to customize pelvic exercise programs while providing ongoing 1-1 guidance, support, and insights.

Bloom addresses pelvic dysfunctions such as bladder leakage, bowel issues, pain, discomfort, and pressure, covering all stages of life including pregnancy, postpartum, and menopause. It is a comprehensive, mind-body program connecting women and individuals with vaginal anatomy to the next generation of pelvic-health care from the comfort, convenience, and privacy of home.

### How it Works:

1. Enroll at [join.hibloom.com/local338](https://join.hibloom.com/local338)
2. Meet virtually with a Pelvic Health Specialist to discuss your specific needs.
3. The Bloom kit and Bloom Pod by Elvie will be shipped straight to your door.
4. Download the app and complete pelvic therapy sessions at home at your convenience. The app will provide real-time data so your Specialist can track progress and provide 1-1 support as you improve.
5. Enjoy access to the content hub as a safe space to learn more about stigmatized topics and finding relief.

### Getting started with Bloom:

- You'll be asked to provide some information to confirm eligibility.
- Once eligibility is confirmed, you'll complete a survey so we can learn more about your specific needs. This can take about 10 minutes to complete. Answers are confidential, and used by your Pelvic Health Specialist to determine the best program for you.
- Schedule a video consultation with your Pelvic Health Specialist.
- Your Bloom kit will arrive in the mail and you can begin right away!

*While we use the word "women" in some of our communications, Bloom is designed for all individuals with vaginal anatomy regardless of gender identity.*





# LOCAL 338 RWDSU/UFCW **SUPER MEMBER MONDAY**

We are so proud of our members—that's why we feature so many as part of our Member Monday series! Once a month, however, we like to spotlight a member who has gone above and beyond on the job and in their union. Recently, we've featured Kiah Whipkey, a 2-year member who is a hospitality associate and Shop Steward at MedMen in Buffalo. They recently rappelled down the side of the Seneca One skyscraper in Buffalo to raise money for the Arc Erie County, an organization that provides job training and other opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. Kiah raised over \$2,000 for the organization while prepping to scale down the side of the skyscraper.

We've also featured Lucila Toolsie, who works at Morton Williams in Manhattan and has been a member for 23 years! Lucila works the front end at her Morton Williams location and says that her favorite part of her job is helping customers. When she's not working, Lucila is very involved in her church—she goes twice a week and loves worship. We'd like to feature as many members as we can, so if you think you know someone who should be our next Super member, let us know! We'd love to feature them on our social media platforms. To stay up to date on all things Local 338 follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).



**Kiah Whipkey**



**Lucila Toolsie**

## LOCAL 338 MEMBER MEETING



**Join Us for Our Next  
Membership Meeting on  
Monday,  
December 4, 2023**

**Please check your My Local 338  
account for location details and Zoom  
registration information.**



22



# Opt-In to Keep in Touch!

As your Union, it's important that we can keep you up to date on important things happening within your union. Now is great time to make sure the contact information we have on file is accurate, including your mailing address, cell number and email address. To do this, you can speak to your Union or Funds/Service Representative, contact the Union Call center at 516-294-1138 ext. 1776, or by simply logging in to your [My Local 338](#) account!

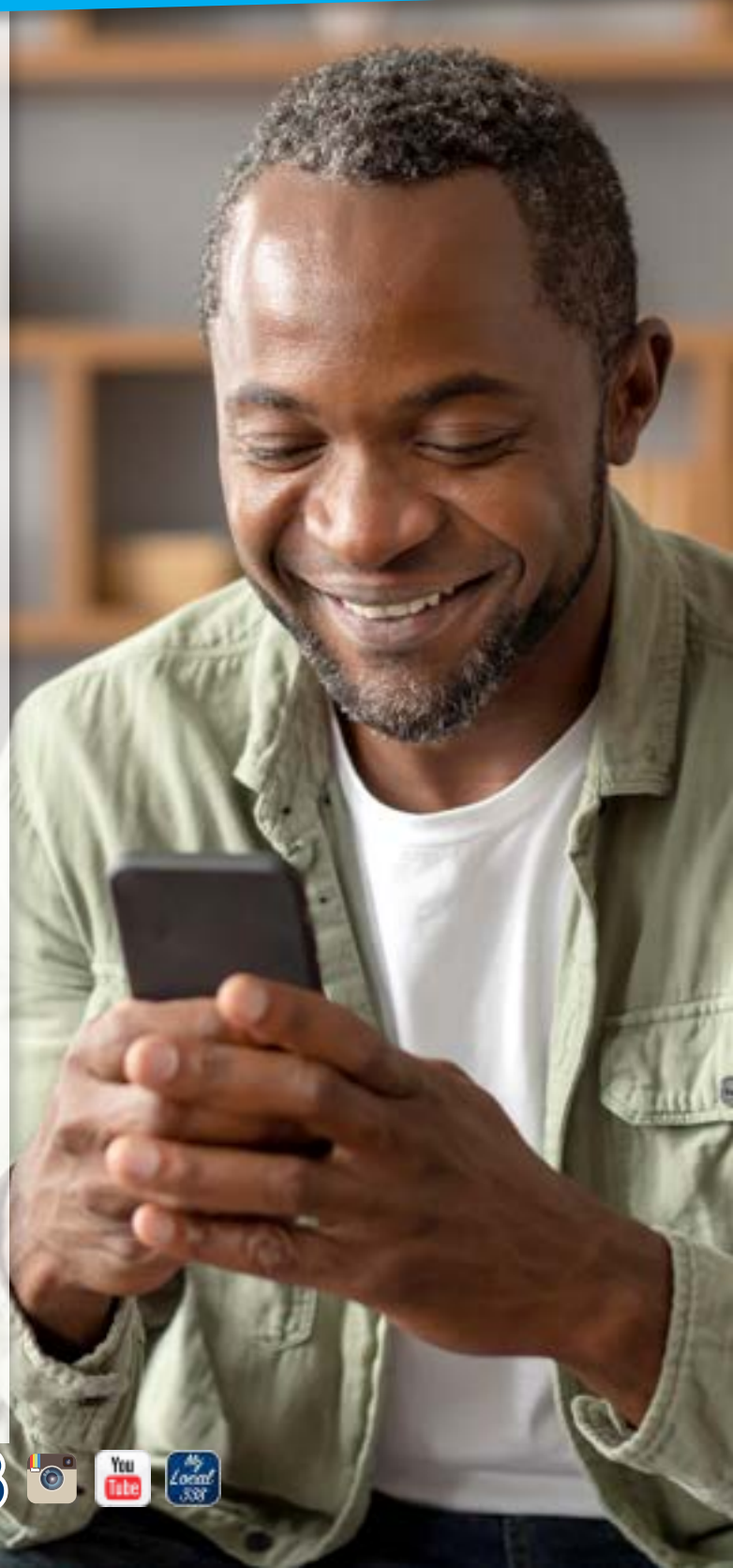
Additionally, we are launching a new peer-to-peer text messaging program to make it easier than ever to get the most important information to you as quickly as possible! This information may include updates on contract negotiations, membership meeting information, or other important union news. We will be using this new program on an as-needed basis— and we will only be sharing information about upcoming events and important updates.

We are asking all members of Local 338 to fill out this form to opt-in to text communications from Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW. (Please note Standard message and data rates may apply.) You can do this in one of two ways:

- Logging in to your My Local 338 account ([mylocal338.org](https://mylocal338.org)) and selecting YES to receiving text messages in the My Profile and Settings tab under My Information
- Completing the following consent form: <https://local338.org/forms/text-consent>

**We look forward to  
keeping in touch with you!**

If you have any questions, please contact your Union or Funds/Service Representative.





# Wishing Our Members A Happy Retirement!

(Local 338's recent retirees between July 1 to September 30, 2023)

<i>Rosa Arroyo</i>	<i>Juan Grullon</i>	<i>Carlos Ordonez</i>
<i>Vincent Balbi</i>	<i>Graciela Hana</i>	<i>Patricia Palumbo</i>
<i>Paul Bauman</i>	<i>Ashton Hanley</i>	<i>Angela Petter</i>
<i>Ingrid Braun</i>	<i>Tae Yong Jha</i>	<i>Susan Puleo</i>
<i>Barbara Brocco</i>	<i>Daxaben Joshi</i>	<i>John Ramo</i>
<i>Lester Chan</i>	<i>Eileen Kelly</i>	<i>Donnetta Reid</i>
<i>Edward Chatman</i>	<i>Mary Kokoris-Vacante</i>	<i>Susan Rieth</i>
<i>Donna Colasurdo-Disla</i>	<i>Robert Koznesoff</i>	<i>Susan Rippe</i>
<i>Mary Anne Conley</i>	<i>Thomas La Salla</i>	<i>Stephanie Rivera</i>
<i>Reinaldo Davila</i>	<i>Raymond Je Lafleur</i>	<i>Mercedes San Quintin</i>
<i>Florinda Day</i>	<i>Edgard Lopez</i>	<i>Mary Schaentzler</i>
<i>Carlos Delgado</i>	<i>Victoria Lynch</i>	<i>Barbara Scott</i>
<i>Joseph Dellilo</i>	<i>Doreen Macaluso</i>	<i>Frederick Surbito</i>
<i>Michael Deyak</i>	<i>Roberto Martell</i>	<i>Lenny Troyetsky</i>
<i>Marco Di Iorio</i>	<i>Kevin McCann</i>	<i>Barbara Vanagas</i>
<i>Joseph Fasanella</i>	<i>Julio Mejia</i>	<i>Arturo Vitalino</i>
<i>Mayra Franco</i>	<i>Jesus Melgar Espinoza</i>	<i>Joanne Vogliazzo</i>
<i>Maritsa Garcia Vasquez</i>	<i>Debbe Mistretta</i>	<i>Kenneth Weber</i>
<i>Susan Gippi</i>	<i>Charles Oliver</i>	<i>Loretta Whiting</i>
<i>Sonia Gonzalez</i>	<i>Robert Oliveri</i>	

**"Retired from my job, not from my union"**



24







# John R. Durso

*Presidente de Local 338*

## *El valor de la solidaridad*

La solidaridad es un verbo. Es algo que debemos practicar si queremos mantener y aprovechar la fuerza que poseemos como movimiento obrero. Eso significa caminar en piquetes, apoyar a los trabajadores en huelga, mostrar apoyo en las redes sociales y, lo más importante, participar en su unión. El poder de la solidaridad reside en el apoyo de los miembros de la unión. Cuando respaldan a su unión, respaldan a sus hermanas y hermanos en el movimiento sindical.

Hemos visto lo que la solidaridad puede lograr para los trabajadores. Sólo este año, ha habido victorias monumentales para los miembros de la Asociación de Enfermeras del Estado de Nueva York, el Gremio de Escritores de Estados Unidos y los Teamsters de UPS en sus luchas contractuales. Estas victorias fueron posibles gracias al gran apoyo de personas de todo el país, que se unieron para luchar por una causa común: la avaricia corporativa.

United Auto Workers y SAG-AFTRA siguen luchando por contratos justos y necesitan nuestro apoyo ahora más que nunca. El Local 338 se ha unido a otras uniones para formar piquetes con los trabajadores en huelga durante los últimos meses. Ha sido reconfortante ver también el apoyo de nuestros funcionarios electos en estos piquetes: la fiscal general del estado de Nueva York, Letitia James, el senador Chuck Schumer y el presidente Joe Biden han participado en piquetes en los últimos meses, demostrando que su apoyo a los trabajadores va más allá de un

eslogan de campaña.

La confianza en las uniones que hemos visto este año no tiene paralelo: el apoyo de la gente a las uniones es el más alto en décadas, lo que marca un momento emocionante para nosotros como movimiento. Este apoyo es importante para nuestros miembros porque nos ayudará a medida que asumimos diversos desafíos. Ya sea luchando por un contrato justo, abordando cuestiones de seguridad en el lugar de trabajo, salvaguardando los beneficios de los miembros o cualquiera de las diversas luchas que podemos encontrar en las industrias que representamos, siempre necesitaremos solidaridad para hacer el trabajo.

Todo lo que queremos lograr para nuestros miembros depende de la fortaleza que mostremos como organización. Al apoyar a su unión, a sus

hermanas y hermanos en el movimiento laboral, y al ser un miembro orgulloso del Local 338, está demostrando lo fuertes que somos. Envía un mensaje a los empleadores, a los legisladores y al público de que los miembros están comprometidos, involucrados y son una fuerza a tener en cuenta.

Animo a nuestros miembros a buscar más formas de involucrarse con nuestra unión. Es tan simple como asistir a nuestras reuniones trimestrales de miembros, asistir a eventos como el Desfile del Día del Trabajo o mantenerse en contacto con sus representantes de unión o de fondos. Aquellos que buscan formas más profundas de participar en nuestra unión deben hablar con sus representantes sobre cómo convertirse en delegados sindicales. ¡Nuestra unión es tan fuerte como nuestra membresía, y su compromiso hace posible nuestra capacidad de luchar por usted!



25





# ¿Vas Ir a la Universidad?

¡PODEMOS AYUDAR!

## El Programa de Becas del Local 338

### ¡El Programa de Becas 2024 del Local 338 Charities Inc. ya está abierto!

Nos complace anunciar que el Programa de Becas del Local 338 Charities Inc. de este año ya está abierto a los miembros de Local 338 (o sus dependientes). Para ser elegible, los solicitantes deben ser miembros activos de la Unión y haberlo sido durante al menos un (1) año a partir de la fecha de vencimiento de la solicitud de formulario abreviado el 15 de marzo de 2024. Tenga en cuenta que este programa de becas está abierto a estudiantes que actualmente están inscritos en el último año de la escuela secundaria, actualmente inscritos en la universidad o en una escuela vocacional, o asistiendo a un programa de posgrado.

El Comité de Otorgamiento de Becas revisa todas las solicitudes completadas y otorga una serie de becas individuales, que incluyen:

- La Beca Emanuel Laub que otorga \$3,500 al año para los cuatro años de universidad en cuotas anuales (totalizando \$14,000),
- Beca única de \$3,500 para estudiantes que asisten a la universidad, capacitación vocacional u otra institución acreditada,
- El Premio de Beca de Educación Continua, que es un premio único de \$3,500 para estudiantes que siguen un programa de educación continua, maestría o doctorado,
- Y la Beca de Libros, un premio único de \$1,000 que se usará para comprar libros de texto y materiales del curso.

Para recibir una de las becas del Local 338, el solicitante o su tutor deben seguir siendo miembros en regla hasta que se otorgue la beca.

**La fecha límite para enviar la Solicitud de formulario abreviado es el**

**15 de marzo de 2024**

Proporcione la siguiente información con precisión, asegurándose de incluir el número de Seguro Social del miembro o el número de identificación de miembro (RWD#). Cuando el Comité de Otorgamiento de Becas recibe la solicitud de formato corto, se le enviará al solicitante una solicitud de formato largo. (Todas las solicitudes de formato largo completadas y los materiales de apoyo deben presentarse el 12 de abril de 2024).

NOTA: la Beca Local 338 es una solicitud de dos partes. Cuando se recibe el formulario corto y se determina su elegibilidad, se le enviará por correo una solicitud de formulario largo y debe devolverla a más tardar el 12 de abril de 2024. Si no envía ambas partes de la solicitud y la documentación de respaldo antes de la fecha límite, no será considerado para la beca del Local 338.



**WWW.LOCAL338.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS**

*"Mejorando la vida de nuestros miembros y todos los trabajadores"*

\*Funcionarios electos del Sindicato, empleados del Sindicato, y sus hijos no son elegibles.\*



# Joseph Fontano

Secretario - Tesorero

## Mantener la Industria del Cannabis Justa para Todos

El local 338 ahora representa a los trabajadores de los 10 operadores de cannabis medicinal en Nueva York. A principios de este año, dimos la bienvenida a los trabajadores de Columbia Care en Riverhead a la familia Local 338, marcando un hito para nuestra unión y la industria del cannabis medicinal de Nueva York. ¡Hemos estado involucrados en el espacio del cannabis durante más de 10 años y ver que la industria médica se sindicaliza por completo ha sido un proceso increíblemente gratificante!

Desde 2013, el Local 338 ha desempeñado un papel importante en el establecimiento del estándar para los puestos de trabajo en la industria del cannabis medicinal: nos hemos asegurado de que los trabajadores reciban salarios justos, beneficios sólidos y hemos pasado años trabajando para garantizar que la industria del cannabis sea una que apoye a los trabajadores. Recientemente ratificamos nuestro segundo contrato con Curaleaf, trayendo a los miembros a sus dispensarios y sitios de cultivo aumentos salariales, bonificaciones y vacaciones adicionales. Este nuevo contrato también protege su cobertura médica, que es pagada al 100% por el empleador y cubre a los miembros y sus familias.

A medida que avanzamos hacia el cannabis para adultos, el equipo de cannabis del Local 338 está trabajando duro para firmar Acuerdos de Paz Laboral con los solicitantes de licencias con la esperanza de entrar en la industria. Todos los solicitantes están obligados a firmar un Acuerdo de Paz Laboral, que nos permite venir y hablar con los trabajadores sin interferencia del empleador a cambio de que renunciemos a nuestro derecho a la huelga.

Se anima a los solicitantes de licencias que buscan entrar en la

industria del cannabis de Nueva York y necesitan un Acuerdo de Paz Laboral a que se pongan en contacto con el equipo de cannabis del Local 338; podrán responder preguntas y guiarlo a través del proceso de solicitud. Para obtener más información, visite [cannabislpa.com](http://cannabislpa.com).

El equipo de cannabis del Local 338 ha estado increíblemente ocupado a medida que se abren más dispensarios y la oportunidad de empleos de cannabis sindicalizados llega a las comunidades de todo el estado. Ahora estamos empezando a organizar a los trabajadores en el sector de uso de adultos de la industria del cannabis a medida que se abren más dispensarios y la industria aumenta. Los trabajadores de Housing Works Cannabis Co., el primer dispensario de cannabis con licencia para adultos en Nueva York, ya son miembros de la unión, y recientemente dimos la bienvenida a los trabajadores de Central Processors de Nueva York a nuestra unión. ¡Son el primer fabricante y cultivador de cannabis sindicalizado en la industria del uso de adultos!

Es fundamental que emulemos lo que hemos logrado para nuestros miembros en la industria del cannabis medicinal, asegurando que los trabajadores que ingresan a la industria del uso de adultos tengan los mismos salarios altos, fuertes beneficios y estándares de la industria que los que se han establecido para la fuerza laboral de cannabis existente de Nueva York.

Si conoce a un trabajador en la industria del uso de adultos que desea más información sobre cómo unirse a nuestra unión, comuníquese con el Director de Servicios de Cannabis, Saul Guerrero, al (516) 294-1338 ext. 1775.

### AVISO

Tiene derecho a no ser miembro de la unión. Los no miembros tienen derecho a oponerse al pago de las actividades sindicales no relacionadas con los deberes de la unión como agente de negociación y a obtener una reducción de las tarifas por dichas actividades. Tiene derecho a recibir información suficiente que le permita decidir de manera inteligente si desea oponerse, y el derecho a que se le informe de los procedimientos internos de la unión para convertirse en objeto.

Si decide no ser miembro de la unión, perderá todos los derechos de afiliación sindical, incluyendo:

- El derecho a votar "sí" o "no" en su próximo contrato sindical,
- El derecho a votar por los funcionarios sindicales y los administradores de tiendas,
- El derecho a asistir a las reuniones de la unión, y
- El derecho a los beneficios de los miembros, como oportunidades de becas y programas de descuento para miembros de la unión.

Ser miembro de la unión envía a su empleador el mensaje de que está decidido a proteger sus derechos y beneficios y a estar unido con sus compañeros de trabajo.

Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con su representante de unión.







# Neil E. Gonzalvo

*Vicepresidente Ejecutivo*

*Creciendo la Fuerza de Nuestra Unión*

Desde nuestro último boletín, el nuevo equipo de organización y negociaciones de contratos de Local 338 ha estado trabajando duro dando la bienvenida a nuevos trabajadores a nuestra unión y negociando contratos sólidos para nuestros miembros en todas las industrias que representamos, ¡incluidos nuestros miembros que trabajan en salud y servicios humanos, agricultura y transporte!

Todavía estamos buscando la certificación en Macari Vineyards, que inicialmente eligió unirse a nuestra unión en mayo de este año. Ha habido algún rechazo por parte del empleador que ha llevado a este retraso, pero cuando se apruebe la petición de los trabajadores para unirse, ¡daremos la bienvenida con orgullo a los 19 trabajadores de Macari al Local 338!

La ola de organización de los trabajadores ha continuado desde mayo: presentamos una petición el mes pasado para representar a 20 agricultores en Brooklyn Grange, que tiene varias granjas en los cinco condados. Cuando se certifique a la unión,

Brooklyn Grange será la primera granja en la azotea representada por el Local 338, ¡un emocionante paso adelante para la industria agrícola sindicalizada aquí en Nueva York!

En el frente de la renovación de contratos, el equipo ha negociado con éxito los contratos de renovación para nuestros miembros de First Student, Surge Rehab y Quantum Nursing Homes en los últimos meses. ¡Los miembros de los Consultores Clínicos CCNY-CASC votaron unánime y abrumadoramente sí y ratificaron su primer contrato en una gran victoria para los miembros! Felicitaciones a nuestros miembros que han ratificado nuevos y sólidos contratos este otoño.

Me gustaría dar las gracias a todos los miembros que acudieron al desfile anual del Día del Trabajo. ¡Siempre es un gran día con nuestra membresía y disfruté de poder repartir algunos botines de la unión Local 338 a los miembros y sus familias! Si te perdiste el Desfile del Día del Trabajo o quieres recibir algún botín Local 338, ¡llámame! Me encanta saber de nuestros miembros sobre nuestra unión. Puedes ponerte en contacto conmigo en mi teléfono móvil: (646) 261-4858.



**Llámame a  
646-261-4858  
¡Y consigue algo de botín  
local 338 GRATIS!**

Si conoce a un trabajador que quiera más información sobre la sindicalización y los beneficios de formar parte de nuestra unión, le animo a que se ponga en contacto con nuestro equipo organizador al: (516) 294-1338 ext. 1400.



28





# MIS BENEFICIOS

con

**Earl Mathurin**

El Administrador del Fondos



## *Sus beneficios médicos cambiarán a Anthem Blue Access PPO a partir del 1 de enero de 2024*

*Earl Mathurin*



Estamos cambiando nuestra compañía de seguros para asegurarnos de que los miembros del Local 338 tengan acceso a la mejor atención disponible. A partir del 1 de enero de 2024, la cobertura médica a través del Local 338 cambiará de MagnaCare a Anthem Blue Access PPO (anteriormente conocido como Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield).

Cosas que hay que saber:

- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield es uno de los planes de seguro de salud más ampliamente aceptados en el país, que le da acceso a una red nacional de proveedores cuando busca atención.
- ¡Todos los miembros ahora tienen acceso al Hospital de Cirugía Especial, que tiene 13 ubicaciones en todo el estado!
- No hay cambios en los beneficios, copagos y deducibles para el Anthem Blue Access PPO.
- Cuando viaje, puede usar su tarjeta PPO Anthem Blue Access si necesita ver a un médico—no más seguro de terceros para médicos fuera de Nueva York.

Los hospitales y proveedores de SUNY, que consisten en SUNY Downstate, SUNY Stony Brook y SUNY Syracuse, ya no están cubiertos por el Anthem Blue Access PPO y se consideran fuera de



29





la red. **Los miembros que deseen permanecer con su equipo de atención actual deben ponerse en contacto con la Oficina del Fondo en el número que aparece a continuación.**

La mayoría de los miembros encontrarán que pueden mantener a su equipo de atención actual, lo que significa que la transición a Anthem debería ser perfecta. Se le anima a comprobar que su proveedor de atención primaria y cualquier especialista que utilice aceptan Anthem Blue Access PPO. Puede comprobar qué médicos están en la red visitando:

<https://www.anthem.com/find-care/>



1. Seleccione “búsqueda básica como invitado”.
2. En Plan o Red, seleccione “Plan médico”
3. En Estado, elija su estado (NY o NJ o CT)
4. En Seleccione cómo obtener un seguro de salud, elija “Médico (Patrocinado por el empleador)”
5. En Seleccionar un plan o red, elija “Blue Access PPO”
6. Pulsa continuar.

Antes del año nuevo, se le anima a confirmar que sus médicos están en la red a través del plan PPO de Anthem Blue Access visitando: [www.anthem.com/find-care](http://www.anthem.com/find-care)

Si tiene preguntas sobre el cambio en la compañía de seguros y cómo puede afectarle, ¡la Oficina

de Fondos Local 338 está aquí para ayudarle! Puede comunicarse con nosotros al (516) 294-1338 ext. 1776 de 8:30 a. m. a 4:30 p. m., de lunes a viernes.

Pronto se compartirá con usted información más detallada sobre su cobertura individual. Por favor, vigile su correo electrónico y buzón.





Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW  
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338 NEWS, the official publication of Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW,  
is published at the Office of Local 338 at 1505 Kellum Place, Mineola, NY 11501

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

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