



THE EAGLE

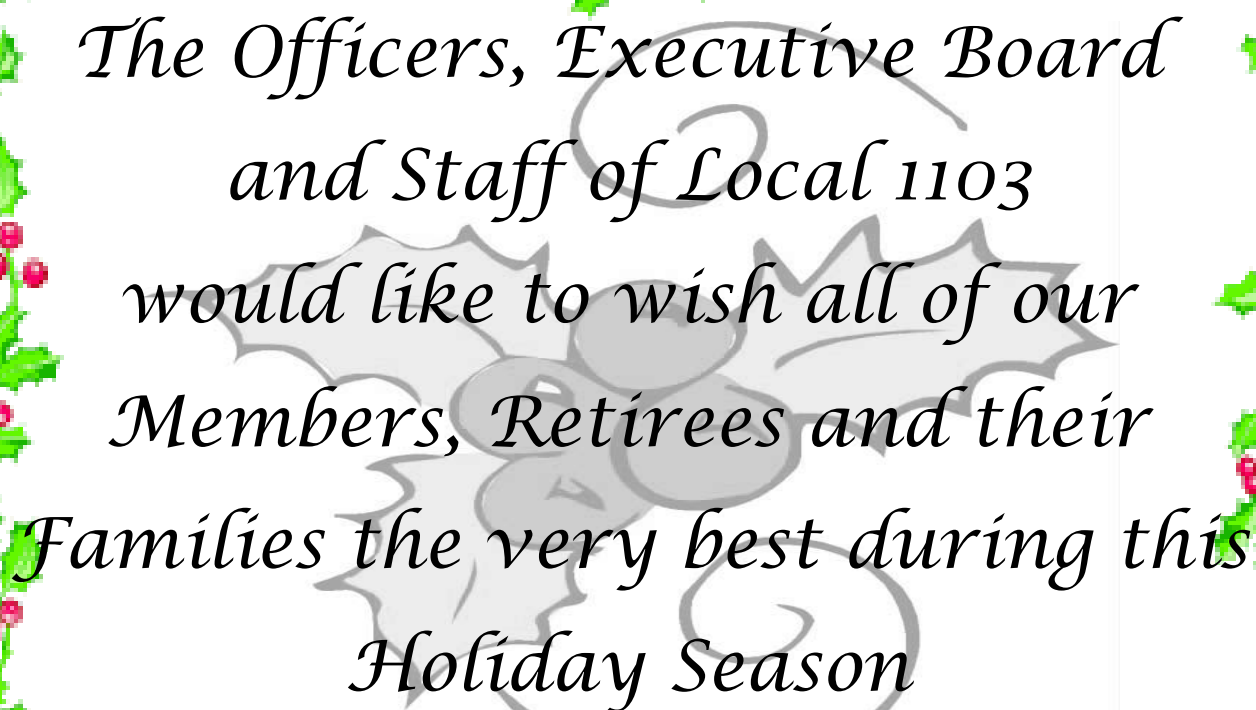


LOCAL 1103

Volume 111 • No.07

A Periodical • Port Chester, New York

December 2012



*The Officers, Executive Board
and Staff of Local 1103
would like to wish all of our
Members, Retirees and their
Families the very best during this
Holiday Season*

President's
column



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2012...What a long way we've come.

Our members were asked to and did participate in the 99% Spring—which at the time was intended to be an election year kickoff of sorts. It also served as a counterbalance to influence the national narrative about budget cuts, revenue streams and fair taxes, and to bring together community and civic groups with organized labor. In retrospect, and despite the Fox Noise description, the 99% Spring proved to be a successful springboard to ensure that the 99% of Americans could reclaim our country from the 1% as demonstrated on Election Night. For the first time, Republican leaders in

It is important to keep in mind that the Local's effort during this election cycle was second to none. This Executive Board, together with our Legislative Political Action Team and Membership worked tirelessly phone banking, knocking on doors, conducting face to face work place meetings and strung together a series of very impressive Election Day victories for the middle class.

3th Rosa DeLauro – Win

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The Eagle USPS 663-570 is published periodically by CWA 1103, 345 Westchester Ave., Port Chester, NY 10573. Periodicals Postage is paid at Portchester NY 10573, USA. The Eagle. Postmaster: Please send address change to: The Eagle, 345 Westchester Avenue, Port Chester, N.Y. 10573

President's column from page 2

A huge and personal victory for the middle class, and this Local, was the Election Day victory for CWA 1103 endorsed Sean Patrick Maloney who defeated Tea Party favorite Congresswoman Nan Hayworth-less. If you recall, Hayworth voted to de-fund the National Labor Relations Board which offers protections for workers, this would have made it difficult for workers to achieve justice in the workplace. She also used the FAA Modernization and Reform Act and voted to support a very bad compromise made in the senate that changed the rule which said 30 percent of airline and railroad workers must show an interest in a union to have an election to a new, higher threshold of 50 percent. As you may also remember, she refused to co-sponsor HR 3596 -The U.S. Call Center Worker & Consumer Protection Act, a bill that would take away federal tax breaks, federal tax subsidies, and federal contracts to companies that move Call Center Jobs Overseas. Good Riddance!

Of particular note; here in New York, our Members also participated in a coordinated campaign that defeated an attempt to permanently deregulate VoIP Telephone Service; which was snuck into the NYS budget process by lobbyists

and where it had no business. That is an example of sneaky, underhanded manipulation of the legislative process and is why we must always remain vigilant.

We know the events of the last year have brought us all closer together, and we are thankful to have Members who trust and support the leadership of this Local. As we have learned though experience throughout the year, we have come a long way, but we have long way to go.

As we reflect on the events of this past year, we have a lot to be thankful for. This Holiday Season let us remember those less fortunate than we are. There are many people we know, including many CWA Members that are still not in their homes. Hurricane Sandy wiped out so many communities in this area that those of us who escaped her havoc should be very thankful. Look around your dinner table, look at your family and friends, and be thankful for your health and happiness.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year to all!

*Kevin Sheil,
President*

An assessment of yourself.....

The elections are over and we can finally boast, that through our efforts, we won, right? Wrong! This is finally a time that we can sit back and relax, right? Wrong!

Unfortunately, those enemies of Labor and the Middle Class will never stop their dubious and insidious attack on us. They are mad as hell that they spent hundreds of millions of dollars of their own money to change the outcome of these elections and failed to do so. Estimates have put the total amount of their own money that these four individuals spent during this election cycle, at over 300 million! The billionaire Koch Brothers, Linda McMahon (100 million on two failed Senate bids) and casino magnate, Sheldon Adelson are not taking these election losses well. Those are staggering sums of money, wasted. Wasted because, they could not change the minds of the American people who rejected their attempt to buy our government. Already these tycoons have put their sights on a defeating any renewed effort to fight for the Employee Free Choice Act. The EFC Act would make it easier for workers to form and join Unions. James Carville said that if Winston Churchill were alive today, he would say about these elections, "never have so few, spent so much, to affect so little." None the less, we must continue our efforts, as our enemies are continuing theirs.

Through multiple mediums we have explained in great detail the process by which we select candidates for our endorsement. Generally these candidates are progressives that have a proven positive middleclass/ labor voting record or have committed to that agenda. So now is not a time to sit back or stop our campaigns.

However, this is a time to reflect and ask yourself, did I do enough? Could I have done more to help my cause? Below is a partial list of things the Local asked our Mem-

bers to help with and volunteer for during this past election period. This is not a test there is no score, just an honest assessment of yourself. If you can improve on your personal efforts, you should try to do so. We can be certain that the enemies of Labor and the Middle Class will be improving on theirs.

- ☐ I Support CWACOPE.
- ☐ I helped with Phone Banks.
- ☐ I participated in Labor to Labor Walks.
- ☐ I Attached a Bumper Sticker to my car.
- ☐ I asked Family/relatives to support our candidates.
- ☐ I attended a Rally(s).
- ☐ I put out Lawn Sign(s).
- ☐ I Hand-Billed on behalf of a candidate(s).
- ☐ I wrote a Letter to/for a candidate.
- ☐ Did you vote?
- ☐ Did you vote in the primary elections?
- ☐ Did you vote for our endorsed candidates?
- ☐ I studied the labor issues impacted by the out come.
- ☐ I sent e-mail on behalf of a candidate(s).
- ☐ I attended political meeting(s) (local etc..)
- ☐ I am/became a LPAT Member.
- ☐ I signed up to receive political e-mails from candidate(s).
- ☐ Did you help anyone register to vote?
- ☐ I volunteered to be a campaign worker.
- ☐ I attended an endorsed candidate's speech (locally).
- ☐ I attended a (any) debate(s).
- ☐ I provided an Absentee Ballot App. to a kid in college.



Elections have Consequences: The low information Voter

Over 4.2 Billion dollars was spent on the 2012 U.S. federal elections. It was spent to do primarily one thing, sway low information voters. So, what is the difference between a low information voter and an informed voter? A low information voter generally makes their decisions based on 15 second sound bites from an onslaught of questionable information provided through television and radio commercials paid for by partisan groups.

This year, and as a consequence of the "Citizens United" decision by the Supreme Court, the battle for the low information voters went thermal nuclear. Forget about the presidential election for a moment, after all most people expect there to be millions spent on that contest. Aside from that race, the most costly federal election took place in Massachusetts; 70 Million dollars was spend by Nov. 6th between incumbent Scott Brown(R) and the winner Elizabeth Warren(D); all to win a single US Senate seat! Now, in an election closer to home almost 5 million dollars was expended in the 18th NYS congressional district in which the in-

cumbent Nan Hayworth outspent the challenger Sean Patrick Maloney by over a million dollars. All you had to do was turn on your television to find where the incumbent used that extra million bucks. Hayworth ran commercials non-stop in a bid to capture the 18th district low-information voters, focusing on a campaign of negative ads rather than any accomplishments she may have made for the people of the 18th district.

Here in lies the working class rub, the Supreme Court Citizens United decision determined that Corporations are people and money is and equivalent to free speech. Now, proponents of Citizen United are quick to point out that Unions can spend unlimited money just like corporations. The reality however is we don't have that kind of money. Looking at the top five Industries that donated to the Hayworth and Maloney campaigns including the level of PAC money, (opensecrets.org) you can clearly see that Unions even the huge NYS public sector unions couldn't come close to Nan Hayworth's corporate sponsored, Citizen Action supporting industries.

Hayworth's Top 5 Industries

Industry	Total	Individuals	PACs
Securities & Investment	\$352,482	\$247,832	\$104,650
Health Professionals	\$346,842	\$187,342	\$159,500
Leadership PACs	\$172,403	\$0	\$172,403
Real Estate	\$149,933	\$103,433	\$46,500

Maloney Top 5 Industries

Industry	Total	Individuals	PACs
Lawyers/Law Firms	\$99,567	\$85,567	\$14,000
Securities & Investment	\$64,312	\$64,312	\$0
Real Estate	\$56,350	\$56,350	\$0
Public Sector Unions	\$52,250	\$1,250	\$51,000

In regards to PAC's, Hayworth largest PAC out performs Maloney Labor PAC by 3 times:

Hayworth PAC	
Agribusiness	\$20,500
Communications/Electronics	\$27,035
Construction	\$38,500

Maloney PAC	
Construction	\$1000
Lawyers & Lobbyists	\$14,000
Misc. Business	\$1,000

Continued on page 5

Hayworth PAC

Defense	\$6,000
Energy & Natural Resources	\$46,500
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	\$446,406
Health	\$256,300
Lawyers & Lobbyists	\$18,000
Transportation	\$26,000
Misc. Business	\$122,799
Labor	\$1,000
Ideological/Single-Issue	\$270,259

It is not likely that Working Class Americans will ever been able to compete dollar for dollar against the wealthy PAC's for television ads. Ads that the right wing has used to make the most outlandish claims, while targeting low-information voters. Unions must raise the awareness and knowledge of their Members and as a result their family and friends. That's exactly what CWA Local 1103 did in this election and that's why Congresswoman Nan Hayworth, became a one term member of congress and will be pulling out her seat on January 1, 2013 for Sean Patrick Maloney to sit.

This wasn't a fluke; we also won several NYS legislative races within our jurisdiction by using our formula of raising Member awareness about each candidate. In the 37th NYS Senate race, 1103's endorsed candidate and a true friend of labor, Assemblymen George Latimer beat millionaire Cohen (now a 2 time loser for this seat). Cohen spent huge sums of money to run a slimy low-information voter television campaign. Latimer won by over 10,000 votes, a testimony to the work CWA and other Unions did to set the record straight in light of Cohen's smear campaign (at one labor walk in Yonkers, over 100 unionists came out). In the 41st Senate District CWA endorsed candidate Terry Gipson beat Steve Saland(R), helping to support a possible democratic majority for only the 2nd time in 75 years (we are still awaiting the results of absentee ballots in the 63rd district). This was a sweet pick-up because Saland over the years had consistently refused to help CWA with regulatory issues in the telecom field.

Malonev PAC

Labor	\$147,000
Ideological/Single-Issue	\$101,097

We also made gains in the Assembly, White Plains councilmen David Buckwald (D) won the 93rd district race against incumbent Castelli (R). Assemblymen Castelli served only 1 full term and won his seat by speaking out against public sector bargaining rights even though he was a recipient of public sector benefits as a retired NYS Trooper and taught as a CUNY College professor. A seat left vacant in the 91st district remained in the hands of another CWA 1103 endorsed candidate. Steve Otis, former Chief of Staff to NYS Senator Suzi Oppenheimer, will be filling the seat left open when George Latimer ran and won the NYS Senate.

One race in which we could not overcome the huge influx of money for a republican incumbent was the 40th senate race. Our candidate, Justin Wagner came within 2 percentage points (about 3000 votes) of winning this contest. This race held some controversy for Westchester/Putnam and Dutchess County unions, as the State AFL-CIO Executive Board proposed a no-endorsement in this race. CWA and the Teachers Union held an impassion floor fight to overturn the Executive Board's motion. The CWA, Teachers Union and Hudson Valley ALF, all let our fellow Union Sisters and Brothers know how incumbent Greg Ball had wronged us over the years then we expressed our support for candidate Wagner and that he had a very good chance to win with labor's support. Yet, when the endorsement vote came down, and due to the obvious block voting practice of the huge AFSCME Union delegation, we were not able to overcome the no-recommendation of the State AFL-CIO E-Board and Wagner lost to incumbent Greg Ball by a relatively small amount of votes.

The lesson to be learned here is if we are bold, brave and courageous and stick together, money can't buy elections. To do that, Unions must be involved, provide information and raise their Membership's awareness above the throngs of the low-information voters. When we win and the elections are over, we cannot roll up our tents and rest till the next election, we must continue to fight for legislation and policy that protect ours and other Union Member jobs. We also must continue to remind those we helped get elected that even in their first terms, elections have consequences; just ask one term, and ex-congresswoman Nan Hayworth.

*Joe Mayhew,
Business Agent*



LETTERS TO THE LOCAL

Dear Doug,

Just a note to say thank you for my retirement gift. It's been a pleasure being a Member of CWA 1103 all these years. Stay strong and keep up the good work,

Diane Farina

Dear CWA Local 1103,

I am writing this letter to express my sincere gratitude to everyone at CWA Local 1103. On October 2nd, I, Marisa McCauley was awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$500 for this year's Tom Wonsor Memorial Scholarship. It is an honor to accept this scholarship. This money will prove to be very useful as I continue my academic endeavors.

Sincerely,
Marisa McCauley

Dear CWA 1103,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for the Eugene Mays Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship will be of great assistance to me in my goal of attaining a college degree. I will take and use this scholarship with great pride, making those involved with this proud. Thank you again for your generosity. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Pino

President Kevin Sheil,

On behalf of the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation, I would like to sincerely thank you and Local 1103 for your steadfast support. It is so wonderful to have the remarkable support of CWA in the fight to eliminate pediatric HIV/AIDS! The foundation has reached more than 14.7 million women with services to prevent transmission of HIV to their babies. Every day we continue to make progress towards the critical goal of eliminating pediatric AIDS.

Sincerely,
Katie Cunningham
Corporate Partnerships Officer

To the Local 1103 Executive Board,

Thank you for renewing your Locals membership and for your continuing support to the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH).

In Solidarity,
Joel Shufro
Executive Director – NYCOSH

Dear CWA Local 1103,

Thanks very much for your continuing support. We are working hard to re-elect President Obama and to elect our fine candidates for the N.Y. State Senate and Assembly. It is a pleasure to work with the CWA and Fran Gottron.

Best Regards,

Bill McCabe

Union Vale Democratic Committee

To my Brothers and Sisters of Local 1103,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Board, especially Anthony Pugliese, and all of my Brothers and Sisters of Local 1103 for your tremendous heartfelt support and generosity during my family's time of need over this past year. I am well aware of all the burdens 1103 Union Members bear caring for their own families. It is with this in mind that I am all the more grateful for your selfless determined support. I will always be, "Proud to Be 1103."

Sincerely and fraternally,
Devery O'Brien



UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

Local 1-2, Affiliated with AFL-CIO

5 West 37th Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10018

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JAMES SHILLITTO

ROBERT STAHL

Kevin Sheil
President, Communications Workers of America
345 Westchester Avenue
Port Chester, NY 10573

Dear Kevin:

On behalf of UWUA Local 1-2, we cannot thank you enough for the support you gave us during the unprecedented lockout of our Members by Con Edison this past July.

As our nation celebrates another Labor Day to mark the blood, sweat and sacrifice of the millions who came before us to build this great country, your help on our behalf will not go unremarked or unremembered by the Members of Local 1-2.

Your support, your efforts and your actions this past July, provided a much needed boost of morale to our Members who found themselves suddenly unemployed through no fault of their own.

The outpouring of support we received from you and many other public officials helped us gain the upper hand in the vicious fight that Con Edison imposed on the public this summer. You helped us seize the moral high ground.

That New York was not struck by power outages or a major blackout in July is testament only to the work of the Members of Local 1-2 and their professionalism. Believe us when we tell you that Con Edison escaped unscathed only because of the system we built and operate. Con Edison's managers were barely hanging on when they tried to do without us and many failed to follow Con Edison's own safety rules, adding great peril to the public's safety.

Your leadership helped us in the battle, helped us get the New York State Assembly to hold a joint committee meeting which exposed Con Edison's poor performance during the lockout and helped force the general victory we enjoyed at the end of July when we reached an agreement that we were proud to offer our Members.

But it was your support and the work that you did that helped turn the battle in our favor. Thanks alone are not enough to express our gratitude for all that you did for us.

Fraternally,

Harry J. Farrell
President, UWUA Local 1-2

James Slevin
Vice President, UWUA Local 1-2

Whether by bringing water to the picket lines or by walking a picket with them, The Utility Workers Union of America, Local 1-2 leadership asked us to express their gratitude, as well as the gratitude of all their Members, too all of those CWA Local 1103 Members and Retirees who came out to support them during the Con-Ed lockout.



The Retiree's Corner..

At last! Another presidential election cycle is over! Whew! I can't tell you how much I enjoy the blessed silence of the phone no longer ringing off the hook from calls from campaign workers soliciting my vote. I say this knowing full well that I was guilty of making many of those calls myself.

I am glad to see that many of the Local 1103 endorsed candidates won their races. I am also proud to have played a small but vital role in this process alongside other Retirees and active Members.

But there is no rest for the weary. As the New Year begins or even before the New Year begins we have much more to do. We cannot let up in the fight to keep good union jobs here in NY and the U.S.A. We need to get legislation passed that protects our jobs. Keeping union jobs in New York State and the U.S. is instrumental in keeping the effective power of the Union stronger to negotiate retiree's healthcare and pensions.

We also have a newly ratified contract. Retirees dodged a bullet this time around but who knows what will happen 3 years from now. We might not be so lucky next time! A big shout out to the retirees who took the time and made the effort to get out and demonstrate to Verizon just how much those benefits mean to us. They were willing to do whatever it took to protect those benefits. I salute you! Stay vigilant! Stay committed to fighting the good fight!

On a somber note, the devastation that Hurricane Sandy wrought on so many gives one pause. Let us keep all those who suffered losses and loved ones in our prayers. Let us especially remember all those volunteers who are providing sustenance and shelter to those displaced by the hurricane. Also keep in mind all the thousands of technicians and utility workers and National Guard members who are out there every day working to rebuild that which was destroyed by this storm even as they too may have suffered loss.

A happy belated Veteran's Day to all our retirees who served in the military services. And remember we need to get the Veterans Job Bill passed. One in four young veterans returning home from the Middle East cannot find a job. Hello Congress! These young men and women served their country without question; now it's time to help them with jobs!

This year our annual Holiday Luncheon will be on Tuesday, December 11, 2012. It will be held at the Traveler's Rest on Route 100, Millwood, NY. It begins at noon and the price will be \$40 per person.

Please be advised that we are no longer accepting payment for Chapter dues via PayPal on our website. All payments (checks) should now be sent directly to the CWA 1103 Union Hall.

CWA 1103 RMC 2013 Chapter dues:

1 Year- \$20

3 Years- \$55

RMC District Council- one time \$25 payment

PLEASE SEND ALL PAYMENTS TO:

CWA LOCAL 1103 RMC

345 Westchester Ave

Port Chester, NY 10573

You can download Council and Chapter membership application forms on our website:
<http://www.cwalocal1103rmc.org/>

*As always, Carol, Phyllis, Bob, Bill and I wish you
all the very best during the Holiday Season!*

*In Solidarity,
Jeanette Spoor – President
CWA 1103 RMC*



**Have a Drug,
Alcohol or
Gambling Problem ?**

**Call
Headquarters
939-8203 or 8204**

**Ask to be put in
contact with
Tom O'Halloran**



**All Information
is Confidential**



COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA - LOCAL 1103

(AFFILIATED WITH A.F.L.-C.I.O.-C.L.C.)

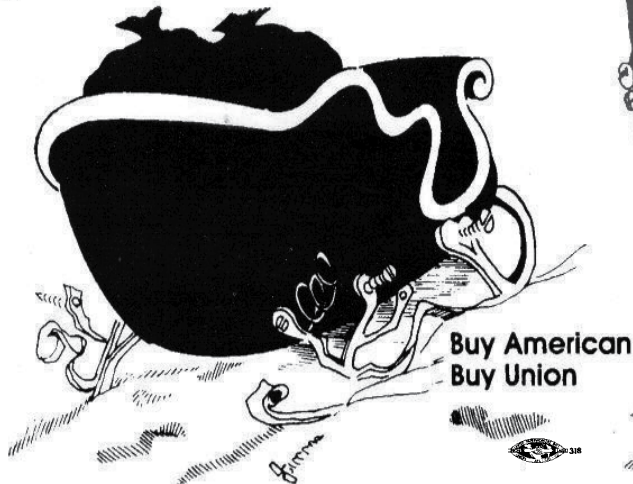
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I KNOW ... I should have bought American Made!