



# THE EAGLE

LOCAL 1103

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October 2012

## **The CWA/IBEW reach a Tentative Agreement with verizon**

(Pictured right)  
CWA 1103 RMC Members are joined by other retirees while picketing a verizon location during our sixteen month mobilization effort.



(Pictured left)  
CWA Local 1103 Members are joined by Utilities Workers 1-2 Members at Verizon work location in Philadelphia, Pa. They joined 4000 CWA Members to demand a contract and the return of our fired Brothers and Sisters.

Sixteen months after bargaining began the CWA and IBEW have reached a Tentative Agreement with Verizon. A ratification vote for Local 1103 Members has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 17th, 5:30pm at the Westchester County

Center. Your Executive Board have asked that our Members have prudence and patience as they review the agreement. The agreement can be viewed on the Local 1103 website at [CWA1103.org](http://CWA1103.org).

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# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The Executive Board and I have been asked a few times lately some legitimate questions pertaining to our role, and the role of the Local, related to politics and elections. To be sure, politics, like religion, is usually a topic of great personal conviction and belief where discussion can sometime lead to disagreement. For some, political conversation can be or is quite uncomfortable. We certainly understand and respect that sentiment, but as leaders of this Local we simply cannot shy away from political involvement or the topic. There is too much at stake. Criticism that the union shouldn't be involved with politics because we don't have a contract, or Members have been laid off, or tours have been changed, or a Member has been fired or suspended doesn't square with the reality of a larger situation. The minutia of Union representation never stops; we can and must do it all, including politics.

No matter what is going on in our work lives or how busy we become or how much is thrown against us, one constant remains, and that is that our employers never stop working to undermine our job security and benefits. Employers, public and private, never stop working the political angles which will make it easier for them to ship our job overseas, pay us less for our labor, and eliminate or diminish hard won benefits. Let us agree that our employers have never once decided to suspend their political activities even as they lay off, fire or discipline our Members. For our employers, there is never a moratorium on politics.

It is therefore logical to conclude that if our employers are always involved with politics, which includes lobbying, political contributions, and crafting legislation, then the Union must be involved, too. There is one legitimate counterbalance to the extreme capitalism at any cost or efficacy of the market ideology taking hold today and that is the power that only Union Members can provide through their collective voice and political involvement.

It would be easy if we, as an Executive Board, were to decide to stay away from politics and remain neutral, but it wouldn't be right. If we were ever to capitulate to the small-picture-pressure to abstain from politics, it would ultimately prove to be an unmitigated disaster for our Members and their families. As leaders of this Union, we do not get to pick and choose which side of the CWA triangle will be upheld. CWA Local 1103

will represent all sides of the CWA triangle, including politics, because to do otherwise is to provide a gross disservice to our Members and their families.

As leaders of this Union, it is our responsibility and obligation to educate all of our Members about political candidates, because they vote on the very legislation that affects our Members job security. This responsibility to our Membership is no different, ostensibly, than what other organizations with membership provide. Organizations such as the NRA, AARP, Chamber of Commerce, et al, endorse political candidates based on the positions that the candidates have or take concerning the mission of their own organization.

Moreover, political endorsements are built upon many facts, and CWA Local 1103's endorsement policy is long established and has been well documented in past Eagle(s) and at General Membership Meetings. It takes a lot of time and resources to research the issues, examine and interview the candidates, and then provide factual information to help our Members decide which candidate is going to stand with them on the issue of job security or some other work related struggle. Our Members can vote for whomever they want, however,

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# THE EAGLE

Proud To Be 1103

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**President's Article .... continued from page 2**

it is our duty as elected Union leaders to insure that they have all the facts before them when they go to the booth and vote.

As politics, including CWA Local 1103's endorsements, directly relate to defending and protecting our Members, it is well within our purview to use all means of communication to educate and inform our Members, and to continue doing so. It is for all the reasons before you that I ask that you turn to the middle

section of this month's Eagle for CWA Local 1103's endorsements, and support the candidates who have or will support you and your family.

Finally, when you are standing in the voting booth and deliberating about the issues that are important to you and your family, never forget that the candidates, who win elections, either weaken or strengthen your job security with each and every one of their votes.

**Kevin Sheil,  
President**

## **39<sup>th</sup> Annual- Local 1103 Scholarships Awarded**

*The 2012 Local 1103 scholarships winners were determined by random drawing at the General Membeship Meeting, held on September 20<sup>th</sup>.*

*Since its inception in 1973, the Local 1103 Scholarship Program has now awarded \$211,751.00 in cash grants to the sons and daughters of Local 1103 Members in good standing to help enable the continuance of their education. The eight scholarships offered along with the names of this year's recipients are as follows:*

### **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual E. Gerald Horgan Memorial Scholarship - \$2,000.00**

Honoring the memory of our late Brother, Chief Steward, Edward "Gerry" Horgan who made the ultimate sacrifice on the picket line fighting for us.

**Kevin Schulze, son of William "Billy" Schulze, Vz. Field Technician, Holiday Garage**

### **34<sup>th</sup> Annual Daniel L. Keenan Memorial Scholarship - \$2,000.00**

Respecting the memory of our late President, who served in that office from 1964 to 1979.

**Peter R. Mako, son of Peter D. Mako, Vz. Field Technician, 999 Nepperhan**

### **39<sup>th</sup> Annual Eugene J. Mays Memorial Scholarship - \$1,500.00**

In remembrance of our late District One A.V.P., who served as Defense Fund Director during the 1971-72 N.Y. Telephone strike; **Nicholas A. Pino, son of Doreen Bermuda, Vz. Field Technician, Knollwood Rd. Garage**

### **29<sup>th</sup> Annual Howard T. Miles Memorial Scholarship - \$1,500.00**

In tribute to our late Brother who helped found the Local 1103 Substance Abuse Committee.

**Laurel Byrnes, daughter of Dennis Byrnes, Vz. Lineman, Brewster Garage**

### **Local 1103 Executive Board Scholarships - \$1,000.00**

Two additional scholarships authorized by the Members of your Executive Board.

**Melissa Gawronski, daughter of Stanley Gawronski, Vz. TTA/Ft., Holiday Garage**

**Emily Sakowicz, daughter of Joseph Sakowicz, Vz. TTA/Ft., Brewster Garage**

### **Thomas J. Wonsor Memorial Scholarships - \$500.00**

Two awards are presented by the Local in memory of the 1103 Life Members Club first President, Tom Wonsor.

**Pat Farina, daughter of Diane Farina, Retired Vz. COT, White Pains**

**Marisa McCauley, daughter of Robert McCauley, Retired Vz. Field Technician, Arlo Lane**

*On behalf of the Members, Executive Board and Staff of Local 1103, I would like to offer our congratulations too all of the scholarship recipients and wish them all well in their scholastic endeavors.*

**Doug Sheahan  
Secretary/Treasurer**



# The Local 1103 Political Page

ELECTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES: GET OUT and VOTE!



We each have the freedom to vote for who we choose. As leadership in The CWA, we have the responsibility and obligation to examine the records of incumbents and also to interview and research new candidates to determine if they support CWA jobs. An endorsement alone will tell little of the candidate's story. However, The CWA 1103 endorsement process is an in-depth painstaking one. Here we will present why 4 candidates in the most heated contested races within our Member's jurisdiction received the CWA stamp of approval.

## **U.S. 18th Congressional District - CWA endorsed candidate - Sean Patrick Maloney**

The New 18th Congressional District, formally known as the 19th is made up of parts of Dutchess, Orange, Rockland and Westchester Counties and all of Putnam County. **Sean Patrick Maloney**, won the Democratic primary against 4 other candidates by a wide margin. He gives credit for his win to the 14 Local Unions that supported him. Maloney also received the NYS AFL-CIO's endorsement at its 2012 convention in NYC. Sean is an attorney with experience in federal and state government. He also served as the White House Staff Secretary and top advisor to President Bill Clinton. Sean Patrick Maloney recognizes that the Middle-Class was created by Unions and understands that maintaining a Union strength is vital to a strong economy. At the AFL-CIO Convention, he specifically called-out Verizon. He told the delegates, the first event he went to, during the campaign, was a picket line at a Verizon Wireless Store in Fishkill, NY. As he put it, ...(to walk with the CWA men and women who were) "getting screwed over by Verizon".

Sean's opponent is an incumbent and also a Tea Party favorite, Republican Nan Hayworth. She has a dismal record with the NYS AFL-CIO, and a 0% rating with CWA. During the Verizon Strike of August 2011, she refused to sign on to a letter to Lowell McAdam asking a profitable Verizon Corporation to bargain fairly. At a meeting in the Mt Kisco Senior Center, Hayworth was approached by a dozen CWA Members and retirees, she was asked how she was going to help the striking workers, she said by giving Corporate America more tax breaks. Hayworth also refused to co-sponsor our Call Center bill which would take tax breaks and federal

contracts away from companies that move call center jobs overseas. Hayworth claimed that the Call Center bill would be "company interference" and put "shackles" on business. Hayworth's refusal to help puts every CWA Call Center job in danger of being moved overseas. On the other hand, Sean Patrick Maloney supports the Call Center Worker and Consumer Protection Act and will fight to protect our jobs once elected. Not being satisfied with just doing nothing to protect workers, Hayworth directly attacks workers rights. Hayworth voted to render the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) useless; because, of a pro-union complaint it took against Boeing for attempting, in retaliation for past strikes, to move their plant to a "Right to Work" state. The NLRB is the same board that has filed a complaint against Verizon for unlawfully firing many CWA members during the Verizon strike. Two of those members who were fired are our own 1103 brothers. If it was up to Hayworth, her congressional vote would not allow our sisters and brothers to return to work, even if the NLRB found them innocent on any wrong doing. For these and many more reasons we endorsed Sean Patrick Maloney for congress in the 18th District

## **NY State 40th Senate District - CWA endorsed Candidate - Justin Wagner**

Justin Wagner, unlike his opponent, is not a career politician. Justin was born and raised in Dutchess County, where his mother recently retired from teaching as a member of the New York State United Teachers Union in Pawling NY. Justin understands, first hand, that having a strong Union presence benefits the Middle-Class. That is the clear difference between our candidate Justin Wagner and his opponent incumbent Greg Ball. Incumbents have a record; they can't hide from it, nor can they lie about it. The fact is, everyone in public office is a victim of Google searches. Ball's CWA record, once weighed and measured, comes up seriously wanting.

As Assemblymen, Ball did not support our State-Wide Video Franchise Bill. At the time, it was hoped, the bill would push the built-out of broadband across NYS. Today, if that bill had been enacted into law, we may have better protection against the current Verizon Wire-

*Continued on page 5*

less cross marketing cable TV deal (the deal does not allow cross marketing in areas where FiOS is present). As Assemblymen, Ball also did not support our Double-Pole bill, which would have forced utilities to have to identify and remove tens of thousands of double-poles across NYS. A law like this could have resulted in the hiring of linemen, rather than the laid-off of almost 200 CWA Verizon members two years ago. This year, the Tea Party darling, Senator Greg Ball, voted to permanently de-regulated VoIP. This vote passed the NYS Republican Senate Majority with flying colors, had it not been for the Democratic Majority in the Assembly, killing this bill, we would have had a law on the books that likely would have cost us thousands of jobs in the not too distant future.

An incumbent's record is a useful tool; however, there is another more personal test. That is, the test of an individual's actions. Senator Greg Ball did not come to a single Verizon picket line during the August 2011 strike. Even though there were 6 picket lines within his district and Ball could have literally fallen over us at anytime, he choose to go AWOL. In a true act of pandering and with only 4 months till his election, he visited the Con Ed picket line. A picket line that was not in his district and only after his opponent Justin Wagner went there two days earlier on a hot 4th of July to stand with the workers. Justin Wagner has met with CWA, was interviewed by the AFL-CIO Westchester/Putnam Central Labor Body and has gained the endorsements of many major local unions. Justin has been to our General Membership meeting and our massive Verizon Wireless rally speaking out against Verizon. Most importantly he sees this election as moving forward an agenda for the middle-class. Justin's Middle-Class is about supporting people, which was clearly shown when he stood at the Verizon Wireless store in Mohegan Lake declaring: "De-regulation hurts consumers, it allows monopolies to benefit and profit...I am happy to fight with CWA for a fair contract". For all these reasons we ask that you vote for Justin Wagner.

**NY State 37th Senate District – CWA endorsed Candidate - George Latimer.**

The 37th NYS Senate district consists of the following locations: New Rochelle, Rye, White Plains, Harrison, Mamaroneck, New Castle, North Castle, Ossining, Rye & Scarsdale. The race for the 37th Senate district does not require much explanation, our candidate Assemblymen George Latimer has been the best friend labor & the Middle-Class could ever have. Quite simply, George Latimer has never said no to CWA; not even once. He has supported all CWA

legislation to advance workers and our Middle-Class jobs. To his credit, George has voted for our Landline Merger Bill to protect us from a bad sale to a small telecom provider, all four times it was brought before the assembly. Unfortunately, we have never been able to pass it in the republican majority controlled senate (Ball's Senate). With George in the Senate this may be the year we finally have the protection we deserve. We recommend George Latimer for your vote to the NYS Senate.

**U.S. Senate Connecticut - CWA endorsed Candidate - Chris Murphy.**

Oddly enough, the balance of the US Senate may fall into the hands of just a few races. Currently the US Senate is in the hands of a Democratic majority. The Democrats hold the majority by only 6 votes (two of the six are Independents that caucus with the Democrats). This year, thirty-three of the 100 seats in the senate are up for election. Of those 33 seats, 21 are held by democrats, 2 by independents and 10 by republicans. Connecticut may now very well be a deciding factor in which party will get the Senate majority. CWA is endorsing Congressman Chris Murphy for the US Senate. Chris has been a faithful public servant to the middle-class and our union way of life. When CWA went to Chris about the Call Center bill, he asked the big questions and sought more information so he could be a stronger supporter when debates started. Chris wanted to know why a special bill was necessary for just one industry. Once, we explained the liability of having our sensitive data in the hands of foreign lands that have few safeguards and laws to protect American data, he was on board. His opponent Republican Millionaire Linda McMahon is once again attempting to buy the election with her vast fortune. While Chris Murphy has a record of supporting middle-class families, McMahon is relying on her millions to buy TV ads to create an image of herself as the right person for the job. CWA jobs simply can't afford another self-serving millionaire in Washington DC. CWA is proud to endorse Chris Murphy for US Senate.

***Joe Mayhew,  
Business Agent***



# WORKERS' COMPENSATION

**FOA**  
Attorneys at Law

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

**Workers' Compensation is a form of insurance paid for by your employer that provides:**

- ✓ Full coverage for all medical and hospital care for your work-related injury or illness.
  - There is NO co-pay or deductible
  - You are reimbursed for travel expenses related to medical care.
- ✓ Partial wage replacement for temporary or permanent loss of earnings.
- ✓ Special compensation for loss/partial loss of use of a limb, a facial scar or loss of vision or hearing.
- ✓ *You are entitled to benefits even if there is no lost time from work.*
- ✓ *Just notifying your job about an accident does **NOT** begin a Workers' Compensation claim.*

## STEPS TO OBTAIN COVERAGE:

⇒ **Report accident/injury to employer/supervisor promptly.** You have **30 days** from the date of injury to notify your employer of an accident/injury, and 2 years from when you knew or should have known that you have an occupational disease (carpal tunnel syndrome, etc.)

⇒ **Get medical treatment from a physician of your choice.** No Workers' Compensation claim moves forward without medical documentation. Make sure you tell your physician it is a Workers' Compensation case. Your treating physician must file WCB form C-4 at the Workers' Compensation Board.

⇒ **File a claim (C3 form) with the NYS Workers' Compensation Board.** You have **two years from the date of accident** to file a claim. Your employer cannot and does NOT do this for you. It is **YOUR** responsibility to file the claim.

## WHY YOU SHOULD FILE A CLAIM:

- ✓ It costs you nothing to file.
- ✓ Your health insurance will not pay medical costs for injuries that happen at work.
- ✓ Partial wage replacement.

## WHY SELECT FINE, OLIN & ANDERMAN, LLP (FOA) AS YOUR LAW FIRM?

**Experience:** Fine, Olin & Anderman (FOA) has been representing union members for legal matters for nearly 50 years. It is the premiere law firm for Workers' Compensation in New York State, already selected as the sole designated provider for more than 350,000 union families.

**Statewide Access:** FOA has staffed offices throughout New York State. In fact, a single toll-free number allows a member to call FOA from anywhere in the nation. Every client is assigned a legal assistant and an attorney – and an FOA attorney will be at every hearing to represent you.

**Innovative Technology:** All Workers' Compensation documents and correspondence relating to your case are imaged into your computer file. This allows any FOA attorney and/or legal assistant in any office to work on your file – and you do not have to make copies of medical documents and send them to the law firm. Internet access for clients allows you to view your file online (*and only your own file*), communicate with your attorney and legal assistant, as well as receiving e-mail notification of significant events -- Hearing Notices, receipt of medical reports and reminders.

**No Money, No Fee:** Because Fine, Olin & Anderman, LLP (FOA) is committed to working with union members and their families, everything we do is to benefit the worker. If you come to FOA because you have been injured on the job and are eligible for Workers' Compensation, we will be right there with you every step of the way. In Workers' Compensation cases, we get paid only if you are awarded a financial settlement, which would be in an amount determined by the judge.

**FINE, OLIN & ANDERMAN, LLP (FOA) 1-800-522-9001 [www.foalaw.com](http://www.foalaw.com)**



## The Retiree's Corner..

At last! Here it is October 2012 and finally a tentative contract! After 16 months of arduous and painstaking bargaining, the CWA, IBEW and Verizon have reached a tentative agreement. (At the time of this writing no date has been set for an 1103 contract ratification meeting.)

On behalf of the Local 1103 RMC I would like to express our thanks to all of the retirees who, participated in the numerous rallies, mobilization efforts and political actions during the past year and a half! You didn't throw in the towel and you never wavered!

You continued on in the face of overwhelming intense pressure to cave in to the ridiculous and thoroughly egregious demands that Verizon put on the table last year. It was nothing but corporate greed at its very worst. Verizon is a company that has always been a very, very profitable. It is also a company which grants outrageous raises to its top executives while demanding that the employees and retirees, who really built Verizon and made it what it is today, give back benefits and rights that were fought for and won over many, many years of bargaining and strikes. You continued on despite the fact that many of our elected public officials refused to step up too speak out against this type of reckless corporate greed. Instead of protecting and helping the working people they represent they would rather dance to the tunes of the mega corporations and multi-billionaires who give them unbelievable amounts of cash AKA "Citizen's United"! You came out even though you saw banks and investment companies remain unpunished for there huge role in almost bringing down the United States economy as we know it. As a result of that type of corporate greed and an unregulated Wall Street, hundreds of thousands of working people have lost their jobs, through no fault of their own, and as a consequence lost their medical benefits, pensions, and homes.

Now is not the time to sit back and think all is well. Unfortunately there's more work to be done!

Perhaps some of you watched the Democratic and Republican conventions this past August. I did. It was astounding the stark and frightening differences between the two parties. One, the Republican, was so profoundly anti-union, anti-worker and the other, the Democratic, so profoundly pro-labor, pro-worker!

The answer is clear! In spite of the negative, punitive, hateful onslaught against us we must persevere!

November is just around the corner folks! This election is beyond critical for us! It is not just about re-electing a President that fought for and got us the Affordable Healthcare Act and saved the auto industry etc., etc.

It is so very, very important to campaign for and elect pro-labor, pro-working families, pro-retiree politicians who will protect jobs, benefits and fight for us in Congress and State legislatures.

Three very good examples of this are Sean Patrick Maloney of the 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Justin Wagner of the 40<sup>th</sup> State Senate District and Andrew Falk of the 94<sup>th</sup> State Assembly District.

Retiree volunteers have been making phone calls, going on labor to labor walks and displaying candidate's lawn signs to get this message out to our union brothers and sisters. In addition, it is vital that retirees get out and vote and when you do, remember your labor heritage, and remember where we come from. We cannot leave the fight behind because we retired. Those brothers and sisters that we left behind are still fighting. They remain fighting for us, themselves and all of our families. VOTE!

On a much lighter note, we had gorgeous weather for our annual Tommy Wonsor Day picnic. Our guest speaker this year was Marvin Anderman who as always was a font of helpful information for our retirees. An informative and good time was had by all!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the annual 1103 RMC Holiday Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2012. We will mail out reminder cards with the time, cost and location of the event in November.

Before you know it the 2013 annual dues and Evening Number Drawing will both be due. The costs of both remain the same: \$20 and \$40 respectively.

The 1103 RMC Executive Board wishes all our members a Happy Thanksgiving and we look forward to seeing many of you at the holiday luncheon in December.

And remember to get out and vote on Tuesday, Nov. 6 because your life as you now know it depends on it!

*Jeanette Spoor*  
*President, CWA Local 1103 RMC*

IN MEMORY  
Cecelia "Ceil" Mullen  
1929 – 2012

*A CWA Local 1103 Charter Member, Ceil passed away on August 16th. She was at home in Lakeland, Florida. Ceil retired from NY Telco., out of the Marbledale Garage in 1987 after a 39 year career. She served on the Local 1103 Executive Board as the Clerical Rep. during the early years. As a labor advocate, she helped build Local 1103 after CWA won a representation vote in 1962. We are all better off today because of the work she did for us years ago. Thank you Ceil. Rest in Peace Union Sister*



**COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA - LOCAL 1103**

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

345 WESTCHESTER AVENUE • PORT CHESTER, NY 10573



PERIODICAL

## Local 1103' 2012 NY/Conn. Political Endorsements

**President ..... Barack Obama (D)**

**U.S. Senate – New York**- Kirsten Gillibrand (D/I/WF) **U.S. Senate – Connecticut** - Chris Murphy (D/WF).

**Congress-NY**..... Elliot Engel (D/I/WF) 16<sup>th</sup> CD  
Nita Lowey (D/I/WF) 17<sup>th</sup> CD  
Sean Patrick Maloney (D/WF) 18<sup>th</sup> CD  
Julian Schreibman (D/WF) 19<sup>th</sup> CD

**Congress-CT**.... Rosa DeLauro (D/WF) 3<sup>rd</sup> CD  
Jim Himes (D/WF) 4<sup>th</sup> CD  
Elizabeth Esty (D/WF) 5<sup>th</sup> CD

**New York State Assembly** .....

Amy Paulin (D/I/WF) 88<sup>th</sup> AD  
Shelly Mayer (D/I/WF) 90<sup>th</sup> AD  
Steve Otis (D/I/WF) 91<sup>st</sup> AD  
Thomas Abinanti (D/I/WF) 92<sup>nd</sup> AD  
David Buchwald (D/I/WF) 93<sup>rd</sup> AD  
Andrew Falk (D/WF) 94<sup>th</sup> AD  
Sandy Galef (D/I) 95<sup>th</sup> AD

**New York State Senate** .....

Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D/I/WF) 35<sup>th</sup> SD  
Ruth Hassell-Thomson (D) 36<sup>th</sup> SD  
George Latimer (D/WF) 37<sup>th</sup> SD  
Justin Wagner (D/WF) 40<sup>th</sup> SD

Please Note: Many candidates are dual- endorsed by The Working Families Party. We have never endorsed a party, but rather the candidates that have earned our support. That is why we are asking you to vote for those endorsed candidates on the Working Families Party line to show that we cannot and will not be taken for granted by either major party.