



# SEIU News

## UPDATE

### SEIU's Political Might Rated #1:

In a *National Journal* analysis of the win-lose records of 20 advocacy groups for the most competitive races this past election, SEIU ranked the highest at mobilizing grassroots supporters and getting voters to the polls.

Groups like *People for the American Way* and *Human Rights Campaign* accounted for other top-performing organizations while conservative and business groups such as *Focus on the Family* and *National Federation of Independent Business* ranked last.

### Mandatory Overtime: A Patient Care Crisis We Can Solve—

On October 4, our health care bill to ban mandatory O.T. for health caregivers passed in the PA State House by a vote of 160 to 28 with strong support from both parties. Now it's on to the Senate!

It's critical that our Senators act immediately. Send a message to your Senator and tell them how Mandatory Overtime puts both patients and health care workers at risk. Urge them to call for a vote.

We can't stop now! Call your Senator today, urging them to support a ban on Mandatory O.T. and call for an immediate vote on HB 957. Help make our Bill become law.

Log onto [www.seiu1199p.org](http://www.seiu1199p.org) for more information.

### Committee vacancies:

A visit to the SEIU Local 668 Chapter website ([www.seiu668ch4.org](http://www.seiu668ch4.org)) shows vacancies on the **Aging Local Unit Committee**, **Prisons Local Unit Committee**, and the **Courts Local Unit Committee** available to interested members. If you are a member of 668, have some worthwhile ideas, and want to improve working conditions across the state, and are interested in an interim appointment; call or email Chapter 4 Chair, **John Terpkko**.

In Local 668, Chapter officers, Work Committees, and Statewide Committees (see above) are elected every 3 years; 2 more years to go.

**Shop Steward** elections are every 2 years; which we will be doing in January. We should be getting something from the Harrisburg office about the creation of an election committee to oversee our election.

### Time for Nurses to Have a Say in Hospital Reform:

The PA Department of Health is revising the state's hospital code for the first time in 20 years. This is a rare opportunity for nurses to impact the quality of patient care by having a voice in making the rules that hospitals must follow. The Nurse Alliance of PA is ready. Log onto [www.seiu1199p.org](http://www.seiu1199p.org) for more information.

### Member Input Requested:

With the new officers, SEIU Local 668 (PSSU) **President Kathy Jellison** and **Secretary-Treasurer Roni Hamiel**, the Union is looking for valuable member input on shaping the future direction of the Union.

Log onto our webpage at [www.seiu668.org](http://www.seiu668.org) and click on the link to send Kathy & Roni your ideas. (Continued next column)

### Quote of the Month

*"A government can be no better than the public opinion which sustains it."*

**Franklin D. Roosevelt,**  
Speech (1936)

### UPDATE (continued)

#### State Contract being Negotiated :

Our SEIU sisters and brothers in state offices are negotiating their contract now. Any support we can show them will be appreciated.

#### US House & Senate 2006 Report Cards:

Representatives **John Murtha & Mike Doyle** are the only ones from PA who voted the union way on 10 out of 10 ( 100% ) important workers' issue House Bills.

Senator **Arlen Spector** voted with us 59% of the time on 17 important Senate Bills. Senator **Rick Santorum** voted our way just twice for a 12% on the same 17 Bills.

Check out the facts at [www.seiu.org](http://www.seiu.org).

#### Benefits for SEIU Members:

As an SEIU member or retiree, you're entitled to programs, rates, and discounts on many different items, such as these:

- Scholarships
- IBM/Dell Computers
- Entertainment & Music Discounts
- Family Legal, Education, & Pet Services
- Insurance Protection
- Flower Gift Shop
- Health Savings & Health Club Discounts
- Mortgage & Real Estate
- North American Van Lines
- Heating Oil

Check the links at [www.seiu.org](http://www.seiu.org).

**Watch for notices about the  
next  
SEIU Joint  
Membership Meeting**

**Don't be in the dark,  
Come to the meeting!**

**Local 668 (PSSU) Leadership***Kathy Jellison, President**Roni Hamiel, Secretary Treasurer**John Terpko, Chapter 4 Chair**Natalie Keys, Vice Chair**Vacant, Secretary**Tim O'Donnell, Treasurer**Linda Andrews, Retired Affairs**Kim Steadman, Co-Chair Steward Council**Bea Abril, Co-Chair Steward Council**Jim Boyd— Business Agent*

> Our remaining 2006 UNION HOLIDAYS are : Christmas Day (12/25); and (possibly) your Personal Days.

> Our 2007 UNION HOLIDAYS are : New Year's Day (1/1); Martin Luther King Jr. Day (1/15); President's Day (2/19); Good Friday ( 4/6); Memorial Day (5/28); Flag Day ( 6/14); Independence Day (7/4); Labor Day (9/3); Columbus Day (10/8); Veterans Day (11/12); Thanksgiving Day (11/22) & day after (11/23); Christmas Day (12/25); and your Personal Days.

**Other Days to Remember**

World Aids Day— 12/1

Pearl Harbor Day—12/7

Human Rights Week—12/3 thru 12/9

Human Rights Day— 12/10

Hunukkah begins— 12/15

Bill of Rights Day—12/15

International Migrants Day—12/18

**Fulfill College Goals**

Check in at [www.seiu.org](http://www.seiu.org) & click on "Member Benefits" to see the 5 different SEIU scholarship programs available for 2007-2008.

There are 53 scholarships up to \$5000 that enable SEIU members & their children to pursue their educational goals at accredited colleges, universities, and technical schools.

Applications are already available for some of them.

**SEIU 668****Court-Related /Court-Appointed Negotiation Team Members**

1. **Holly Lusebrink**—DJ Sec.
  2. **Jim Berger**—Dom. Rel.
  3. **Wanda Evancho**—Prothonotary
  4. **Cass Vogel**—Prothonotary
  5. **Jackie Luchetti**—DJ Sec.
  6. **Dave Danser**—Dep. Sheriff
  7. **Larry Shuga**—Dep. Sheriff
  8. **Michelle Whiting**—DA Vic./Wit.
  9. **Tracy Casteel**—DJ Sec.
  10. **Steve Felter**— Dep. Sheriff
- Alt. **Tom Zullo**—Dom. Rel.  
Alt. **Roberta Strezlecki**—DJ Sec.

**Building Stronger Communities**

As union members, we fight for better wages and benefits. But we realize that winning a better future for working families doesn't stop there. It means building stronger communities and getting involved in the fight for affordable health care, immigration rights, racial equality, and equal opportunity for all.

SEIU is a growing, vibrant, and diverse union, but we can't consistently win on these issues unless we strengthen our ties with community allies. That's why we created our **Resource Center for Community Strength**.

SEIU is the most successful organization in the United States at uniting working women and men of all races and backgrounds to improve their living standards.

By uniting the strength of our **1.8 million members** in health care, property services, and public services, we are helping workers win higher pay, more affordable health care, respect on the job, and better working conditions.

But SEIU members realize that to truly make progress on large social justice issues such as health care for all, immigration rights, voting rights, and equal opportunity for all, we must combine our strength with that of community allies and partners.

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**District 1199P Leadership***Thomas DeBruin, Pres., District 1199P**Kevin Hefty, Vice Pres. Long-Term Care**Margie Butler, Executive Board Member**Doris Hardy, President, W.C. Chapter**Laura McGuiggan, W.C. Chap. V.P. 1**Gene Delia, W.C. Chap. V.P. 2**Chris Bureau, W.C. Chap. Sec.**Mike Harenski, W.C. Chap. Treas.**Ed Urbaniak, Chief Delegate /Nursing**Jack Matlock, Chief Delegate /Ancillary***Cut medical costs !**

Union Plus Health Savings has some very low cost discount programs that cover the whole family. With an extensive network of participating providers, these programs offer great union family savings to help substantially reduce out-of-pocket expenses.

Visit [www.UnionPlus.org/HealthSavings](http://www.UnionPlus.org/HealthSavings) or call 1-877-570-4845 to find out more.

**Important Notice!**

If you transfer from the Manor to another job with the County, or vice-versa, you should notify the Union & Payroll as you may be changing your local.

Please sign a new Union application to retain your right to Union benefits & the right to vote on your next contract. ###

**Get the Facts !**

Visit [www.seiu.org](http://www.seiu.org) ;  
[www.seiu1199P.org](http://www.seiu1199P.org) ;  
[www.seiu668.org](http://www.seiu668.org) ; &  
[www.seiu668ch4.org](http://www.seiu668ch4.org)

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