



Service Employees International Union, District 1199P & Local 668 PSSU
Joint Bargaining Committee of Westmoreland County SEIU

Volume 12/07

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12 July,
2006

SEIU News

UPDATE

Quote of the Month

Contract Negotiations:

We are continuing to work under the terms and conditions of the previous Westmoreland County / SEIU contracts, which expired Dec. 31st; while bargaining for new ones; and have entered the sixth month with no contract. Please see page 2 for Team changes.

On Tues., 27 June, the Joint SEIU 668/1199P Team met with the County till 10:30 P.M. & both sides amended propositions. We arrived at 1P.M. the following afternoon to try to complete our deliberations. The County arrived after 3P.M. , and we continued to meet till after 9 P.M. that night. When all was said & done, we had not moved any closer that we had been the night before.

During these meetings we had discussed the possibility of Health Care co-premiums to the County in return for concessions & proposal withdrawals from them to us. They told us NO on virtually all of our proposals & demanded more in co-premiums. They are trying to push us into abject poverty. At that time, we had a team consensus to bring this information to the members at joint 1199P/668 meetings as soon as could be arranged.

At the Joint Member Meetings on Wed., 5 July; we had a combined 93% vote authorizing the Joint Bargaining Teams to call for a Strike in the event the County doesn't start getting real with their negotiations. They must begin to bargain in good faith.

Please, stay focused on this contract! By standing together, we can achieve great things. Come to Meetings whenever you can possibly do so, because you know that VOTES that could affect your job & future may be taken at any member meeting. Deciding to give it a miss, because you don't think it's important is just wrong. This stuff affects us all; every Meeting and every Vote is important!

District 1199P Elections:

The official results are in! **Doris Hardy** won against Margie Butler (86—48) for the office of President of the Westmoreland Manor Chapter of SEIU 1199P; and **Margie Butler** won against Carrie Morris for the SEIU 1199P Executive Board Member position.

Thank you to all who participated in the elections.

Pandemic Flu Preparedness:

SEIU Local 668 (PSSU) President **Kathy Jellison** reports:

"While this (Bird or Avian Flu [H5N1]) virus may never evolve to a sustained human-to-human contact, the threat is real and employees need to be aware. Due to bird flu patterns and migration and the fact that Pennsylvania has no large shorelines in those patterns except Lake Erie, this state is considered a lower risk. But if it becomes a true pandemic, we can expect that 30% to 40% of the workforce could be impacted at any given time, and employees need to prepare for that scenario."

"There is also a wealth of information at www.pandemicflu.state.pa.us." ###

"An ethical person ought to do more than he's required to do and less than he's allowed to do."

- Michael Josephson,

quoted in Bill Moyers' *World of Ideas*

Legal Advice

Union members can consult with a lawyer for up to 30 minutes at no charge using the Union Plus Legal Service, with a 30% discount off participating attorneys legal fees.

Check it out at www.unionplus.org.

Boss Driving You Nuts ?

Is your boss driving you nuts? Working for low pay, with no respect? Tell us about it and you could win a much-needed vacation.

Working America has launched the "My Bad Boss Contest" to give workers a chance to speak out about the difficulties they face on the job every day. Share a story about your nightmare boss, and you could win a week-long getaway.

Visit www.workingamerica.org/badboss to enter today.

The best stories get posted on the badboss website, and readers vote on their favorite each week. The weekly winners go into a drawing to win that free vacation with airfare included!

You work hard, but a bad boss makes everything that much harder. You deserve to be recognized for what you face every day. Share your story with us today. ###

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

**Be a part of the
action !**

**Help prepare for our next contract,
Join our CATeam!**

Local 668 (PSSU) Leadership

Kathy Jellison, President

Roni Hamiel, Secretary Treasurer

John Terpko, Chapter 4 Chair

Natalie Keys, Vice Chair

Bea Abril, Secretary

Kieth Saunders, Treasurer

Linda Andrews, Retired Affairs

Kim Steadman, Co-Chair Steward Council

Bea Abril, Co-Chair Steward Council

Jim Boyd— Union Rep.

In Remembrance

Joanne (Mientus) Nedrow, 57, died Thursday, 8 June, 2006, after a long illness. A former LPN at Westmoreland manor, Joanne is sorely missed by her many friends.

SEIU Local 668 SWEB

At the meeting on 10 June, 2006; SWEB voted to approve committee appointments. These committee representatives can be found at www.seiu668.org.

SWEB voted to support H.R. 676 providing universal health care. To view the bill, visit www.house.gov/conyers/news_hr676_2.htm.

COPE was addressed extensively and Shop Stewards will soon receive information on their COPE drive. Anyone increasing their COPE contribution by \$1/pay period will receive a COPE pin.

At this time, SWEB agreed to remain neutral regarding the endorsement of Governor Edward Rendell in his bid for re-election. ###

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. ###

> Our 2006 UNION HOLIDAYS are : New Year's Day (1/1) [5-day ops got Mon., 2nd Jan. off]; Martin Luther King Jr. Day (1/16); President's Day (2/20); Good Friday (4/14); Memorial Day (5/29); Flag Day (6/14); Independence Day (7/4); Labor Day (9/4); Columbus Day (10/9); Veterans Day (11/11); Thanksgiving Day (11/23) & day after (11/24); Christmas Day (12/25); and your Personal Days.

Negotiation Team Members

SEIU 1199P Residual Units:

1. **Deby Christner**—LPN
 2. **Gene Delia**—Housekeeping
 3. **Carrie Morris**—Housekeeping
 4. **Doris Hardy**—CNA
 5. **Chris Bureau**—Admissions
 6. **Dee Nasri**—RN
 7. **Jack Matlock**—Housekeeping
 8. **Bette Elliott**—CNA (12-8)
 9. **Bill Smail**—Manor Maint.
 10. **Laura McGuiggan**—Restorative
- Alt. **Ed Urbaniak**—RN

SEIU 668 Residual / Row Office/ I.B. Units:

1. **Kim Steadman**—Parks
 2. **Natalie Keys**—Parks
 3. **Bud Santimyer**—Tax Asmt.
 4. **Rachel Deckard**—911
 5. **Tim O'Donnell**—911
 6. **Michael Kalp**—911
 7. **Sue Crouse**—AAA
 8. **Frank (Spike) Globosky**—Parks
 9. **John Lauffer**—AAA
 10. **Lou Patrick**—Roads
- Alt. **Pat Stefanon**—Crthse Maint.

SEIU 668 Court Related /Appointed:

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./W.t.
 9. **Tracy Casteel**—DJ Sec.
 10. **Steve Felter**— Dep. Sheriff
- Alt. **Tom Zullo**—Dom. Rel.
Alt. **Roberta Strezlecki**—DJ Sec.

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

Ed Urbaniak, Chief Delegate /Nursing

Jack Matlock, Chief Delegate /Ancillary

Get the Facts ! Visit www.seiu.org ;
www.seiu1199P.org ;
www.seiu668.org ; &
www.seiu668ch4.org

A Perfect Financial Storm Could Be On The Horizon

Health Insurance premiums and health care costs are skyrocketing. Fuel costs continue to rise. Recent consumer laws passed increase minimum monthly credit card payments from 2% to 4%. Interest rates are increasing, causing payments on adjustable rate loans to increase.

Union Plus Credit Counseling can help union members prepare by evaluating your current financial situation, plan a budget, and establish realistic financial goals. When appropriate, experts will even work with you and your creditors to develop a payment plan that may reduce interest and lower monthly payments.

Visit www.UnionPlus.org/CreditCounseling or call 1-877-933-1745 , available 24/7.

Experts recommend you have enough savings to cover 3 to 6 months of living expenses. The money you save by cutting back on cable services or coffee can be your start to economic health.

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