

Success for Local 888 Endorsed Candidates

Labor-backed candidates won big on November 7. In Boston, Lydia Edwards won a hotly contested City Council seat in District 1. Michelle Wu, Ayanna Pressley, and Michael Flaherty won City Council At-Large seats.

In Malden, Local 888 member **Emmanuel Marsh**, lost his race for Malden School Committee by only *two votes*. The vote will be recounted because of how tight the election results were. **It shows that every vote counts!**



SEIU Local 888 staff and volunteers getting out the vote for **Emmanuel Marsh**, member of SEIU Local 888 and the School Committee in Malden.

In Somerville, Local 888 candidates cleaned up, winning seats for challengers JT Scott (Ward 2), Ben Ewen-Campen (Ward 3) and SEIU member Jesse Clingan (Ward 4). Somerville also re-elected 888 endorsed incumbent Matt McLaughlin (Ward 1).



SEIU Local 888 member **Steve Winslow** won his race for Malden City Council At-Large

See another picture from the election on Page 4

Organizing Gets the Goods at Emerson

In late October, soon-to-be members of Local 888 at Emerson College participated in an informational leaflet outside the Emerson College Board of Directors meeting. Members wore signs and passed out leaflets to board members and executives about their low pay and frustration with the slow pace of negotiations.

Emerson staff members won their union back in April 2016, but are still in the negotiating process for their first contract. At the next bargaining session following the leafletting action, Emerson administrators and union representatives reached tentative agreement on health and safety. This shows how actions by a few people working together can influence those in power to pay attention to workers' needs.

When we fight, we win!

Emerson members are continuing with their contract negotiations and are hoping to have a contract soon.



Emerson Local 888 members Richelle Devereaux-Murray, Dennis Levine and Elbert Lee joined the informational leafletting action.

Would you like to make a similar impression on your boss? Contact your Local 888 Field Rep to talk about planning a workplace campaign where you work.

Preparing for attacks on our collective power



President Mark DelloRusso and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Rodrigues lead the Together We Rise training at the Brockton Public Library on November 9.

Local 888 Staff and elected leaders will continue to train member leaders in anticipation of anti-worker attacks from an expected Supreme Court decision next year.

Additional trainings will take place throughout the fall and possibly next year.



Members at the Together We Rise training in Lowell on November 1.



Fall Scholarship Applications Open!

SEIU Local 888 offers post-secondary educational scholarships for members and their immediate families. The Fall application is currently open! The deadline is different this year – applications will be accepted until Friday, November 24. The announcement of the award will be via mail to applicants as well as posted on the website.



Mass Defenders "Walk-in" for Justice

On November 13 at district courts across the state Massachusetts Public Defenders held "walk-in" actions to their courthouses. Workers at Worcester, Springfield, and Roxbury District Courts gathered at 8:30 am in the morning, protested, and then walked in to work together.



Public defenders gather outside the courthouse in Worcester to build support for their right to collectively bargain.

The workers at CPCS are fed up with low pay and no voice at work for a long time, so they took their case to the courthouse steps to build support for their effort to collectively bargain. The Public Defenders and staff at the state's public defense agency (CPCS) are the only state agency employees denied the right to collectively bargain.

Pension Justice Hearing Update



L-R: Sean Murphy and Darlene Osbourne (Boston Police Department), Nicole Annunziata and Cam Dunbar (State Police Dispatch), Sue Poppe (Holyoke Soldiers Home), Local 888 Secretary Treasurer Brenda Rodrigues, Leo Bobek, Steven Snay and Thomas Regan (UMass Lowell Nuclear Reactor) before the hearing.

On October 31 at the State House several pension reclassification bills were heard in the Joint Committee on Public Service. SEIU Local 888 members came to support several bills that affect our members' pensions. Members representing Emergency 911, nuclear reactor operators and veteran caregivers came out to testify in support of pension upgrade bills. Email Penelope Jennewein at pjennewein@seiu888.org for copies of the testimony.



Steven Snay, UMass Lowell Radiation Safety, putting on the Haz-Mat suit he is required to wear. Next to him are Leo Bobek and Thomas Regan, who also work at the UMass Lowell Nuclear Reactor.

★ Support Pension Justice ★

One of the central goals of SEIU Local 888's Committee on Political Action is to strengthen and defend our pensions and health benefits at the State House. If you would like to get involved with the Committee on Political Action and our pension work, please contact Joe Lazzerini at JLazzerini@seiu888.org.

Political Report

The November election is over, and the results are in. SEIU members that ran in contested elections met with mixed success.

Steven Winslow, SEIU Local 888 member of Gloucester Department Heads, won City Council At-large seat in Malden.

Khrystian King, SEIU Local 509 member of DCF, successfully defended his City Council At-large seat in Worcester.

Emmanuel Marsh, SEIU Local 888 member of the Lottery Commission, lost his school committee race by two votes and is currently subject to a recount.

Fred Simmons, SEIU Local 888 member of Haverhill custodians, lost his fourth bid for City Council at-large in Haverhill.

Overall, SEIU Local 888's Committee on Political Action endorsed candidates in 31 races, and we helped win 21 of those. In addition, we supported another 26 candidates with our SEIU State Council partners and SEIU Community Action in Worcester, Brockton, Lawrence and Springfield. Of the State Council and SEIU Community action races we won 23 and lost only three.

"To all the members who helped on election day, thank you!" said Local 888 Political Director Dan Hoffer. "We collected hundreds of signatures for the ballot question to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hr and secure paid family and medical leave for all."

For a full list of elections that we endorsed this season visit <http://www.seiu888.org/2017-political-endorsements/>.

Coming Attractions



10 Year Agenda: Lawrence Regional Gathering

Sat, November 18, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Northern Essex Community College, 45 Franklin St, Lawrence, MA

Within Community Labor United's (CLU) network, there is an understanding that our movement must have a longer-term view of our struggle. CLU envisions building an agenda that is both aspirational and concrete. The process will culminate in the fall of 2017 with a Member Congress. *For more info contact Isabel at isabel@massclu.org*

Labor Guild Cushing-Gavin Awards

Fri, December 1, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

IBEW Local 103, 256 Freeport St
Dorchester, MA

This unique event gathers the labor-management community together to honor four extraordinary professionals for the competence, vision, and integrity they bring to labor-management relations. *For questions contact Dan at the Guild office at 781-340-7887.*

Grabbing the Torch

Sat, December 2, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East
108 Myrtle St Quincy, MA

Greater Boston Labor Council's Future's Committee, 7th Annual Young Worker Conference. *Register by Nov. 24. Contact Vanessa Snow, 617 723-2370 or vsnow@gbhc.us.*

Greater Boston Labor Coalition Delegates Meeting

Tue, December 5, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

IBEW Local 103, 256 Freeport St.
Dorchester, MA



Lydia Edwards Wins!

Continued from Page 1



Local 888 member Marian Callahan with victorious Boston City Council candidate Lydia Edwards.



Former Executive Board member Mike Kelly (retired), Kathleen Porrazzo (Quincy Housing Authority), Brenda Rodrigues, Jorge Vargas (BPS), and Local 888 organizer DJ Cronin at the Labor Guild's fall semester graduation ceremony.

Do you want to distribute the Spark to your coworkers?

To receive multiple copies of the Spark, indicate how many copies you would like on an online subscription form at: <http://tinyurl.com/z713jdm> or just email the information to: rwilson@seiu888.org

