

Families attend "Hockey Night"



More than 300 members came to Local 888's fourth annual Hockey Night with the River Hawks at UMass Lowell. Members and their families enjoyed an exclusive pre-skate on the rink before the game, followed by a reception and then the hockey game between the River Hawks and the Univ. of Vermont Catamounts. UMass River Hawks won the game 4-2!



Mark DelloRusso thanked UMass Lowell chapter president Nick Piscitello and VP Justin Lawler for putting together another successful hockey night. More photos from Hockey Night are posted on the Local 888 website.

South Shore Cookout

Foul weather didn't deter members who attended the South Shore cookout at the VFW in Whitman on Oct. 2. Members cheered for the Patriots on a big screen TV while enjoying grilled hot dogs, burgers and all the fixings. Local 888 Pres. Mark DelloRusso, the planning committee and members from Mashpee DPW, Plymouth County Custodians, Randolph Cafe, Randolph School Custodians, Randolph Town Employees and Scituate Cafe supported the home team in a tough game with the Bills!



Trump victory: "More unity needed"

"Congratulations to President-elect Donald Trump and his supporters," said **Mark DelloRusso**, President of Local 888. "His election victory – and the level of support for his campaign in Massachusetts – shows just how out of touch the political elite of both parties are with average Americans."

The election will likely have real consequences for Local 888. "Our members need to stay united now more than ever," DelloRusso continued. "We need to keep organizing and fighting for a better future for working families. We can't give in to hateful rhetoric or greedy corporate interests."

"We will build on the momentum we've achieved through the Fight for \$15 and by resoundingly defeating Question 2 to continue making progress for our members and for all working families."

Local 888 supported 18 candidates in the election and votes on two ballot questions. Five state senators and ten state rep. candidates won their races. Three challengers supported by Local 888 who aimed to upset incumbents lost. Click here to see a full list. www.seiu888.org/copa/2016-political-endorsements/

Local 888 opposed Question 2 to lift the cap on charter schools and supported Question 5 for the Community Preservation Act in Boston. The "No" vote on Question 2 was 62 percent. The Community Preservation Act in Boston passed with 73 percent support.



Local 888 members and staff traveled to New Hampshire on three weekends in October to campaign for Clinton and other pro-working family candidates.

New Scituate chapter leader!



Scituate Cafeteria chapter chair Susan Aguilar stopped by the union hall to meet with Sec.-Treas. Brenda Rodrigues and Field Rep. Joan Prichard. "I hope I can rise to fulfill the responsibilities of the position," said Aguilar.

Weymouth members support food bank

Weymouth Public Schools Van Drivers and Monitors contribute twice a year to the Weymouth Food Bank. The drivers and monitors collect nonperishable goods and donate to the community through the food bank. Members (shown below) gathered with chapter chair and executive board member **Diane Foley** with a small portion of what has been collected and donated.



Weymouth Van Drivers and Monitors (left to right): Mary Senecal, Lorna Bumpas, Deb Deveau, Michelle Rizzatano, Diane Foley, Sue Nicastro, Sara Medrano and Ann Kelley.

"At one time we exchanged Christmas cards," said Foley. "A couple of years ago we decided to stop the Christmas cards and donate to the food bank instead. Weymouth has more homeless people in town than most people realize. When we realized how many people needed help, we decided to do it twice a year."

Is your chapter stepping up to help people in the community? Send news about your activities to rwilson@seiu888.org

UML Professionals hold "Know Your Contract" training session



Justin Lawler and **Nick Piscitello** (shown above) presented a "Know Your Contract" training for UMass Lowell members to explain key provisions of their contract and how to take advantage of the on-the-job rights it provides for members.

The chapter leaders developed a special power-point presentation on their contract that could be adapted for similar use by other chapters. *Request a copy from Field Services director Jen Springer at jspringer@seiu888.org*

Do you want to receive the Spark at home?

At the Sept. 24 Local 888 convention, several members requested that the Spark be mailed to their home address. If you would like to subscribe, fill out the subscription form by visiting the link below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/90VPV8lItvOUZo9C3>

Member Spotlight



Nasim Parveen

"I have worked as a professional librarian in the Boston University Stone Science Library for over 20 years. We recently voted to join SEIU

Local 888 and I am proud to be participating on the bargaining committee for a first contract.

"In my day-to-day work, beside maintaining the daily library operations, I support students of all backgrounds in both their educational goals and work-study pursuits. It brings me joy to see these young people move into careers in science and technology fields.



Nasim is an avid gardener and has been recognized for her accomplishments several times by the City of Boston. Above, Mayor Martin Walsh presented Nasim with a "Beautification of Boston" award for her garden last August.

"Last February I was invited to attend the first "Women and Girls in Science," conference at the United Nations. I spoke to over 500 attendees from multiple fields worldwide, including doctors, scientists, grade and high school students.

"I also spoke at a second conference in March entitled, "Empowering Women with Sustainable Gardens.

"I see the recognition of the skills and knowledge involved in gardening as part of an important, global movement to change what is seen and counted as scientific work. For too long, women and girls have faced social and environmental barriers to full participation in STEM fields.

"A [2015 report](#) by the American Association of University Women shows that even though more women are choosing to study science and engineering in school, that difference has not translated into professional fields like engineering and computer science.

"Through my work at Boston University, I have the opportunity to support and encourage talented young women who are studying science. However, I think it's important to recognize that BU and other institutions of higher education often end up employing large numbers of women in science.

"I joined the bargaining committee because I want to see more done to close the gender gap and ensure equal opportunity right here at my place of employment."

Are you a member who is making a difference in your union or community? Contact rwilson@seiu888.org to be featured in a future Local 888 Member Spotlight.

More higher ed workers uniting in Local 888



Clerical, technical and professional employees at Suffolk are forming a union called Our Suffolk with SEIU Local 888. On October 27, they celebrated their progress with a reception for co-workers. Our Suffolk's mission is to make the university a better place to work and in turn improve the environment for faculty to teach and for students to learn.

Did you graduate from Suffolk University?

Suffolk alumni are coming together to support the university's clerical, technical and professional staff who are forming a union with Local 888. If you would like to add your name to a letter by visiting the link below:

bit.ly/OurSuffolk

Coming Attractions



Women's Solidarity Breakfast:

"The ballots are cast, the fight continues"

Saturday, Nov. 12, 10 am -12:30 pm,
10 Church Street, Lynn

Join union and community women to enjoy a hearty breakfast and to hear stories from women fighting for economic and social justice. the breakfast is free and childcare and Spanish translation is provided.



Crossing guard and neighborhood activist Mary White (pictured sixth from left) has been active in a community group seeking to stop development-related displacement of residents in Somerville.

SEIU 888 Executive Board meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 16,
10:00 AM at SEIU Local 888,
25 Braintree Hill Office Park, Braintree

Fall Homeownership Fair

Saturday, Nov. 19
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Boston Prep School
1286 Hyde Park Avenue, Hyde Park
Learn everything you need to know about
homeowning and homebuying in one day!
617.635.4663
http://dnd.cityofboston.gov/#page/fall_homeownership_fair

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

Friday, Nov. 18, 6:00 PM.
Station Ave Elementary School
276 Station Ave, South Yarmouth.
with raffles, silent auction and bake sale for
Melissa Gauvin, Cafeteria Manager at Dennis
Yarmouth schools.
Adults \$10.00, Students \$5.00

Labor Guild Awards Dinner

Friday, Dec. 2, 6:00 PM
Boston Park Plaza, 50 Park Plaza, Boston
Tickets at laborguild.com/cgawards

The Next Four Years: Building Our Movements in Dangerous Times

Saturday, Dec. 3, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Simmons College, Boston
<http://masspeaceaction.org/event/the-next-four-years>

Scholarship Winner



Congratulations to **Zuleica Rodrigues Monteiro** (shown above with her mother) who was Local 888's Convention scholarship winner. Deadline for Fall scholarship applications is November 14. More info on the Local 888 website or call 617 241-3300.
www.seiu888.org/888members/benefits/scholarships/



Dennis Yarmouth Regional School Food Service Workers "brewed" up some Halloween fun and great food for the students at Mattacheese Middle School in Yarmouth! The Good Witches from left to right, are Rhonda LaFrance, Beth Potter, Laurel Visceglia and Kristen Risdal.

