

Don't miss Local 888's convention

The bi-annual SEIU Local 888 Membership Convention will be held on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 11:00 AM at 30 Braintree Hill Office Park, in Braintree.

"By attending the convention, members will learn more about what your union is doing to build power for you and your co-workers," said Local 888 President **Mark DelloRusso**.

"Members will have an opportunity to meet your officers and staff and hear from many inspiring guest speakers." **State Treasurer Deb Goldberg** and **Attorney General Maura Healey** are both expected to attend.

After the convention adjourns, there will be an office grand opening and celebration of our new union headquarters followed by special guest speaker --



award-winning author and commentator, **David Cay Johnston**. **This event is free and open to the public so tell your friends!**

"The convention is a great way to meet other members and learn more about how to make our union stronger," said Secretary-Treasurer **Brenda Rodrigues**.

Registration opens at 10:30 AM with coffee. Walk-ins are welcome.

For more information and updates on the convention, visit SEIU Local 888 website at www.seiu888.org/convention

COPA candidates win their primaries

Local 888's Committee on Political Action (COPA) sends questionnaires and interviews candidates before making union endorsements. After careful consideration the committee endorsed 18 candidates

who were up for either re-election or open seats in the recent state primary held on Sept 8. All of these candidates strongly believe in collective bargaining and support workers' rights.

Whenever the committee makes endorsements, it looks for the candidates who will best stand up for working families.

Of the 18 candidates endorsed by Local 888, 12 won their races. Below is a list of the candidates endorsed by Local 888 who won their elections on Sept. 8.



Techs, field staff and administrators gathered on Sept. 14 at the Lottery office in New Bedford to discuss their upcoming negotiations with management next year. Stewards answered questions and all members were invited to attend the Local 888 Convention on Sept. 24.

Please continue to support them in the general election set for November 8.

Reelected:

- Senator **Pat Jehlen**, Second Middlesex

Nominated:

- For State Senate: **Julian Cyr**, Cape and Islands
- For State Rep. **Trisha Farley Bouvier**, Third Berkshire
- For State Rep. **Evandro Carvalho**, 5th Suffolk
- For State Rep. **Liz Malia**, 11th Suffolk
- For State Rep. **Jay Livingstone**, 8th Suffolk District
- For State Rep. **Marjorie Decker**, 25th Middlesex
- For State Rep. **Dan Cullinane**, 12th Suffolk
- For State Rep. **Bud Williams**, 11th Hampden
- For State Rep. **Paul Moody**, 5th Plymouth
- For State Rep. **Jen Migliore**, 9th Essex

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 2

- For State Rep. **Natalie Higgins**, 4th Worcester
- **Mary Hurley**, Candidate for Governor's Council
- **Steve Murphy** Candidate for Register of Deeds

Local 888's political action doesn't stop now or in November. "Our goal is to focus on building stronger member leadership and to create the political capacity to hold our elected officials more accountable," said Local 888 political director Dan Hoffer. "We must be part of a much broader movement that can help level the playing field between people and corporations."



Local 888 members and staff joined with other supporters for Monica Cannon's GOTV effort on Sept. 8. Monica ran a great campaign -- but sadly she fell short by just 107 votes.

Federal Reserve Bank looks at impact of \$15 minimum wage

Local 888 has strongly supported the Fight for \$15 and a union. Now the Federal Reserve Bank for Boston has released an "issue brief" regarding the impact of a \$15 minimum wage in New England. The Fed says about 1 in 3 workers in New England earns less than \$15 per hour and the majority of these workers are the primary earners in their families.

The rest of the Fed's research might also surprise you. Contact rwilson@seiu888.org for a copy of the brief.



Members take action for better working conditions at BPD

Clerks and Techs at the Boston Police Department called the state Department of Labor Standards (DLS) for an inspection of unhealthy work conditions in their facility. Two DLS inspectors came to the BPD for the inspection. With help from Local 888, the inspectors were well informed about the health and safety issues and had an opportunity to speak directly with members. Violations were found on ergonomics, broken desks and pests (bugs and mice).



Local 888 Rep Neal O'Brien assisted members at the Boston Police Department with a Department of Labor Standards (DLS) inspection of unhealthy work conditions.

Do you have health and safety issues where you work?

Contact your union rep. to discuss strategies for winning improvements. Also visit the MassCOSH website (www.masscosh.org) for lots of helpful tips and advice.

Labor Guild Classes to Begin



Experience labor education from the nuts-and-bolts core basics to the complex strategic nuances of labor and employee relations in the private, public and nonprofit sectors.

Classes start on Monday, September 26, from 7:00 – 9:30 PM and are now held at 66 Brooks Dr. in Braintree. *Scholarships are available for all Local 888 members interested in furthering their labor expertise!*

Spotlight

Around the Local

The new Local 888 union hall is buzzing with new staff and organizers.



Larry Higgins

Larry Higgins has joined Local 888's Field Services department as a Rep. He is from Wakefield and has had a diverse professional career: as a labor and employment attorney for more than 18 years and as a high school teacher for four years.

Also new at Local 888 are member political organizers **Liquat Alli, Chefeiatou Falan, Simon Sakpo, Joe Salterio** and

Jonathan Stroud. The local's political organizers work day in and day out engaging SEIU members in Brockton on important issues facing the community and our country: the fight for \$15, paid family leave, the fair share tax on millionaires, and racial justice.



Left to right: member political organizers Simon Sakpo, Jonathan Stroud and Joe Salterio

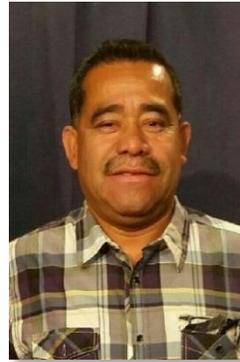


Hersch Rothmel

Finally, **Hersch Rothmel** has joined Local 888 as an organizing intern as part of a JOIN for Justice Fellowship. The JOIN Fellowship is a professional development opportunity for young Jewish adults to become full-time community organizers for social justice organizations, explore their Jewish identity together, and grow as leaders in pursuit of

social justice. Hersch is engaged in trainings that focus on developing his organizing skills and building community with other young organizers.

And the winner is...



Congratulations to **Enio Lopez** for winning a copy of the new *Labor Notes* book "Secrets of a Successful Organizer!" The book is in a user-friendly format with plenty of real life stories and practical tips to help you spot hot issues, map your workplace and inspire your co-workers to take action.

Additional copies will be available at the Sept. 24 membership Convention!

Don't miss out on Local 888 deals

BPD dispatcher **Mike Shackford** stopped by the union hall last month with his son Xavier to pick up four discounted tickets to Canobie Lake Park. Tickets were just \$31 each which saved Mike about \$28!

Visit www.seiu888.org/888deals to get these discounts and more!



President Mark DelloRusso visited offices at the lottery headquarters in Braintree, New Bedford, and to any chapter making a request.

Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Rodrigues has visited the Lottery, Brockton Café and Library, Town of Falmouth and CMSEC.

Local 888's officers are always eager to visit your chapter and answer questions.

To schedule a meeting with officers, contact myunion@seiu888.org or call 617 241-3300

More news from Local 888 is online at SEIU888.org!

Coming Attractions

SEIU 888 Executive Board meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 21,
10:00 AM at SEIU Local 888,
25 Braintree Hill Office Park,
Braintree



SEIU Local 888 Membership Convention

Saturday, Sept. 24, 11:00 AM
30 Braintree Hill Office Park, Braintree

LaborCAN! Regional Educational Conference

Saturday, Sept. 24, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, IBEW Local 223, 475 Myles Standish Blvd, Taunton, MA



Labor Guild Class Begin

Monday, Sept. 26, 7:00 – 9:30 PM
Class are now held at 66 Brooks Dr. in Braintree.

Scholarships available for Local 888 members!

AFL-CIO Political Roundtable

Mass. AFL-CIO monthly Political and Legislative Roundtable, Thursday, Sept. 28 at 12:00 PM, Plumbers Local 12 Hall, 1240 Mass Ave, Dorchester



Movie: "Food Fight: Inside the Battle for Market Basket"

Thursday, Oct. 13, 4-7 PM, UMass Lowell, O'Leary 222, 61 Wilder St., Lowell. Free and open to the public followed by a panel discussion with UMass Lowell history Prof. Bob Farrant.

Last day to register to vote

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2016 for the Nov. 8 general election.



Local 888 Hockey Night

Save the date: Saturday, Nov. 5
UMass Lowell



State General Election

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016

CMSEC members

ratify first contract!

Workers at the Central Mass Special Education Collaborative formed their union in 2014 because of concerns about pay equity, safety and favoritism. After nearly 24 months and dozens of tough bargaining sessions, they reached a tentative agreement with management on their first contract.

"We made significant progress on many of the priority issues, although not all of our objectives were achieved," said **Christian Lamoureux**, an instructional assistant in the Thrive Program. "Without a contract spelling out our pay scale, no one knew where they stood. Now, with this agreement, we have a new wage grid that is equitable and transparent. There are 18 steps with 2.5% between each step. This is a major achievement. It allows us to know where we are headed and should cut down on turnover."



"This agreement gives us "just cause" job protections, a grievance procedure with arbitration rights, and the fairness and respect provided by a union contract," said **Ross Lapetina**, an instructional assistant at the Hartwell School. "We love our jobs and the kids we work with. But we are really underpaid for the work we do. We will be back at the negotiating table in no time, to continue making progress. I voted yes for this contract because it gives us a voice in our future."

"I've worked here for 14 years, yet I was making less than some others for the same work," said **Kimberly Wellington**, another instructional assistant at Hartwell. "That was so unfair to me and I wasn't the only one."



"In the past management played favorites with our raises. With the union contract we've eliminated the inequities and for the first time everyone will be treated the same. I'm not going to see a huge increase in my pay, but with the union we can team up and support each other."

Members ratified their contract 29 – 13 on Sept. 8.

