



The Community Minded Union

# Locally Speaking

The People Minded Local

Representing: Verizon-NJ Commercial & Marketing, Occupational Center of Union County, North Haledon Police Dispatchers, Data-Tele, Elizabethtown Gas, Cingular Wireless and American Labor Museum Botto House.

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 1

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

LOCAL 1023, CRANFORD, NJ

MARCH 2005

## AREA FOUR

### SARITA SLADE APPOINTED CHIEF STEWARD

By Luis Rivera



Sarita has been with Verizon for fifteen years. She has held many positions with the company such as working for operator services, business sales, collections and currently in Enterprise. During her time with Verizon Sarita has served as a steward for twelve years. Sarita is currently working on the Organizing Committee, attempting to organize different companies such as EZ Pass and Verizon Wireless.

Sarita's goal as Chief is to boost membership, morale, and to ensure that her Area's needs are met. Serita's Area include Scotch Plains MASST, General Business Services, South Plainfield Large Business, Madison Large Business and New Brunswick OCS. Serita is also the Chief Steward for several Cingular Wireless stores and technicians.

We at Locally Speaking wish Sarita all the best of luck as Chief Steward Area 4!

## AREA THREE

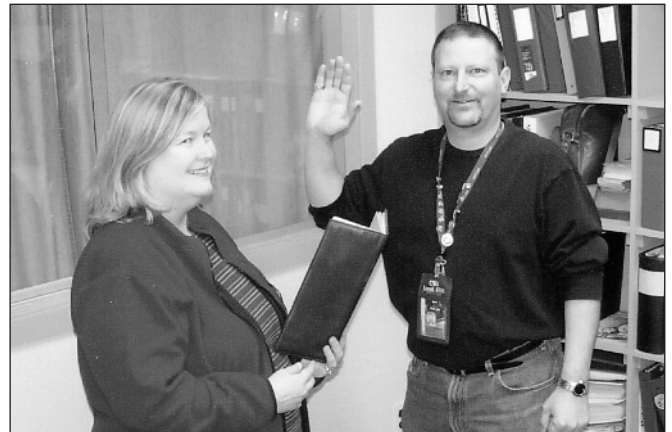
### HOWARD STEIGER, ELECTED CHIEF STEWARD

By Luis Rivera

Howard Steiger has been elected Chef Steward for Area 3, Madison CSSC and the Encore Center.

Howard's goal as Chief is to foster solidarity in Area 3 as well as address stress factors that affect his members. Area 3 is projected to grow in membership by about 90. Howard will endeavor to assign new Stewards in order to assist in handling grievances and the projected growth of Area 3.

Locally Speaking would like to wish Howard the best of luck in his new role as Chief Steward Area 3!



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**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

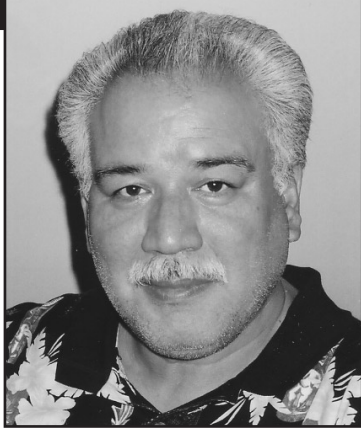
**JOANN DIANA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**. . . AND MORE**



## IN SOLIDARITY



Many people do not seem to understand the full importance of the changes that are going on in the United States today. The last national elections resulted in a radical change in the way government in this country operates. The American voter has permitted hard core business people who masquerade as politicians to assume control and the consequence is that the three branches of government— Executive, Legislative and Judicial— are all being operated just as they would be in any major American corporation. The names are different but the mode of operation is the same. Perhaps you can understand what I am saying better if you substitute “CEO” for “Executive,” “Board of Directors” for “Legislative,” and “Legal Counsel” for “Judicial.” This is the true organizational structure of a “corporate state.” We have one.

Pretty much all of you reading this column either work for corporations, or are retired from corporations whose workers are represented by this local. You know very well what it’s like to work for big business: your personal freedom is strictly controlled, trust is often violated, authority can never be questioned, truth is tied to profit, and two sets of rules always apply. The collective bargaining agreement between the union and the company is your main protection from exploitation. In that sense, it is much like the U. S. Constitution. But suppose the company decided to nullify it, along with the small handful of public laws that protect workers’ rights? What would happen then?

The Golden Age for big business ended between the beginning of the Great Depression of 1929, and the defeat of Herbert Hoover by Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Presidential Election of 1932. Prior to that labor unions were considered to be Un-American, and held very little power or influence. Consumers had no protection from defective or dangerous products, corporations paid no share in the cost of government. Big business almost never provided benefits for workers, keeping those profits for themselves and their stockholders. So retirement meant moving in with your children, and there was no medical care readily available for American workers or their families. Farmers starved when times were bad, and nearly starved when times were good. Business executives were above the law and

feared no prosecution, as in the case of John D. Rockefeller who once ordered striking coal miners to be shot on sight and they were. President Hoover did something similar in 1931, ordering the Army to fire machine guns directly at veterans of World War I. The vets had gathered on the White House lawn to protest a cut in their benefits.

Mr. Bush and his campaign supporters want to undo the New Deal of President Franklin Roosevelt and bring us back to those earlier times, because it’s good for business. They believe that what is good for business is good for America. They believe that history is bunk.

So Mr. Bush and his cabinet and his aids and his congress are running your government just like any other big business. They have advertising, lots of marketing, product launches, pep rallies, the whole nine yards. Their brand of government turns government into a big business whose main goal is to service other big businesses. Conservatism in this case means taking the legislative wraps off big business. Allowing big business to operate without restraint is good according to them. Criticizing its excesses is bad, and very Un-American—very unpatriotic. Somehow, it’s become very patriotic for the ordinary citizen to screw yourself up these days. If we are to thrive, they tell us, then some folks will have to make sacrifices. So what if some of the by-products of a leaner, more efficient government are homelessness, unemployment, pollution, corporate corruption, and the steady erosion of benefits for the elderly and the poor? The Federal government is not responsible for you any more, they say. Be responsible for yourself, they say.

Is it any surprise then that no Enron executive has been prosecuted, that the FDA approves unsafe drugs for sale to the public, that most large corporations pay no income taxes, that the tax cut that created this monstrous deficit only benefited the top one-percent of tax filers, and that the agencies that protect workers’ rights are now run by anti-labor corporate executives who are hostile to the very groups whose interests they are supposed to represent?

There is one hope: the people. Abe Lincoln said, “You can fool all of the people some of the time, and you can fool some of the people all of the time, but you can’t fool all of the people all of the time.”

Sooner or later this regime will go too far in its persistent practice of misrepresenting the facts. In fact, there are signs that it already has. The Administration’s attempt to sell the public on the idea of the privatization of Social Security is such a massive fraud, and has raised such a loud public outcry, that this issue may signal the beginning of their undoing. Let’s hope that it does. Because the one thing we still have going for us, the one thing that can take us out of this nightmare, is the election ballot, and the 2006 Congressional elections are not that far away that we can’t see light at the end of the tunnel.

**Rey Massa**  
President  
CWA Local 1023

# THE AMERICAN LABOR MUSEUM/BOTTO HOUSE



American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark announces POEMS OF IMMIGRATION AND LABOR, in evening of poetry on March 11, 2005 at 7:00 pm. for further information contact Angelica Santomauro, at 973 595-7953.

## ***Attention CWA Local 1023 Members!***

### **General Membership Meeting**

**Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2005**

**Time: 7:00 PM**

**Place: The Union Elks  
281 Chestnut Street  
Union, NJ**

*Don't Forget  
the \$100  
Door Prize!*

#### **Agenda to Include:**

- **2005 National Customer Service Conference**

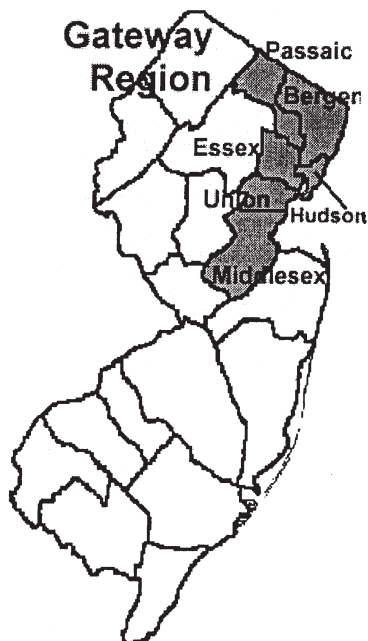
#### **Directions to The Union Elks:**

From Garden State Parkway South – Exit 138, bear right onto Galloping Hill Road. At 4<sup>th</sup> traffic light (5 Points) bear right onto Chestnut Street \* (between BP Gas Station and Dunkin Donuts). Proceed about ¼ mile, parking lot is on your left. Enter building through double glass doors.  
From Garden State Parkway North – Exit 138, bear right onto Galloping Hill Road. At 3<sup>rd</sup> traffic light (5 Points) bear right onto Chestnut Street. Continue with directions from \* above.





### ***Gateway to Freedom***



## ***Local 1023 Hosts CWA National Conference***

**by Kathy Forté**

Local 1023 proudly announces that we will be the host Local this year for the CWA National Customer Service Conference (formerly known as the Commercial/Marketing and Operators Conference).

The conference is designed for CWA leaders who represent members in customer service and sales jobs. Subjects that will be covered will be strategies that address issues regarding job stress, monitoring, sales objectives, outsourcing and more.

Guest speakers who have confirmed their attendance are National President Morton Bahr; Secretary-Treasurer Barbara Easterling; Dina Beaumont, Administrative Assistant to National President; and Chris Shelton, currently Administrative Assistant to District One Vice-president Larry Mancino.

We are expecting approximately 350 participants who represent members that service or sell to customers in retail stores and/or over the phone including industries such as telecommunications, airlines, wireless, newspaper and the public sector.

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel and Conference Center on May 11th through the 14th, 2005 in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Interesting to note, East Rutherford which is located in Bergen county, is part of six counties known as the *Gateway to Freedom*. The gateway region is comprised of Passaic, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Union and Middlesex counties.

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### ***MOVING?***

*Please remember to give your new address and phone number to the Local Office when you move.*

*You can call: (908) 709-1023*

*You can Fax: (908) 276-8921*

*You can send by mail:*

**CWA Local 1023**

**118 South Avenue East, Cranford, NJ 07016**

# LOCAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Members who are interested in serving on any Local Committee must submit an application for consideration by the Executive Board. This requirement includes anyone who is currently serving on a Committee.

Experience or education associated with Committee work is preferable, but not required. All applicants must be members in good standing. Committee members will

be expected to attend Committee meetings as necessary, and to attend all membership meetings for the purpose of giving reports and answering questions from the membership.

An application is provided here. Please return it completed to the Local Secretary. Appointed members will be notified by mail.

## COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA – LOCAL 1023

118 SOUTH AVENUE EAST, CRANFORD, NJ 07016

### REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT TO A COMMITTEE

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A COMMITTEE, PLEASE READ AND FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION.

EDUCATION  
ELECTION  
ORGANIZING  
LEGISLATIVE  
EQUITY  
SAFETY  
MOBILIZATION

GRIEVANCE  
NEWSPAPER  
TRIAL  
MEMBERSHIP  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
FINANCE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME TEL NO: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK TEL NO: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* COMMITTEE PREFERENCES:**

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* QUALIFICATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\* THE EXECUTIVE BOARD CANNOT GUARANTEE APPOINTMENT TO PREFERRED COMMITTEES OR ANY COMMITTEE.**

**\*\* GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION, NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.**

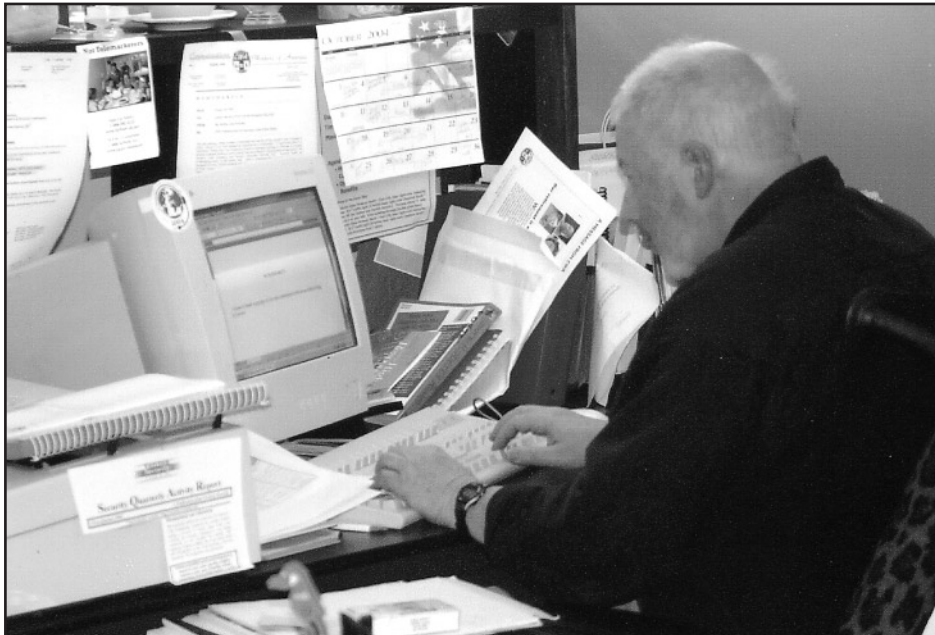
### ***RETURN TO LOCAL SECRETARY***

DATE SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE NOTIFIED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPOINTED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE REMOVED: \_\_\_\_\_



**Office manager Sue Shubeck (Left) and Local Treasurer Lois Eelen (Right) prepare strike authorization mailing for Cingular members as contract deadline nears.**



**Assistant Editor Ward Riley is photographed typing caption for his own picture.**

## LOCAL 1023 GRIEVANCES THIRD QUARTER 2004

*In any given quarter, one area may report closing out more or fewer grievances than other areas. This disparity is caused by the grievance process itself, since grievances are often pended for additional records, or to verify pertinent information, or are in the appeals process.*

### AREA ONE

(Grievances fourth quarter 2004 total 110)

Suspension/Letter of Suspension	Won
Absences and Tardies	Won
Harassment and Mutual Respect	Settled
Suspension	Won
Unfair/Unequal Treatment	Settled

### AREA TWO

(Grievances fourth quarter 2004 total 111)

Appraisal	Won
Harassment and Mutual Respect	Won
Suspension/Letter of Suspension	Settled
Suspension/Letter of Suspension	Settled
Suspension/Letter of Suspension	Settled
Pay Treatment	Lost
Harassment and Mutual Respect	Won

### AREA THREE

(Grievances fourth quarter 2004 total 94)

Observation	Won
Harassment and Mutual Respect	Won
Suspension/Letter of Suspension	Won

### AREA FOUR

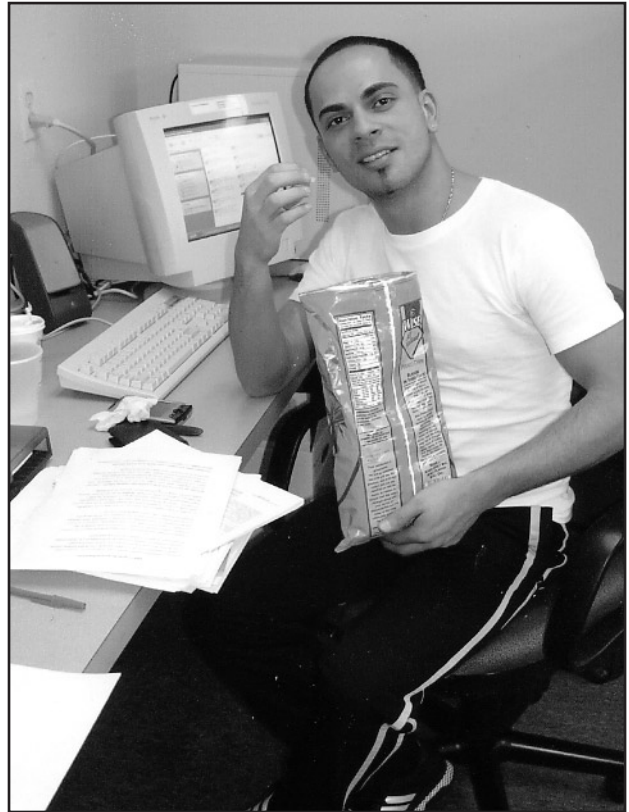
(Grievances fourth quarter 2004 total 70)

Absences and Tardies	Won
Harassment and Mutual Respect	Won
Suspension/Letter of Suspension	Settled

### AREA FIVE

(Grievances fourth quarter 2004 total 81)

Absences and Tardies	Won
Absences and Tardies	Lost
Observation	Won
Training	Won



**Luis Rvera celebrates his appointment as Assistant Editor of *LOCALLY SPEAKING* with a bag of chips.**

## Was Your FMLA Request Denied? If So, You Better Read This!

We have been advised by our CWA Liaison, Vicki Kintzer, that many members file defective FMLA paperwork, and when they are denied, refile the same paperwork with their appeal. Not unexpectedly, the reply from ARC is a final denial.

Vicki Kintzer's advice? Call her before you refile! She can help you prepare paperwork that will win the appeal by correcting what was wrong with the original. Remember! Once the appeal has been denied, there is very little she can do to help you.

Call Vicki at 866 248-4449.



## Area Reports

### Area Two - Ward Riley

In the Teaneck CSSC workers have begun to trial the "Four Day Work Week." Many issues remain to be resolved, assuming the trial is successful. The apportioning of overtime, the selection of days off, the treatment of absence, rotation of tours and other issues remain question marks in this experiment.

Members are reluctant to become part of the Encore project as long as it remains unclear what their retreat rights are. The top-heavy composition of high seniority reps, leaves lower seniority reps reluctant to try it, for fear of losing their preferred schedules.

We are pursuing Equalization of Overtime grievances on several fronts.

### Area Three - Howard Steiger

The state of Area Three is strong. Madison is a "Mega Center" of activity. We have the Encore group which the Union fought hard to get the work back to NJ. This is great news for us all. Service levels are rising and customers are really responding to the

"Encore experience." Eventually we will all be Encore consultants. We have had some issues with access which have been addressed. Follow ups are being met. The second DCPR time which we need should soon be added back to our schedules once the access issues have been resolved. New consultants are being trained for both Demand as well as Encore so relief is in the air!

We have FTTP FiOS which is doing well. We are housed on the Encore side in Madison. Testing is going well. We are waiting on approvals. There are three representatives from demand and three from Encore. It is a very exciting time.

The new trial of the Four-day Work Week is in full swing. There have been some issues concerning its deployment. Overtime is an ongoing issue. Higher seniority members in the 4DDW trial may be exempt from some mandatory OT scheduling. How the conversion of the time off was calculated was another concern until I addressed it with management. For those that are eligible it is based on a thirty-five hour work week. There are three nine hour days and one eight hour day. Time off is calculated based on hours. This should bring some comfort to those who have opted to try this out. I need to know everyone's concerns, so that I can fix them. A trial period means just that-- a "trial." Let me know if it works for you! We are anticipating over 90 new students in Area Three so this should also help with access as well as reduce the need for forced overtime.

### Area Five - Luis Rivera

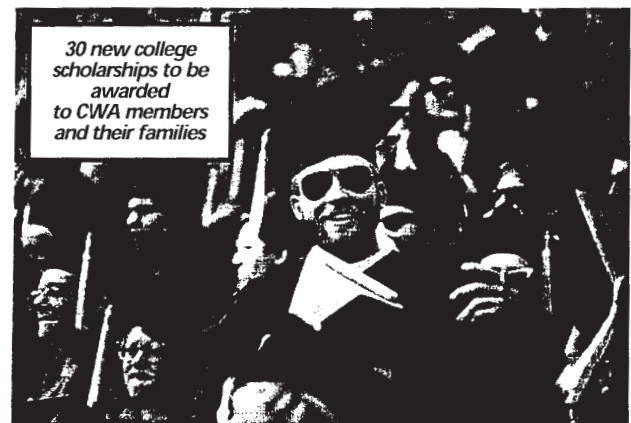
Management has been observing a lot lately. They have been issuing discipline for customer abuse. We have had two verbal warnings and a suspension regarding customer abuse.

The CCM has also advised people that they cannot call in their FMLA tardies after the beginning of their tour. When they are stepped she is denying ever having told them that they couldn't report a tardy as FMLA. If you have any tardies for FMLA and are being denied your FMLA by local management, please see a Steward.

Management is also targeting Stewards in order to intimidate our members from standing up for their rights. Some actions include discipline as well as not allowing the Union to state their position in a grievance meeting.

Thirteen members were allowed to transfer to the Bronx. All of the members who were transferred were term employees who were made permanent as a result of our Encore Agreement. Management was not sure if these individuals would qualify to transfer. We took the position that being permanent employees they would qualify and the company took the necessary steps to ensure they were afforded the opportunity to transfer.

Recently we had a member on our schedule who was working out of state as an "In Charge." We advised management they could not have one of our members doing work outside of the bargaining unit.



## Apply Now for Joe Beirne Scholarships

Apply now for partial college scholarships of \$3,000 each for the 2004-2005 school year, and another \$3,000 for 2005-2006.\*

Thirty new scholarships will be awarded by CWA's Joe Beirne Scholarship Program.

Eligible are CWA members, their spouses, children and grandchildren (including those of laid-off, retired or deceased members) planning for college studies.

Final deadline for applications is March 31, 2004.

Applications are easy to make online at the Foundation's website (including submission of a short original essay). Winners will be chosen in a lottery drawing.

For more information, and to fill out and submit the application form, visit: <http://cwa-union.org/members/beirne/index.asp>

\* 2nd year award based on satisfactory academic record.



## SNAPSHOTS FROM THE SWEATSHOP

By Nick Brakespeare



This column is devoted to your health, so if you don't care about your health then don't read it.

First, the good news: most of us are getting healthier. Now, the bad news: a lot more of us are getting sicker and dying.

How can both be true at the same time? Well, that's the new neo-conservative America for you—a land of paradoxes and contradictions.

Here's the answer: we're getting healthier at a decreasing rate. In fact, the rate between the two has gotten so small since the year 2000, that the difference between sickness and wellness barely spans the width of a house fly's butt.

While there's an authoritative study that proves that what I'm telling you is true, I don't need to read it to know that there's something strange going on.

Been attending a lot of funerals lately where the corpse is younger than I am. Being of a curious nature, I usually ask someone what happened to the deceased. "Well, he died!" is what they tell me.

And I notice big name people dying before their time in the obituaries in the newspaper, too! Take this past year for example: actors Paul Winfield (62) and Carrie Sondgrass ((57), ball player Ken Caminiti (41), big time astrologer Joyce Jillson (58), musician Johnny Ramone (55), singers Laura Brannigan (47) and Rick James, fashion designer Egon Van Furstenberg (58), McDonald's CEO Jim Cantalupo (60), and news reporter Jack Smith (58).

The list is long and they're from all walks of life, but I'm not just talking celebrities here. I'm talking about my neighbor down the block, people I went to school with, cousins I haven't seen in years, and co-workers I used to see every day.

What's wrong, America?

I'm asking the question for a reason. I'm asking you if you care—about your self and everybody else. I'm getting the impression that the answer is no.

Did you know that we are 100% more obese than we were fifteen years ago?

I'm not saying you weighed 120 pounds then and now, fifteen years later, you weigh 240. Of course, in my case that would sort of be true. But what I am saying is do you care? Does that statistic faze you in any way? No? Well, how about these little factoids:

In New Jersey, only 1.2% of the budget goes to public health. That translates to spending roughly \$14 per person

per year on public health issues here.

45 million people in this great nation do not have any health care.

32% of pregnant women do not get adequate prenatal care for their babies in the State of New Jersey. Half of those women are African-American.

There are forty-seven countries on this planet where the inhabitants enjoy a higher life expectancy than we do. Maybe we should outsource ourselves and move to one of them.

Infectious disease is on the rise and we don't have any flu vaccine left.

Cardiovascular disease erases 327 out of every 100,000 people living in New Jersey every year. It's only a matter of time before we're all wiped out.

Now why is that?

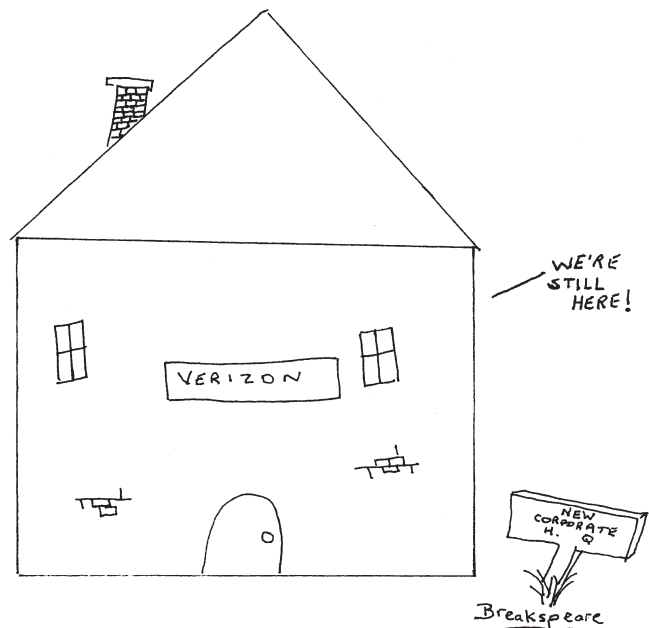
Stress is part of it. Diet is another part of it. I just

*(continued on Page 12)*

## VERIZON KEEPS ITS WORD, SORT OF

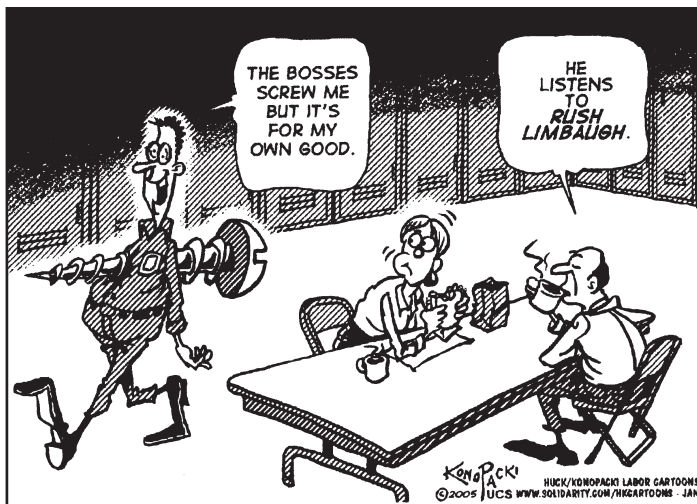
In order to ensure that the GTE-Bell Atlantic merger would be successfully completed the two phone giants had to promise the Attorney General of the State of New York that the newly formed company's corporate headquarters would always remain in New York. As a result, 1095 Sixth Avenue, in Manhattan became the new address of the telecom giant. It was big, it was beautiful, and it was very, very visible.

Times change and so do corporate objectives. Recently, Verizon announced its intention to relocate its headquarters to a less fashionable part of the city. Well, some of it was going there... Most of it is going somewhere else. Where? We don't know yet. Maybe New Jersey? Maybe not? In any event, the plans have been drawn, and we have scooped the actual architect's rendering for the company's new Manhattan HQ, which is depicted below.



## Welcome New Members

**Omar Ahmed** – Cingular, **Anna Arocho** – Teaneck CSSC, **Corinne Baker** – Teaneck CSSC, **Vernetta Bobien** – Teaneck CSSC, **Stacy Brown** – Madison CSSC, **Valerie Brown** – Madison CSSC, **Shatyra Bussey** – Madison CSSC, **Esther Canela** – Teaneck CSSC, **Tiffany Carey** – Madison CSSC, **Melinda Carney** – Madison CSSC, **Monique Clark** – Madison CSSC, **Shannon Corea** – Madison CSSC, **Martha Cruz** – Teaneck CSSC, **Crystal Davis** – Madison CSSC, **Kelly Douglas** – Madison CSSC, **Dale Drisker** – OCUC, **Michele Foster** – Madison CSSC, **Gavin Frater** – Madison CSSC, **Rose Frontignano** – Teaneck CSSC, **Thevenet Gayle** – Madison CSSC, **Leroy Grant** – Madison CSSC, **Melissa Grau** – Madison CSSC, **Shani Harrell** – Madison CSSC, **Robyn Hasty** – Madison CSSC, **Steven Heithmar** – Madison CSSC, **Clarence Hemple** – Cingular, **Warren Hemple Jr.** – Cingular, **Giovanna Jacobs** – Madison CSSC, **William Jaeger** – Madison CSSC, **Jonathan Johnson** – Madison CSSC, **Sadira Jones** – Madison CSSC, **Serita Lembeck** – Madison CSSC, **Dorene Lewis** – Teaneck CSSC, **Camie Littrean** – Madison CSSC, **Ramon Martinez** – Teaneck CSSC, **Kelly McKenna** – Madison CSSC, **Virginia Mondesir** – Garden State RMCC, **Renee Morgan** – OCUC, **Shane Murphy** – Teaneck CSSC, **Teresa Olds** – Madison CSSC, **Elisa Padilla** – Madison CSSC, **Josephine Paige** – Teaneck CSSC, **Pranav Patel** – Madison CSSC, **Nicole Poteete** – Teaneck CSSC, **Shakiya Prentice** – Madison CSSC, **Gwendolyn Reed** – Madison CSSC, **Earsala Roberson** – Madison CSSC, **Zenaida Rodriguez** – Teaneck CSSC, **Hector Roman** – Teaneck CSSC, **Terri Simon** – Madison CSSC, **Lia Sirmans** – Madison CSSC, **Lusterine Solomon** – Madison CSSC, **Belkys Teodor-Mazilu** – Teaneck CSSC, **Donnaka Towns** – Madison CSSC, **Rasheemah Turner** – Madison CSSC, **Shameeka Tyrrell** – Teaneck CSSC, **Felicia Warren** – Madison CSSC, **Cherise Wharton** – Madison CSSC



## W A L - M A R T

Wal-Mart continues to earn its boycott status. The latest outrage occurred in a Canadian store north of Quebec where the United Food and Commercial Service workers union had won the right to represent the store's employees.

Of course, Wal-Mart refused to negotiate a contract and the union appealed the issue to Quebec's Labor Department because there was an impasse. A contract would have been forced on Wal-Mart, making this the first Wal-Mart store in history to operate under a collective bargaining agreement. Instead, Wal-Mart closed the store. Undeterred, the UFCS announced it will continue its organizing efforts at Wal-Mart stores in other Canadian locations.

Wal-Mart's hatred of labor is well known and well documented. When meat cutters won the right to union representation, the store fired them all, claiming that prepackaged meat was the way to go.

No self-respecting union member should be buying merchandise at Wal-Mart. Those cheap clothes were made by child labor in China, and the blood in the store's packaged meat belongs to the American worker.

They can't close all the stores. With your help, Wal-Mart's workers can prevail.



## SNAPSHOTS FROM THE SWEATSHOP

*(continued from Page 10)*

returned from a business trip where I traveled almost three hundred miles without seeing one single advertising sign for food that was healthy to eat. Even the frozen yogurt was doctored up with sugar and preservatives. Not that I would have been interested, mind you.

Smoking and drinking and recreational drugs don't help, either. So there's the side of this issue that has to do with our behavior, and that's about half of it.

Of course, I suppose there are Swedes and Lichtensteiners who smoke and drink and chew on lumps of pure cholesterol, too. Yet, somehow they are outliving us. And the reason for that is the other half of the story.

See, in those countries the government is interested in keeping everyone healthy, employed, educated, and secure. Those governments believe they have a responsibility to do those things, and, strangely enough, the folks who vote those governments in believe the same thing.

Here, we have quite the opposite view of health. The burden is all on you, and by the votes counted in the last US Presidential Election, a plurality of Americans seem to



### *Congratulations Retirees*

**Paula Belmonte** – Madison LBS, **Monica Krupa** – Madison CSSC

agree. This is why the current White House budget features large increases in defense spending, and severe cuts in Medicaid.

Back in the bad old days before Teddy Roosevelt passed a truckload of consumer friendly legislation, canned food was often contaminated with all kinds of toxins, bottled whiskey could blind you on the spot, and make up usually contained lead. Go to a hospital? Forget it! Everyone died in his or her bed, thank you. And die they did, by the carload, so to speak.

Businesses defended their shoddy practices in court by using the phrase, "Caveat Emptor!" That's Latin for "Let the buyer beware!" It means that whatever happens to you is your fault. And they got away with it, too, before Teddy stepped in.

Today's motto is "Caveat Corpus!" That means, "Let the body beware!" See, whatever happens to you, whether you have a heart attack, develop MS, fall victim to cancer, wake up paralyzed for reasons unknown, that's all your fault, so don't expect your government to bail you out, fatso! 'Cause that's not what they do around here anymore....

Are you starting to get the point?

Love ya!

Nicky

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Surely there must be somebody who will stand up?"*

**- Rosa Parks**

The Community Minded Union  
**Locally Speaking**  
 The People Minded Local

The voice of local 1023 endeavors to provide factual, informative and relevant comment on matters of interest to the Membership. Reprint permission is granted to All Union Publications, with credit to the author. All inquiries concerning this publication should be referred to the Editor.

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- ASSISTANT EDITORS ..... **Ward Riley, Luis Rivera**
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### TIME VALUE

