Gary Bonadonna Jr. Manager Rochester Regional Joint Board International Vice President Workers United 750 East Ave. Rochester, NY 14607

March Notes 2021

- Free COVID-19 Vaccine at SHHC Sidney Hillman Health Center is now offering to our members COVID-19 vaccine's on a first come, first serve basis. Please call 585-242-7575 to schedule your appointment today at Workers United Union Hall.
- Spring Safety Tips: "Seniors" How many of us do a mental checklist before we leave our homes? Do you have car keys, house keys, wallet, cell phone, and did we lock all the doors and especially the Windows in our homes?
- 365 Days In review, Here are a few highlights . Wrote a letter to Congressman Morelle. Called WRO Officers and Board members to cancel meetings due to the Covid Virus. Call all WRO members of the discussions to cancel the WRO meeting. Sidney Hillman Health Center provided Free delivery of Prescriptions and over the counter Health care items to members. Bill Marshall Vice President and I attended Susan B Anthony's 200 Birthday Celebration held at the Rochester Convention Center.

Workers United attended a variety of Black Lives Matter Rallies. Members sent letters and cards to Sidney Hillman Health Center members for supporting us during this most difficult time in our nation. Gary Bonadonna Manager RRJB and Julie Black created two new websites for Workers United. The first one for WRO Workers United Retiree Organization and the second for our first Digital newsletter to provide information and stories electronically. It provides a variety of information.

- "We should Continue to wear our face mask social distance for the safety of our families and our members."
- Sent letters to New York Assembly Sarah Clark and New York Senate Samara Brouk. The letters were asking that the Star program and the Enhanced Star program be the same for all taxpayers. In 2015 the program was changed where the homeowner pays Taxes first then waits for a rebate check. This creates a hardship for retirees who are on a fixed income and get paid once or twice a month. With the Postmaster we are not guaranteed the mail will be on time. These checks could be stolen from the mailbox. The state has created another financial burden by the printing of the checks, mailing, processing of the checks and additional labor costs that's not necessary. ~On Going~ Letter was written as a taxpayer and homeowner.

- "Stimulus check Action is needed" if you did not receive your stimulus check in the amount of \$600.00 dollars Please Call or contact your "Tax Accountant or a family member for help! You still have time this Tax season...
- Amazon ~ is the second largest private employer in the US with 800,000 employees and it fiercely resisted attempts of workers organizing. "RWDSU" Retail Wholesale Department Store Union for the first time in seven years are trying to represent Amazon warehouse workers to Unionize which could give them more say in their hours, pay and working conditions. The 5800 workers in Bessemer, a small industrial city outside of Birmingham Alabama have been casting ballots this past month March 2021. Additionally the vote is taking place in the south region historically viewed as anti-union. How are the votes being tallied? The National Labor Relations Board "NLRB" which is overseeing the process is going through the votes with representatives from Amazon and the "RWDSU".

What happens if the union wins? Amazon would need to start negotiating a contract with the New York-based RWDSU, which is the lead in organizing efforts for Bessemer, Alabama warehouse employees and represent 100,000 workers from poultry, cereal and soda facilities and retailers such as Macy's in H&M.

April 5, 2021 The counting of the votes has begun. I will provide additional information on the results of the Union Vote from our "RWDSU".

- 365 New Days... A special thank you to the WRO Officers and Board Members. Together we made some great decisions to support the WRO. Every month calls were made asking our members if they needed food, help with rides or help with any other matter. Most recently we helped out members with contact information for the Covid vaccine. We helped members with the stimulus checks and information regarding submitting Taxes for reimbursement on all stimulus money!
- The WRO Workers United Retiree Organization. Anyone interested in joining the WRO please contact me if you have any questions. I would like to also encourage you to go online and fill out the application and submit it. Membership is the backbone of our organization. Thank you!
- To all the members we have lost along the way a prayer goes out to all of you and your family's.
- A special thank you to Helen Sudore for sending out get well cards and sympathy cards to these families. Betty Triest thank you for continually updating our Roster with our newest 12 members.
- Monika Sheldon and Julia Black on behalf of the WRO Workers United Retiree Organization We appreciate your support during the year and look forward to your continued support for our organization.

- To all Sidney Hillman Health Center Staff, You have honored all the members of Workers United RRJB. With your hard work and dedication to your brothers and sisters in labor! We all thank you!
- To the WRO we have 365 new days. Enjoy every day. Many of you will start planning your vegetable & flower gardens. Some of you will start planning trips to see your families again. Let's continue to help out one another call on a friend to say hello.
- It truly is my Honor to represent all of you.

Solidarity

Ed Laughlin President WRO Workers United RRJB 750 East Ave. Rochester New York 14607 Email: edlaughlin119@icloud.com Cell 585 721 8625