

# STATE OF THE UNION

*Monroe County Federation of Social Workers, IUE-CWA 381*

*167 Flanders St*

*(585) 328-7170 voice*

*web site: [www.fsw-union.com](http://www.fsw-union.com)*

*Evelyn Evans, president*

*Rochester, New York 14619*

*(585) 328-2162 fax*

*e-mail: [fswmessage@aol.com](mailto:fswmessage@aol.com)*



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## **MEMBERSHIP MEETING –**

10/29/09 AT FLANDERS AT 5:30 PM – THERE ARE SEVERAL IMPORTANT ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDING: MEMBER VOTES FOR POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE RACES AND A VOTE ON A PROPOSAL MADE BY A EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR A PAID POSITION WITHIN THE LOCAL (we do apologize for the short notice).

## **THANK YOU-**

To all the members, retirees, family members and guests who participated in the Labor Day Parade and the Gala. Both were a huge success.

## **Human Service Worker of the Year (HSWOY) luncheon –**

FSW will Be hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> annual HSWOY luncheon on Friday Oct 23, 2009 from 11:30 am – 2 pm. The event last year was standing room only. And the winners and runners up in each category are:

W. Burton Richardson winner: Dr. Moira Szilagyi, MD, PhD (Starlight Pediatric Clinic)

Public Sector winner: Greta Davis (RCSD); runner up: Selena Mathews (MCDHS)

Private Sector winner: Erin Huston (Mercy Residential Serv); runner up: Anne-Marie Carmentat (Center for Youth)

Volunteer winner: Michelle Alaimo-Geraci (Alyssa's Angels); runner up: Bill McCoy (Metro Justice)

Bertina Forde rising star winner: Bonaventure Banahene (children's center) runner up: Roychelle Lockett (children's center)

## **Incident reports-**

If you have a situation that requires you to complete an incident report, please fax a copy of the incident report to the union office at 328-2162. If the union does not know that you have been involved in an incident, it is difficult for the union to act quickly to offer you support and guidance.

## **Bulletin Boards –**

There was some question about whether our members even looked at the bulletin boards. The answer is a resounding YES!!!!. How do we know, a flyer was put up by the mobilization team. The photo on the flyer generated a lot of attention. Some say they were offended by the photo, some of the flyers were taken down, and notes were left to say they did not like the photo. The photo was a piece of click art, it was a staged photo. It was not a photo of someone with a disability. But, now that we have your attention ..... and we know members are utilizing the bulletin board, we will try to keep you shocked and amazed. However, it is important for everyone to get the information posted on the bulletin board, so please do not add items to or remove items from the union bulletin boards without first talking to the floor Steward or contacting the union office.

### **Facebook and Federation website-**

We would like to be able to use both of these technologies to get information to our members. Both can be used to get information out quickly to members. If you have any suggestions for either site, please contact the union office. We value your input and would love to get members involved on small projects.

### **Future retirees-**

Several members who are near retirement have many questions about the process. We will be hosting a meeting on 11/10 from noon to 1 pm at the union office 167 Flanders St. (off Thurston Rd).

### **Flu Season-**

We all know the flu season is coming. We all have heard the issues and added concern of the H1N1 strain. At this time DHS does not have any specific plan to address concerns regarding the seasonal flu or H1N1. Please be sure that you plan accordingly for yourself and your family including: knowing the signs and symptoms of the flu, having sick time in your sick bank, who will care for the children if you they are sick, will you go home (using your own time) or stay if a co worker is displaying signs and symptoms of the flu.

### **Did you know -**

That over the past 100 years unions have accomplished the following for working people:

The 8 hour work day (for FSW 7 hour work day)

Social Security

5 day work week

Fair wages

Minimum wage

Child labor laws

Workplace safety

Unemployment benefits

Worker's compensation

Pensions

Civil rights

Health insurance

Community services

Family Medical Leave Act

Training apprenticeships

Public education for all children

And helped build the middle class