APRIL 2021



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psc-cuny.org/retirees.org

VIRTUAL CHAPTER MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 5, 1-3 on ZOOM

NYC and the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC) are about to decide whether to move all city retirees, including us, to a Medicare Advantage plan.

This has huge implications for our members. We need more information. More transparency. **We need to hear from our membership**. That is why we have invited two key people to discuss this and answer questions at our **April 5 chapter meeting**: PSC President **Barbara Bowen**, who is on the MLC Steering Committee, and **Donna Costa**, Executive Director of the PSC/CUNY Welfare Fund and a member of an MLC committee assessing the two Medicare Advantage finalists for an RFP issued by the city.

[See the article in the next column for more details.]

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, May 3, 1 PM – A New Deal for CUNY: Speakers will discuss a legislative package and campaign phased over five years to rebuild and reimagine CUNY.

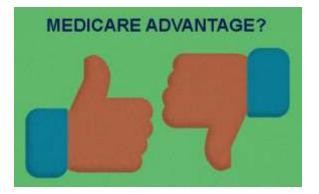
Monday, June 14, 1 PM – Barbara Bowen, who is stepping down as a PSC

officer, will take a retrospective look at her 21 years as president of the union.

[Editor's note: look for the union election ballot in your mail in April.]

IS THE CITY SWITCHING RETIREES TO MEDICARE ADVANTAGE?

Bill Friedheim Chapter Chair



The question in the headline is troubling. Before I address it, some context.

The Professional Staff Congress does not directly negotiate healthcare benefits with the city. That is done by the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC), comprised of over 200 NYC publicsector unions, including the PSC.

Under the present MLC agreement, as explained on the PSC/CUNY Welfare Fund website:

New York City policy requires retirees who reach age 65 to apply for Medicare B, which becomes their primary health insurance. Their City benefits insurance plan becomes their secondary coverage. Likewise, the PSC-CUNY Welfare Fund follows the NYC HBP policy. To enroll in the Welfare Fund SilverScript prescription drug program, retirees who reach age 65 are required to enroll in Medicare Part B. Likewise, when a dependent spouse/partner reaches age 65, enrollment is Medicare Part B is mandatory. The City benefit plan, such as GHI, continues but becomes secondary coverage.

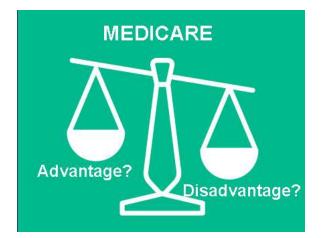
With secondary coverage from the City and prescription drug benefits from the Welfare Fund, most PSC retirees on Medicare have minimal out-of-pocket expenses. In other words, we have excellent health care coverage.

Is that about to change? I never thought I would be asking that question, but the City (as we only found out just recently) put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) in November for private insurance companies to take over administering Medicare Part B benefits for NYC retirees. In other words, Medicare Advantage. There were several responses to the RFP, with two finalists – Aetna and Emblem. This is now on the table in negotiations between the City and the MLC.

If there is agreement, the new program could go into effect as early as July 1, but in reality, probably not before October 1. The City's rationale is to save money.

The key word in that last paragraph is "**IF**" – "if there is agreement."

What "if" it does happen? What does it mean? We need more information. More transparency. **We need to hear from our membership**. That is why we have invited two key people to discuss this and answer questions at our **April 5 chapter meeting**: PSC President **Barbara Bowen**, who is on the MLC Steering Committee, and **Donna Costa**, executive director of the PSC/CUNY Welfare Fund and a member of an MLC committee assessing the two Medicare Advantage finalists.



If it happens, our understanding is that we either sign up for the city Medicare Advantage plan, or stay on original Medicare, but pay for our own (secondary) Medigap insurance, while continuing to get pharmaceutical benefits through the PSC/CUNY Welfare Fund SilverScript prescription drug program.

Medicare Advantage is privatized Medicare. Its plans vary in quality, but too many have a history of higher copays, higher deductibles, higher hospital costs, higher rates of denied claims, and limited networks.

But when our retiree Executive Committee sought information on the status of MLC negotiations and the two finalists, this is what we were told: That at a minimum the City's Medicare Advantage plan would cover whatever we already have (with traditional Medicare and secondary insurance from the City)-and more; that out-of-pocket costs would not increase: that access to doctors and hospitals would not diminish; that we would continue to receive prescription drug benefits through the WF SilverScript program; that those eligible would continue to get Medicare Part B and IRMAA reimbursements from the City.

That paints a very rosy picture. I, for one, can neither confirm nor refute that rosy picture. Our members need information. That's why our April 5 meeting is so vitally important. We want our members to listen to presentations by Barbara and Donna, to ask questions, to engage, to have agency. See you on the 5th.

THE MONTH THAT WAS



Did you get vaccinated? Did you have any difficulty finding locations for the vaccine? Please answer our super-fast and totally unscientific survey here:

https://www.psc-cuny.org/form/vaccinationsurvey-retirees

March Retirees Meeting on Healthy Aging

Anne Friedman, BMCC

On the cusp of the official one-year mark of sheltering in place, world-wide lockdowns, isolation from friends and family, frantically seeking masks, and navigating the maze of getting our vaccinations, our Retiree Chapter held its March 1 virtual meeting on Healthy Aging. While resting a little easier even though we continue to face challenges of the COVID pandemic (program topic for our April meeting), it came as a breath of fresh air to hear from Dr. Ruth Finkelstein, executive director of Hunter's Brookdale Center for Health Aging, and Alec Pruchnicki, MD, a primary care geriatrician in private practice and at the community-run assisted living facility at 108 St. & 5th Ave. He is also clinical professor at Mt. Sinai Morningside Heights and Mt. Sinai West. David Kotelchuck moderated.

Professor Finkelstein addressed the question of how to make it possible for everyone to age as well as he/she can. Placing issues of individual health in a broader social and political context, Finkelstein spoke of our bifurcated environment of "cumulative advantage and disadvantage." Over an individual's life span the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, whereby for some retirement can be the best time of life when we feel free to "do what we want," and others feel vulnerable and isolated in a world that is not designed to meet their needs. Aging is challenging and we must take care of those who are vulnerable.

As the world's population of older adults increases and birth rates decline, we need a plan for aging on a global level. Finkelstein presented a model adapted from a colleague, Alexandre Kalache, that segments four stages of adult life: learning, working, providing care and retirement/leisure. The goal in the aspirational vision she showed us was to intersperse learning and leisure throughout one's adult life. This "shaking up" of the model's four stages benefits all generations.

The ideal for living longer is that for the entirety of old age one can live above the disability threshold. For this to become real there must be investment in monetary and social capital. This point was emphasized by program participants, numbering nearly 100, who made points about class, race and gender during the discussion that followed.



"Bread and Butter Care." The second speaker, Alec Pruchnicki, once a CUNY graduate assistant and PSC member, is

now a primary care physician specializing in geriatric and palliative health. He delivers "bread and butter care" with the goal of keeping people healthy in their communities and avoiding emergency room visits. Dr. Pruchnicki echoed the importance of financial and social stability in enabling older adults to take advantage of opportunities in retirement. And as we age, we need to work harder at eating well and staying active. Pruchnicki told us that one of the most important factors in preventing illness is maintaining a good weight, clearly a challenge when we are offered large portions of food made tasty and often irresistible with salt, fats, and sugars. The American food industry feeds unhealthy eating habits through "woke" advertising (e.g., more interracial couples now) and subsidies to such products as corn syrup. For more on healthy eating the speaker recommended the book The End of Overeating: Taking Control of the Insatiable American Appetite by David Kessler, now President Biden's COVID czar.

Pruchnicki discussed the importance of finding a primary care provider who takes you seriously and with whom you have good communication. Nurse practitioners can fill this role as well as MDs, he said. Seniors should be aware that when visiting a provider, it is important to prioritize your questions and concerns. It is not as essential to find a good geriatrician as a good internist, best found through word of mouth, he noted. Geriatricians, however, also have specialized training in palliative care.

Participants were engaged in a lively back and forth with the panelists, raising

questions of healthy aging in other cultures (e.g., Japan) and on the topic of Medicare for All here in New York and in the country.

Struggle Against Racism at Hunter College High School

Glenn Kissack, Hunter College Campus Schools

I retired from teaching mathematics at Hunter College High School, a school with a national reputation for excellence. A public high school under the aegis of CUNY, HCHS admits students on the basis of their performance on a one-day, three-hour exam containing difficult math and reading questions, in addition to a written essay.

While teaching, I participated in official committees concerned with improving diversity at HCHS. Currently, Black students are 2.4 percent of the student body, while Latinx students are 6.2 percent. Low-income students are 9 percent. Committee members were aware that two-thirds of NYC public schools are Black and/or Latinx, while 73% are considered low-income, and that the original HCHS mission statement set a goal of having the student body reflect NYC's school population. Even though our committees, including Middle States and Hunter College's Strategic Planning Committee, recommended moving towards admissions based on multiple criteria, as other top-ranked schools in the country had done, Hunter College's president repeatedly ignored our reports.



Student designed logo: Hunter College Schools 4 Diversity

For more than a year now, a diverse group of Hunter HS students – inspired by the anti-racist sentiment of the multiracial Black Lives Matter protests – have been calling for changes in the school's admission process. They call themselves Hunter4Diversity and have a Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/hunter.diversi ty.7

Normally, the HCHS entrance exam is administered early in January, but that wasn't possible this year because of the pandemic. Hunter4Diversity has been pressing Hunter College President Jennifer Raab to do what Boston Latin and other prestigious schools have done this year: Suspend the entrance exam and implement an alternative admissions plan whose goal is an entering class that is more racially and economically diverse. An integrated school, they say, is better for all students. The students have done an amazing job of organizing:

• They wrote a 27-page letter to Raab explaining why changes in admissions are both necessary and possible. When they received no reply, 1,895 students, parents, faculty and alumni signed a letter in support of their demands for a new admissions policy.

• They organized a spirited rally of more than 100 students, parents, alums and faculty at Hunter College, which I was happy to attend.

• They convinced 38 elected officials to join the call for a new admissions policy: <u>https://www.amny.com/news/electeds-</u> <u>and-students-push-for-hunter-college-</u> <u>campus-school-entrance-exam-to-be-</u> <u>suspended-this-year/</u>

• Hunter4Diversity held a press conference on February 1 with elected officials who support their demand for a new admissions process, including Inez Barron, chair of the City Council Higher Education Committee, Public Advocate Jumaane Williams and City Council member Brad Lander.

https://www.facebook.com/hunter.diversi ty.7/videos/213487950429368/



HCHS student testifying at a City Council Hearing on Zoom.

• HCHS student Aruna Das wrote an essay in *The Nation* about their struggle: <u>https://www.thenation.com/article/societ</u> <u>y/specialized-highschools/</u>

• On February 23, the City Council Committee on Higher Education held a hearing at which HCHS students testified and called for changes in the school's admissions, a call that was supported by Chair Barron and Council member Brad Lander. The students were eloquent and well-informed, and you can watch a livestream recording of the hearing:

https://livestream.com/accounts/173760 47/events/9106772/videos/217921464

NYC has one of the most segregated school systems in the country. The student-led campaign at HCHS is just one battle in the struggle to change this system. The outcome this year is uncertain, but anti-racist students and faculty will not give up. \Box

NEWS OF NOTE

Attention NYC Primary Voters: Ranked Choice Voting Will be Here in June

Bonnie Nelson, John Jay College

New York City voters who are enrolled in a party (Democratic or Republican) will soon discover that the primary election for City offices will be very different this year. First, the primary will be in June, not September as in years past. But, more significantly, this is the first year that voters will be casting their votes using Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). No longer will you have to choose between your heart and your head between the candidate you really want and the candidate you think is "just acceptable" but more likely to win. In June, you'll be able to vote for them both. In fact, you can choose up to five candidates—ranking them in order from your first choice to your fifth choice. You can still vote for just one candidate; and you may not vote for more than five. But you don't have to strategize at all anymore – you just have to choose the candidates you like and rank them in the order you like.

When the ballots are tallied, all the firstchoice votes will be counted first. If one candidate receives more than 50% of the first-choice votes, that candidate is declared the winner. But if no candidate receives more than 50%, then the RCV process kicks in and round two of the count begins. The candidate with the smallest number of first-choice votes is eliminated and their votes are parceled out to the voters' second choices. A new tally is conducted to determine whether any candidate has now won a majority of the adjusted votes. The process continues until one candidate gets over 50% of the total.

	1	2	3	4	5
CANDIDATE A	0	0	•	0	d
CANDIDATE B	•	0	0	0	0
CANDIDATE C	0	•	0	0	0
CANDIDATE D	0	0	0	0	0
CANDIDATE E	Ó	0	0		0

Sample of a properly filled out ballot.

Voters will be using RCV in the primary elections for Mayor, Comptroller, Public Advocate, City Council, and Borough President. Primary races for District Attorney will not use RCV, since that office is officially a state office.

In November 2019, New York City voters overwhelmingly approved the adoption of Ranked Choice Voting as an amendment to the City Charter. In primary and special elections in NYC there are often so many candidates running that no one candidate receives a majority of the vote. Sometimes this has resulted in costly runoff elections; often the result has been an official effectively elected by a small minority of voters. Ranked Choice Voting, also sometimes known as "instant runoff" voting, is meant to change that. The winning candidate will have the votes (whether first choice or fifth) of at least 50% of the voters. Proponents of RCV also argue that elections will be less vituperative, with candidates being encouraged to form alliances; e.g., candidates A and B both telling voters "if you like the other guy as your first choice, put me down as your second because we both share your values."

RCV is currently being used in the state of Maine, in numerous municipal elections, and in countries such as Australia, Ireland, New Zealand and Scotland. This June, New York City voters will join their ranks.

An excellent short video explaining the process, along with clear FAQs, can be found on the NYC Board of Elections site at https://vote.nyc/page/ranked-choice-voting

Retirees Also Benefit from the American Rescue Plan

Dave Kotelchuck, Hunter College

Like most other Americans, retirees across the U.S. will benefit from the American Rescue Plan (ARP). In a March 2 speech to the State-wide NYSUT Retirees Council, Barry Kaufmann, president of New York State Alliance of Retired Americans, noted first that all of us earning up to \$75,000 a year will receive a one-time payment of \$1,400, prorated up to \$80,000.

In addition, ARP will provide funding for states to deploy strike teams to longterm care facilities to help workers respond to COVID outbreaks. The bill will also provide additional food security for all those eligible for food-stamp benefits, many of whom are elderly – increasing all SNAP benefit levels by 15% through September and eliminating all state matching requirements.

Another benefit for parents with adult children who are unemployed or have otherwise lost their health insurance: The ARP program will subsidize COBRA to provide health coverage for their eligible children through September 2021. Currently, many parents pay their children's COBRA bills.

The \$15-an-hour Minimum Wage

Due to a long-standing Senate procedural rule, which the Democrats refused to upend, although legally they could have, we have lost for now the fight for the \$15 an hour minimum wage. This would immediately have added income to the 35% of those over 65 still in the workforce. Also the increase in national income brought on by a higher minimum wage would have increased payroll taxes paid into the Social Security system. Kaufmann estimates that this would have translated to a boost in benefits of about \$5,000 per year for affected workers upon their retirement and bolstered the overall system.

A Final Message

Of the 500,000-plus Americans who have lost their lives during this pandemic, more than three-quarters were over 65 years of age, Kaufmann noted. Thus President Biden's COVID Relief package will benefit the senior American population immediately and directly.



The next important task to assist retirees is to expand Social Security, he said. Currently Social Security payroll taxes on personal income are capped at \$142,800. Income above this level is not charged this tax. Thus in 2021, some of the highest earning Americans stopped contributing to Social Security on January 4th. High earners and the wealthy must pay their fair share of all taxes. And Congress must resist efforts to cut Social Security either by raising the ages of eligibility or by adopting rules making it harder to access disability income. \square

WE ARE WORKING ON IT

THRIVE—Environmental Justice and Solidarity

The PSC Environmental Justice Working Group has been coordinating closely with the AFT and NY Renews to advance the THRIVE Agenda. THRIVE is the legislative outgrowth of the Green New Deal concept that took youth, climate justice and labor organizations by storm. It provides a way to decarbonize the economy-50% by 2030-by a series of programs that center economic recovery and communities most affected by environmental and economic injustices in the past. It will invest billions of dollars into renewable energy, allelectric vehicles, green infrastructure, sustainable agriculture and jobs, jobs, jobs.

The THRIVE Agenda would invest in public transit, replace lead pipes, modernize old buildings to cut carbon pollution, and advance sustainable manufacturing. It promises to strengthen the sovereignty of indigenous peoples and communities and invest in Black and brown communities that have been more affected by environmental racism in the past. THRIVE also centers high-skill job creation, and expansive educational, training and apprenticeship programs, including investments in community college programs in these areas. The expectation is that these new millions of jobs will be ripe for unionization.

AFT is committed to the THRIVE Agenda and their alliance with the youth-led Sunrise Movement. AFT is asking all locals, including ours, to be active in advancing the THRIVE Agenda through their state organizations. In NY State, NY Renews is the lead organization in the THRIVE work. Our relationship over the last several years with NY Renews will strengthen our environmental engagement on both state and federal levels.

PSC's Environmental Justice Working Group is taking the lead on the THRIVE Agenda for the PSC and we welcome all PSC members and CUNY students to join us in this important effort. There are billions of dollars about to be spent to help minimize and manage climate change, create greater equity and opportunity and unite our communities.



We welcome your participation in any way possible. Contact us for further information: nancyromer@gmail.com. Write "THRIVE" in the subject line.

FEATURED ESSAY

If You Believe that Black Lives Matter

Cecelia McCall, Baruch College

"Anti-black racism is a more intractable problem than most Americans are willing to admit." Adam Swerer, Atlantic, (12/23/19)

"Racism is adaptive over time, deeply rooted and not caged by *legislation.*" Robin DiAngelo, *White Fragility*

Walking down the street one day on the Upper West Side behind two young Black men, I overheard part of their conversation, one, saying to the other, "These white folks out here hate us. I have never done anything to any white person, but they hate us."

During the heyday of the civil rights movement, many of us believed America had turned a corner, that there would be justice and equity for Black Americans. However, when Democrats proposed extending government benefits to all, white support for a guaranteed job and a minimum standard of living dropped from 70% to 35%. The white working class began drifting rightward so that "... no Democratic presidential candidate has won the white vote since Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts in the mid-1960s." (Heather McGhee, NYT, 2/15/21)

To this day, the majority of white people have voted for successive neoliberal regimes that have produced austerity budgets, both lowering taxes and slashing social programs to the extent that of all industrialized countries. the U.S. ranks among the lowest in spending. Under the guise of less government and "law and order," whites have sacrificed the common good and alliances with people of color for the benefits they receive from systemic racism: the median wealth of white households is thirteen times that of Black households: Blacks are six times as likely as whites to be incarcerated, and while 13.2% of the population, they

are 40% of the incarcerated. (Ibram Kendi, *Stamped From The Beginning*)

Both the murder of George Floyd and the pandemic have shone a glaring light upon these and other racial disparities and the toll systemic racism has taken on the lives of Black people, particularly Black women. Relying on such sources as the American Journal of Public Health and the National Partnership for Women and Families, the African American Policy Institute (Feb. 9, 2021) reported the following: Black women are three to four times more likely to die during child birth or suffer from pregnancy-related complications than white women; they are more likely to die from heart disease and breast cancer than any other group of men and women in the United States: Black women's bodies age faster than white women's due to chronic stress linked to social determinants of health: Black women are over-represented in servicesector jobs, including frontline healthcare, exposing them to COVID-19 infections; and only 87% of Black women of reproductive age have access to health insurance, in comparison to 91% of the total population.

PEOPLE OF COLOR HAVE BEEN VACCINATED AT MUCH LOWER RATES THAN WHITES

As for the pandemic, while communities of color have been hardest hit and have suffered the most fatalities, dying at twice the rate of white New Yorkers, data show that though they comprise 24% of NYC residents, only 11% had been vaccinated as of February 1, and of 125,000 Black seniors, only 9% had received vaccinations. In spite of complaints about not having access to vaccines, the overwhelming majority of those vaccinated were white. (NYT, 2/01/21).

Forty years ago, referring to her experience with white feminists, Mitsuye Amada wrote, "When Third World women are asked to speak about representing our racial or ethnic group, we are expected to move, charm, or entertain, but not to educate in ways that are threatening to our audiences. ...audiences sift out those parts of our speech . . . , come up to shake our hands with, 'That was lovely, my dear, just lovely' and go home with the same mind set they come in with." (*This Bridge Called My Back*)

Though the newly elected government seems to aspire to addressing systemic racism so that there might yet be a reckoning with the past that gives people of color hope for the future, Amada's statement could have been written today, when there is still an expectation that we are to politely educate and enlighten others in spite of general access to countless articles, reports, films and documentaries.

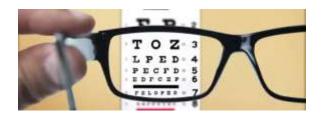
If you believe that Black Lives Matter, then yours is the responsibility to seek, to find and to join the struggle for racial and social justice however, wherever and whenever you can. \Box

UNION WRAP-UP

Welfare Fund Benefits Q & A: Davis Vision Benefit

Patrick Smith, PSC-CUNY Welfare Fund

[Editors' note: This new feature will be a regular column on frequently asked question about the Welfare Fund.]



Question: How do I get glasses from the Davis Vision In-Network Benefit?

Answer: Start by checking on your eligibility. Register online at *davisvision.com* or call Davis Vision at 800-999-5431. The Fund Trustees have chosen to work with Davis as a single provider offering quality service at great value. The in-network benefit is available every 12 months.

Question: How can I find a Davis Vision store near me?

Answer: Look up a convenient Davis Vision participating network provider online at *davisvision.com*. Click on the red "Member" tab and enter our Client Code 2022. Or call Davis at 800-999-5431. Then call the provider to make an appointment for an eye exam and to purchase frames or contact lenses.

Question: How much do glasses cost at Davis Vision?

Answer: There is no copay if you choose from the Davis Vision Premier Collection of eyeglass frames or the Premium Collection of contacts. The cost of frames or contacts made by other brands is reduced at Davis by \$100 plus 20% off any balance.

Question: What if I need progressive lenses and UV filtering? Is there an extra charge?

Answer: A range of special lenses and coatings is available for no co-payment at any in-network Davis provider. The complete list of lenses and treatments is on the Welfare Fund website psccunywf.org.

Question: What if I don't use Davis but buy my glasses somewhere else?

Answer: You can submit for the out-ofnetwork vision reimbursement benefit every 24 months. Reimbursement is up to \$200. You must submit your bill within 90 days of the date of service. If you last got glasses from an out-of-network store and now you want use a Davis provider, call the Welfare Fund to activate your in-network eligibility: 212-354-5230, ext. 1316.

Question: Anything else I should know?

Answer: Eye examinations other than for purchase of glasses or contact lenses are <u>not</u> covered. Glasses and contacts must be purchased on the date of the examination. Split services are not permitted within the provider network.

Watch a video overview of your Davis Vision Benefits at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rlw_B niKGvs____

New NYSUT Retiree Council Representatives Elected



Concluding their first Zoom elections, retiree members of NYSUT Retiree Council 37-38 elected a new group of officers, delegates and alternates on January 11 for three-year terms. Dave Kotelchuck was re-elected as president of RC 37-38, and Cecelia McCall was elected as first vice-president.

Retiree Councils (RC's) are a network of 44 retiree groups with over 200,000 members across NY State from Montauk Point, Long Island to Jamestown, NY and north from Staten Island to the Canadian Border – plus one RC in Florida for retired "snowbirds." They were established by NYSUT to keep retired members active and in contact with the union, particularly the many retirees who have little or no role in their local chapters – unlike the situation in the PSC, where retirees constitute a regular chapter with dues and full union rights.

All members of the PSC Retirees Chapter, plus a small number of retirees from other NYSUT higher education locals in the NYC metro area, are members of RC 37-38. All RC 37-38 members received invitations from NYSUT to attend the election meeting. In addition to Dave and Cecelia, the other officers elected were Eileen Moran as second vice-president and John Hyland as secretary. Elected as delegates to state-wide Retiree Council meetings and the annual representative assembly were: Bill Friedheim, Doris Hart, Dave Kotelchuck, Marva Lilly, Cecelia McCall and Eileen Moran. Six alternate delegates were also elected: Connie Gemson, John Hyland, Steve Leberstein. Marcia Newfield and Irwin Yellowitz. None of the RC 37-38 elections was contested and so no follow-up mail ballot elections were needed.

USEFUL UNION LINKS:

Retiree Chapter: https://www.psc-cuny.org/retirees

Health & Safety Watchdogs https://www.psc-cuny.org/aboutus/environmental-health-and-safety

Welfare Fund http://psccunywf.org/

TURNING THE PAGE is a publication of the Retirees Chapter of PSC-CUNY, Local 2334 of NYSUT and the AFT. We welcome contributions from our several thousand members: articles of special interest to retirees, short essays on your activities during this period of politics and plague, and your comments on recent publications of interest. Our newsletter collective is made up of Michael Frank, Bill Friedheim, Joan Greenbaum and Dave Kotelchuck. Please write to us at retirees@pscmail.org, with 'Newsletter' in the subject line, and visit the Retirees webpage https://www.psccuny.org/retirees

LIFE DURING WARTIME. Josh Brown, the retired director of the American Social History Project at the CUNY Graduate Center, has produced a series of weekly political illustrations, beginning in 2003 with the war in Iraq, called Life During Wartime. You can view them by going to the entire collection, 2003-2021, which is online at: www.joshbrownnyc.com/ldw.htm.



Governor Greg Abbott welcomes you to Texas.