

# retiree



## wrapup

**Robert Gervasi**  
President

**WE'RE BACK!** I hope that the arrival of this *PEPtalk* issue finds all of you well and in good spirits. We have some catching up to do, so let's have at it.

When the last *PEPtalk* issue came out, winter was about to come to an end and my woodchuck story missed printing. I'm not letting that go, so here is how it was written: "The winter is quickly fading into the sunset, and for the most part for those of the retirees living in the northeast, we have been blessed with a fairly mild winter. Depending on which woodchuck appearance you may subscribe to, either spring will arrive early according to Malverne Mel and Staten Island Chuck or there will be six more weeks of winter according to Punxsutawney Phil."

Much has gone on in our office at 75 Maiden Lane. We have purchased six Windows 10 computers and a new, up-to-date fax machine available by faxing 212.815.1071. With the help of the IT staff from DC 37, all the new equipment is up and running. I am also happy to announce Ms. Sheila Rabb, the newest member of the office staff here at the Retirees Association. You may reach Ms. Rabb at 212.815.1782. Welcome aboard, Sheila.

We continue in our search to fill an Accountant position and one Clerical position from our Retirees ranks. Any retiree interested in a part-time position here at the 75 Maiden Lane office may submit a resume either through e-mail to [poquendo@dc37.net](mailto:poquendo@dc37.net) or by USPS addressed to:

**DC 37 Retirees Association**  
**75 Maiden Lane, Room 501**  
**New York, NY 10038**

Recently, legal arguments were made in court regarding the GHI Senior Care co-pays. We are awaiting the court's decision and will post it on our website when known. Additionally, litigation continues with regard to the Retirees health care dilemma. Once again, when we have information or updates on this case, it will be posted on our web page.

There is much confusion among retirees about their particular health care situations. I STRONGLY recommend that those questions

be directed to either the New York City Office of Labor Relations at 212.513.0470 Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or the AETNA dedicated call center at 1.855.648.0389 Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. There is a tremendous amount of misinformation being disseminated throughout the retiree ranks, so it is my suggestion that those with inquiries utilize these contacts to obtain the proper information.

For all those affected, the Medicare Part B reimbursements were sent out on April 14 in their full amounts. Please contact the NYC Office of Labor Relations at 212.513.0470 if you have experienced any problems.

I am extremely happy to report that our Southeast Florida Chapter Chair, Ms. Myrna Cabranes, has returned to her duties after a lengthy illness. WELCOME BACK, MYRNA!

On Feb. 10, Mayor Adams lifted the COVID-19 vaccine mandate, but not before the firing of some 1,700 New York City workers due to their refusal to take the jab (for whatever their reasons). During the pandemic, these individuals reported for mandated duty on a daily basis. Some of them became ill and some became ill and died. With the stroke of a pen, they went from heroes to zeroes. In my opinion, this was a despicable action to take. Those 1,700 individuals should be restored to their full duties without having to submit a job application, and any additional formalities can be worked out at a later date.

May I remind you that the Retirees Association General Membership meetings are now conducted on the last Tuesday of each month, except for July and August when no meetings are held.

**BE ADVISED:** The June general membership meeting will be held on June 20 due to the health care opt out deadline on June 30. It should be known that the Association is planning an in-person meeting for September 2023. Further information will be announced at a later date.

The Retirees Association office is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.