



Duncan Freeman/The Chief

Dan Vicente and Brandon Mancilla, the directors of UAW regions 9 and 9A, respectively, celebrated the union's success in organizing Tennessee autoworkers late Friday evening at the Labor Notes conference outside Chicago.

LABOR NOTES: A sense of mission and solidarity

Continued from Page 1

for the new generation of unionists looking to revive a movement that had long been in decline but has shown signs of vitality in recent years. Panels at last weekend's conference reflected the interests and identities of that generation: several focused on LGBTQ workers, organizing for renewable energy initiatives and supporting workers in the Gaza Strip.

Other panels featured UPS Teamsters reflecting on their 2023 contract campaign, teachers from Massachusetts discussing the illegal strikes they've been holding, and rank and file union members speaking about how they've been organizing within their unions and winning power. There were also meetings for restaurant workers, railroad workers, nonprofit workers and union members from many other sectors. The conference also included a

meetup for members of the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees attended by members of District Council 37.

Will Niedmann, a member of DC 37's Local 371, said he was particularly inspired by the nurses from across the country he heard speak at the conference. Niedmann, an education coordinator at the Department of Cultural Affairs, added that he was determined to engage with his coworkers when he returned to the city.

"I feel like city workers have a lot of power," he said at the close of the conference. "I'm excited to explore ways to harness that and get ourselves to the place where the nurses' unions are."

Honda Wang, a member of Local 1549 of DC 37, echoed Niedmann's words, saying that city workers "need to start talking to each other and getting engaged with contract negotiations going forward." He

liked a panel on Sunday featuring a nurse, a dockworker and other union members discussing how workers can organize to ensure that automation and the introduction of artificial intelligence doesn't push workers to the unemployment line.

"Thirty to 40 years ago, city workers faced the specter of digitization that was a threat to their jobs," he said. "We need to be even more organized now than we were then."

And Isaac Kirk-Davidoff, a Parks Department employee and shop steward in Local 371, said in a text on Monday that after meeting parks workers from across the country, a sense of solidarity was palpable. "We're all committed to winning the battle for democracy in our unions, workplaces and our lives," he said. "After Labor Notes, the path to that real democracy seems a bit clearer and I can see how my fellow workers are walking on it."

TAX STRATEGIES

'How long should I keep tax records?'

BY BARRY LISAK

ALTHOUGH THE APRIL tax-filing deadline has come and gone, that's a question many clients ask throughout the year. Depending on who you ask, you might get a range of responses: from a few years to a lifetime. I strongly recommend you keep your tax returns forever.

For example: You bought a stock in 1992. You sell it in 2023. You claim a capital loss on your shares of stock. The IRS examines your return and alleges that you didn't have a loss; rather you made a large profit. Wouldn't you like to have proof of your purchase price? Another scenario:

The IRS, for its part, recommends that you keep your tax records for a minimum of three years. Here are some guidelines: The IRS generally has three years from the date you file your tax return to start an audit. You should retain all the W-2 forms, the 1099 forms and other receipts to document income reported and deductions claimed.

For example: You will need to keep your 2021 tax return and related papers until April 2025, after which it is generally safe to shred and discard them, with the exception of these scenarios:

Scenario number 1: For investment transactions, such as stocks, you need to be able to prove your original basis (cost) in the year you sell it. This means keeping purchase confirmations, notices of splits and dividend reinvestments, until you sell the security and then for three years after that.

Scenario number 2: For real-estate transactions, including your home, you need to be able to substantiate

your original cost (i.e., closing statements) and any improvements made during your ownership. Once you sell the real estate, the three-year rule applies.

The IRS can start an audit within six years if gross income is understated by more than 25 percent. Also, if a taxpayer failed to file a return or has filed a false and fraudulent return, there is no time limit on how far back the IRS can go. There is no statute of limitations in this case.

Ultimately, the length of time you should hold on to tax records depends on the individual.

If you decide to get rid of tax documents, make sure to shred them. Tax returns contain sensitive information that identity thieves love. If you discarded or lost a tax return and later need a copy, don't worry. Copies of tax returns, all attachments and W-2 forms, are generally available for the last seven years from the IRS and can be obtained by filing Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Form. You'll also be charged a nominal fee for each return requested.

If you are very conservative and want to keep all tax records, the space required to store tax returns and supported documents is minimal. If you are very cautious, you can keep hard copies of tax documents in a fire-proof safe. Also, you can scan your papers and keep a backup copy of the files on a cloud service.

Barry Lisak is an IRS enrolled agent specializing in personal and small business taxes for 30 years. Any questions can be directed to him at 516-829-7283, or mrbarry-tax@aol.com.

RETAIL: Bill would boost safety

Continued from Page 1

resistant to the idea of installing panic buttons. She spoke of an incident at Bloomingdale's where a group of men with guns entered the building shortly after the store had opened.

"There was no security and everyone got nervous. The customers were hiding behind us. If we'd had a panic button to alert someone, that could have helped," she said.

Bear Spiegel, a bookseller at the Barnes & Noble store in Union Square, said that safety was a major reason why he and his colleagues decided to unionize last year. He said that he and his coworkers have often experienced harassment on the job, including one incident in which a customer made transphobic comments while his manager stood by and did nothing.

"So clearly we don't feel protected by management, we don't feel protected by the company and this act would give us a legal basis to enforce all of the safety needs that are truly required," Spiegel said.

Michael McKennan, an op-tech at the H&M in Harlem, said that customers have spit at him and swung at him. Despite such incidents, he feels that many employers don't prioritize worker safety.

"It's not an important issue until something happens. They're concerned about sales, sales, sales," he said.

Eddie Quezada, who works as a produce manager at a Stop & Shop on Long Island, said that employers are relying more and more on tech-



Courtesy RWDSU

Members of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union and other advocates urged legislators to pass the Retail Worker Safety Act during a rally in Albany last month. The union members renewed their efforts during an April 17 press conference, with retail workers describing their experiences being harassed or attacked on the job.

nology instead of having security personnel on the premises.

"It went from security 24 hours a day, to security 12 hours a day ... to relying on cameras. They tell us we have loss prevention, but they're in charge of 15 stores," which means they aren't at the store everyday, he explained.

Legislators have backed recent measures to protect retail workers. As part of the preliminary state budget agreement reached this week, Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the deal includes a provision that increases criminal

penalties for those who attack retail workers. The governor noted that the number of thefts that involve physical violence have doubled. The Retail Worker Safety Act wasn't included in the budget. So far, 33 elected officials have signed onto the bill, according to the union.

"We've reached a crisis point in the retail industry. And workers across the state, unionized or not ... stand united in agreement with many legislators that it is time to act and pass [the Retail Worker Safety Act]," said Chelsea Connor, a spokesperson for the RWDSU.

REAL ESTATE

Protect your properties from title theft

BY MATHEW JOSEPH

Title theft has become prevalent in the United States. Title theft happens when someone uses a property owner's personal information to forge a deed and steal their home. The thief can then apply for a home equity loan or line of credit in the homeowner's name and then fail to make payments — exposing the owner to foreclosure and credit damage.

In the case of unoccupied homes, the fraudster might sell the house without the owner's knowledge or rent out the property. The owner may lose their property through foreclosure or unauthorized sale. Seniors are vulnerable to these kinds of frauds.

To protect your house, be careful with your personal information, keep an eye on your property if it is unoccupied, keep track of your mail to see if all tax bills and notices from the authorities are received on time, monitor your credit report to look for suspicious activities, keep important documents like the deed and mortgage records in a safe place and get title insurance if you do not have it. Do not hand over these documents to anyone.

If you think you are a victim of title fraud, report it immediately to the police, contact your registrar of deeds, inform the credit bureaus, contact your mortgage

company and any other institutions the thief may have contacted to open fraudulent accounts. Keep all records related to the theft. Make sure that you change your login data for all your financial accounts and inform the Federal Trade Commission.

A number of jurisdictions offer free services that allow residents to register their names with local officials who record deeds. If any documents are filed including those names, they will alert the resident in question. In New York State, the Home Equity Theft Prevention Act gives some protection to the property owners. In New York City, the Office of the City Register will automatically mail you a notification when a new document is recorded against your property if you sign up for the Notice of Recorded Document Program.

You can also designate someone you trust, such as a family member or legal representative, to receive notifications. You can register online or by mail for this program. Report fraud to the Sheriff's Office online or by calling (718)707-2100 or taxcop@finance.nyc.gov. For more information visit, www.nyc.gov/deedfraud.

Mathew Joseph is a real estate tax consultant. He can be reached at 929-393-5773 or realtorplus1@yahoo.com.

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THE ANNUAL RETURN OF THE NORWEGIAN CHILDRENS HOME OF NEW YORK INC. FOUNDATION for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023 is available at its principal office located at 1446 Bay Ridge Parkway, Brooklyn, NY for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests it within 180 days thereof. Principal Manager of the Foundation is HANS TERSTEN. 040824-8 4/26/24

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF A&J SAKS FOUNDATION INC. for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023 is available at its principal office located at c/o Arnold Saks, 333 East 69th Street, Apt 9G, New York, NY 10021 for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests it within 180 days thereof. Principal Manager of the Foundation is ARNOLD SAKS. 040824-9 4/26/24

THE ANNUAL RETURN OF RUBIN AND CECELIA MARGULES FAMILY FOUNDATION for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023 is available at its principal office located at 20 Ocean Ct, Brooklyn, NY 11209 for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests it within 180 days thereof. Principal Manager of the Foundation is

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is RUBIN MARGULES. 040824-10 4/26/24

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PLESSER FOUNDATION for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023 is available at its principal office located at 77 Charlton St, Apt S7C, New York NY 10014, for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests it within 180 days thereof. Chairman of the Foundation is STUART PLESSER. 040824-11 4/26/24

CEDARHILL LODGE 1910 LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/2/2024. Office: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: The LLC, 228 Park Ave S #642096, NY, NY 10003. Purpose: any lawful act. 042224-4 4/26/24-5/31/24

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF BRONX. SUMMONS. Docket Nos. B-36205-6/23. In the Matter of the Application of CHILDREN'S AID, For the Guardianship and Custody of MALANI SOPHIA MEDLEY, a/k/a MALANI MEDLEY AND MALIA BEVERLY MEDLEY, a/k/a MALIA

LEGAL NOTICES

MEDLEY, Dependent Children Under the Age of 18 Years, Pursuant to the Provisions of Section 384-b of the Social Services Law of the State of New York. TO: MAYA EULA JOIE EDWARDS, a/k/a MAYA EULA JOIE EDWARDS, WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN. Verified petitions having been filed in this Court pursuant to Section 384-b of the Social Services Law alleging that the above-named children in the care of CHILDREN'S AID, in which, petitioner prays that an order be made adjudicating the above-named children permanently neglected children as to the mother and permanently neglected children as to the father, and that the mother and father be deprived permanently of the custody and guardianship of said children and that custody and guardianship of said children be awarded jointly to CHILDREN'S AID, and the Commissioner of the Administration for Children's Services of the City of New York, pursuant to the provisions of Section 384-b of the Social Services Law, a copy of said petitions being annexed hereto; YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear before this Court on MAY 29, 2024, at 900 Sheridan Avenue, Bronx, New York 10451 in Part 7 at 11:00 o'clock in the forenoon of said day to show cause why the Court should not enter an order depriving you of any and all the rights to the guardianship and

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custody of said children and awarding guardianship and custody of said children to the petitioning authorized agency as provided by law. **You can use this link: https://notify.nycourts.gov/meet/0k5f57 and enter your name. OR **You can call: 1-347-378-4143 and enter code 495359975# For additional information about virtual court proceedings, visit: https://nycourts.gov/appear PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that if guardianship and custody of the children are committed to the Petitioner, CHILDREN'S AID, the children may be adopted with the consent of the authorized agency, without your consent and without further notice to you. In the event of your failure to appear, the Court will hear and determine the petitions as provided by law. Your failure to appear shall constitute a denial of an interest in the said children which denial may result in the transfer or commitment of the children's custody and guardianship, and/or the adoption of said children, all without further notice to you regarding said children. Your failure to appear on the above date shall constitute a denial of your interest in these children and in opposing these petitions which may result, without further notice to you, in the court proceeding in your absence, granting the petition, terminating your parental rights and the transfer or commitment of the children's care, custody or

LEGAL NOTICES

guardianship to the Petitioner and the Commissioner of the Administration for Children's Services or in the children's adoption in this or any subsequent proceeding in which such care, custody or guardianship or adoption of the above-named children may be at issue. Dated: Bronx, New York, April 10, 2024. BY ORDER OF THE COURT (Hon. Ronna Gordon-Galehus, J.F.C.). 041824-1 4/26/24

Notice of Formation of Impact Media Strategies LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/10/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 155 W 68th St, NY, NY 10023. Purpose: any lawful activity. 041824-3 4/26/24-5/31/24

Notice of Formation of Eagles NYC LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/9/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 155 W 68th St, NY, NY 10023. Purpose: any lawful activity. 041824-2 4/26/24-5/31/24

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