

# CWA LOCAL 1180 RETIREE DIVISION

# NEWS

Addressing the needs of CWA Local 1180 Retirees and empowering them with information & an active lifestyle



**Suzanne E. Beatty, LMSW**  
Retiree Division Director

## Director's Column

Greetings to all 1180 retirees and welcome back! Now that all of the City of New York is returning to the new normal as of Nov. 1, you're likely to be looking forward to coming down to our building and seeing the friendly faces of staff who'll answer all of your most pressing benefit questions. However, don't go gassing up your scooter yet because we might not be there. You see, the Retiree Division has changed since we last met. Let me get you caught up on the NEW Retiree Division.

All of the CWA Local 1180 offices have gone through a renovation process and the Retiree Division is now located upstairs on the third floor with the staff of the Security & Retiree Benefits Funds Office. Because of this change, **unless otherwise noted, all events will take place at a location to be announced.**

The best part of this move to the third floor is that we will be planning more borough meetings and special events that will make it easier for you to see us in person! Our first one is a **Welcome Back Reception/Morning Drop-in** at 11 a.m. on Nov. 4th at the Jay Conference Center, 15 W. 38th St. Following that, we will offer other opportunities for members to get involved (see schedule below).

Another change is that because of the need for social distancing and off-location events, **we recommend you call the office for an appointment before coming.** Otherwise, you might find we are at an outside event or may have other retirees scheduled before you and not have enough time to fully address your concerns.

We are also planning to resume newsletters with information about events and updates about joining events online. We will aim to get the mailing out days ahead of the email communication, but even with every effort made to balance the distribution of information, someone will get it first and someone will get it last. Please check our website at [www.cwa1180.org](http://www.cwa1180.org) for the most up-to-date information.

Additionally, we will continue to be available to 100% of the membership by hosting online meetings with dial-in numbers for members who are not on the computer. I remind you that we work in an environment that increasingly pushes for email communications, so update your email address if you have not already.

A lot of things changed since we last met in person, but the core mission of the Retiree Division has remained the same — provide the best service and benefit support for Local 1180 retirees.

The new Retiree Division has live, in-person group events, borough outreach, weekly live virtual benefit meetings, special events, and invited speakers from the Plans that provide your benefits. We hope you are as excited as we are! Welcome back. I can't wait to see you all again!

### Watch your mail for details about these upcoming events and be sure to RSVP

Brooklyn Borough Outreach — Nov. 9  
Queens Borough Outreach — Nov. 16  
Bronx Borough Outreach — Nov. 30  
Staten Island Outreach — Dec. 2  
Long Island Outreach — Dec. 7  
Westchester & Points North — Dec. 9  
Manhattan Borough Outreach — Dec. 16

### The office will be closed on:

**Nov. 11** – Veteran's Day | **Nov. 25** – Thanksgiving  
**Dec. 24/25** – Christmas | **Dec. 31/Jan. 1** – New Year's

### No online/virtual classes will be held on:

Thursday, **Nov. 11**  
Wednesday, **Nov 24** - Friday, **Nov. 26**  
Friday, **Dec. 17**  
Monday, **Dec. 27** - Friday, **Jan. 7, 2022**



## SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS

Local 1180 leads the way with excellent supplemental benefits for its members. All retirees have legal, optical, and dental benefits, as well as reimbursements for hearing aids, prescription drug, podiatry, and a general medical reimbursement. Fridays at 1:30 are our online meetings to discuss all things related to supplemental benefits.

**Fridays at 1:30 p.m.**

**Nov. 5 — Supplemental Benefits Overview**

**Nov. 12 — Legal: What 6 Documents Every Retiree Should Have**

**Nov. 19 — End-of-Year Prescription and General Medical Overview**

**Dec. 3 — Dental Overview**

**Dec. 10 — Supplemental Benefits Frequently Asked Questions**

**Meeting URL:** [meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1499952447?pwd=bDZvRHR6MVplemV0ZmI2NUNJVWtoUT09](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1499952447?pwd=bDZvRHR6MVplemV0ZmI2NUNJVWtoUT09)

**Password:** JG74j7JU1p

**For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.**

**iPhone One-Tap:**

1.470.869.2200,,1499952447#

1.646.357.3664,,1499952447#

**Telephone:**

1.470.869.2200 or 1.646.357.3664

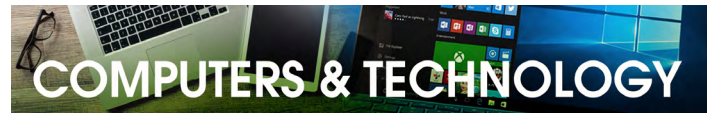
**Meeting ID: 149 995 2447**

## DENTAL OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS NOV. 30

CWA Local 1180 offers members four different options for dental coverage. Dentcare/Healthplex; the Fund's Scheduled Plan; EmblemHealth Dental with two options: Standard and Premium; and finally, Empire BC/BS XPO Dental. Forms are available on the Resources Tab on the CWA Local 1180 website or by calling the Security Benefits Office at 212.966.5353. Please note at top of form your selected plan of choice.

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Local 1180 Retiree Division wishes everyone a very happy holiday season.**



## Using Your Computer (Mondays)

Different topics related to using your computer are covered each week.

11 a.m. — **PC Computer using Windows**

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481609574](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481609574)

1 p.m. — **Apple Mac Computers**

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482379314](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482379314)

## Smartphone & Tablet (Tuesdays)

Different topics related to using your smartphone and tablet are covered each week

11 a.m. — **Android**

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1490468960](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1490468960)

1 p.m. — **iPhone/iPad**

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482804954](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482804954)

## Home Tech Seminar (Wednesdays)

11:00 a.m. — Everything from scams to how to choose a new tv provider is covered during this workshop

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1499051706](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1499051706)

## Virtual Photography Trip

11 a.m. — Retirees take a virtual trip with the teacher to points north, south, east and west!

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1498627740](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1498627740)



**Yoga – Tuesdays at 11 a.m.**

**Dance – Tuesday at 1 p.m.**

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1489447922](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1489447922)

**Stretch and Tone**

New classes are offered at [youtu.be/rvbFeRHqfqs](https://youtu.be/rvbFeRHqfqs)

or through our Retirees Class at Home page

[youtube.com/channel/UCsGtmNnL\\_PbLuAwwIAFN-Bqw](https://youtube.com/channel/UCsGtmNnL_PbLuAwwIAFN-Bqw)



## MEDICARE EDUCATION



### Join Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

#### November 8

**Turning 65 and Becoming Medicare Eligible** with a representative from the NYC Dept. of Aging HICAP (Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program)

#### November 15

**Medicare Advantage Plus** with Plan Representatives

#### November 22

**Medicare Advantage Plus Q & A** with Retiree Division Staff

#### December 6

**All About Medicare** with Representative from NYC Dept. of Aging HICAP (Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program)

#### December 13

**Medicare Advantage Plus** with Plan Representatives

#### December 20

**Medicare Advantage Plus** End of Year Update & Review

The decision for NYC to switch to a new health care plan called the Medicare Advantage Plus Plan has caused quite a stir among retirees. In order to keep members informed on all important matters, the Division has been hosting Medicare Education meetings for 1180 retirees. Monday mornings will be the new day and time for our meetings and all members are encouraged to attend. We will cover Medicare Advantage Plus, what to do when you turn 65 and become Medicare Eligible, as well as answer questions from 1180 retirees. Don't take the word of friends and fellow retirees; come to the meetings yourself, listen, and learn.

#### Join Medicare Information Meetings by using use link information below

Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android:

**Meeting URL:** [meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481479572?pwd=TE1wOERQNVEreGR0ZVUzU3RrWXZvUT09](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481479572?pwd=TE1wOERQNVEreGR0ZVUzU3RrWXZvUT09)

**Password:** Ss5RTdFqVV

**For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.**

#### iPhone One-Tap:

1.470.869.2200,,1481479572#  
1.646.357.3664,,1481479572#

#### Telephone:

1.470.869.2200 or 1.646.357.3664

**Meeting ID: 148 147 9572**

## Do you have the LOCAL 1180 UNION STRONG MOBILE APP installed on your smart phone yet?



If not, join the hundreds of Local 1180 retirees who have already installed Union Strong and are the first to know about all the upcoming Retiree Division events and all the important union news.

**COMING SOON:** You will be able to contact the Retiree and Benefits divisions right from the mobile app.

### WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

- > Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or go to [unionstrong.app.link/cwa1180](https://unionstrong.app.link/cwa1180)
- > Follow the simple instructions and check the tags that apply to you: Retiree and the borough you live in
- > Be sure to turn on push notifications
- > If you are asked for an All Aboard Code, it is CWA1180



## RETIRED MEMBERS CHAPTER MEETING

**Thursday, Nov. 18**  
**12:30 p.m.**

Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android:

[meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1463239514](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1463239514)

For best audio experience, use computer audio.

**iPhone one-tap:**

1.646.357.3664,,1463239514#

1.773.231.9226,,1463239514#

**Telephone:**

1.646.357.3664 or 1.773.231.9226

Meeting ID: 146 323 9514

Questions about the Chapter? Contact the  
Retired Members Chapter at **212.331.0934**

## YOUR REIMBURSEMENT

We'll tell you more about this at the start of the New Year, but Local 1180 offers retirees' reimbursements for approved benefit expenses. Spend these next two months locating your pension statements, receipts for co-payments, and prescription drug expenses and begin to gather them. We'll tell you what to do next in the next newsletter. **The deadline for reimbursement for 2021 is June 30, 2022.**

## DROP-IN DAYS AT JAY CONFERENCE CENTER

The Sinatra Room at the Jay Conference Center has been our go-to space these past months to meet with retirees. **Vaccinated retirees\*** are invited to join us for some in-person socializing, but you must RSVP. Space is limited. Refreshments will be served.

**Thursday, Nov. 4,** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. — **Welcome Back Reception**

**Tuesday, Nov. 23,** 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. — **Much to Be Thankful For**

**Tuesday, Dec. 21,** 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. — **Holiday Drop In**

*\*All attendees **must be fully vaccinated** and show proof in the form of either a Vaccination Card of an Excelsior Pass. No other form of proof will be accepted.*

## WE'VE GOT TICKETS. IT'S A TRADITION!

### RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

**TUESDAY, DEC. 14, 2 p.m.** | Tickets **\$70 each** (they will be mailed to you) | Call **212.226.5800** to RSVP

Must show proof of vaccination for entry to Rockefeller Center.

## HOW TO JOIN OUR LIVE ONLINE EVENTS



1. Follow link, phone numbers, and login information in the emails you receive
2. Call us at **212.226.5800** for a phone number to call in
3. Go to [www.cwa1180.org/retiree](http://www.cwa1180.org/retiree) and click on the event you wish to attend.
4. You can also go online and type in [ringcentral.com/join](https://ringcentral.com/join) and put in the MEETING ID for the event.
5. Find us on **Facebook: CWA Local 1180 Retiree Division**. Follow the link and login information in the event detail.

## HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

### HICAP IN NYC

212.AGING.NYC (212.244.6469)

[www.nyc.gov/aging](http://www.nyc.gov/aging)

212.602.4180 direct number

### OFFICE OF LABOR RELATIONS

212.513.0470 (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

[healthbenefits@olr.nyc.gov](mailto:healthbenefits@olr.nyc.gov)

### SOCIAL SECURITY

1.800.772.1213

[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

[www.ssa.gov/locator](http://www.ssa.gov/locator)

(information for your  
local SSA office)

### MEDICARE

1.800.Medicare (24/7)

[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

### MEDICARE RIGHTS CENTER

[www.medicareinteractive.org](http://www.medicareinteractive.org)

**NOTE:** Even though the Local 1180 offices, including the Retiree Division, are reopening on Nov. 1, it is still strongly suggested that you make an appointment rather than just dropping in. This will help us maintain social distancing and ensure the Retiree Division staff is actually in the building and not out at an onsite event.