

Lay Faculty Association
Local 1261
Newsletter

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February, 2020

The President's Message.....

Dear LFA Brothers and Sisters,

Retirees who have taken the Mason Tenders' medical into retirement and those contemplating retiring with the medical.....

It is with much tribulation that I have to present to you the new rates for our Medical Coverage. Dan DiPleco, our Secretary-Treasurer, and I have met with the MTDC Board of Directors concerning the new rate increases. Please understand that we have made every effort to make the MTDC Board aware of how devastatingly unfair these increases are.

The new Director, Ms. Anna Gutsin, did accommodate a slight change in the increase schedule; however, the rates are still extremely extraordinarily high considering what we have paid in the past. You will soon receive a direct notification of the changes from the Mason Tenders' District Council Trust Fund. The changes will be:

Effective July 1, 2020 for pensioners over the age 65 with dependents and for pensioners under age 65 (both with and without dependents) the cost is \$600.00 per month. For pensioners over the age of 65 with no dependents enrolled the cost is \$300 per month.

Effective January 1, 2021 for pensioners under age 65 (both with and without dependents) the monthly cost will be at least \$1,200.00. You will be advised in January, 2021 of the actual cost. For pensioners 65 or over with enrolled dependents the cost will be \$1,200,00 per month and at \$600.00 per month for pensioners over 65 years with no enrolled dependents.

Effective July 1, 2021 In addition to the above changes, the MTDC Board decided that the required contributions will be further increased based on the benefit costs at that time. Those rates will be calculated and communicated prior to July 2021.

Please contact the Welfare Fund directly for official information at: 1.212.452.9700. The Welfare Fund is responsible to answer your questions and to hear your complaints.

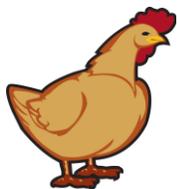
Your President and Business Manager,

Ciro A. Quattrocchi

Cooking with VP Jerry Franza

Chicken Marsala

Ingredients: Two pounds of chicken breasts, some flour, salt and pepper to taste, one tablespoon of olive oil, three tablespoons of butter, fresh or canned mushrooms, two cloves of garlic, 2/3 can of chicken broth, 2/3 cup of marsala wine, two tablespoons of parsley, and 2/3 cup of heavy cream.



Directions: Flour chicken with salt and pepper, heat oil, and fry chicken till golden brown. Then add all other ingredients together with the chicken.



Important Supreme Court Decision

The United States Supreme Court, in *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue*, is reviewing the constitutionality of a 19th century Blaine Amendment. This Amendment would prohibit public funds aiding students attending religious schools-particularly Catholic schools. This proposed law was first promoted by President Ulysses S. Grant. This bill passed the House but was defeated in the Senate. President Rutherford B. Hayes also promoted the bill but efforts failed as a constitutional law. The law did go on to be passed by 38 individual states, with New York State being one of them. Hopefully, a Supreme Court decision will help erase this law which is geared against Catholic Education.

Bishop Loughlin High School Holocaust Class Listens to a Special Presentation about Survival Amy Goldberg, the wife of an Auschwitz survivor, and Lindsay Bressman, the director of Civic Spirit, visited Mr. Mason's Senior Holocaust Class on January 10th to share stories and answer student questions. NY1 came to the school to film the event.

At the Child School Legacy High School students have shown great success, comparing the 64% graduation rate of New York City students graduate at the school at a rate of 94%. Moreover, 84% graduate with a Regents or RCT diploma, a notable sign of success given the climate of special education in New York's public school system where only 12% of special education students are receiving academic diplomas. Job well done!

Newsweek has announced its ranking of the top 5,000 STEM high schools for 2019, honoring excellence in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. **Archbishop Molloy High School** placed in the top 8% of an original pool of over 30,000 high schools that were analyzed over a three-year period.