

## Simi Valley Bargaining Update:

# Standing Up for Quality Services and Jobs

Dear SEIU 721 member:

At last week's City Council meeting, the 2010-2011 budget was passed without laying off any workers. It was also announced that Simi Valley Management and the City Council have agreed to take a 3% compensation cut. We had several members speak at the meeting on behalf of all SEIU 721 members.

The negotiations are getting to the stage where we need to be more visible. Management wants to reduce benefits that could put our services, retirement and families at risk. This week, we will be in negotiations each day and **we need to show management that workers are unified.** Please be ready to show support for these negotiations by participating in the actions listed in the box below.

**For those employees in the Transit Department,** we are working on an "Employee Protection" clause for the contract to strengthen your rights since the City wants to install cameras. Also, the City will be offering two retirement incentives for eligible Transit Coach Operators.

**The contract expires at midnight on June 30** and we will most likely be extending it. However, we need to show unity if we are to move management away from some of their proposed cuts. Please contact your CAT leader, steward or bargaining team member and get involved.

In Solidarity,

***Jeff Yaller, Bernard Felder, Charles Harrington, Nathan McDonald, Ramona Mejia and Nancy Fisher***



*"Workers are concerned about the present as well as our future. We would like to be able to retire before we get too old and can still enjoy family and life. I have put over 20 years into the city and when I retire I would like to look back and say I took care of the City and they took care of my family and me."*

**Bill Higginbotham, Public Works Street Maintenance Worker**

## **Time to Show Our Solidarity:**

- **Purple Thursdays** until the contract is settled! (Wear purple or your SEIU 721 t-shirt starting July 1.)
- **Unity Breaks:** Tuesday, July 6 and Monday, July 12 at 10:15 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.
- Plan to attend **July 12, City Council meeting.** Details to follow.

