



Now, more than ever, we celebrate our diverse union family

Often, when we think of family, mothers, fathers, children and grandparents come to mind. Aunts and uncles are also part of the equation. Close friends often become family as “claimed” relatives.

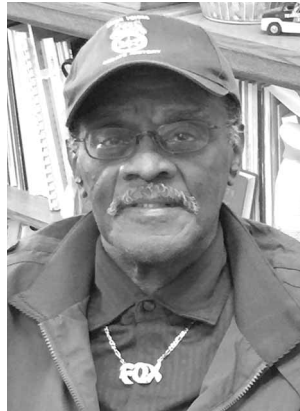
The poet, Tato Laviera, once described family as “a whole other kingdom.” Family brings together individuals who sometimes share values yet frequently hold differing points of view about what is “right” and what is “wrong” (and everything in between). Sometimes they hold widely divergent political views. Yet, the “kingdom of family” creates a structure for discussion, debate and ultimately acceptance of different viewpoints.

For Local 237 members, the union is family. It is a large family whose members hold over 250 job titles, work for many City agencies and endeavor to create a better quality of life for all New Yorkers. The family elders – Local 237 retirees – live all over the map, spread throughout the 50 states and Puerto Rico and other parts of the Caribbean, Latin America and Europe. Working members and retirees are immigrants, emigrants and born and bred New Yorkers. They speak many languages, yet all are part of the same family. Although their backgrounds may be different, they are Teamster brothers and sisters.

We spoke with several retirees about their union family and here is what they said:

Ken Fox, retired Cook, HHC: “The union represents you and takes care of you.” We are the union and “if you have a problem you come to the union – you keep it in the family.” He continues by saying, “the union protects the members and the members protect each other.” “We respect each other, we feel a connection, and we learn from each other, we are united.”

Nilsa Torres, retired SSA, Level III, NYPD: The union is “like a family away from my



Ken Fox



Linda Tavolaro



Nilsa Torres



Frank Aiello

own family.” It is a place where the “happiness of everyone is joined together.” Using the Retiree Division’s Salsa Class as an example, Ms. Torres says that it is an “expression of life, happiness, youthfulness and love.” The diversity of participants in this class reflects “happiness of everyone joined together.”

Frank Aiello, retired NYCHA Superintendent: When Mr. Aiello describes his union brothers and sisters, he says “they are people I treasure. When I am involved with union activities and programs it is old home week.” Whether in the field while he was working, or during his time as an instructor with the union’s Education Department, or more recently the Retiree Division’s Italian Heritage Committee, he enjoys spending time with lifelong friends and has “a lot of fun” while doing it.

Linda Tavolaro, retired NYCHA Manager: Ms. Tavolaro traces her roots in the Teamster family back to when she started working at the New York City Housing Authority. In her words, we were “working with so many people from all over the world, sharing foods, learning about different traditions and cultures. Yet, we all wanted the same thing: to make a decent living and to support our families.” This was in combination with a “strong desire to serve the residents of NYCHA.” “We supported each other in sometimes challenging and dangerous situations, knowing that we had an opportunity to make people’s lives better.” This sharing and shared goals brought everyone closer.

The sense of family and shared values that Local 237 retirees possess helps to keep Local 237 strong. The structure of the union family brings people of different backgrounds, races and life experiences together with the goal of creating a better life for members and a better life for the New Yorkers they served as public employees.

It seems, of late, that we are living in a time where communication between different generations, races, ethnicities and genders is suffering. While we celebrate our union family and our connections to our union brothers and sisters, let’s see if we can find ways to share our Teamster Local 237 family experience with everyone in our communities. We can spread the message by becoming active with Community Boards and communities at large, by sharing stories with our children and grandchildren and listening to our friends and neighbors who hold differing points of view. Our “kingdom of family” can provide a model for connection, listening and opening the doors to communication in the communities where we live. ■



by Gregory Floyd
President, Teamsters Local 237
and Vice President-at-Large on the
General Board of the International
Brotherhood of Teamsters

a message from the president

The impossible can happen, it just takes a little longer

Toni Morrison, the renowned writer and recipient of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Literature, once wrote: “When spring comes to the City people notice one another in the road; notice the strangers with whom they share aisles and tables and the space.... It’s the time of year when the City urges contradiction most, encouraging you to buy street food when you have no appetite at all; giving you a taste for a single room occupied by you alone as well as a craving to share it with someone you passed in the street. Really there is no contradiction—rather it’s a condition.” The Ghanaian founder of Smart Youth Volunteer Foundation, Lailah Gifty Akita calls spring: “A season for the soul to regain its strength.” And Reba McEntire, the country western performer, summed up her feeling on the season, saying: “It’s a second chance.”

It’s no coincidence that Easter and Passover are spring holidays. The renewal of nature that comes with spring amplifies the promise of redemption embedded in the historical events

being commemorated by both religions.

Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus and His victory over death. Around the same time—and often overlapping—Jewish people celebrate Passover, the holiday commemorating the Hebrews’ exodus from slavery in Egypt. In both festivals, nature and history converge with a resounding message of hope. Both holidays are about delivery from a state of despair. Easter assures the individual that life is eternal. It offers a way out of a world beyond repair. It celebrates a religion that provides comfort to those who had lost faith in the gods of Rome. It spreads the message that the death of one has the capacity to save many and the resurrection of Jesus is the ultimate affirmation of life. Passover summons Jews collectively into the world to repair it. The message of Passover is that a tyrant-like Pharaoh could be overthrown. A nation as powerful as Egypt could be defeated. Slaves could become free men. The oppressed could break the shackles of their captivity. Anything is possible, if only we dare to dream the impossible dream. It was the biblical record of the Exodus from Egypt that enabled the spirit of optimism to prevail for the followers of Martin Luther King in their quest for equal rights, because they were stirred by the vision of Moses leading his people to the Promised Land. In fact, the historic speech that King deliv-

ered at the Mason Temple in Memphis where he went on April 3 in 1968 to support sanitation workers protesting their meager wages of \$1.65 an hour and deplorable working conditions, had the prophetic line in it: “I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.” He was assassinated the next day.

It was ironic that many of King’s supporters, aides and confidants had urged him against expanding their focus and leaving their comfort zone to take on new causes, such as the Poor People’s Campaign which he was pushing. King would have none of it. Instead he urged the sanitation workers to go on strike telling them: “You have to escalate the struggle a bit.” And he countered the containment argument of his allies with: “We have moved into an era where we are called upon to raise certain basic questions about the whole society.”

The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is similar to the lessons of Spring. Without hope all will be lost. Even the history of America’s official seal, suggested by Benjamin Franklin in August 1776, echoed this belief with the dramatic scene described in Exodus where Moses divided waters of the Red Sea. The history of our nation has a message that is clear: The impossible can happen, it just takes longer. ■



Making our Voices heard

by Nancy B. True
Director of the
Retiree Division

We are living in complicated times. Our nation is divided. President Trump and many of his allies view the United States as a dangerous place, a nation in need of becoming “great again”. He and others regard immigrants with suspicion. Individuals nominated for cabinet positions lack expertise (at best) for their positions and (at worst) hold opinions that are contrary to long held American values. The media is

under attack for doing the job that defines a democracy – reporting the news. And, at times, many of us feel we are living in an “alternate universe.”

These are amongst the many reasons that rallies and demonstrations have become a weekly occurrence in cities and town meetings around the nation. Some Americans are loud in expressing their concern, while others feel immobilized, discouraged and unsure about how to exercise their right to make their voices heard.

As Americans, one of the hallmarks of our society is the right to free speech. We have the right to disagree (or agree) with elected officials and can act on these opinions by voting for the candidates who reflect our values. We can insist that all of our family members use the hard won right to vote in all elections. There are other ways we can make our voices heard. Not everyone can march in a demonstration or participate in a rally. However, most can write a letter expressing their concern or give praise to elected officials.

Many of you know, that my family has roots in the state of Maine. Recently, I wrote a letter to Maine’s Republican Senator, Susan Collins. I spoke of my connection to the state and praised her vote in opposition to the nomination of Betsy DeVos as Education Secretary. I told her that “I find it partic-

ularly admirable that you voted your conscience and voted against the nomination of Betsy DeVos... Mainers are an independent lot and I respect you for your leadership and independence of party pressures.” Letters have an impact.

Several retired members have told me that they are becoming more involved with politics on the local level – participating in Community Board meetings and local organizations. Others are working hard to educate family, neighbors and friends about the dangers of a Constitutional Convention in New York.

A member of my family recently told me that although she finds it difficult to participate in rallies and demonstrations she has opted to send contributions to Planned Parenthood.

After hearing Meryl Streep speak at the Golden Globes Awards, Local 237’s recording secretary, Patricia Stryker decided to contribute to the Committee to Protect Journalists. This decision was made after thoroughly researching the goals of the organization. She plans to continue her support of this organization.

These are just a few ways that people are making their voices heard. What are you doing? Please write me (Retiree Division, Teamsters Local 237, 216 West 14th Street, NYC 10011) or email me ntrue@local237.org to share your stories about how you are making your voice heard. Let’s keep this conversation going. ■

RETIREE news & views

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GREGORY FLOYD
President

PATRICIA STRYKER
Recording Secretary

RICHARD HENDERSHOT
Vice President

NANCY B. TRUE
Managing Editor

RUBEN TORRES
Secretary-Treasurer

PHYLLIS SHAFRAN
Editor





Righting Another Injustice

by **Mitch Goldberg**
Director of the
Welfare Fund

About ten years ago, Teamsters Local 832 merged with Teamsters Local 237. Former Local 832 members are and were employees of the Department of Education with the title of Food Services Manager. At the time of the merger, the Teamsters Local 237 Welfare Fund and the Retirees' Benefit Fund became responsible for providing the benefits that were formerly covered by Teamsters Local 832.

During the merger it was determined that active, full time employees of (former) Local 832 were in a Fund that received contributions from the City at a comparable rate to those of Local 237.

Retired members of Local 832, however, were not in the same situation. The negotiated contributions on their behalf fell below the Local 237 Part-Time contribution rate. As a result, funds were not available to provide a full time Retiree benefit.

During the Bloomberg administration, collective bargaining was at a standstill. Consequently retired former Local 832 members were stuck receiving a part time Retirees' Fund benefit despite having held full-time jobs.

With a change in administration, after the election of Mayor Bill De Blasio, our President, Gregory Floyd, saw an opportunity to correct this injustice. When it became apparent that the new administration would negotiate new Labor agreements, President Floyd went into action. In an August 2014 Memorandum of Agreement with the City, Teamsters Local 237

was finally able to start a discussion with the City about providing additional Retirees' Fund contributions for this group of 335 Retired Food Service Managers and Associate Food Service Managers. As a result of these negotiations, the City agreed to provide contributions on par with the full-time retiree benefits.

With the funding now in place, the Trustees of the Teamsters Local 237 Retirees' Fund will now provide a full time benefit to all retired Food Services Managers. After years of anguish these Retirees can now have peace of mind knowing that a wrong has been righted and they can breathe a sigh of relief.

At Local 237 we believe that you "retire from work, not from the union." This philosophy guides us as we work to improve benefits and address benefit injustices. ■



Divorce and Property Division in New York

by **Mary E. Sheridan, Esq.**
Director Local 237-
Legal Services Plan

Divorce is a difficult and unhappy topic, however, it is a reality many people are confronted with - even after retirement. It is important to understand what divorce means when it comes to dividing the property of the marriage. Each state has different laws regarding property division and this article relates to New York State law only.

New York is an "equitable distribution" state when it comes to divorce. This means that marital property is divided at the time of the divorce but the division will not necessarily be fifty/fifty. Instead, the Court considers numerous factors, laid out in the divorce statutes, to determine what is equitable under the specific circumstances.

Not all property is marital - or subject to division - in a New York divorce. For instance, the property that you separately own prior to

your marriage is considered still yours after the divorce. That is unless you add your spouse's name onto the asset, for instance, a bank account or a Deed to a house, in which case you have gifted one-half to your spouse and it is now marital. Inherited property is also considered separate property, as is compensation for personal injury except to the extent the compensation is for lost wages or earning capacity.

Marital property, which will be divided at the time of divorce, is any property acquired during the marriage even if the property is in the name of only one spouse. Also, any increase in value of separate property acquired prior to the marriage that is due to yours or your spouse's contributions, will be presumed marital. For example, you own a house prior to the marriage and during the marriage you renovate the home or make other improvements that increase the value of the home, your spouse will have a claim on the increased value.

Many people do not realize that retirement accounts, including pensions, and deferred compensation, are considered marital property. This is often one of the biggest assets we see in the divorce work we do at Local 237 Legal Services Plan. The spouse will have a claim on that portion of the retirement accounts earned during the time of the marriage.

Couples can choose to execute a prenuptial agreement which could protect separate property from being divided in the event of a divorce. If there is no prenuptial agreement and the divorcing parties cannot agree on property division during a divorce, then the Court will decide which property is subject to division and how that property will be divided. The starting point will be an equal division, however, the 13 specific statutory factors must be considered. Even after considering these factors, the court may take into account "any other factor" it finds to be fair in arriving at an equitable distribution of the marital property.

Your Legal Services Plan can be reached at (212) 924-1220. ■

Happy Feet

Anthony Iorio, DPM, (fifth from the right) with Local 237 retirees after speaking at a membership meeting on the topic: "Oh My Aching Feet." Dr. Iorio is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Community Medicine at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine.



Celebrating Women's History Month

WOMEN WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

1992 is often referred to as "The Year of The Woman" because of the record number of women elected to the House of Representatives that year—47, 24 of them first-time members of Congress. Four women also won seats in the US Senate that year.

Much has been written about breaking the glass ceiling since the heyday of the women's movement in the 1960s and '70s, but to date, that ceiling has only been cracked, and clearly it's still not eliminated. The signs that gender inequality are alive and well abound: A bruising campaign that included personal attacks and insinuations questioning the stamina and mental acuity of a woman who, although she received 3 million more popular votes, still did not become president, losing to a man who boasted about his domination of women. Recently, we witnessed the spectacle of two dozen Congressmen trying to dismantle maternity and newborn health care, and, a Vice President who cast the tie-breaking vote to defund Planned Parenthood. All this, despite a Women's March on the second day of the Trump administration which encompassed more than 4 million participants nationwide.

Although there have been setbacks and disappointments throughout the country, at Local 237, the fight for gender-based equality has been in steadfast, forward motion. In March 2010, President Gregory Floyd initiated a lawsuit on behalf of School Safety Agents--70% of whom are women--suing the City for gender-based pay discrimination. Three Agents, Corinthians Andrews, Bernice Christopher and Patricia Williams were lead plaintiffs through over four years of exhausting legal wrangling, having to take time from their jobs, and from their families, to give testimony again and again. In intense discussions, they even fought to ensure that retirees were part of any settlement. In August 2014, when the judge was to make his final ruling, Corinthians, Bernice and Patricia went to the courtroom and knelt in prayer. With persuasive legal arguments--and perhaps with a little Divine intervention--an historic settlement was reached.

But this was not the first time Local 237 took a leadership role in women's equality. Two retirees, Doris Welch and Ann Sabatino Guidice set the trail a blazing several decades ago.

Here are some excerpts from the remembrance they shared as part of the Teamsters Local 237 Oral History project.

Ann Sabatino Guidice:

I started with the Housing Authority in 1970 as a receptionist at Carey Gardens in Coney Island. My youngest son, Sal, was 7, my daughter, Annette, was 10, and Danny was 16. My oldest son, Charles, was 20. I used to go home during lunch to check on the kids; I lived only six minutes away by car, in the Sheepshead-Nostrand Houses. I'm fortunate that my neighbors were so good to me. We were like family, and they looked after my children....In 1977, I worked at Breukelen Houses. I used to kid around with the fellas on the heating crew. There was a fireman's exam coming up and my oldest son, Charles, was taking classes. I used to drive him, because the classes were at night and he didn't have a car, so I enrolled in the class, too. I studied during



my lunch hour and on Sundays, with my son. I did it because it was a promotion—I had four kids and was divorced. It wasn't easy. I prepared supper for my kids in the morning. I worried about them. I passed the exam (one of two women). My son did, too. That's when I joined Local 237. I was on the heating crew at Central Maintenance, traveling to different locations. It was dirty work, crawling in holes with rats and roaches. It was hard keeping up with all those young men. The supervisor told the guys they had to treat me with respect, and they did. They were good to me. I always had a partner, wherever I went. They included me when they went to lunch—that's important when you're in an area you don't know... (next) I passed the assistant superintendent exam and in 1981 was promoted to assistant superintendent, at Van Dyke Houses in Brooklyn. It was tough. They never had a woman in charge before. There were a lot of macho men working in maintenance. They accepted me as a superintendent's secretary, but once I became a supervisor, it was different; I was making more than they were....In 1982, I became the first female to be appointed acting superintendent. I worked for three months at Ocean Hill-Saratoga Square. Then I passed the superintendent exam and became the first female superintendent [civil service]. The Sons of Italy, Lodge 2277, honored me as Woman of the Year at their dinner dance. I have a picture of Mario Cuomo giving me a proclamation when he was lieutenant governor. They honored me again in 1990, for being the first female superintendent. I was an original member of Non-Traditional Women of Today [founded in 1984], an organization of Housing Authority women in nontraditional jobs. We had women in different jobs, including caretakers. One was a foreman. We met once a month for lunch and supported each other. Doris Welch was there, and Pat Rutledge, and others. They gave me a plaque. Throughout my career, whenever I heard of an exam coming up, I would prepare. When I was growing up, it never occurred to me that I would have these kinds of jobs. I was never a tomboy. When I went after those jobs I was thinking about taking care of my family, about my salary and pension. It has never been easy for a woman breaking into a man's world. They resent it, they think you're taking the man's job. But I earned that job, I paid my dues.

Doris Welch: Before I went to work for the Housing Authority I was a dental hygienist. That was 28 years ago. I took a job at the Authority as a typist "for a year," because I needed a break...But I started liking the high heels and nice dresses. I stayed. After four years,



I transferred to the executive floor of the Public Information Department. That was a turning point for me. I worked with some beautiful people—Val Coleman, Roy Metcalf, the director, and Tim Sullivan. They taught me a lot. I covered events and wrote stories for a journal that went to the residents. I had never worked in a public housing project—I only saw the buildings—and I wanted to get to know the residents, see what they were doing, hear their ideas. So I volunteered on Saturdays to train residents to do their own newsletters. One of the interviews for the journal

was with Ann Sabatino, the first female assistant superintendent (later the first female superintendent). I got to talking to her and I asked her how she managed. She had a family with children. At the time, it was the furthest thing from my mind to be a "non-traditional" woman. I just admired her for what she had done. After a few years I was promoted to senior clerk and I went to the Construction Department... the high heels and cute suits were gone by then. Once I heard how much skilled trades workers made, I wanted the same thing. But I didn't want to leave the Authority. Then I thought of Ann Sabatino. The Housing Authority, with Local 237, was conducting heating plant classes....and I got my heating plant technician certificate. I experienced a combination of encouragement and "are you crazy!?" I got lots of encouragement from my father. It was my father who took me to buy my first pair of work shoes—the man in the store thought they were for him. When I became a heating plant technician in 1983, there were five women HPTs. The job was scary as hell—but fun. There were the males on the staff who didn't think I'd be able to do the job. Then there were those who made life real easy, who taught me. ...In 1984, some friends and I started an organization in the Housing Authority called Non-Traditional Women of Today Association. It was more of a support organization because there were so few women in the non-traditional fields....In those early days we were working with men who were not prepared for us. Our goal was to let them know we were not there to be a work-wife, but to do the same work they were doing. It was extremely difficult. It was a learning process for the females, and some of them did not make it. In addition to dealing with the men, they had to balance their 9-to-5s with children and family. We needed an organization where we could talk about our aspirations and frustrations... Our group became very active in the Local... The Housing Authority wasn't prepared for the growing number of non-traditional women. There were no locker rooms for us to change in. In 1987, I passed the assistant superintendent exam. When I found out that I passed I was so happy that I went out to the back of my house and burned my HPT pants. Then I found out that passing the test didn't mean I had a new job. The next day, I had to go to the storeroom and ask for a new uniform. When I made assistant superintendent I was (only) the third female assistant superintendent. My job was to oversee the supervisor of caretakers, supervisor of grounds keepers, and the maintenance and heating plant staffs, to maintain standards for the residents. I didn't know what to do as a female supervisor supervising an all-male staff, and they didn't know what to do with meI think the hardest part of my supervisory career was letting my male staff know that I was not there to hurt them, not there to do anything other than to get the job done to the best of my ability. ...In 1990 I was transferred to the authority's Staff Development Program... While I was there, I was promoted to superintendent, as a provisional, making me the second female superintendent, after Ann Sabatino. I was transferred to Castle Hill Houses. This one was very large, with 2,025 apartments spread over 50 acres. It was one of the toughest jobs I have ever, ever, ever tackled. But with the support of a supervisory staff above me, a difficult job was made very manageable. Today, I look at the glass ceiling and see that things have gotten better, but not good enough. I have faith that the all-boys club will grow and it will become our club. ■



A Fight We Must Win

by Patricia Stryker

Director of Political Action and Legislation
and the Recording Secretary of the
Executive Board of Local 237

It never rains but it pours” a tried but true expression which has never been more appropriate than now. Every day we hear about “tweets” and the dismantling of laws and regulations that protect workers. But we cannot become discouraged and passive. Understanding that one can feel overwhelmed, we have fought many a good fight and won before; it’s how unions were formed. Our forebears were courageous and tireless in overcoming obstacles. Now we have another fight we must win.

On Tuesday, November 7, 2017, you, the voter, will see on the ballot a question to be answered “Yes or No”. You will be asked whether the State should hold a Constitutional Convention.

Your vote should be a resounding “No”.

Under the State Constitution (Article 19, Sec. 2), every twenty years the people are asked a seemingly innocuous ballot question. “Shall there be a convention to revise the constitution and amend same?”

It’s an option, but it’s not the only way to update the Constitution ___ more on that later.

If in 2017, people voted for holding the convention, delegates would be elected at the next general election – in November, 2018. The following April, delegates would meet in Albany for an unspecified period of time until they agree on recommendations that would put to the voters for another referendum no sooner than six week later.

Voters: Why should you vote “No”? What’s at stake? Currently under our constitution, these are the following provisions:

Public employees:

Diminishment of pensions prohibited – Article 5, Sec. 7
Civil Service Protection – Article 5, Sec.6
Veterans’ Preference – Article 5, Sec.6

All workers:

Workers Compensation and Worksite Safety – Article 1, Sec.18
Care of the needy – Article 7, Sec. 8 – (Includes Unemployment)
Right to organize and collectively bargain – Article 1, Sec.17

Building Trades:

Public Works & Prevailing Rate – Article 1, Sec. 17

There is another option available to make changes to the constitution. It can be changed legislatively by our elected representatives in Albany by two separately elected state legislatures. If passed, the bill or bills would appear on the following November ballot as a referendum. This method had been used successfully since 1894. This method works.

The climate in the county, including New York State is not very worker friendly. Unfortunately, we have seen the rights of workers diminished and in certain states taken away completely.

We must work together to educate each other, friends, families and communities about why we cannot risk destroying the state’s charter document by having a constitutional convention that could bring changes that adversely affect workers. ■

Retirees Celebrate Black History Month

Black history celebrations have been taking place throughout America in various forms for more than six decades. They serve to showcase a rich heritage of achievements as well as a call to action, underscored by the words of one of the most celebrated literary figure in the 20th Century, Langston Hughes, who wrote: *“I swear to the Lord, I still can’t see why Democracy means Everybody but me.”* And, President Barak Obama, who said: *“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”* Or, labor leader, A. Philip Randolph, who declared: *“Freedom is never given. It is won.”*

Today, there have been some critics who question the need for special recognition months. But retirees of Teamsters Local 237 welcome the opportunity. They agree with the sentiments of 237’s President Gregory Floyd when he spoke at the February 24th Black History Month celebration and said: “I am proud of the accomplishments of all of our retirees and members. The fact that we all can come together here today to acknowledge and applaud the contribu-



Members of the Black History Committee with Local 237 President Gregory Floyd, (center); Retiree Division Deputy Director, Winston George to his left; Director, Nancy True, (left) and Patricia Stryker, Director of Political Action and Legislation and the Recording Secretary of the Executive Board, to her left.

tions of black Americans, stands as a real tribute to the quality of our each and every one of you, and is all the more reason to continue to educate and celebrate.”

The celebration’s program included an emotional recollection by Black History Committee Member, Carolyn Whitley, relating a story of taking a train ride with her light-skinned grandmother as an 8-year-old child traveling through the Deep South when the ticket taker told her

that she needed to relocate to another part of the train, “for Negros.” In addition, retirees were treated to a spell-binding play, “Afri-Can Life on this Ameri-Can Soil: In The Quiet Night-Time of My Sleep-Less Dreams” by the accomplished jazz performer, curator, composer and concert organizer, Marjorie Eliot. Ms. Eliot received a special “Jazz Activist” award to commemorate her long and distinguished career which has touched thousands of lives. ■



Food, glorious food catered by Sabor Borinqueno Restaurant, located in Harlem.



Honoree, Marjorie Eliot, with Winston George to her left; Gregory Floyd and Nancy True.



Black History Committee Member, Carolyn Whitley at the podium.

mark your calendar

Founders Day

June 9, 2017

9am to 2pm

NY Hilton 6th Avenue
and 52nd Street



The Salsa class dance ensemble prepares for their performance on Founders Day

Puerto Rican Day Parade

June 11, 2017

5th Avenue from 44th Street
to 79th Street
Step-off location and time
to be announced



Nancy True, Director of the Retiree Division with Band Leader Papo Pepin and retirees at the Puerto Rican Day Parade 2016

RETIREE news & views

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on a personal note... We offer condolences...

To the family of **Paul Asaro**. Paul, retired NYCHA Housing Manager and longtime office assistant and volunteer in the Retiree Division, died March 27, after a brief illness. Paul had a lifelong connection with Local 237, first as a NYCHA employee and immediately upon retirement, becoming involved with the Division's Brooklyn Community Group – where he was the onetime chair. Recognized for his activism, he was invited to assist with the union's Retirement Planning Program and shortly thereafter, he became a part-time office assistant in the Retiree Division. He once told us that it was always his dream to work, in some capacity, for the union. In his retirement, this dream was realized.

Paul was a quiet yet strong presence in the Retiree Division. He connected easily with staff and his fellow retirees and helped to ensure that programs ran smoothly and that all participants felt welcomed at Retiree Division activities. In addition to his part-time work, he was a founding member of the Retiree Division's Italian Heritage Committee. **We will miss him.**

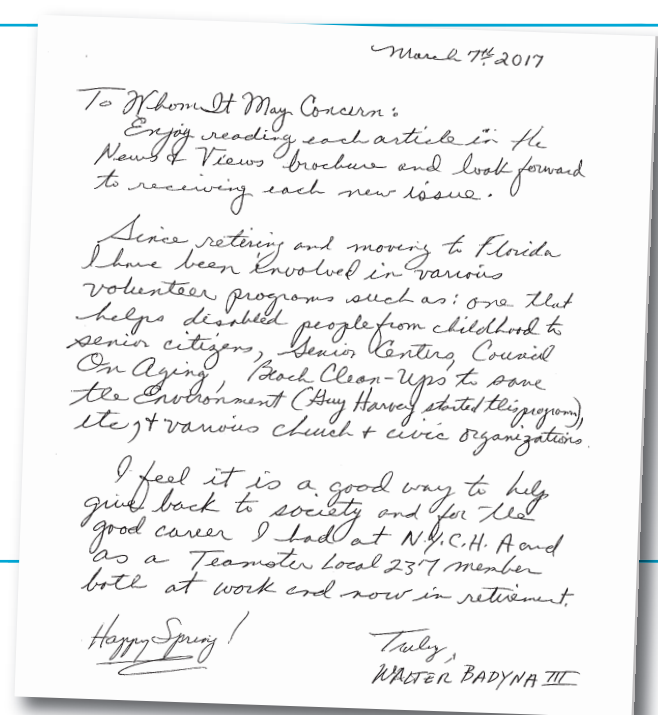


Paul Asaro with Susan Milisits, Assistant Director of the Retiree Division.

To retiree, **Annie Jones**, former School Safety Agent, Level III, on the sudden an unexpected passing of her beloved daughter, Shaniqua Osbourne, age 42. She was a NYPD Detective and mother of 2.

A letter from retiree Walter Badyna III

"A good way to help give back to society..."



March 7th 2017
To Whom It May Concern:
Enjoy reading each article in the News & Views brochure and look forward to receiving each new issue.

Since retiring and moving to Florida I have been involved in various volunteer programs such as: one that helps disabled people from childhood to senior citizens, Senior Centering Council On Aging, Beach Clean-Ups to save the Environment (Amy Harvey started this program), etc) & various church & civic organizations.

I feel it is a good way to help give back to society and for the good career I had at N.Y.C.H.A and as a Teamster Local 237 member both at work and now in retirement.

Happy Spring!

Truly,
WALTER BADYNA III