



LOCAL 237 NEWSLINE

Vol. 51, No. 2

Summer 2017

65 YEARS OLD AND GOING STRONG

On June 17, Local 237 hosted an **OPEN HOUSE** for members, retirees and their families, to mark our 65th Anniversary. See the centerfold for some of the photos of the festivities and you can visit www.local237.org to see all of the photos.

The year was 1952. In the U.S., the average worker earned \$3,400 per year. 2 out of 3 families owned a car. 2 out of 3 families had a phone and 1 in 3 households had a television. A new car cost \$1,700 and gas was .20 per gallon. Chopped meat was .53 per pound. The average new house cost \$9,050 and the average rent was \$80 per month. Testing continued on the atomic bomb and the first hydrogen bomb was detonated. The first mechanical heart is used on a patient and the Polio vaccine is invented. Emmett Ashford became the first African American substitute umpire in major league baseball and Perry Mason, Lassie, Wagon Train, 77 Sunset Strip and the Lone Ranger were some of the shows viewers watched on their 21" inch black and white console TV, costing \$339.95. 'Singing in the Rain' and 'The African Queen' were box office hits and 'The Caine Mutiny' remained on the New York Times best seller list for months. Jo Stafford's "You Belong To Me" and "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" topped the record charts. MAD magazine printed its first edition and Mr. Potato Head and the Joe Palooka Bop Bag were among the most sought after toys. The first Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise opened that year as did the Holiday Inn. New York City installs "Don't Walk" signs and the bar code gets a patent. Former World War II General

Dwight Eisenhower, a Republican, bests Democrat Adlai Stevenson to become President following Harry Truman.

But that's not all that occurred in 1952. In May of that year, Teamsters Local 237 was chartered. Its first President was **Henry Feinstein**. Throughout the years, other divisions of municipal workers in New York City and on Long Island were enfolded into the Local to comprise almost 24,000 members in nearly every government agency today, making 237 the largest public employee Local of the Teamsters in the nation, Canada and Puerto Rico. (The entire timeline of Local 237's history can be found on website: www.local237.org. A poignant, personal account by retirees, known as the Oral History Project, also appears on the website.)

Gregory Floyd, the current President of Local 237, elected to office in 2007, and also the Vice President-at-Large on the General Board of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, has said about Local 237: "When you think about it, 65 years is a long time to keep anything going, let alone, going strong. Across our nation, labor unions have seen a dramatic decline in membership — to only 11% today. Union bashing and union busting are rampant, with public sector members often portrayed as greedy, incompetent workers who abuse the system. Somehow, many have

THEN AND NOW



Henry Feinstein, the first President of Teamsters Local 237.



The current President of Teamsters Local 237, Gregory Floyd (center) with members of the Executive Board: Trustees, Curtis Scott and Jeanette Taveras; Vice President, Richard Hendershot; Secretary-Treasurer, Ruben Torres; Recording Secretary, Patricia Stryker and Trustee, Edmund Kane.



The original building of the headquarters of Local 237.



The current building of the headquarters of Local 237.

forgotten that unions fought for working families so that they could enjoy a better quality of life. Unions built the middle class in America. And it is public employees who help to run and maintain services and facilities upon which millions rely — our schools, hospitals, the Housing Authority and homeless shelters — to name only a few. But, throughout 237's history, we've had to fight many battles on behalf of our members and retirees. We've had many

accomplishments, among them: Lobbying for legislation to protect our members; providing health and pension benefits for active members and retirees; and ending gender-based pay discrimination. Today, we are still faced with many challenges, but we are well-prepared to fight with the vigor and commitment that has become synonymous with Local 237 throughout our history. We are proud, and should be, because, at 65, we're still going strong."



Local 237 goes to Albany for "Lobbying Day". Lone woman is Irma Rabinowitz, from Housing, and a charter member since 1948.



Graduation of Hospital Police.



Carl Haynes, when he was the Director of Housing addressing Supervisors. Carl became the fourth President of Local 237.



Institutional seamstresses for HRA.



Local 237's newsletter from 1967.



Housing members go on strike in 1967.



Members of Local 237's Executive Board met with Mayor Robert Wagner (third from the right) at City Hall. William Lewis, (to the Mayor's right), was 237's President at that time.



Arthur "Sonny" Illery (right), then a Citywide Business Agent who later became the VP on the Executive Board, assisting injured members.

Local 237 Member Services

UNION HEADQUARTERS

212-924-2000
216 West 14th Street
New York, NY 10011-7296

LOCAL 237 DIVISIONS

CITYWIDE DIVISION, 2nd Fl.

212-924-2000
Donald Arnold, Director
Derek Jackson, Director,
Law Enforcement Division
Randy Klein, Deputy Director

HOUSING DIVISION, 2nd Fl.

212-924-2000
Kevin Norman, Housing Director

LONG ISLAND DIVISION

631-851-9800
100 West Main Street, Babylon,
New York 11702
Benedict Carenza, Director
Long Island Welfare Fund:
For information on the various
funds call 800-962-1145

RETIREE DIVISION, 8th Fl.

212-807-0555
Provides a variety of pre- and
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including pension and health
insurance counseling to mem-
bers. (Pension counseling by
appointment, Thursdays only).
General retirement counseling
and retirement planning series
during spring and fall.
Nancy B. True, Director

LOCAL 237 DEPARTMENTS

(Citywide and Housing)

SKILLED TRADES, 2nd Fl.

212-924-2000
Donald Arnold, Director

HEALTH AND SAFETY, 2nd Fl.

212-924-2000
Donald Arnold, Director
Carl Giles, Coordinator

MEMBERSHIP, 3rd Fl.

212-924-2000
Provides membership services
and records, including address
changes.

WELFARE FUND, 3rd Fl.

212-924-7220
The Fund administers the eligi-
bility, enrollment, disability,
optical and death benefits
directly by the Fund's in-house
staff, as well as prescription
and dental programs indirectly.
Mitchell Goldberg, Director

LEGAL SERVICES, 4th Fl.

212-924-1220
Lawyers advise and represent
members on covered personal
legal problems, including
domestic relations (family
court proceedings, divorce and
separation), purchase and sale
of a primary residence, wills,
adoptions, credit and
consumer problems, tenant
rights and bankruptcies.
Office Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Mary Sheridan Esq., Director
Kenneth Perry Esq.,
Deputy Director

EXECUTIVE OFFICES, 5th Fl.

212-924-2000
Gregory Floyd, President
Richard Hendershot,
Vice President
Ruben Torres,
Secretary-Treasurer

PERSONNEL, 5th Fl.

212-924-2000
Edmund Kane, Director and
Chief Negotiator

POLITICAL ACTION &

LEGISLATION, 5th Fl.

212-924-2000
Local 237 protects members'
rights by helping to sponsor
legislation that is important
to members, and by opposing
initiatives that would hurt
members.
Patricia Stryker, Director

GRIEVANCES/DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS, 7th Fl.

212-924-2000
For grievances and job related
problems, first contact your
shop steward and/or grievance
representative. If they can't
resolve the issue, contact your
business agent.

Mal Patterson, Director of
Grievances and Hearings
Todd Rubinstein, Esq.,
Grievance Coordinator

CIVIL SERVICE BAR ASSN

7th Fl., 212-675-0519
Saul Fishman, President
Aldona Vaiciunas,
Office Administrator and
Grievance Coordinator
John Picucci, Esq.,
Grievance Representative
CSBA Welfare Fund
Alicare 866-647-4617

COMMUNICATIONS, 5th Fl.

646-638-8501
Phyllis S. Shafran, Director
Local 237 Newsline and
Retiree News & Views, Editor
Website: www.local237.org

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

8th Fl.
212-807-0550
Provides a variety of training
and educational advancement
opportunities for members.
Bertha Aiken, Director

USEFUL NUMBERS

FOR PRE-RETIRES

NYCERS

(New York City Employees Retirement System)

By Mail:
335 Adams St., Suite 2300,
Brooklyn, NY 11201-3751
In Person:
340 Jay Street, Mezzanine,
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Gen'l Information:
347-643-3000
Outside NYC toll-free:
877-6NYCERS

NYCERS Internet

www.nyclink.org/html/nycers

NYC Department of Education Retirement System

65 Court St., Brooklyn, NY 11201
718-935-5400

Social Security

Administration
800-772-1213

NY State and Local Retirement Systems

518-474-7736

A message from the President



By Gregory Floyd

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

Vote 'NO' to the CON CON con

On November 7, 2017, when voters go to the polls to cast their ballot for candidates of various elective offices, including Governor and Mayor, there's another part of that ballot—toward the end—that may affect them as much, if not more.

It's a question on the ballot which comes up every 20 years and which seems innocent enough: "Should there be a convention to revise the constitution and amend the same?"

The wrong answer can prove deadly for union members, and in particular, public sector union members. We need to vote "NO", and here's why:

Our benefits — the envy of so many — are protected by the current state constitution. In today's political climate, where union bashing and union busting is rampant, when union membership has fallen to an all-time low (nationwide it is only 11%) and with 28 states having already passed so-called "Right to Work" laws which, contrary to its name, allows "freeloader" employees in unionized workplaces to receive the same advantages as union members without paying dues — we DO NOT want to create a mechanism for wholesale alterations to the New York State Constitution.

We need to vote "NO" to the Constitutional Convention!

Union members are not the only ones who would be negatively affected by a Constitutional Convention. Many others are too.

According to a recent Siena College poll, 89% of New Yorkers have heard little or nothing about the upcoming convention. But the political insiders and lobbyists are well aware of it and view the Convention as a great opportunity to rewrite the current Constitution to their own benefit, while making a huge profit in the process. The Constitutional Convention takes place over several years—while the taxpayers, you and I, are footing the bill for the Delegates' election and salary— at an estimated cost of \$200 million. To make things even worse, there is no time limit for how long the process can take. The vote to have a Convention (or, hopefully, not) takes place in 2017; in 2018, there will be the election of Delegates to the Convention and in 2019, the Convention will convene. Any approved amendments will not take effect

until at least 2020 and beyond. Delegates will be paid a salary of \$80,000 a year (in addition to their other income). Since Delegates are elected to their position, many will be elected officials or politically savvy insiders who are familiar with the techniques and demands of the political process, such as fundraising and campaigning. The argument that the Convention provides an opportunity for "fresh eyes" and "outsiders" to participate in government is not the reality. Instead, the reality is that a Constitutional Convention would be controlled by well-funded special interests, like the Koch brothers, and career politicians, and will put the "foxes in the hen house."

New Yorkers from all sectors of employment and socio-economic backgrounds have rejected the call for a Constitutional Convention—which takes place every 20 years—since 1967. And with good reason. Then and especially now in this politically-charged climate, there is concern that long-standing guarantees will be destroyed. Among them, clean air and water, preserving recreational parkland, caring for the needy, mentally ill, and elderly, and providing free public schools — just some of the

mandates protected by the current Constitution. Along with worker rights, issues like pensions, prevailing wage rates, collective bargaining and workers' compensation could all be on the chopping block, if we allow a Constitutional Convention.

It is important to note that there is a path for beneficial change. If there

are changes that can improve our lives and livelihoods, the legislature can amend the Constitution at any time with specific proposals. In fact, there have been 222 amendments to the 120 year-old documents, changes achieved through legislation. And, as the Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie cautions: "My concern is there can be a lot of outside money influencing what would be the election of 180 or so temporary legislators...I think we should be very, very careful in exposing the constitution to the whims of someone from outside the state who can decide to spend millions to put forward their position."

In other words: **just vote "NO" to the Constitutional Convention and avoid the Con Con con.** ■



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

On the Job

Local 237 is the largest Teamsters Local in the United States and Canada. Our members are dedicated municipal workers performing tough jobs in a wide range of titles for nearly every government agency in New York City and on Long Island. The quality of life for all of us is positively impacted by the hard work of 237 members. Meet some of those members:



At Dyckman Houses, HA **Zelda White**, HA **Patricia Johnson** and Assistant Manager, **Patricia Maxwell**.



Tiffany Johnson, Store Room Keeper at the Langston Hughes Houses in Brooklyn, cutting keys for a resident in distress.



Getting the job done, proud NYCHA workers were photographed in full focus by Business Agent **Ken Roper**. At Amsterdam Houses, Caretaker J workers (left to right) Shop Steward **Sharon Alexander** and **Adrienne Boyd**; **Dymar DeJesus**, and **John Taylor**; **Andre Harvin** and Caretaker G, **Israel Ortiz**. Caretaker J workers at Chelsea Houses **Amanda Pagan**, **Kadesha Beathea** and **Athena Almodovar**, who is also the Shop Steward; **Athena Almodovar** and **Anthony Bono**, Maintenance Worker. At Manhattan South, Heating Plant Technicians **Devin West** and **Eric Mody**.



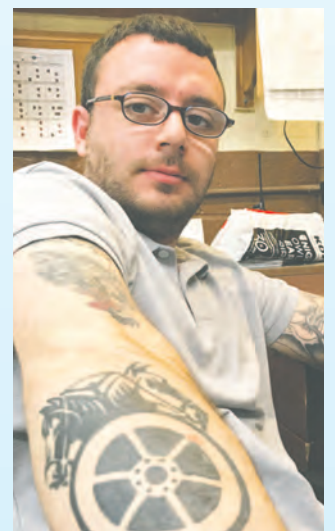
DCAS warehouse stock workers in records management: **Edward Coit**, **Paul Chester**, **Alex Friedlander**, **John Hall**, **Avery Jackson** and **Maurice Moore**.



Caretaker at Coney Island Houses, **Tyree Jones**, enjoying the job and the weather.



Food Service Supervisors at a grievance hearing pictured with **Mal Patterson**, Director of Hearings and Grievances (second from the left), **Jerry Simmons**, **Sidney Grabill**, **Chris Maniace** and **Kelly Bacci**. Also present, but missing from the picture, are **Nicole Bonica** and **Alessandro Palumbo**.



Justin Calnan, Assistant Superintendent, Surfside Houses in Coney Island, shows off his "tat" that commemorates his lasting Teamster pride.

Local 237 NEWSLINE

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Executive Board

Gregory Floyd President	Richard Hendershot Vice President	Ruben Torres Secretary-Treasurer	Patricia Stryker Recording Secretary
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Newsline and www.local237.org

Phyllis S. Shafran
Editor

Special thanks in the preparation of Newsline to:
Gisela (GiGi) Reyes, Executive Administrative Assistant,
Winston George, Deputy Director of the Retiree Division and
Midersi Martinez, Executive Assistant Secretary

IF YOU MOVE – Please send your change of address in writing to **Membership** to insure that you continue receiving your newspaper.



At the Janitorial and Grounds Training Center at Ingersoll Houses, NYCHA Superintendent **Stanley Davis** gave helpful instruction to NYCHA workers in those divisions.



So many of our members go above and beyond the call of duty, performing acts of heroism, ingenuity, kindness and generosity that demonstrate their professionalism and heart. They were willing to go that extra mile, and by so doing, made a difference in someone's life. Here are some of their stories.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Above and Beyond



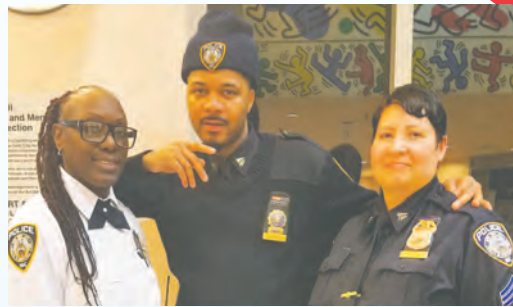
SCHOOL BUS HITS A CHILD, SSAs SAVE THE DAY

For 8-year-old, Zacherius Delgado, a student at PS 109, it was just another school day, until he was hit by a school bus. Luckily for the youngster, **School Safety Agent III Ronald Foster** was on the scene and sprung into action. EMS was immediately notified and transported the critically injured child to Brookdale Hospital. Zacherius' mother was notified and the student's condition was being monitored with regular updates to Central Headquarters. Although he sustained severe trauma to his right leg and foot, Zacherius is now on the mend.



SCHOOL SAFETY AGENT HURT IN ON-JOB CAR CRASH AWARDED \$432K COMPENSATION

Recently retired **School Safety Agent Shareen Byrd** has been awarded \$432,000 in compensation for injuries suffered in an on-the-job car crash while responding to an emergency. The Agent, hurt eight years ago when, as a passenger in a van owned by the Police Department and driven by her co-worker, was en route to an emergency at Morris Intermediate School (I.S. 61) concerning a fight between students. The van was hit by another auto in Sunnyside and Byrd suffered shoulder injuries requiring surgery. Her injuries prevented her from returning to work for nearly five months.



A WOODHULL VISITOR RUSHED TO ER THANKS TO HOSPITAL POLICE

Captain Sha-neeka Speight, Detective Jamar Simpson and Sgt. Doren Perez aided a visitor to Woodhull Hospital after being spotted unresponsive in the bathroom by Detective Simpson, who administered CPR while Sgt. Perez called for assistance. Under the supervision of Captain Spreight and with the help of an off-duty nurse passing by the scene, the distressed man was rushed to the ER's Critical Care Unit by the Code Blue Team, where he was later listed in stable condition.



SSAs AID STUDENT WITH MEDICAL CRISIS

A female student attending Midwood High School falls to the floor apparently in extreme distress. With the school nurse present and EMS on the way, **School Safety Agent III Camela Wade** performed CPR and applied other vital techniques to help the apparently gravely ill student. Along with SSAs **Agnes H. George**, (Camela Wade, center) and **Darryl Lomas**, they helped to stabilize the teen until she was transported to Maimonides Hospital, where, despite their exhaustive and valiant efforts, the young lady died.



A SPECIAL MOTHERS' DAY GIFT

School Safety Agent, Abiodun Olayemi, assigned to PS 243 in Brooklyn, wanted to give the Principal, Karen Hambright-Glover something special to celebrate Mothers Day. The accomplished artist used her creative skills to paint — in two hours — a portrait of the principal.

STUDENTS BRING LOADED GUNS TO SCHOOL-SSAs JUMP INTO ACTION



Another day, another weapon confiscated by fast-thinking School Safety Agents. A loaded .380 caliber firearm fell out of the pocket of an agitated 15-year-old male student at Intermediate School 171 in Cypress Hills during a scuffle with SSAs who were asked by the Principal to search the young man after receiving a tip by other students that the suspect had a gun and intended to rob a store. The NYPD took the student into custody. Pictured left to right are SSAs **Stafford Nicholas**, **Elizabeth Ceballos** and **Petria Santiago**.



SSA III Anthony Williams apprehended a 17-year-old male student who entered New Utrecht High School with a loaded .380 caliber gun. This school does not have metal detectors. The student was spotted carrying the gun when Williams approached him to surrender it, which he did. The NYPD was called and arrested the student.



150 STUDENTS CAN'T BE WRONG

150 students at Edison Career and Technical Education High School signed a petition given to the school Principal in praise of **School Safety Agent Pointdujour**. The students wrote, in part: "School has become the second home for many of us. Home is a place where one feels safe and protected. Mr. Pointdujour allows students of Edison to consider it their second home due to his kindness and heartwarming actions... Mr. Pointdujour's presence is highly valued and appreciated at Edison."



MOMMY, DO YOU WORK TONIGHT?

Leslie Tene Marshall, a School Safety Agent for five years, was constantly asked by her two little children, Denzel and Diamond, why she had to leave them to go to work and stay away from their home for so many hours. Despite having a strong family support system, the questions persisted and the answers became an inspiration for her to write a book: "Mommy, Do You Work Tonight?" It took 14 years for the book to be published due to the high costs involved in publishing. At a recent book signing event, Leslie was encouraged by family, friends and colleagues, including Assistant Commissioner **Ramon Garcia**, who attended to celebrate the accomplishment with her. As Leslie says: "Don't let the naysayers hold you back—let them push you toward success." To find out more about the book and to order a copy go to: www.lesliemarshall.com



RALLY TO PROTEST PROPOSED NYCHA CUTS

237 members joined protesters fearful of drastic Federal cuts to public housing. Along with Senator Schumer, other elected officials, tenant groups and advocacy organizations like Community Voices Heard and Community Service Society, our members pressured lawmakers to spare public housing from the funding axe which could have a disastrous effect on an already financially struggling agency. As **Gregory Floyd**, President of Teamsters Local 237, said: *"For many New Yorkers, public housing is their only affordable option. And for 8,000 of our members it's their livelihood. We need to stand strong with Senator Schumer in the fight to protect public housing."* Apparently their voices were heard and their frustration did not go unnoticed. The severe cuts were avoided, at least for now.



JUMPING FOR FUN AND FOR A PURPOSE

Brooklyn North School Safety Division and PSA 3 teamed up for a friendly Double Dutch Competition against the students of Science Skills High School. The DOE Administration sold refreshments during this event and all proceeds have been donated to Lupus Research. This event allowed the students and members of the community to see a different side of law enforcement and to bridge the gap that often exists between the two. The students were shocked to see that the women of NYPD had the same Double Dutch skills talents as them. The judges panel included: **Captain McLeod, Agent Sadler, DOE Administrator Ms. Gomes and Officer Nelson. Captain Daniel A. Dooley**, Commanding Officer of PSA3, was in the audience cheering NYPD on. Several Explorers from Post 370, which is housed inside of JHS 218, also attended the competition and were able to earn community service hours by helping out during the event and cleaning up the gymnasium afterwards. Commanding Officer of Brooklyn North School Safety Division **Yamese Lavington** took part and jumped rope with student of Science Skills Shawn. As **ShaQuanna Rasin**, Commanding Officers Assistant PBBN/SSD Crime Analysis Unit, noted: *"This collaboration between PBBN/SSD and PSA 3 is one of my most favorite. We work side by side on a regular basis when it comes to work, so it was good to be able to come together for an exciting event for the students. We jumped for the children, We jumped for Lupus Research. We jumped for the community. And we jumped for Sisterhood. We are involved in our students lives daily and we are making a difference, bridging the gap one turn of a rope at a time."*

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

In recognition of a Job Well Done

The first-rate work of our members is often acknowledged with special honors to mark their achievements. Here are some members recently recognized for their professionalism and performing a job well-done:

QUEENS SOUTH COMMAND AWARDS CEREMONY

The School Safety Division has a mission statement that says it is dedicated "to provide a safe environment, conducive to learning, where students and faculty can be free from hostility and disruptions which could negatively impact on the educational process." In a recent awards ceremony, the Commanding Officer of Queens South, **Wilbur Jones**, agreed that the mission has been met, and honored several Agents in recognition of that accomplishment.



First Year Perfect Attendance Award-**Derek Jackson**, Local 237 Law Enforcement Director; honoree **Officer Essam Girgis**, **CO Jones** and honoree **Hilda Pereira**.



SSAIII Stephen Nemley (left) and **SSAIII Terese Nemley** received Certificates of Appreciation for their work with the Explorers (pictured).



BRONX BP HONORS

Two unarmed school safety officers, who responded to an Amber Alert and rescued an abducted 2-year-old on Feb. 7, recently received honors for heroism from the Bronx Borough President **Ruben Diaz, Jr.** at Borough Hall. Pictured with the BP (center) are **Brian Caballero**, a School Safety Agent and **Deshawn Woodford**, a Supervisor of School Security, who were taking a lunch break together when their phones lit up with Amber Alerts related to a kidnapping on Staten Island. Witnesses who had spotted a car matching the one described in the alert flagged the officers down on the Major Deegan Expressway. The black Kia Sorrento was actually right behind them. The officers halted traffic on the expressway and called for backup. Although they were unarmed, they handcuffed the suspect and secured his vehicle, from which they rescued the child. "I wasn't really fearing for my life at that point. I was more focused on the 2-year-old — like any parent or grandparent would be," Caballero said. Woodford, a mother and grandmother, has been on the job for 19 years. Caballero, who has two daughters, has been on the job for 25 years.

CIVILIAN RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The NYPD acknowledged the hard work of the School Safety Division at a ceremony in April at 1 Police Plaza. Pictured at the event are:



Derek Jackson, Director of Law Enforcement at Local 237; **Sherman Richards**, Commanding Officer of Bronx West; **Gerome Quinn**, Deputy Bronx/Manhattan; SSAs **Elaine Ramirez-Rodriguez**; **Brian Caballero**; **Louise Kelly Johnson**; Director, Patrol Operations, SSD; **Lyndsey Martinez**, Deputy Director, Brooklyn/Queens/Staten Island and **SSA Damaris Taveras**.



SSAs **Anselma Ambris-Miller**; **Billy Boler**; **Tyesha Nixon-Shaw**; **Delores John**; **SSAIII Hewitt Ruby**; **Commanding Officer Yamese Williams-Lavington**; SSAs **III Nadine Massey-Sampson** and **Rhondean Gripper**; **SSAI Gwendolyn Farmer** and **SSAIII Charles Harper**.



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

School Safety Agents, working in conjunction with the NYPD, mentor New York City teens and young adults, ages 14 to 20, to learn about law enforcement and consider careers in that field. The Explorers Program, which focuses on six areas: Career, Service, Leadership, Social, Fitness and Outdoors, has nearly 4,000 posts. Uniformed police officers volunteer to be the on-site Post Advisors responsible for teaching, motivating and serving as role models to youngsters who might follow in their footsteps. Recently, the annual luncheon was held to commemorate the accomplishments of the program and to acknowledge the exemplary work of several of its participants. Pictured: **Deputy Commissioner Ramon Garcia**; **SSA Brian Caballero**; **School Safety Supervisor Dishon Woodford** and **SSA Dennis Foster**.

UFT BRONX BOROUGH OFFICE HOSTS ITS 6TH ANNUAL SCHOOL SAFETY AGENTS AWARD DINNER



Honorees pictured, among them: **SSA Brian Calballero** and **SS Deshawn Woodford** (pictured first row left), **Ramon Garcia, Jr.**, Assistant Commissioner, School Safety Division **Charlie Cotto**, on the right; Law Enforcement Business Agent next to him, and **Brian Conroy**, Assistant Chief Commanding Officer, School Safety Division (seated center).

2016-2017 Honorees

P.S. 18: **SSA I Maria Garay**; P.S./M.S. 31/JHS 151 Campus: **SSA III Fay Peterkin**; P.S. 36: **SSA I Yanira Velez**; P.S. 140: **SSA I Tryphena Lee**; M.S. 145/M.S. 325/M.S. 328 Campus: **SSA I Lucretia Vereen**; P.S. 126: **SSA I Luisa Escoto**; M.S. 279: **SSA II Ricardo Aybar**; P.S. 306/M.S. 331/PX186 Campus: **SSA I Keith Crawford**; P.S./M.S. 498: **SSA II Andrea Bedell**; P.S. 169: **SSA I Mohammad Borhan**; P.S. 314/P.S. 458 Campus: **SSAI Nadia Daniel**; P.S. 531/P.S. 536/P.S. 691 Campus: **SSA I Donna Brown**; PX12: **SSA I Fiona Bogie**; PX176@X181: **SSA I Shanekqua Cruz**; PX723@X189: **SSA I William Cruz-Santana**; Monroe Campus: **SSA III Luis A. Albino**; Wings Academy: **SSA III Tamara Cornwall**; Lehman HS Campus: **SSA I Cindy Daniel**; Bronx HS of Visual Arts: **SSA III Douglas Cruz**; ALC@Jane Addams HS Campus: **SSA II Tamika Santos**

The first-rate work of our members is often acknowledged with special honors to mark their achievements. Here are some members recently recognized for their professionalism and performing a job well-done:

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

In recognition of a Job Well Done

LOCAL 237 CELEBRATES NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as National Police Week. Currently, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice and to acknowledge with appreciation those who continue to make us feel safe in our communities. In New York City and on Long Island, members of Local 237 play a vital role in keeping the public secure, working for a wide range of municipal agencies—in some of the most challenging locations—including, for example: public schools and colleges, hospitals, homeless shelters, Administration for Children's Services sites, and in the Town of Babylon, the Fire Department and the harbor. Jacobi Hospital, Woodhull Hospital, Lincoln Hospital, Queens Hospital Center, Kings County Hospital, Harlem Hospital and Elmhurst Hospital all held recognition ceremonies to formally acknowledge the dedicated work of their hospital police force.

JACOBI HOSPITAL



PO Patrick Green; PO Raphael Torres; PO Jesus Rosario; Local 237 Law Enforcement Division Business Agent, Charlie Cotto; Captain Moises Suer; PO Siheem Washington; PO Hafiz Ali; PO Fello Parrilla and PO Johnathan Morales.

QUEENS HOSPITAL CENTER



Chris Roker, CEO; William Olmeda, Director of Hospital Police; Albert Willingham; Joint Labor Management Committee; Captain William Perry; Detective Reggie Bertheo and Detective Lixandro Colon.

WOODHULL HOSPITAL



Captain Shawn Stewart (left), hospital Police Officer Oladipo A. Lawal (middle) received a certificate for ten years of service. On the right is the newly promoted Director of Hospital Police for Woodhull Hospital, Rachel Evans.

SEAVIEW HOSPITAL



(Pictured Left to Right) Chief Executive Officer Angelo Mascia; Director Ruben Morales; Special Officer Richard Torres; Special Officer Lynette Rivera; Detective Robert Miranda; Sergeant James Bing and Local 237's Citywide Director Donald Arnold.

Not Pictured:

TOUR I-Detective Christopher Alers, Special Officer Jane Irvine, Special Officer Reij George, Special Officer Donna Tannenbaum and Watch Person Vincent Nelson
TOUR II- Watch Person Steve Lara
TOUR III- Special Officer Kyle O'Hagan, Watch Person Rosemary Fernandez and Special Officer Vito Dispigna

HARLEM HOSPITAL



Director of Hospital Police, Ronnell Boylan with recipients of the Meritorious Service Award: Officer Lance Wood and Detective Giovanni Franco.

LINCOLN HOSPITAL



Front row: Captain Edward Santiago; Sgt. Jack Lazzarini; Watch Person Dwaine Moore; PO Rosa Madrigal; PO Rosa Valdez; PO Sierra Jack; PO Manual Asto; Lt. Elvis Cruz; Local 237 Law Enforcement Business Agent, Charlie Cotto; and Director Guillermo Magdaleno. Second row: PO Donald Wilson; Det. Santa Lay; Sgt. Jason Torres; PO Shawn Cole and Watch Person Valentine Okpala.

KINGS COUNTY HOSPITAL



Director Juan Checo (left) with Ernest Baptiste (right), the CEO of Kings County Hospital, presented Officers Doris Maldonado and Jean Audens certificates of Exceptional Merit for putting their lives at risk to remove a loaded gun from a disorderly man at the hospital.



Local 237's Director of Integrity, Dwayne Montgomery (left) with the honorees PO Turner-Perfect Attendance; PO Borden-Personal Achievement Award; PO Dubose-Personal Achievement Award; PO Secaira-Personal Achievement Award; PO Jacobs-Personal Achievement; PO Morales-Personal Achievement and The Community Service Award-PO Supall. 5 years of Service-Merit Award Recipients: PO Maldonado and PO Audena; Watch Persons-Ms. Boston-15 years of Service and Mr. Willie-Perfect Attendance



Director Juan Checo presents Officer David Morales with a certificate for Community Service.

ELMHURST HOSPITAL



Derek Jackson, Director of Local 237's Law Enforcement Division; Officer Anthony Stephens; Director Kubrat Hristoff; Capt. Vincent Fraser; Officer William Hau; Officer Andrew Hall; Randy Klein, Deputy Director, Local 237's Citywide Division; Officer Pranav Dey; Sgt. Walter Lobation; Officer Shaheeda Kelly and Det. Tonya Moore.



Roll call at Kings County

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Members Promoted, Congratulations

We commend our members who have succeeded in achieving higher rank within their agencies. Here are some of those recently promoted:

SCHOOL SAFETY AGENTS PROMOTED

On April 28, 2017 at a ceremony held at 1 Police Plaza, the following School Safety Agents were upgraded to the title of School Safety Agent 3:

Moi K. Underwood
Ruben D. Jimenez
Lucretia P. Vereen
Vanessa E. Gardner
Linda F. McIntosh
Jacquileen E. Lowe
Margret Y. Marin
Victoria V. Vargas
Joseph I. Thomas
Casaundra Hickson-Miller
Kenya S. Rodriguez
Annie Craig
Ninette Ferrell



Charmaine Berry, promoted to Chief Inspector at TLC. Charmaine is the first female to hold that position. She is pictured with **Randy Klein**, Deputy Director, Citywide.



Woodhull Hospital Police Officers **Luis Figuera** (left) and **Brian Zambrano** were promoted to the rank of Detective. They also were awarded certificates in acknowledgement of their years of dedicated service.



DHMH Promotions

On March 13, 2017, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene held a promotional ceremony to elevate members to the rank of Sergeant. The event was coordinated by **Gary G. Ortalano**, Chief of DOHMH Police. Teamsters Local 237 also took the opportunity to honor Shop Steward, DOHMH Detective **Princess Pascal** for her 18 years of dedicated service. (Pictured left to right) **Derek Jackson**, Director, Local 237's Law Enforcement Division; Sergeant **Devon Beaumont**; Deputy Chief **Andres LaSalle**; Sergeant **Brenda Williams**; Sergeant **Michael Arzouane**; Detective **Princess Pascal**; Captain **Nancy Martinez**; Sergeant **Lester Lloyd** and **Andre Green**, Assistant Director, Local 237's Law Enforcement Division.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Added to the Roster of Retirees

Local 237 wants to thank the following members for their years of dedicated service, and wish them well in their retirement:



John Napataino (center), a Level 2 Inspector, has retired after being on the job for 28 years. Wishing him well are: (left to right) **Lalan Varghes**, Inspector; **Randy Klein**, Deputy Director, Citywide; **Mariano D'Angelo**, Chief Inspector, Brooklyn and **Neal Holley**, Chief Inspector/Queens.



Jeanette Taveras (left), Law Enforcement Business Agent and Local 237 Trustee and **Curtis Scott**, Housing Business Agent and Trustee (right) were on hand to congratulate two School Safety Agents III upon their retirement. **Leo Pedone** (left) has 25 years of service and **Roberto Perez** was on the job for 28 years. Leo said that he plans to spend time traveling with his family and Roberto noted that there have been many changes to the job over the years but he feels good about making a difference.



Patricia Reid started her career in 1984 as a Housing Authority receptionist and worked her way up to Housing Manager, a position, she says, that made her very proud. Pictured with her is **Ken Roper**, Housing Business Agent.



Steven Billingsy, a NYCHA Maintenance Worker and Shop Steward at Sheepshead/Nostrand Houses, has retired after 24 years on the job. His co-workers gathered to offer their congratulations and wishes for an enjoyable retirement.



Luigi Mula (right), a Mason for 31 years at the Department of Transportation, has retired. He is pictured with **Randy Klein**, Deputy Director, Citywide, who thanked Luigi, on behalf of Local 237, for his many years of dedicated service.



Terry Stewart, a Police Sergeant at Bellevue Hospital, recently retired after 29 years of service. To mark the occasion, **Dwayne Montgomery**, Integrity Director, presented her with a plaque.







LONG ISLAND REPORT



Next to Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** is **Wendy Obloj** and next to her is Lucy Fairclough who both were aides who retired from the Plainview Old Bethpage school district.



Our great members at the town of Islip's Resource Recovery collection unit.



Lynn Platt was a Cook for the Half Hollow Hills school district and the Shop Steward for food service and Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza**



Donna Samuells retired from OTB. Business Agent **Cathy Rice** and Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** presented her with a plaque.



Charlotte Scaturro who was an Aide at Plainview Old Bethpage school district and retired after 44 years of service. Handing her the plaque is **Sue Rusineck** who is an Aide and building shop steward and in the back is **Maureen Sciulla** who is an Aide.



Groundskeepers from the Brentwood School District keeping the schools in great shape.



Town of Babylon members working on road repairs.



North Babylon schools maintenance and custodial crew.



Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** with North Babylon members at Parliament Elementary School.



Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** with Plainview Old Bethpage Security Guards



Jakes 58 Casino is one of our new contracts on Long Island. There are over 125 new Teamsters working there and the titles are: Count/Drop Team, Main Bankers, Cage Cashiers, Floor Attendants, Guest Service/ Player Rewards, Security Officers, Security Officer EMT, EVS Attendant Cleaners and EVS Heavy Cleaners. **Cathy Rice** is their Business Agent.



Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** with the North Babylon Schools Night crew of Custodians and Maintenance at Robert Moses Middle School.



Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** with North Babylon school district Custodial members. Far right is **Vinny Laferrera**, who is the Shop Steward of the High School.



Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** with Town of Babylon Mechanics and CEO Operators keeping the town moving.

MAKING THEIR VOICES HEARD



Members protesting the current contract at the Brentwood School District.



Long Island Division Director **Benny Carenza** and **John Gallagher** from the Half Hollow Hills School District lent their support to Teamsters of Local 812 in their strike against Clare Rose.

"Celebrating Local 237's Everyday HERO'S"

Honorees

The event was held on May 19th, 2017 at the Martin Kessler Post 2912 VFW. President **Gregory Floyd**, VP **Richard Hendershot** and LI Division Director **Benny Carenza** bestowed awards to the honorees.



Bob Verch from the Town of Babylon and current Chapter Chairman for the Town of Babylon.



Chris Olsen is a Custodian Night Supervisor at Brentwood School District.



Peggy Conroy is a Cook for the Brentwood School District, Shop Steward and on the Contract Negotiation Committee.



Demetra Tietjen works as a Bus Driver for the North Babylon School District. She is a Shop Steward and Contract Negotiator.



Mike Dowsett works as an Attendant Custodian at Off Track Betting. He is a Shop Steward.



Chris LoSardo is a Maintenance Mechanic Night Supervisor for the North Babylon School District. He is a Shop Steward and Contract Negotiator.



Brentwood's Southwest Kitchen Food Service workers.



Brentwood's Oak Park Kitchen Food Service workers.



Food Service Workers, North East Elementary, Brentwood School District.

POLITICAL AND LABOR NEWS

Inauguration of International Officers of the IBT's General Board



James P. Hoffa, (left) General President; Gregory Floyd, (center), At-Large Vice President and Ken Hall, (center, right) General Secretary-Treasurer, as they take the oath of office to serve a five-year term. Founded in 1903, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) represents more than 1.4 million hardworking men and women in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Upon winning the election in October, Hoffa noted: "This was a hard-fought campaign and a historically close election. Though we have many challenges before us, now is the time to join together as brothers and sisters against those who would destroy the labor movement and deny workers the gains they have struggled to achieve." The swearing-in ceremony celebrated the Teamsters Union as a force for change on behalf of working families, and the General Board will be leading the way.

APPRECIATING LABOR



Gregory Floyd at the podium as members of the health panel look on.

The labor-oriented media outlet, Labor Press, in conjunction with radio station AM 970's The Answer, hosted "Labor Appreciation Day," featuring labor leaders in panel discussions with various professionals in the fields of education, health care, law enforcement, commerce and politics. Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** served as both a host and panelist. Floyd told the audience: "Today's event is titled: Labor Appreciation Day. Those are words we don't often see together... and I'm not talking about the word day!"

Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Commemorated

On March 11, 1911, 145 workers, mostly immigrant women and young girls, were killed in a largely preventable fire in a factory located in Greenwich Village. The business owners were known for their notorious anti-worker, union busting policies. Most of the workers, who made only \$15 a week for a 12-hour day, 7-days a week, were

trapped inside the sweatshop, which had chains on the doors and no sprinkler system. Within 18 minutes, it was all over: 49 suffocated, 36 died in the broken elevator, 58 jumped to their deaths and 2 more died at the hospital. Despite evidence that the owners and managers were negligent, a Grand Jury failed to indict them on manslaughter

charges. Some good did come from the tragedy: With the International Ladies Garment Workers leading the way, New York City passed several worker protection laws, and on the federal level, a light was also shined on the need to codify worker safety. ▮



The building where the tragedy took place as it is today. In 1911, firefighters had ladders that could only reach to the seventh floor — the fire was on the eighth.



Cara Noel (r), Director of Communications at the New York City Central Labor Council, which coordinated the commemoration ceremony, with Phyllis Shafran, Director of Communications for Teamsters Local 237, which lent its support of the event that reinforces the call for safety guarantees for all workers.

Teamsters Local 237 on Hand as Governor Cuomo Shows Support for Labor Unions

Governor Andrew Cuomo signed several pieces of legislation into law that benefit union members. He also hosted a labor-packed rally with the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, **Nancy Pelosi**, to launch his "New York Fights Back" campaign to unseat Republican members of Congress who, the Governor argues, have not voted in the best interest of New Yorkers by favoring Trump-generated policies that jeopardize workers' rights and guarantees, ranging from prevailing wages to collecting union dues, as well as endanger health care, immigrants and affordable housing. Teamsters Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** and its members were on hand to show their support of the Governor's actions and to send a strong message to union bashers and union busters in Washington DC, that labor unions are alive and well and are not to be ignored. ▮

COMBATTING HOMELESSNESS



Governor Cuomo signs historic legislation to help combat homelessness.

FIGHTING BACK RALLY



Gregory Floyd fighting back



Local 237 members and retirees join forces to "fight back"



Governor Andrew Cuomo with Speaker Pelosi



The Governor's message to Republican members of Congress: "We promise you that if you violate your office, you defraud the voters, you hurt the people of this state, we will remove you from office. Those are not just words. You can bet your political life."

A TAX BREAK FOR UNION MEMBERS



Local 237 members, pictured with New York State AFL-CIO President, Mario Cilento, after viewing Governor Cuomo sign into law legislation which will allow union members who itemize on their tax returns to deduct the cost of their union dues from their state taxes. The new law, which increases the number of eligible workers who can take advantage of the tax break, will put back into the pockets of union members an estimated \$35 million.



Can Bankruptcy Help?

By Mary E. Sheridan, Esq.

Director Local 237-Legal Services Plan

Are you drowning in debt? Feeling anxious and stressed out from nasty creditor phone calls? Have you tried and tried to pay your credit card debt and the balance never seems to change? You are not alone. Although the number of bankruptcy filings in the United States has decreased since the highs of 2010, there were still close to 800,000 people seeking the protection of the bankruptcy courts in 2016.

The majority of individuals filing for bankruptcy file a Chapter 7 petition. People often refer to Chapter 7 filings as “liquidation” petitions. This is a bit of a misnomer, since bankruptcy laws protect certain assets such as some of the equity in your home and car, most personal belongings and household furnishings, and a certain amount of cash. In general, a Chapter 7 filing works to discharge most unsecured debt and secured debt, where you no longer have or want the security. Even income tax debt might be

dischargeable in a Chapter 7 filing.

The Federal Bankruptcy laws require complete disclosure of all debt, income and other assets. The process involves gathering a lot of documents and then your attorney will advise you on whether or not you qualify for a Chapter 7 filing. Sometimes an individual’s income will be too high to qualify or the income versus expenses allows for a certain amount of money to go to creditors. If this is the case, a Chapter 13 bankruptcy filing might be appropriate. In a Chapter 13, the individual must submit a payment plan to the Court for approval, for a time period of up to 5 years. A Chapter 13 may also be appropriate where someone is trying to save a home from foreclosure and reinstate his or her mortgage.

Remember - your Legal Services Plan is available for advice and representation where appropriate. Call (212) 924-1220 ■

LIGHTS! CAMERAS! ACTION! and Local 237

Award winning documentary film director, **Des Henderson** (left), based in Northern Ireland, specializes in independent films for major broadcasters such as the BBC, RTE and Channel 4. He is working on a project about housing in New York City and the many changes that have taken place in affordability over the last several years. He wants to tell the story from the perspective of those who help maintain the buildings, their Supers. Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** met with Des and provided him with meaningful insights, especially regarding public housing.

Des learned about the controversial plans to privatize several NYCHA properties as a questionable means to fund the money-strapped Authority and to produce more affordable housing units. This was a real eye-opener for him, understanding that union jobs are in jeopardy and gentrification is not synonymous with affordability. ■



Des Henderson with Gregory Floyd

Boy Scouts Salute Labor

Anthony G. Speelman, President, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1500 and **Shaun D. Francois I**, President, NYC Board of Education Workers Union Local 372 received the 2016 Labor Industry “Good Scout” Award presented by the Greater New York Council, Boy Scouts of America. **Gregory Floyd**, President of Teamsters Local 237, was the Chairman of this year’s event. Floyd took the opportunity to congratulate the organization and its honorees for helping “ordinary kids benefit in extraordinary ways due to scouting.” He is pictured with **Curtis**, from Staten Island Troop 2, who awarded a Certificate of Appreciation. ■



Boy Scout Curtis with Gregory Floyd

Dr. Rev Barber Branching Out

As a recent New York Times article noted: “Across the country, religious leaders whose politics fall to the left of center, and who used to shun the political arena, are getting involved — and even recruiting political candidates — to fight back against President Trump’s policies on immigration, health care, poverty and the environment. Some are calling the holy ruckus a “religious resistance.” **Dr. Rev. William J. Barber II** is one of them. As president of the North Carolina N.A.A.C.P. and pastor of a small Disciples of Christ church in Goldsboro, Dr. Barber began staging “Moral Monday” protests in Raleigh in 2013 to oppose voting-rights restrictions and other policies of the Republican-led state government. The demonstrations attracted thousands of participants and helped defeat the governor in 2016. Last year, he branched out. In April, to mark the 50th anniversary of the landmark sermon at Riverside Church in Manhattan, in which King denounced the Vietnam War, saying, “I cannot be silent,” Dr. Barber preached against Mr. Trump from



Pictured left to right are: Gregory Floyd, Rev. Jacques Degraff and Dr. Rev. William Barber.

the same pulpit and denounced what he saw as pervasive racism across the political right. Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** was invited to a private breakfast with Rev. Barber and several faith-based and community leaders to discuss the Reverend’s plans for the future, which included a latter-day version of King’s 1968 Poor People’s Campaign which prompted his stepping down from his N.A.A.C.P. position to fully engage the effort. ■

Flex Ops a Win Win Win!



Gregory Floyd with the McLean Security Team.

Local 237 recently hosted a safety training session at Ravenswood Houses— the first among several—to provide valuable tips from security experts, on how workers can help ensure their safety in the workplace. Local 237 President, **Gregory Floyd**, in his welcoming remarks, told the members how this session came about and encouraged them to follow the recommendations they were going to hear from the professionals in the field. As Floyd noted: “You are here today to talk about ways that you can protect yourself and feel safe on the job. One year ago, we weren’t so sure we would get this day. As many of you may know, our union was opposed to the Flex Ops program as originally designed. We felt that our members were not well protected. We were especially concerned about your safety working on those shifts. We took our concerns to Court. The judge agreed and the program was halted. Our concerns had to be addressed first. Next, we sat down with the housing authority to suggest ways Flex Ops could work better for you. We said: Here’s what’s important. Make it voluntary and give monetary incentives. But that’s not all. We told them that our biggest concern

was your safety. That had to be ensured. NYCHA agreed. So we hired security experts, McLean Security, to analyze safety problems and make recommendations on how to solve them. We said those safety issues had to be addressed by NYCHA before the program kicked in. We also advocated for monitoring those safety measures on a regular basis to make sure we were achieving our goals. The other thing we said was that a safety brochure had to be created that clearly outlines ways you can help yourself be safe. That was done. Here it is. But that’s not all. We wanted you to hear from these experts yourself and get those safety tips in person. Feel free to ask them questions. That’s why we are here today. We care about you. We know you take pride in your work, but that can only happen when you feel good about your workplace. In fact, that’s when you’re even more productive. So for the union, for the housing authority, and for our members, today is a win win, win!”

Video tapes of this very informative training session can be accessed through the Local 237 website at: www.local237.org. ■

We are very proud of the accomplishments of our members striving to achieve new educational and professional heights. Meet the new graduates.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to the Graduates

DHS GRADUATES

Department of Homeless Services and Local 237 welcomed new Officers to the ranks having completed a rigorous training program. One ceremony was held on April 7, 2017 (top) and the other on May 5, 2017 (bottom), both at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Pictured with each graduating class is Law Enforcement Business Agent, **Charlie Cotto** (right).



"Never too late" are the words of wisdom offered by **Housing Assistant Jacobs** upon graduating from the College of New Rochelle with a Degree in Psychology. Ms. Jacobs, a 25-year veteran with the Housing Authority is a member of the National Honor Society of Psychology, and graduated with a 3.89 Grade Point Average.



CUNY GRADUATES

Teamsters Local 237 President, **Gregory Floyd** (left) and Law Enforcement Business Agent and Board Trustee, **Jeanette Taveras** (second from the right) congratulated 40 proud CUNY cadets as they graduated to Police Officers in a graduation ceremony held at York College. President Floyd told the new Officers: "Higher education presents many challenges, but thanks to your efforts, feeling safe in our colleges and universities is not one of them."



SSA Kirt Caesar, who works at JHS 226, earned a Masters Degree in Sports Management from Brooklyn College.

We are very proud of the accomplishments of Local 237 members, and our members are very proud of the accomplishments of members of their own families. Here are some family achievements shared with us:

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

All in the Family



MEET THE YOUNGEST TEAMSTER

Madison Grace Galimi, born February 19, making parents **Bari and Steve** overjoyed. Steve is a maintenance worker at Glenwood Houses.



BASKETBALL PHENOM

Samaya Clark-Gabriel is a 7-year old hoops sensation, whose thrilling skills on the court got her an invitation to perform with the Harlem Globe Trotters. Samaya is the daughter of School Safety Agent, **Wayne Godson-Gabriel**, assigned to Brooklyn South. A media favorite, she has been featured on TV and in several newspapers; among them: CBS Sports, ESPNW, Good Morning America, USA Today, People and Rolling Stone magazine. Check out Samaya's moves on YouTube.



WHAT A RAP!

Renowned rapper, **Cam'ron**, performed in a public service announcement for Local 237 to encourage our members — especially new and younger ones — to participate in union activities and to utilize the many services we provide. The hit rap artist is the nephew of **Carl Giles**, (pictured third from the right), Safety Coordinator and Assistant to the President. Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** is on the extreme left and **Kevin Norman**, Director of the Housing Division is on the right. Catch the entire announcement on our website: www.local237.org

Resumen En Español

65

Años:
Marchando
con Fuerza

En Junio 17, el Local 237 organizó una Casa Abierta para miembros, jubilados y sus familias, para conmemorar nuestro 65th Anniversary. Vea la página principal de algunas de las fotos de las festividades y puede visitar www.local237.org para ver todas las fotos.

Era el año 1952. En los Estados Unidos el trabajador promedio ganaba \$3,400 por año. 2 de cada 3 familias tenían un automóvil. 2 de cada 3 familias tenían un teléfono y i de cada 3 hogares contaba con un televisor. Un carro nuevo costaba \$1,700 y la gasolina era .20 por galón. La carne molida costaba .53 por libra. El valor promedio de una casa nueva era \$9,050 y el alquiler promedio era \$80 por mes. Las pruebas de una bomba atómica continuaban y la primera bomba de hidrógeno fue detonada. El primer corazón artificial es usado en un paciente y se inventa la vacuna contra el Polio. Emmett Ashford llegó a ser el primer Afroamericano empleado como árbitro sustituto en las Grandes Ligas de béisbol y Perry Mason, Lassie, Wagon Train, 77 Sunset Strip y the Lone Ranger eran algunos de los programas vistos por televidentes en su aparato de televisión de 21" en blanco y negro, que costaba unos \$339.95. Películas como 'Singing in the Rain' y 'The African Queen' eran favoritas en los cines y libros como 'The Caine Mutiny' permanecieron en primer lugar en la lista del New York Times durante meses. Canciones como "You Belong To Me" de Jo Stafford y "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" estuvieron al tope de las gráficas musicales. La revista MAD publicó su primera edición y los juguetes Mr. Potato Head y Joe Palooka Bop Bag eran entre los más buscados. El primer restaurante de la cadena Kentucky Fried Chicken abrió ese año y también el Holiday Inn. La Ciudad de Nueva York instaló señales de

semáforo "Dont Walk" y el código de barra electrónico ("bar code") fue patentado. El ex general de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, Dwight Eisenhower, un Republicano, supera al Demócrata Adlai Stevenson para ser Presidente después de Harry Truman.

Pero eso no fue todo lo que ocurrió en el 1952. En Mayo de ese año, Teamsters Local 237 fue establecido. Su primer Presidente fue **Henry Feinstein**. A través de los años, otras divisiones de trabajadores municipales en la Ciudad de Nueva York y en Long Island llegaron a integrarse al Local llegando así a tener casi 24,000 miembros en casi todas las agencias gubernamentales hoy día, logrando que el Local 237 sea el sindicato más grande de trabajadores públicos en toda la nación, el Canadá y Puerto Rico. (La línea completa de eventos históricos del Local 237 se encuentra en la página web www.local237.org. Un recuento de experiencias profundas y personales de jubilados conocido como el Proyecto de Historia Oral también aparece en la página web.)

Gregory Floyd, el actual Presidente del Local 237, electo a su cargo en el 2007, y quien también es un Vicepresidente Administrativo en la Junta General Ejecutiva de la Hermandad internacional de Tronquistas (Teamsters), ha dicho acerca del Local 237: "Cuando uno lo piensa, 65 años es un tiempo largo para mantener algo en marcha, y eso, marchando con fuerza. Por toda nuestra nación, los sindicatos laborales han visto una disminución dramática en su membresía – a solamente el 11% hoy día. El ataque y la mala lengua en contra

ANTES Y AHORA



Henry Feinstein, el primer Presidente



Gregory Floyd (centro) el actual Presidente de Teamsters Local 237, con miembros de la Junta Ejecutiva: Fideicomisarios Curtis Scott y Jeanette Taveras; el Vicepresidente Richard Hendershot; el Secretario Tesorero Rubén Torres; Secretaria de Actas Patricia Stryker y fideicomisario Edmund Kane.



Edificio original de la sede principal del Local 237.



El edificio actual de sede principal del Local 237.

de los sindicatos es común, frecuentemente categorizando a los empleados del sector público como trabajadores codiciosos e incompetentes que abusan del sistema. De alguna manera, muchos se han olvidado que los sindicatos lucharon a favor de las familias trabajadores para que pudieran disfrutar de una mejor calidad de vida. Los sindicatos construyeron la clase media en los EE.UU. Y los empleados públicos son los que ayudan a manejar y mantener los servicios y las facilidades en que dependen millones de personas – nuestras escuelas, hospitales, la Autoridad de Viviendas y los asilos para los desamparados—para mencionar solamente algunas. Pero, a través de

la historia del Local 237 hemos tenido que lidiar muchas batallas a favor de nuestros miembros y jubilados. Hemos tenido muchos logros, entre ellos cabildeando a favor de leyes y reglas que protegen a nuestros miembros; proveyendo beneficios de salud y pensión para nuestros miembros activos y jubilados; y acabando con la discriminación de sueldo basado en género sexual. Hoy día, todavía enfrentamos muchos retos, pero estamos bien preparados para luchar con vigor y el compromiso que se ha convertido en sinónimo del Local 237 a través de nuestra historia. Estamos orgullosos, porque, a los 65 años ¡todavía marchamos con fuerza! ■



El Local 237 viaja a Albany para "Día de Cabildeo." La única mujer es Irma Rabinowitz, de Housing, y miembro fundadora desde 1948.



Graduación de Policías de Hospital.



Carl Haynes, cuando era director de Viviendas hablando a los supervisores. Carl llegó a ser el cuarto Presidente del Local 237.



Costureras Institucionales para HRA.



La hoja informativa del Local 237 en el 1967.



Miembros de la Vivienda van a huelga en 1967.

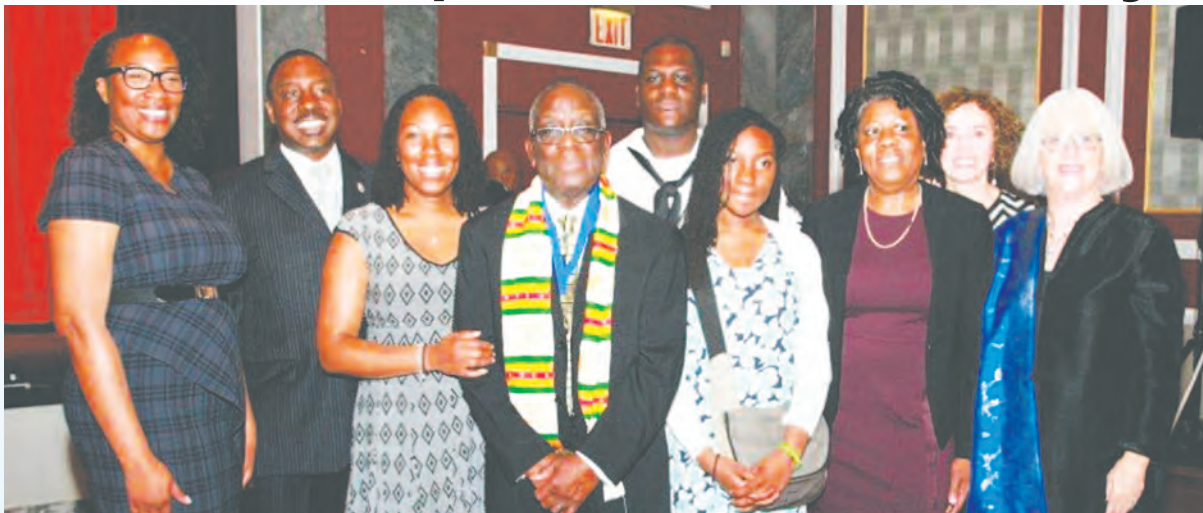


Miembros de la Junta Ejecutiva del Local 237 se reúnen con el Alcalde Robert W. Agner en City Hall. William Lewis, era el Presidente del Local 237 en ese tiempo.



Arthur Illery "Sonny" (a la derecha) era entonces un representante de Citywide que más tarde se convirtió en el VP de la Junta Ejecutiva ayudando a los miembros heridos.

An Extra Special Founders Day



Winston George (center) with family and Local 237 well-wishers.

This year, Founders Day had an extra meaning. Not only did it commemorate the hard work of our retirees and members who helped to make 237 the gold standard among public employee Locals, but it also marked the 65th anniversary of this union. And, that's not all! This Founder's Day celebrated the retirement of the Deputy Director of the Retiree Division, **Winston George**, at the end of June, after 24 years of dedicated service. Winston's family was present to share in the festivities, pictured with Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** (second from the left) **Nancy True** (on the right), Director of the Retiree Division and **Patricia Stryker** (second from the right), Recording Secretary on the Executive Board and Director of Political Action and Legislation. At the luncheon portion of the day, Floyd told the audience: "I always enjoy attending Founders Day. It gives me a chance to talk with longtime friends who share a bond. Our union connects us. It makes us family. Especially

as City employees, you understand the challenges we faced. But because of the work of many of you here today, we met those challenges head-on. We did not just survive. We thrived! And now, we're celebrating the 65th anniversary of this union. As we pause to celebrate this milestone, it's important to note that our work is not over. There's an upcoming referendum that will be on the ballot in November. There's a question on it—which seems innocent enough—asking if New York should have a Constitutional Convention. This question comes up every 20-years, and has been voted down since 1967... and with good reason! While some people think this convention could result in making things better, nothing could be further from the truth! Especially for public union employees, whose pension and other benefits are guaranteed by the current constitution. A convention will be made up of mostly well-healed political insiders, many of them union bashers and union busters, who

want to do us in. Vote no and don't be conned by Con-Con. Also, just when we thought that the coast was clear after the Friedrich's case ended in a tie vote due to the death of Justice Scalia, now, there are several more cases up for review by the Supreme Court. And with a Trump Supreme Court, things are not likely to go our way. The Janus Case, for example, is almost identical to Friedrichs. If decided against us, for Public Sector unions in particular, the results will be fatal. If labor unions are silent now, we will lose our voice forever. So I ask all of you to do what you've always done. Get involved! Get out the word! And plan on Local 237 being around for at least another 65 years!"

Join us Labor Day Parade



Saturday, Sept. 9

New York City's Labor Day Parade will be held on Saturday, September 9. Local 237 President Gregory Floyd and the Executive Board invite all members, retirees and families to join in the celebration to mark Teamster pride and solidarity. A float, live entertainment, free food and tee shirts are in store for 237 participants as they march along 5th Avenue from 44th Street to 68th Street.

Among those pictured from last year's festivities are Ruben Torres, Secretary-Treasurer, (third from the left); 237 President and Vice President At-Large of the IBT, Gregory Floyd (center); General President James Hoffa and George Miranda, Vice President At-Large of the IBT.

237's kick-off time and location will be posted on our website: www.local237.org when finalized.

Condolences

It is with great sorrow that we announce the death of the following members of Local 237 or members of their family. They will be sorely missed.



*to the family of **Sergeant Vincent T. Oliver**, a beloved CUNY Police Officer working at Brooklyn College for 19 years. The married father of two daughters and the son of a popular Baptist minister, E. Thomas Oliver, died at the age of 46. Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** said about Vincent, "He gave students at Brooklyn College the best learning tool they could receive: a sense of security. He served with commitment, and it showed. He's going to be missed by all."

*to the family of **Harry Gaskin, Sr.**, who was the longest serving member of Local 237. On the job for a remarkable 63 years, the well-admired Harry started his career as a food service worker at Harlem Hospital. Always willing to lend a hand, among his many credits, Harry was an outstanding chef, a union activist and a dedicated family man.



*to retired Shop Steward at Clinton Houses, **Franklin Murray**, whose cherished mother **Annabelle Davis** passed away in May.

*to **Keenan Scott**, Law Enforcement Business Agent, upon the death of his much loved brother-in-law, **William Carson Sr.**, a retired NYPD Detective.

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SUMMER 2017

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