



LOCAL 237

NEWSLINE

Vol. 53, No. 2

Summer 2019



Mommy Do You Work Tonight?



Front Row: Matthew Corniel, Aiden Arias, Alani Staley, Isabelle Ramnarine, Zaida Ali, Riley Banks Harris, Madison Ramnarine, Alliana Julian, Leilani Lake. Back Row: Laura Miranda, Suzanne Kobi, Madison Torres, Nia Norman, Madyson Barrout, Nyla Peart, Samara Deleon, Jade Deen, Sade Harris, Mason Ramjattan and Madison Ramjattan.

One School Safety Agent, **Leslie Tene Marshall**, was constantly asked by her two little children, Denzel and Diamond, “Mommy do you work tonight?”. They couldn’t understand why she had to leave them and stay away from home for so many hours. She proceeded to write a book to try and answer her children’s questions. Another Agent hoping to help explain her job to youngsters, SSA III **Wanda Mirsky**, wrote and designed an activity book, illustrated by SSA I **Edwin Gonzalez**, about the job of School Safety Agents.

On April 25th, 2019, in keeping with the national celebration “Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day”, children of Local 237 members were invited to visit the union’s headquarters to receive a first-hand understanding of some of the work done by its members. Across the nation, the day, now in its 25th year, is dedicated to de-mystifying for a child what happens when a parent says “I am going to work.” The concept was originally focused on encouraging little girls to not let gender dictate their professional or personal aspirations. The initial goal, set over two decades ago, was to let girls understand that they were not precluded or limited from entering certain fields of endeavor. Today, the celebration is expanded to encourage all children to think imaginatively about their future, and to teach them how to balance work and family life in healthy ways.

Among the activities for Local 237’s special guests was a chance to meet and talk with President Gregory Floyd, visit many of the offices throughout the building, sit in a police car with School Safety Agents and draw in the activity book purchased by Local 237—which is currently being distributed to public school students throughout the system. The children really enjoyed the fun-filled and informative day, many already asking about next year. As President Floyd noted: *“For most of us, we go to work every day, with the pressures of the job on our minds and often not dwelling on our own kids who we just left behind. School Safety Agents spend their day with other people’s children. They protect them and help to create a nurturing environment during the school day in which children can learn and mature. They have a tough job, but as professionals — and many as parents too — I think they make great strides in achieving a lasting, positive impact on the students. School Safety Agents served as the perfect hosts for this special celebration because they exemplify the importance of why mommy (or daddy) is working today.”*



Ruben Torres and Gregory Floyd with Sade Harris, Riley Banks Harris, Mason Ramjattan, Laura Miranda, Matthew Corneil, Aiden Arias, Madison Torres, Nyla Peart, Samara Deleon, Nia Norman, Madyson Barrout, Alani Staley, Alliana Julian, Leilani Lake, Isabelle Ramnarine, Madison Ramjattan, Jade Deen, Zaida Ali, Madison Ramnarine and Suzanne Kobi.



Jade Deen, Aiden Arias, Madison Ramnarine, Suzanne Kobi, Laura Miranda, Nia Norman, Isabelle Ramnarine, Madison Torres, SSA III Harold Wise, Matthew Corniel, Nyla Peart, Samara Deleon, Alani Staley, SSA I Edward Gonzalez, Alliana Julian, Zaida Ali, Madyson Barrout, Sade Harris, Madison Ramjattan and Mason Ramjattan.



Madison Torres, Sade Harris, Laura Miranda and Nia Norman.



Riley Banks Harris and Zaida Ali.



Samara Deleon, Nyla Peart, Alani Staley and Madyson Barrout.

Local 237 Member Services

UNION HEADQUARTERS

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

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CITYWIDE DIVISION, 2nd Fl.

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

HOUSING DIVISION, 2nd Fl.

212-924-2000
Carl Giles, Housing Director

SPECIAL PROJECTS, 2nd Fl.

212-924-2000
Kevin Norman, Special Projects Director
Debbie Coleman, Esq., Special Projects Director

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New York 11702

Benedict Carena, Director
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For information on the various
funds call 800-962-1145

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insurance counseling to mem-
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appointment, Thursdays only).
General retirement counseling
and retirement planning series
during spring and fall.
Nancy B. True, Director

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(Citywide and Housing)

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Donald Arnold, Director

HEALTH AND SAFETY, 2nd Fl.

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

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Provides membership services and
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212-924-7220
The Fund administers the eligibility,
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Mitchell Goldberg, Director

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212-924-7220 ext. 7562
Living and working in New York can
be challenging and our members
work extremely hard. Social workers
also work hard by connecting peo-
ple to much needed assistance and
resources. With this in mind, Local 237
has introduced a new Social Ser-
vices Department featuring free
social work services that are available
to all members. The union knows
that its members have tough jobs
and that when encountering tough
personal challenges, learning about
possible solutions to those challenges
would make things that much easier.
Contact us to learn about the many
service we can provide.

Ayana Ali, Director

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Lawyers advise and represent
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and consumer problems, tenant
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Mon.- Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Mary Sheridan Esq., Director
Kenneth Perry Esq.,
Deputy Director

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

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646-638-8501
Local 237 protects members'
rights by helping to sponsor
legislation that is important to
members, and by opposing
initiatives that would hurt
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Phyllis S. Shafran, Coordinator

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For grievances and job related
problems, first contact your
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Mal Patterson, Director of
Grievances and Hearings
Diana Doss, Esq.,
Grievance Coordinator

CIVIL SERVICE BAR ASSN

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Aldona Vaiciunas,
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Grievance Coordinator
Abbott Gorin, Esq.,
Business Representative
CSBA Welfare Fund
Alicare 866-647-4617

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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

D-Day 75 Years Ago Its Timeless Importance: Make sure the battle to defeat tyranny continues



By Gregory Floyd

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

You probably saw the pictures. 60 veterans, well into their 90's, recently participated in the Normandy American Ceremony on the sun-drenched bluff above the Normandy beaches where 10,000 of their comrade soldiers gave their lives 75 years ago. One veteran on the stage with the world leaders received a helping hand from France's President Emmanuel Macron, as he struggled to stand up to pay tribute to his fallen brothers, during the dramatic ceremony. 75 years earlier, 19-year-old Private Russell Pickett was a member of the famed 29th Infantry Division that was among the first to land and storm the French beaches at Normandy. Considering that an 18-year-old soldier then, would be age 93 today, this commemoration is expected to be the last to include living D-Day veterans.

D-Day was the greatest amphibious invasion in history. Almost 7,000 vessels, 11,500 airplanes and 156,000 Allied soldiers crossed from Britain to five beaches in France to create a foothold against Nazi Germany. With the Soviet Red Army moving in from the East, the purpose of the maneuver was to begin the liberation of Europe from Nazi domination. It was the turning point of the War. With months of secret planning, this make-or-break military operation, which included soldiers from the United States, Britain, Canada and the Free France Movement, endured anywhere from 2,500 to 4,500 casualties before the broad front of soldiers even landed, neck-deep in the water, to make their way to beaches peppered with German snipers with machine guns, land mines, bodies and barbed wire. Stories of the heroism and suffering; terror, chaos and errors—paratroopers being dropped in wrong places, landing craft off course and heavily-laden troops dumped into too deep water and drowning—are put in proper perspective by the words of those who lived through the experience. President Franklin Roosevelt, for example, said: "They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate." British Prime Minister Winston Churchill noted: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." General Eisenhower, at the 20th anniversary said: "These people gave us a chance, and they bought time for us, so that we could do better than we did before... to preserve freedom and systems of self-government in the world." And, at the last D-Day ceremony to mark the 70th anniversary, President Barak Obama reflected: "It was unknowable then, but so much of the progress that would define the 20th century, on both sides of the Atlantic, came down to the battle for a slice of beach 6 miles long and 2 miles wide." President Trump, speaking at the 75th anniversary, was surely correct when he called these veterans: "...among the greatest Americans who will ever live."

But just as D-Day marked a turning point in history, some now question whether this was an end to an era. The devastation wrought by the war helped to create a decades-long spirit of cooperation between European capitals that gave rise to the European Union. The European Union was viewed as cementing the Allied peace, and America became firmly ensconced as the savior of democracy—the free world's protector; its police force. Times have surely changed. Britain is now in a national debate about leaving the European Union. America, under the current administration, seems to no longer relish its former status as democracy's "watchdog", following instead, a philosophical shift toward "super nationalism" resulting in concerns from old allies who fear abandonment. Some wonder: "Is this the new norm? Is this

the beginning of an international trend where World War II alliances and their memories reflect something applicable generations ago, but hold very little political cache for today's generation and seemingly not enough to bind us forever?" Even Pope Francis recently weighed-in on this question when he said: "Someone could ask under his breath, 'Is this the end of a 70-year-old adventure?'"

As D-Day soldiers and Tuskegee Airmen age and leave us, we may lose not only a living reminder of a gloried past, but also of a citizenry that instinctively knew that freedom is an earned privilege—something not bestowed upon us, rather, the result of a struggle to achieve and to maintain. How we proceed from this point will set the American path for the immediate future and beyond. We can debate how to proceed, but one issue of surefire importance in defeating tyranny that is almost upon us is the 2020 Census. Although it is done every 10 years, its impact can be permanent. At a recent House panel discussion at LaGuardia Community College, Congressman Meeks said it best. He argues that this is the most important federal effort since the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts of the 1960's declaring: "That's what is at stake here." Everything from federal funding to representation in Congress is contingent on the Census count. For example, before the 1950 Census count, New York State had 45 seats in the House of Representatives. Today, we have 27 Congress members and the fear is that we will lose two more of them. \$678 billion in federal aid is up for grabs—\$73 billion for New York alone, money for Medicare, Medicaid, highway and transportation infrastructure, education, school lunches, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs for women, infants and children, are just some of what is at jeopardy for the undercounted and the uncounted. Secretary of Commerce, Wilbur Ross, who oversees the Census, had proposed a new question on the 2020 Census pertaining to the individual's citizen status, which Census experts view as a veiled way to suppress participation. Fortunately, on June 27th, the Supreme Court ruled against the Trump Administration's plan, forbidding the Secretary of Commerce to add a citizenship question to the 2020 Census one week before it is to be printed. Despite the ruling, a climate of fear is already permeating the Census process. But if people aren't counted, we lose out. For New Yorkers, and especially for public sector union members, the effect would be devastating.

As we commemorate the sacrifices of D-Day veterans and celebrate the valor of all of our soldiers, participating in the 2020 Census seems like the least we can do to continue their fight for our core values. Remember: Nazi Germany was built to create a "Master Race". It did this by exclusion and terror. The 2020 Census is the best weapon to combat today's tyranny in our own country. Let's use it. We count, but you must be counted. Much is at stake. ■

Come to your Census



Encourage your family, friends and neighbors
to participate in the upcoming Census.
Remember, if you're not counted, you won't count.

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:



Cleaners from the Environmental Solutions Department at the Javits Center attended a meeting at Local 237 and met with President **Gregory Floyd**, seated, center.



Evidence and Property Control Specialists at the NYPD Erie Basin Pound.



Police Officers from HHC were on hand to assist in Figment NYC 2019. Lt. **Sixto Valentin**, Det. **Anthony Stephens**, Det. **Yagual**, PO **Christopher Digiovanni**, PO **Abreu**, PO **Walsh**, Det. **Jesse Riddick**, Det. **Edgar Marty**, Det. **Tanife Stiles**, Det. **Andrea Fleming**, PO **Washington**, PO **Juan Espinal** and Sgt. **Alcides Diaz**.



DEP Water Use Inspectors: **Peter Graziano**, **Rosario Miguel** and **Ronald Smith** with **Donald Arnold** (left), Director of the Citywide Division.



North Queens Task Force School Safety Agents **Kecia Combest** and **Tyrome Simmons**.



School Safety Agents in the Community Outreach Unit participated in an interactive anti-bullying training session for middle graders sponsored by the UFT.



Bellevue Hospital Police Officers left to right: **Det. Julio Ramirez** and **Det. Lester Berkeley**.



Hospital Police Officers, left to right: **Sgt. Torres**, Lincoln Hospital; **Lt. Semorile** Bellevue and **Lt. Rosario**, Kings County Hospital

SHOP STEWARDS TRAINING

A Shop Stewards training was recently held to teach our new Shop Stewards their role, duties and responsibilities so they can be effective. In addition, all Shop Stewards, Grievance Representatives and Liaisons were invited so that they could be brought up to speed on all of the old and new benefits that Local 237 has to offer. About 70 old and new Shop Stewards were in attendance. The training was conducted by the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service and the Citywide, Law Enforcement and Housing Directors and Business Agents.



Jeanette Taveras, Law Enforcement Business Agent and Recording Secretary of the Executive Board and **Debbie Coleman, Esq.**, Director of Special Projects.



“My School Has Rhythm”, took place on April 18 at the St. George Theatre on Staten Island. Now in its 10th year, this event, run by the NYPD’s School Safety Division Community Outreach Unit, provides a showcase for High School students with talent in poetry, dance, singing and theatre arts---talents that are often obscured by headlines of gangs and school violence. Students from four schools took home prizes. They were: 1st Place, Curtis High School; Second Place, Port Richmond; Third Place; New Dorp, and Susan Wagner High received the Fourth Place prize.



Local 237 NEWSLINE

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Phyllis S. Shafran
Editor

Special thanks in the preparation of Newsline to:
Gisela (GiGi) Reyes, Executive Administrative Assistant

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



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

All in the Family

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 is a family achievements shared with us:



School Safety Agent III from the Brooklyn South Command, **Denise McIntosh** is one proud mom. Her son, **Ashanti** is a dancer and musical performer who started dancing as a little boy, and today, the Westinghouse High School graduate is dancing professionally for many top-name artists including Beyonce, Jennifer Lopez and Janet Jackson.

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:

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

On the Job

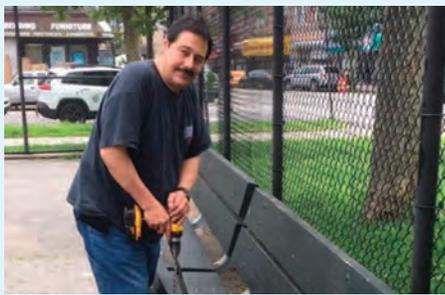
NYCHA WORKERS



STDM Supervisors of Traffic Device Maintainers, left to right: **James Minelli, Luis Acevedo, Jr., David Vitalo, Eric DeAbreu, Christopher Bucca and Joseph Ronessi.**



At North Central Hospital: **Derek Jackson**, the Law Enforcement Division Director (left) and **Charlie Cotto**, Law Enforcement Business Agent (right) with Hospital Police **William J. Rodriguez** and Shop Steward, **Tarequl Khan**. PO Rodriguez has been a respected officer for 43 years.



Anthony Spero, Maintenance Mechanic with the NYC Parks Department working in Brooklyn's Millennium Park.



Staff at Ravenswood Houses.



Maintenance Workers from the Williamsburg Houses.



At Amsterdam Houses, l-r: **David Buchanan**, Maintenance Worker; **Nelson Rodriguez**, Resident Assistant Superintendent and **Cyril Borden**, Maintenance Worker.



Marcy Houses Caretakers I: **Ms. Boylan** (seated), 101 years old and the oldest resident living at Marcy Houses was visited by **Kevin Norman**, Local 237's Special Projects Director, **Ms. McLean** (left) and **Ms. Ramseur**.



Ground crews at Rutgers Houses: **Makeeda Wright, Michael Green, Luis Flores, Ernesto Stewart and Frank Bowles Jr.**, (also known as "The Mayor" after 39 years on the job.)



Business Agents **Ken Roper** and **Shavelle Knox** meet with staff at Monroe Houses.



Van Dyke Houses Caretaker **Pearl Tyler**.



Albany Grounds crews: **Darrel Barbour, Aleah Kelly and Karron Dantzler.**

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



Graffiti-riden property in Stapleton, Staten Island received a much-needed makeover courtesy of an NYPD team that included a former School Safety Agent, **Police Officer Avoli**, now with the 120th Police Precinct, and **Auxiliary Officers Razick and Hanifa**.



Students from the Sheepshead Bay Campus tricked School Safety Agent, **Fredrick Eilam**. They planned a ruse to surprise him with flowers and signs to show their appreciation as an unsung hero who has made a big difference in their lives.



A string of robberies taking place on the 2nd floor clinical area of Woodhull Hospital involving an unknown male who was preying on elderly women and stealing jewelry—including necklaces ripped right off their necks. Hospital Police set up an undercover sting operation, orchestrated by Hospital **Police Director Chief Rachel Evans**, to catch the perpetrator in the act and to place the individual under arrest. On January 24, 2019 – **Sergeant John Biagini, Detective Brian Zambrano, Detective Jamar Simpson and Officer Kelly Walsh** (pictured left to right) did just that! They caught the perpetrator inside the Geriatric Clinic within 3 hours of the operation's start—and just before he was about to commit another crime.



School Safety Officers help treat students from the NYPD's Explorers program to an exciting and inspiring day visiting the Intrepid Air and Space Museum.



School Safety Agent Rogers, from Humanities HS, helped to give a gift of life to an ailing co-worker. Rogers's niece had passed away and her parents wanted to donate her organs. Rogers knew her co-worker was on dialysis and needed a kidney. The coworker was a match. This thoughtful, selfless act by Rogers and her family helped to remember one life and save another.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to the Graduates

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

HEATING PLANT TECHNICIANS

Heating Plant Technician Graduation ceremony took place at Local 237 on June 7th. It marked the culmination of many months of instruction provided by our union that enables NYCHA members to receive certification in the fundamentals of heating plant operations and to successfully take the Civil Service Exam for HPT. This would mean a career boost with additional pay.



Local 237 President, Gregory Floyd welcomed the graduates, telling them: *“It takes a lot, I know. After a hard day on the job, to then go to a class, two nights a week, for months at a time. Maybe some of you even secretly asked yourself: ‘Why am I putting myself through this?’ But, today, here’s the answer: You’re a graduate! And your efforts will pay off. You are now on the road to earning more, and improving your life. You can also take pride in knowing that as an HPT, you will help provide NYCHA residents with one of the most essential services they need: heat and hot water. That’s a big responsibility which you earned. And you’ll have a certificate to prove it.”*



Graduates with their family and friends



The instructors: Theodore Haynes, Angel Rodriquez, Nathaniel Parris, Brian Harris and Sean Blount.



Shanell Grayson, (left) Deputy Director of the Training and Education Division and the Division Director, Bertha Aiken.



One very happy graduate, Excelia Philbert.

TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

The Taxi and Limousine Commission held a commencement ceremony in April.



Enforcement Officers, Class of 2018 as they are sworn in.



Safety and Emissions Inspectors, Class of 2018 take their Oath of Office.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELESS SERVICES

The Department of Homeless Services recently held a graduation ceremony at Brooklyn College to formally acknowledge the training and hard work of cadets, who were sworn in as Peace Officers.



The graduating class with Charlie Cotto, (second from the right) Law Enforcement Business Agent on hand to wish them well.

SCHOOL SAFETY AGENTS

The mission of School Safety training units is to provide School Safety Agents with the basic skills and knowledge necessary to become effective safety professionals. In May, the NYPD held a graduation ceremony for the School Safety Division to mark the successful completion of the training program and to welcome these new officers to the ranks of School Safety.



Class Valedictorian, Mariela Hernandez (left) with her proud mother; Chief Beltran; Derek Jackson, the Law Enforcement Division Director and Charlie Cotto, Law Enforcement Business Agent.

For a list of Graduates, Promotions and Special Recognitions — See Page 14

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:

TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION



The Taxi and Limousine Commission held a graduation and promotion ceremony. (Left to right) Derek Jackson, Director of Local 237’s Law Enforcement Division with Atilla Ocal, Bryan Rivera, Ronald Prioleau, all newly promoted Lieutenants, part of the Commencement Exercises held at 1 Police Plaza on April 17, 2019.

NYPD/SCHOOL SAFETY DIVISION



NYPD/School Safety Division held a promotion ceremony for SSAs who were promoted to Level III. The promotional ceremony with Charlie Cotto, Law Enforcement Business Agent (right) presents certificates to congratulate the promoted School Safety Agents.

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

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and he declared the week that day falls on as National Police Week. Recently, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the globe converged on Washington, D.C. to participate in a number of planned events to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and to acknowledge, with appreciation and pride, those who continue to make us feel safe in our communities. Pictured are some of the commemoration ceremonies that took place locally in which Local 237 helped to pay tribute to our own law enforcement members.



Seaview Hospital: P.O. Joseph Cartelli; Captain James Bing; P.O. Richard Torres and Detective Christopher Alers.



North Central Hospital with Charlie Cotto, Law Enforcement Business Agent (left) pictured with Sergeant Morales and the Director of Hospital Police, Vito Aleo.



Kings County Hospital visited by Dwayne Montgomery, (left).



Coney Island Hospital, with Derek Jackson, the Law Enforcement Division Director (left, second row).



Woodhull Hospital Police Officers.



Lincoln Hospital where Charlie Cotto, Law Enforcement Business Agent (third from left) was on hand.



Jacobi Hospital. Charlie Cotto, Law Enforcement Business Agent (third from right) paid a visit.



Hostos Community College participated in CUNY's tribute to Peace Officers, with Charlie Cotto, Law Enforcement Business Agent (seated left) joining in the festivities.



Sergeant of the Year Curt Ceasar with Director Arnoldo Bernake at Hostos Comm. College.

WINNERS!



NYPD/SSD, Brooklyn South, Lawhawks, won the 2019 Athletic League Basketball Championship.

NYPD vs DOC

NYPD/School Safety Division Athletic League "Smokers Talk Boxers" NYPD vs DOC was held at the Barclays Center.



SSA Anthony Daniels, Queens South Champ SSA Jermaine Wilson and Gregory Floyd.

Picture courtesy of Anthony Daniels



Trainer, SSA Jason Lopez, Champ Wilson and Assistant Chief Ruben Beltran.



Champ Wilson with contender PBSI Desire Agostini (Aggy).



The Queens North Award Ceremony recently honored several School Safety Agents for displaying exemplary performance on the job. Those honored were left to right: SSA-I Donia Ross, SSA-I Desiree Wright, SSS Yvette Burt, SSA-I Kadidra Smith, SSA-III Crystal Witherspoon, SSA-I Julia Esteban and SSA-I Katherine Hernandez.



The Department of Education hosted its 5th annual School Safety Recognition Ceremony at the Department's headquarters in acknowledgement of the job that Agents do to help ensure that students can experience a productive—and safe—educational environment. Local 237's Jeanette Taveras, (first row, right) Law Enforcement Business Agent and Recording Secretary of the Executive Board was on hand to congratulate the SSAs.



The Partners in Safety Soiree 2019, hosted by the Brooklyn chapter of the UFT, applauded three SSAs for a job well-done. The honorees are: SSA Shakima Williams, SSS Janet Bell-Joseph and SSA3 Joanna Baptiste. On hand to offer their congratulations are XO Andwar Woods, (left) and Assistant Chief Charles Rubin.



On June 18, the NYPD held the School Coordination Agent Breast Bar Presentation at 1 Police Plaza, in recognition of the great job done by SCAs to foster better community relations. When two senior class students from Talent Unlimited High School (pictured) found out about the award ceremony, they went to police headquarters to register their support for their favorites: SCA Bradford and SCA Morrison. SCA Morrison (left) was moved to tears because of what the students did, and told them that their presence and effort to be there at the ceremony, "makes it all worth it." Bradford and Morrison joined all of the SCAs for a group photo at the culmination of the ceremony to acknowledge their work.

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



The 8th annual School Safety Award Recognition dinner sponsored by the UFT recently honored Agents in the West and East Command for their outstanding work. The honorees are: SSA I Angela Williams, SSA I Mildred Reese, SSA I Brittany Edwards, SSA I Inderpal Sidhu, SSA I Marianne Pellegrino, SSA I Nicole Catala, SSA I Sheila DeLeon-Ortiz, SSA III Deborah Hamilton, SSA I Yvette Diaz, SSA I Gilbert Perez, SSA I Lenore Oliver, SSA III Beatriz Rivera, SSA I Kimberly Caldwell, SSA I Taniesha Hulcome, SSA I Magdalen Ledeatt, SSA I Peter James, SSA I Deborah Waters, SSA I Edwin Betancourt, SSA I Tatiana Principal, SSA I Teresa Simpson, SSA I Benjamin Padilla, SSA III Stephanie Hudson, SSA I Dakiem Derry, SSA III Noreen Gibson, Peace Officer Elixabeth Maloney, SSA III Dahan Hawkins, SSA I Rafael Camacho, SSA I Reynaldo Nieves, SSA I Niurka Ramirez, SSA I Ayisha Jackson, SSA III Brenette Espin, SSA III Francisca Harper, SSA I Arlene Ortiz, SSA I Edward Rivera and SSA I Marvalene Spence.



Saving lives may not be part of the job of School Safety Agents, but that's what several did anyway. Recognized for their heroic efforts were: School Safety Agents from Erasmus Hall HS, who saved a student's life during a day that had many challenges throughout the building. A student was found unconscious and unresponsive. The agents performed CPR and revived her, keeping her stable until EMS arrived. SSA Tiffany Prescod accepted the award for her team. Lafayette HS, School Safety Agents, while conducting regular routine patrol, received a radio call of a teacher unconscious and unresponsive. Agents rushed to the teacher and helped to revive her. SSA Elizabeth Rosado accepted the award for her team.



School Safety Agent Candi Rodriguez loves children. That love has been known by many during her 43 years of service—and The Sloan Foundation agrees. Out of a workforce of more than 300,000 public employees, Candi was one of 6 honored for their years of devotion to their job and the people they serve. Candi was presented with a check for \$10,000 by the Foundation. Candi is pictured with Deputy Chief Charles Rubin, Executive Officer for the School Safety Division.

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

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Added to the Roster of Retirees



Local 237 President Gregory Floyd with retired SSA III, Bernice Christopher, conveyed his gratitude on behalf of all SSAs for Bernice's role as one of three lead plaintiffs in the historic gender-based pay equity law suit.



Joyce Geringer, a SSA III admirably served for 34½ years, received well wishes from Derek Jackson (left) Director of the Law Enforcement Division and President Gregory Floyd.



DHS Inspector Apton Cofield retired after 20 years of dedicated service. President Floyd (left) and Charlie Cotto, Business Agent for the Law Enforcement Division were on hand to thank him for his efforts.



SSA Renee Simpkins, Sgt. in Manhattan South, has retired after 34 years of dedicated service. Derek Short, Business Agent for the Law Enforcement Division (left); President Floyd; Jeanette Taveras, Business Agent for the Law Enforcement Division and Recording Secretary of the Executive Board and Ruben Torres, Vice President on the Executive Board wished her well and congratulated her on her many years of accomplished service.



Bernard Ford, School Safety Agent I, has retired after nearly 23 years on the job. President Floyd was on hand to offer Ford his thanks for his many years of service.



School Safety Agent, Sergeant Nadine Massey -Sampson has retired after 26 years with the NYPD. Derek Short, Business Agent for the Law Enforcement Division, presented Nadine with a plaque of appreciation.



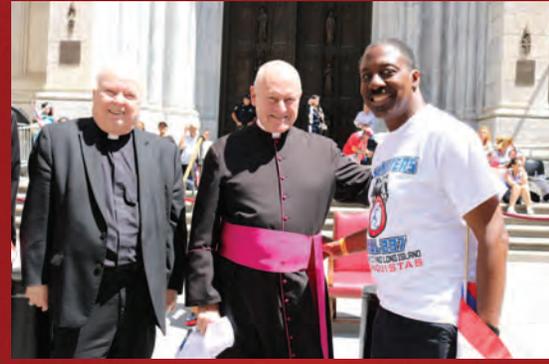
John Rodriguez, Housing Superintendent at Gompers Houses has retired after 30 years of service. He was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to thank him for a job well-done.



Sylvia Burrus, Caretaker J at Riis Houses has retired after 18 years of dedicated service. Her co-workers were on hand to wish her well.

Viva! Puerto Rico

Under a strong spring sun, millions of spectators lined Fifth Avenue from 44 Street to 79 Street to watch the annual celebration of the Puerto Rican culture and history. In a display of Puerto Rican pride, there were fabulously decorated floats blaring with the Samba beat as dancers in colorful garb performed. Hundreds of Local 237 members marched as well, many of Puerto Rican descent — and everyone was Puerto Rican for at least one day. Aside from simply enjoying the exciting sights and sounds of the parade, they also joined in the festivities as an expression of solidarity with the people of Puerto Rico, whose spirit and resilience is still undeterred as they continue to rebuild in the aftermath of the devastating storm that ripped through the island nearly two years ago.







LONG ISLAND REPORT

"Celebrating Local 237's Everyday HEROES" *Honorees*

President Floyd joined Long Island honorees for the hero's event recognizing members going above and beyond for their union.



Everyday Hero honoree **John Rueb** from the Brentwood School District.



Plainview Old Bethpage Everyday Hero honoree **John Hammer**. John is the liaison for the school district.



Everyday Hero honoree from Plainview Old Bethpage School District **Susan Rusinek**.



Plainview Old Bethpage Everyday Hero honoree **Donna Vangelatos**.



Everyday Hero honoree **Brittaney Antoine** from the Brentwood School District.



Everyday Hero honoree **Donald Renalds** from the Half Hollow Hills School District.



Everyday Hero honoree **Luann Dunne** from the West Islip School District.



Everyday Hero honoree **Kito Baez**. Kito is the shop steward at Islip's Resource Recovery unit.



Everyday Hero honoree **James Benizzi** from the North Babylon School District. Longtime supporter of Local 237.



Everyday Hero honoree **Benny Rivera**. Benny is a town of Babylon member and does great work.



Special recognition award to **John Sepulveda** who retired from Local 237 Long Island Division as the Assistant Director of Long Island.



Town of Babylon Landfill Crew.



Kevin Ouwerkerk was honored by Local 237 for his bravery saving a truck that went on fire by driving it away from houses to safety. Pictured is Shop Steward **Kito Baez** and **Benny Carenza**. Kevin and Kito work for the town of Islip Resource Recovery unit.



Town of Islip Resource Recovery members. They work hard every day and are appreciated by Local 237.



Half Hollow Hills member **Ruben Torres**. He is the Chapter Chair Person for the district, helping the union and members all the time.



Benny Carenza, **Gregory Floyd** and **John Gallagher** at the 2019 Puerto Rican Day Parade.



Benny Carenza with **Cathy Sparks** and **Kristin Thoden**, new Reps for the Brentwood Nurses. They are looking forward to helping their members.

Local 237's Long Island Division

Retirees



Town of Babylon Highway employees held a lunch for **Andrew Jacullo** who retired in March with over 31 years of service. From left to right are CEO **James Cregan**, MMIII **Scott Thomson**, **Benny Carenza**, MMIII **Andrew Jacullo** (holding plaque), MMIV **James Greco**, and MMI **Aston Duncan**. This crew is responsible for multiple maintenance tasks for the Highway Division.



Custodian **John Provenzano** retires from the Brentwood School District. Good luck John!



Town of Babylon Highway Employee CEO **George Javurek** in front of his payloader. He retired in March with over 35 years of service. George's years of service included countless storms and vast highway projects.



Animal Control Officer I (ACO) **Mario Melita, Jr.**, who retired in March with 40 years of service including over 23 years as a Shop Steward with the Town of Babylon Animal Shelter. Mario was a true professional who could handle any situation dealing with docile to aggressive animals and enforcement of local laws and ordinances.



Town of Babylon members who have recently retired. Holding the union plaque and town proclamation is CEO (Construction Equipment Operator) **Kirk Johanson**, with over 32 years as a Town employee including the last 5 years as the Shop Steward for the Highway Division. To the left is Town of Babylon Supervisor **Rich Schaffer**, who presented the proclamation, and Highway employees (Teamsters).



Sharon Scott and **Allison Connors** retired from the Brentwood School District. Both were nurses and did a great job!

POLITICAL AND LABOR NEWS

LOCAL 237,
A REAL WINNER

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 Power of Hope



I recently attended a Teamsters conference. It was billed as “A Week-end With The Teamsters” and it focused on education and reflection. It was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Here I was, in Milwaukee—the birthplace of collective bargaining for public employees—now headed by a Governor, Scott Walker, who successfully fought to make this a “Right to Work” state by arguing that: “We can no longer live in a society where public employees are the ‘haves’ and the tax payers, who foot the bill, are the ‘have nots.’” This is a man with Presidential aspirations, who enthusiastically boasted to a billionaire supporter — and was captured on video — saying that Right to Work is just the beginning of his plan to destroy unions. According to Walker: “The first step is, we’re going to deal with collective bargaining for all public-employees because you use divide and conquer.” For his efforts, like-minded Rush Limbaugh said about Walker: “The Republican Party has a demonstrated, genuine hero and potential star in its ranks.”

As president of Local 237, which is the largest public sector union in the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, I must admit that the irony of the moment did not escape me.

Now let’s not forget that the whole concept of “Right to Work” has racist origins. William Ruggles, working as a reporter for The Dallas Morning News, was horrified by the rise in the number of union mem-

bers. Spurred on by the New Deal and labor shortages caused by World War II, union membership quadrupled from 1935 to 1947. By the mid-1950’s, more than one third of all workers belonged to a union. To help counter the growing strength of unions that accompanied the growth in membership, Ruggles wrote an editorial in 1941 proposing a constitutional amendment to prohibit workers from having to pay union dues to hold a job. The editorial caught the eye of Vance Muse, who offered to have his political organization, Christian American Association, advance the cause. Muse, an unapologetic racist, feared that unions fostered race-mixing. He said: “I am a Southerner and for white supremacy... white women and white men will be forced into organizations with black African apes, whom they will have to call ‘brother’ or lose their jobs.” Muse’s efforts were successful, and by 1947, more than 10 southern states had “Right to Work Laws”.

This is the world of Scott Walker and so many other big money union bashers and union busters who worked hard to bring union membership to an all-time low of only 11 percent by 2014. Their special target is the public sector worker. We have been used as scapegoats for America’s economic problems.

Trust me, we are not the ‘haves’! Just ask the School Safety Agent, or the Police Officer working in a homeless shelter, or a NYCHA worker who also lives in public housing. The majority of them are African Americans and Latinos. Many live from paycheck to paycheck. Some are single moms and a

few even live in homeless shelters here in a city of vast, unequal wealth, that has increasingly made them the ‘have nots’.

Luckily, in New York, the state with the largest number of union workers nationwide, we have a Governor, Andrew Cuomo, who values the union worker. He recently signed into law safeguards that counter damages caused by the Janus Supreme Court decision. The new law makes it easier for unions to register public employees. It also allows unions to deny certain benefits to free-loaders, such as legal representation for job-related cases.

But more must be done. And that’s where the theme of that Teamster weekend was so inspiring. The theme was “The Power of Hope.” To my thinking, there is no question that hope makes good things happen. Without it, all is lost. But with hope, we find the way. We need to harness hope. We need to let hope become the catalyst for change. Among its many virtues, hope can energize the labor movement and propel a powerful message to elected leaders and to the public-at-large that we are not the enemy! Unions built the middle class in America. And the public sector worker is the one we all rely upon every day and in so many ways to help make government services work and our lives function better. We just want to make sure that our children will have a place in the America unions helped to create. We don’t want them to be shut out. And we can do this as long as we stay united and draw inspiration from words Dr. King often said: “The impossible can happen, it just takes a little longer.”

34th Annual Labor ‘Good Scout’ Award

Over the years, the Boy Scouts of America, Greater New York Council, has had a long and distinguished list of honorees receiving its “Good Scout” award, bestowed annually at its salute to labor luncheon. This year was no exception. Among the honorees was **James P. Hoffa**, the General President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and **David Migdal**, currently a member of Uniformed Sanitation Workers Local 831, and a former member of Local 237, when he worked as a Special Officer for the Health and Hospitals Corporation. ■



George Miranda (left), Vice President at-Large of the General Board of the IBT, who introduced Mr. Hoffa at the event; honoree, James P. Hoffa and Gregory Floyd, a Vice President at-Large of the General Board of the IBT, and the Master of Ceremonies at the Boys Scout awards luncheon.



David Migdal with two boy scouts who presented him with his “Good Scout” award.

Personal Notes

Kendell Baskerville has been appointed as a new Business Agent, effective May 13, 2019. His salary will be \$1,512.00 per week (\$78,624.00 per year) with a monthly car allowance of \$860.00 per month (\$10,320.00 per year). He is released from the City without pay. Local 237 will provide him with health benefits.

Workers Defense League
Celebrating its 83rd Anniversary

Gregory Floyd, President of Teamsters Local 237 and Vice President-at-Large on the General Board of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, was honored with the “Distinguished Service to New York City Labor Award” by the Workers Defense League. Other honorees were **James Boland**, President, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craft workers, AFL-CIO, and **Dennis Trainor**, Vice President, District 1, Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO. At the awards ceremony, Floyd told the audience: *“I stand before you as the proud son of a daughter of sharecroppers from South Carolina. My mother picked cotton too. So, I know first-hand, the origin and work of the Workers Defense League. I’ve seen what their work means to working families. But, despite all of the remarkable work it has done during its nearly 83-year history, this organization will never be the type to rest on its accomplishments or have no more work left to do. No, there is no magic wand to end workers’ persecution. And, the need to defend workers is unlikely to diminish any time soon.”* ■



George Miranda (right), President of Joint Council 16 and Vice President-at-Large on the General Board of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters presented Mr. Floyd with his award and Jon Bloom, Executive Director of the Workers Defense League.

Teamsters Unity Conference



The Teamsters Annual Unity Conference is a time for Teamsters from across the nation to come together to exchange information and to discuss ideas on how to meet the challenges we face. In acknowledgment of Public Service Recognition Week, that occurred during the conference days, a rally was held to allow us to stand in solidarity with Nevada state workers who are on the verge of gaining collective bargaining rights by the Nevada Governor and State Legislature. **Gregory Floyd**, President of the Teamsters’ largest municipal union, Local 237 (holding the mic) spoke at the rally, telling members: *“We’re living in a time when union bashing is not just accepted, it’s encouraged. Workers today are disrespected, disregarded and denied basic civil rights in record numbers. Municipal workers in particular have a tremendous burden to bear. We suffer from a public misperception that we earn too much and work too little. Our members experienced the problem first-hand in New York City and so we stand with our brothers and sisters in Nevada.”* ■

Bonjour

Visting students from France dropped by Local 237 headquarters. They were treated to a tour of the building and a conversation with Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** who answered their questions and offered them an overview of the workings of our union.





Dental Benefit Improvement

By Mitch Goldberg *Director of the Welfare Fund*

In an ongoing effort to improve the benefits, the Board of Trustees of the Teamsters Local 237 Welfare Fund is pleased to announce the following enhancements to your benefits under the Fund. Effective August 1, 2019, the Local 237 Welfare Fund Trustees have adopted the following improvements:

The plan will be adding Orthodontic Retainers for eligible dependents who complete the 24-month Orthodontic (Braces) Treatment. The plan will allow up to 2 retainers which will be paid in full as per the fee schedule \$375 per device and the cost will be applied to the orthodontic lifetime limit, not the Maximum Annual Benefit (MAB) of \$2500 per family member. This benefit improvement will immediately affect over 1000 dependents who currently are receiving treatment.

Implants will now be added as a covered service, in network only, with a 50% copay as per the fee schedule for implants. The reduced in network benefit will cost between \$2000 - \$3500 of which you will be required to pay 50% of the cost with the other 50% being applied to your annual MAB of \$2500.

The plan will add 3 procedures commonly used but up until now not covered:

Pulp vitality tests are important elements of the endodontic evaluation and assist in revealing the condition of the tooth pulp. These types of pulp tests can easily confirm the demand for dental interventions such as root canals or tooth extraction. The tooth pulp test determines the physical health of a tooth's pulp.

Localized delivery of antimicrobial agents via a controlled release vehicle into

diseased gums tissue, per tooth. The antimicrobial agent must be FDA-approved and applied below the gums into recurrent or residual periodontal pockets of at least 5 mm in depth. The agent's main purpose is to suppress pathogenic bacteria, and it is intended to remain in place long enough to provide a therapeutic benefit.

Nitrous oxide, or laughing gas, is a colorless and nearly odorless gas used as a sedative to reduce anxiety during a dental visit or during surgery. It is generally delivered via tubing connected to a small mask that's placed over your nose. This additional code refers only to anxiety-controlling drugs, not local anesthetic, and is commonly used if you were to undergo surgery and require nitrous oxide, as opposed to routine dental procedures.

Finally, the plan will provide for an increase in payment for certain out of network procedures to reduce member out of pocket expenses.

All of these improvements were developed with the idea of saving members out of pocket expenses as well as expanding procedures not previously covered, in part or in whole. Many of these have been previously brought to our attention while others were developed from the statistical utilization of the membership.

The Board of Trustees hopes you find the benefit improvements helpful. As always, if you need further information or help, please call the Welfare Fund office at (212) 924-7220 or contact Healthplex by visiting their website at www.healthplex.com or by calling 1-800-468-0600. ■



What is Self-Care and How to Incorporate it Into Your Life?

By Ayana Ali

Director Local 237- Social Services

Self-care is a word that is often seen floating around atop articles posted on social media and a concept constantly pitched to overworked mothers. But what is self-care really? Is it maintaining a healthy diet? Is it exercising regularly? What about meditating whenever stressed? Are those examples of self-care? The things mentioned above may be self-care activities for some people, but they may not be for others.

For one person, exercising may leave him invigorated and boost his confidence — I am doing what I need to do to get into shape. I am building stamina. While for another exercising may increase his feelings of anxiety—Why am I so out of breath? Did I use the machine properly? Am I the most overweight person in here?

The point is, everything isn't for everybody. Though your doctor and your favorite health magazines may encourage you to exercise and eat right or your spiritual leader may encourage you to pray or to meditate, I am not going to take that approach with you. Why not? Because to me, self-care is something that refuels you; it's something that builds you up, it's personal and not one size fits all. So instead of telling you what you should specifically do to practice self-care, I am going to ask you to answer a few questions, decide what it means to you (as well as what it doesn't), and then encourage you to find a creative way to add more of that into your life as often as possible. And trust me, it's not as difficult or as expensive as it may seem.

Let's do this exercise together and I will use myself as an example:

- 1) What activities bring you pure joy? (*Drinking delicious and rich coffee first thing in the morning, alone*)
- 2) What is one activity that you regularly must do, that you do not enjoy or see value in? (*Laundry*)
- 3) What is something that you do that boosts your confidence and makes you feel proud of yourself? (*Singing karaoke*)
- 4) If you had no concerns about money or work responsibilities, how would you choose to spend your days? (*Travelling the world*)

So how do I practice self-care?

- 1) I found a gourmet coffee shop in the West Village where I can buy incredibly rich blends of coffee and almost every morning, I wake up before anyone else in my house, brew my coffee and sit at the dining room table, sipping and thinking, undisturbed. I follow the store's website and make sure to buy my blends when they are running a great sale.
- 2) I contacted several laundromats in my area, found one that is reasonably priced, does both pick up and drop off and has a friendly staff. I send my laundry out to be washed as often as is financially permissible for me.
- 3) My husband and I met a couple who love karaoke as much as we do. The man runs a karaoke show at a local bar every Friday so, at least once a month, we join this couple at the bar and sing karaoke until our hearts are contented. It serves as date night and I get to sing for my life in a no judgment zone!
- 4) I travel whenever I can. I've gone to Central America. I've gone to Florida. Other times, I've gone on a day trip to the Hudson Valley. I do what I can afford, when I can afford it. It doesn't have to be a majorly expensive trip. I don't always have to travel by plane or by train. Sometimes I just need to get away, even if for only a day.

See how easy that was? I do what I love often. When I can avoid it, I don't do what I don't love if it's practical. Take the quiz and see how you can incorporate self-care into your life and do it! You'll feel better, believe me and I would love to hear about it.

As always, if you are concerned about your well-being or someone that you care about and need assistance with finding treatment or learning how to access mental health benefits via health insurance, contact me, Ayana Ali, LCSW at 212-924-7220 or aali@local237.org There is nothing embarrassing about taking steps toward getting better. ■



What Happens When I Default On My Car Loan

By Mary E. Sheridan, Esq.

Director Local 237-Legal Services Plan

Failing to make timely auto loan payments will result in the lender repossessing your car. Many people don't realize the lender is not required to give you notice of the repossession. This is probably to prevent people from hiding the vehicle from the bank. Also, auto loan lenders do not need a court order to repossess the vehicle.

After repossessing the car, the lender auctions the car and if the sale earns less than the loan balance, plus repossession fees, the lender can then sue for the deficiency balance. As we all know, the minute you drive your new car off the lot, it starts to lose value. Auto loans can often result in owing more money than the car is worth. So, deficiencies after repossession sales are common.

The good news is, you do have rights in this situation. For instance, you could pay off the loan and get your car back before it's been auctioned. Oftentimes, you can reinstate the car loan by paying all fees and the full past due payments. Another option is filing for bankruptcy, which results in an

automatic stay of the sale. This may work to gain time to come up with the money or at least protect you from the deficiency balance owed to the lender.

While you will not get notice of the repossession, auto lenders must give you notice of the date and time of the sale of the vehicle. New York also requires auto lenders to sell repossessed vehicles in a commercially reasonable manner. This means the car cannot be sold for far below market value.

There is a common misconception that a dispute with the car dealer is the same as a dispute with the car loan lender. For instance, one might buy a car that turns out to be a "lemon". While in a battle with the auto dealer, and possibly owning a car that doesn't work, the car owner thinks he or she can stop paying the auto loan. The problem is the finance company or bank that gave the auto loan is not responsible for the condition of the car. You must pay the loan or risk repossession and a loan default.

Call your Legal Services Plan at (212) 924-1220. ■

Graduates, Promotions and Recognitions

HEATING PLANT TECHNICIAN GRADUATES

Madelyn Alonso
Tyquan Baskerville
Trey Boglin
Tasharia Boone
Jannique Bou
Tomica Brickhouse
Katina Brown
Dominick Carter
Vydia Da Cruz
Donasia Farmer
Andy Fernandez
Chana Fleet
Issiah Francis
Kenya Gooding
* Luis Grajales
Shannon Guzman
Melissa Harris
Virginia Harvey
Joseph Hunter
Octavier Ivory
Janay Jackson
Teresa Jeffrey
Ruthanne Jeffrey
Cynthia Johnson
Waliek Juneol

Donald Mabry
Dominique Mack
Asa Alexander Maddox, III
Trevor Middleton
* Starr Asia Miller
Curtis Monroe
Shante Murph
Antwon Newton
* Christopher Otero
Sherron Paige
Kendra Parson
Kenya Parson
* Anthony Price
Charinthia Pridgen
Brian Smith
Sabrina Smith
Brian Solomon
* Adrian Thomas
Keir Tsang
Ruth Usher
Tishaya Utley
Alexander Viruet
Teresa Washington
Karen Wheeler-Dixon
Jonathan Williams
Alicia Womble
Lisa Wright

Cassandra Aikens
* Domonique Allen
Lavista Baker
Marlene Balbuena
Shaniqua Bedford
Lawrence Bentley
* Karen Bishop
Stephanie Carter
* Milagros Castillo
* Eric Castro
Derrick Curtis
Charell Davis
Kevin Dunn
Marvin Evans
* Juan Garcia
Iropia Gupton
Melquan Hall

Sharnette Hargraves
Eric Henry
* Patricia Highsmith
Sabrina Holmes
* Shadashja Jackson
* Daniel Johnson
Treyvaughn Johnson
Kevin Jones
Nayshawn Kearney
Bibek Magar

* Tiphany Malloy
* Augustus Marshall
Dreadster Mckines
Juan Medina
Kyle Middleton
Kadeem Millinger
* Chante Parker
Shikina Patterson
Excelia Philbert
* Mohamed Rashid
* Saquan Robinson
Shana Robinson
Chantel Rogers
Javier Ruiz
Julia Saldana
* Gary Saunders, Jr.
* Shavondia Shannon
Troy Singleton
* Myasia Smith
* Ernesto Stewart
Christina Thompson
* Nashaun Turner
* Hector Vasquez, Jr.
Michael Vasquez
Robert Victorian
Eboney Walker
Keith Watington
Malik White
Jashiem Wiggins
Paris Williams
* Arkel Wilson

Alfredo Ambert
Ambria Baker
* Kristopher Caraballo
* Leo Clerjuste
* Gabriel Cruzado
* Tahriek Dailey
Jamel Daniels
* Leon Davis
* Elijah Dembry
* Frederick Diaz
Tyquan Feggins
Moniesha Gordon
* Shanequa Kirkland
Evita Moseley
* Andre Padin
* Amanda Pagan
Sada Pearson
Nicholas Pena
* Joel Perdomo
* Kenville Peters
Earl Roberts, III
Pablo Rodriguez
* Jose Santiago
David Sass
* Shanez Singleton
Ashante Turner
William Vaughn
* Tina Weston

Heriks Agosto-Ramos
* Ta-Shara Allen
Paige Anderson
Shadae Anderson
Lamar Barber
Anthony Beal
* Theresa Blakey
Reggie Bruno
* Chelsea Cooper
* Daquan Crawley
Dendrick Emery
* John Escamilla
Brandon Flemister
* Jamel Hughes
Anthony Lane
* Shavon Mack
Christopher Morgan
* Lamont Pettigrew
Shakeena Pratt
Michael Riley
Davoun Simpkins

* Wilfredo Alvarez
Sally Blakeney
Jasmine Bradley
Laneil Collins
* Ivory Chisom
* Dwayne Dias
Anthony Dixon
Shanotra Eato
Lakeya Gilmore
Essence Jackson
Shavon Johnson
Wilber Mejia
Jonathan Melo
Courtney Mobley
Shaniece Mosley
Jeffrey Perez
Reginald Sainte
Jay Salazar
Malik Watson
Shakira Williams
Aisha Wilson

* LaRon Costa
Helen Davis
Yannio Fabian-Albrinco
* * Faziolkhan Ghafoerkhan
David Hamilton
* Jermel Howard
Christopher Jones
* Kenneth Jones
* Mohammed Miah
Jaleesa Moya
* Stephen Pena
* Alex Peralta-Castro
Providencia Robinson
* Jatawn Rodriguez
* Jeffrey Rodriguez
Diehl Sandy
* Malvina Sewell
* Lionel Sharpe
Jimmy Sumpter
Makeda Sylvester

* **Academic
Achievement Award
Recipient**

* * **Best
Overall Average**

TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION GRADUATES

Enforcement Officers

Adyemi S. Adebola
David Chico
Eric R. Clark
Kun K. Fan
Corey D. Fitchett
Manuel Formoso
Andrew Giustiniani
Hywk Han
Julio C. Knowles
Rood J. Lebrun
David A. Losasso
Casey A. Myers
Michael A Walker-Hughes
Bryan A. Warren

Safety & Emissions Inspectors

Ricardo O. Allwood
Raj Boodram
Kendy Campion
Mustafa Celebioglu
David J. Cortes
Arindale T.K. Gurley
Yasir Henton
Dennis H. Heslop
Tauhid N. Khan
Daniel Lasalle Jr.
Wei Peng Li
Cordel L. Peters
David A. Pichardo
Jose Moposita Pilataxi
Michael Prashad
Carlos D. Quan
Tulsidas T. Serrattan
Tyler Tang
Kunga Tenpa
Jonathan Vega

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELESS SERVICES GRADUATES

Tempestt Andrews
Gregory Asare
Juan Beato
Keisha Belizarie
Deasia Carrasquillo
Cesar Cerna
Jessica Correa
Raven Davis
Racquiesh Edwards
Niema Feliciano
Paula Garcia

Sterling Gates
Stewart Gittens
Sharon Gomez
Andrea Green
Amanda Jimenez
William Johnson
Jerlaine Lopez,
Jamel Muhammad
Fiona Mullahoo
Jabari O'Neil
Tequan O'Reilly

Hector Rodriquez
Viktoriya Romanova
Christopher Salcedo
Luis Sanchez
Liakot Sharif
Joshua Sweet
Shameek Taylor
Walker Thomas
Princess Walker
Taquaysha Wheeler
Kimberly Williams

SCHOOL SAFETY AGENT GRADUATES

Company 19-01

Kenya-Aminata I. Abdul-Wahhab
Laquasia M. Alston
Comlanvi M. Bamezon
Celina M. Cruz
Gemma M. Dunbar
Freddy R. Gonzalez
Mariela M. Hernandez
Malika J. Jones
Iqbal H. Mannan
Jennifer M. Moore
Adelye Owolabo-Fajana
Monique P. Peterson
Ryan R. Reinhardt
Joel Rodriguez
Mohammed M. Ruzzaman
Deanna M. Scarlett
Latoya A. St. Juste
Horace J. Trim
Sherell M. Welfare
Gina V. Williams-Gordon

Company 19-02

Murad Ahmed
Albert Barbosa
Tiffany B. Celiare
Thania M. Cruz
Karima El Hakmi
Melissa Gonzalez
Kyana R. Heywood
Shanique I. James
Moneek K. Kittles
Tavar Maragh
Cruz M. Morban Martinez
Alesha V. Peart
Demetrius L. Reynolds
Brianna C. Phillips
Tasheka A. Richards-Long
Kathyann M. Rojas
Katherine R. Sanabria
Madhavi V. Sharma
Erica Vasquez
Brianna A. Williams
Neisha Wilson

Company 19-04

Angela L. Allen
Henry Angel
Tyniqua Cook
Cicelyn Flemming-Roberts
Dairis E. Gerbico
Tina E. Grant
Anthony D. Jones
Ebony N. Langston
Lisa Maldonado
Marcemari Molina
Lingsworth B. Pendley
Jenny C. Pineda
Ginnette M. Regaldo
Aleida C. Rodriguez
Yajaira E. Rosario
Nila S. Sarker
Natasha R. Smith
Anthony L. Trani
Shaun O. Williams
Tiffany Wynter

TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION PROMOTIONS

Chief of Patrol Joseph DeFrancis
Deputy Chief Anthony Gagliardi
Deputy Chief Manuel Mateo
Deputy Chief Israel Ramos
Deputy Chief Jose Torres
Captain Sergio Romero
Captain Todd Wilson
Lt. Zbigniew Fimiarz
Lt. Emad Jlelaty

Lt. Parvesh Kumar
Lt. Atilla Ocal
Lt. Ronald Prioleau
Lt. Chatterpaul Rampersaud
Lt. Bryan Rivera
Lt. Selina Simmons
Lt. Devon Williams
Investigator Juan Torres
Investigator Alexis Velasquez

NYPD/SCHOOL SAFETY DIVISION PROMOTIONS

SSA III Liz M. Medina
SSA III Luevena J. Simon
SSA III Thomasina Singleton
SSA III Debra R. Hamilton
SSA III Mohamed Lemnaizi
SSA III Colette N. McRae
SSA III Mona R. Hoyte-Walrond
SSA III Timekiyo L. Powell
SSA III Tanya M. Taylor
SSA III Marcia L. Oliver
SSA III Ringo B. Jaramillo
SSA III Llewellyn I. Witlow
SSA III Yazid L. Cobb-Montana
SSA III Shazia Iqbal

SSA III Jacqueline L. Robinson Daniel
SSA III Christine M. Kelevh
SSA III Lacita L. Polite
SSA III Michael T. Neve
SSA III Maria G. Ficalora
SSA III Marvis J. Erhunmwunse
SSA III Ravita L. Lynch
SSA III Tasheen S. Sneed
SSA III Tawana L. Spingner
SSA III Petal L. Issacs
SSA III Shavonne A. Roundtree
SSA III Trisha K. Dunlay
SSA III Lamarr E. Brown
SSA III Kenny D. Santana

2018-2019 SSA HONOREES

SSA I Angela Williams
SSA I Mildred Reese
SSA I Brittany Edwards
SSA I Inderpal Sidhu
SSA I Marianne Pellegrino
SSA I Nicole Catala
SSA I Sheila DeLeon-Ortiz
SSA III Deborah Hamilton
SSA I Yvette Diaz
SSA I Gilbert Perez
SSA I Lenore Oliver
SSA III Beatriz Rivera

SSA I Kimberly Caldwell
SSA I Taniesha Hulcome
SSA I Magdalen Ledea
SSA I Peter James
SSA I Deborah Waters
SSA I Edwin Betancourt
SSA I Tatiana Principal
SSA I Teresa Simpson
SSA I Benjamin Padilla
SSA III Stephanie Hudson
SSA I Dakiem Derry
SSA III Noreen Gibson

Peace Officer Elizabeth Maloney
SSA III Dahan Hawkins
SSA I Rafael Comacho
SSA I Reynaldo Nieves
SSA I Niurka Ramirez
SSA I Ayisha Jackson
SSA III Brenette Espin
SSA III Francisca Harper
SSA I Arlene Ortiz
SSA I Edward Rivera
SSA I Marvalene Spence
Supervisor Albert Watson

Resumen En Español



Mami, ¿Trabajas Esta Noche?



Primera Fila: Matthew Corniel, Aiden Arias, Alani Staley, Isabelle Ramnarine, Zaida Ali, Riley Banks Harris, Madison Ramnarine, Alliana Julian, Leilani Lake. Última Fila: Laura Miranda, Suzanne Kobi, Madison Torres, Nia Norman, Madyson Barrout, Nyla Peart, Samara Deleon, Jade Deen, Sade Harris, Mason Ramjattan y Madison Ramjattan.



Ruben Torres y Gregory Floyd with Sade Harris, Riley Banks Harris, Mason Ramjattan, Laura Miranda, Matthew Corniel, Aiden Arias, Madison Torres, Nyla Peart, Samara Deleon, Nia Norman, Madyson Barrout, Alani Staley, Alliana Julian, Leilani Lake, Isabelle Ramnarine, Madison Ramjattan, Jade Deen, Zaida Ali, Madison Ramnarine y Suzanne Kobi.



Jade Deen, Aiden Arias, Madison Ramnarine, Suzanne Kobi, Laura Miranda, Nia Norman, Isabelle Ramnarine, Madison Torres, SSA III Harold Wise, Matthew Corniel, Nyla Peart, Samara Deleon, Alani Staley, SSA I Edward Gonzalez, Alliana Julian, Zaida Ali, Madyson Barrout, Sade Harris, Madison Ramjattan y Mason Ramjattan.



Madison Torres, Sade Harris, Laura Miranda y Nia Norman.



Riley Banks Harris y Zaida Ali.



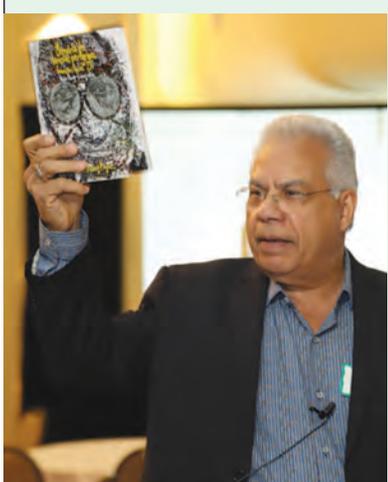
Samara Deleon, Nyla Peart, Alani Staley y Madyson Barrout.

A una Agente de Seguridad Escolar llamada Leslie Tene Marshall, le preguntaban constantemente sus dos niños pequeños, Denzel y Diamond, "Mami, ¿trabajas esta noche?". Ellos no podían entender por qué su mamá tenía que dejarlos y estar lejos de casa durante tantas horas. Ella procedió a escribir un libro para tratar de responder a las preguntas de sus niños. Otra Agente con la esperanza de ayudar a explicar su trabajo a los jóvenes, SSA III Wanda Mirsky, escribió y diseñó un libro de actividades, ilustrado por el SSA I Edwin Gonzalez, sobre el trabajo de los Agentes de Seguridad Escolar.

El 25 de abril de 2019, de acuerdo con la celebración nacional "Día de Llevar a Nuestras Hijas e Hijos al Trabajo", los niños de los miembros del Local 237 fueron invitados a visitar la sede del sindicato para recibir una comprensión de primera mano sobre parte del trabajo que realizan sus miembros. A lo largo de todo el país, el día, ahora en su vigésimo quinto año, se dedica a desmitificar a un niño lo que sucede cuando un padre dice "Voy a trabajar". El concepto originalmente se enfocó en animar a las niñas pequeñas a no permitir que el género dictara sus aspiraciones profesionales o personales. El objetivo inicial, establecido hace más de dos décadas, fue permitir que las niñas comprendieran que a ellas no se les impedía o limitaba su ingreso a ciertos campos de trabajo. Hoy en día, la celebración se expande para animar a todos los niños a pensar imaginativamente sobre su futuro, y para enseñarles cómo balancear la vida familiar y laboral de una forma saludable.

Entre las diferentes actividades para los invitados especiales del Local 237, hubo la oportunidad de reunirse y hablar con el Presidente Gregory Floyd, además de visitar muchas de las oficinas en todo el edificio, sentarse en un carro de policía con Agentes de Seguridad Escolar y dibujar en el libro de actividades comprado por el Local 237, el cual se está distribuyendo actualmente a estudiantes de escuelas públicas en todo el sistema. Los niños realmente disfrutaron un día lleno de diversión e información, muchos inclusive preguntaron sobre el próximo año. Como lo señaló el Presidente Floyd: *"Para la mayoría de nosotros, vamos a trabajar todos los días con las presiones del trabajo en nuestras mentes y, a menudo, no nos detenemos en nuestros propios niños a quienes dejamos atrás. Los Agentes de Seguridad Escolar pasan el día con los niños de otras personas. Ellos los protegen y ayudan a crear un ambiente de crianza durante los días escolares en los cuales los niños pueden aprender y madurar. Tienen un trabajo duro, pero como profesionales, y muchos como padres, pienso que hacen grandes progresos en lograr un impacto positivo y duradero en los estudiantes. Los Agentes de Seguridad Escolar sirvieron como perfectos anfitriones para esta celebración especial porque ejemplifican la importancia de por qué mamá (o papá) está trabajando hoy."*

FEATURED FIRST PUBLICATION OF LOCAL 237'S ORAL HISTORY PROJECT



Néstor Murray-Irizarry

The 2019 Retiree Division's Puerto Rico Conference provided information on important issues, such as benefits and Medicare, and acknowledged leadership with awards. This year's conference also launched the first-ever publication of Local 237's Oral History Project, *Memoria de boricuas peregrinos*—and in Spanish! The Oral History Project reflects the importance of preserving our union's history for future generations. Local 237 retirees contributed to this history as evidenced in their remembrances through stories found throughout the publication. This first book was written in Spanish to signify the Local's commitment to communicating with members in the languages with which they are most familiar and comfortable. The book's cover was designed by renowned Puerto Rican artist, Felipe Cuchi and includes inspiring letters by our President, **Gregory Floyd**, Vice President **Ruben Torres** and the Director of the Retiree Division, **Nancy True**. The book was edited by Professor Néstor Murray-Irizarry who conducted all of the interviews in Puerto Rico. ■

Keeping you in the know



Historic Child Victims Act Permits Those Abused Long Ago to Sue

By Barbara Hart, Esq.

Lowey Dannenberg, P.C. <http://newyorksexualabusevictims.com> 1-(888)-978-4931

I was 8 years old'... 'I'm 71 and you're the first person I've ever told'... 'He was a doctor and my parents did not get what I was telling them'... 'It was at sleep-away camp'... 'I was 11 but it still bothers me now'... Sad stories of child sexual abuse are now so vivid as New York's new *Child Victims Act* gives adults the right to sue for sexual abuse they endured during their childhood. No matter how long ago the abuse occurred, survivors or families of deceased victims have been given a one-year period to file lawsuits against their abusers and their abusers' employers.

right and take steps; speak to an attorney and decide what to do. This claim could be valuable; the process could be helpful and create money for retirement or kids or grandkids.

Barbara Hart of Lowey Dannenberg, P.C. was recently on the radio show "Reaching Out With Gregory Floyd" discussing a case in which she represents a former New York City Police Detective against Dr. Reginald Archibald and Rockefeller University Hospital. For decades, beginning in the 1940's, Dr. Archibald molested and sexually abused adolescent boys at Rockefeller University Hospital. He met many at Madison Boys and Girls Club and others at a camp where he was employed to give the boys physicals. Dr. Archibald died in 2007 and is estimated to have abused as many as one-thousand young boys over his career.

The *Child Victims Act* also allows recent childhood victims to sue abusers and their employees until the age of 55, a significant increase of time from the previous limit of age 23. These abuses are traumatic, and many child victims are not believed or do not immediately talk about the abuse. Those who suffered such abuse during their childhood now have an opportunity to get justice and put away shame; put blame where it belongs.

An additional client of Barbara's includes a custodial worker who suffered sexual abuse as a child on school trips and while at summer camp. Now in his 70s, he is still haunted by these traumatizing childhood memories.

The passage of the *Child Victims Act* is a prime example of the importance of collective action and strength in numbers. Survivors' determination changed the law for the benefit of exploited children. Despite millions of dollars spent lobbying by special interest groups against its passage, scores of sexual abuse survivors throughout New York shared their traumatic stories to put pressure on state legislators. These united survivors are credited with changing the law. There is power in numbers; solidarity brings change for the less powerful.

Victims or family members of deceased victims now have the right to pursue legal claims for events like these that occurred long ago. The *Child Victims Act* was signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo on February 14, 2019. This legislation creates a one-year window for past victims of child sexual abuse to take legal action against their abusers and the public or private institutions that permitted the abuse. This one-year window permits victims of any age to come forward and bring their claim. Claims that were too old ("time barred") can now be brought in court. People need to know about this new

As we get older, we know that time flies. This gives us one year to set things straight and stand up for the little vulnerable child you once were is NOW. Know your rights, share this information with friends. Anyone who has a claim should get legal advice soon.

Listen to Barbara's interview at <http://www.local237.org/news-a-media/reaching-out/919-reaching-out-attorney-barbara-hart-04-09-2019/file>.

Call 1-(888)-978-4931 to speak to Barbara Hart who is President and CEO of Lowey Dannenberg, P.C., a fifty-attorney firm based in White Plains, NY, specializing in complex litigation. Throughout her career, Ms. Hart has represented numerous union pension funds and retirees, recovering over a billion dollars on their behalf. Ms. Hart may also be contacted at bhart@lowey.com or at 914-733-7227. ■

Health and Wellness Day

On June 15, Local 237 hosted Health and Wellness Day. Among the many providers of health care, social services and legal counsel present, the event also welcomed the participation of NYC Works Well. Local 237 is partnering with Works Well for a variety of free programs, services and benefits that are geared toward improving the overall health and well-being of our members. As Annabelle Heckler, the program's Assistant Director, in the Mayor's

Office of Labor Relations, noted: "Promoting wellness in the workplace can create changes that carry over to the rest of our lives. That's why we are partnering with Local 237, as part of a new collective bargaining agreement, which underscores a commitment to the general health of municipal workers, and will help promote healthy living at work, home and play." For more information: www.nyc.gov/workwellnyc or contact workwell@olr.nyc.gov. ■



Condolences

Our prayers are with the family of a former NYPD Explorer, **Cynthia Rivera**, who, with her husband, were in a horrific car accident in Florida where she relocated with her family. Her husband was in critical condition following the accident, but is expected to recover.



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President Gregory Floyd and the Executive Board

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 For information contact Phyllis Shafran at pshafran@local237.org



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