



# LOCAL 237 NEWSLINE

Vol. 51, No. 3

Fall 2017

HERE ARE SOME RECENT EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS AND INFORMATION TO BENEFIT OUR MEMBERS:

## We Deliver

Helping members get the results they demand and deserve

*"I believe that the most important thing that I can do as President of Local 237 is to focus on the issues that trouble our members and work to get them the results they deserve. I also think that keeping our members informed on matters that can jeopardize their rights and well-being is critical to helping members make wise choices to protect themselves and their families,"* said **Gregory Floyd**, President of Teamsters Local 237.

### School Safety Agents Victims of Ticket Blitz. Floyd Gets Action.

For decades, School Safety Agents at Curtis High School on Staten Island were allowed to park on the street in areas designated "no standing school days" using NYPD issued placards. That tradition recently ended when 8 Agents received \$115 parking tickets. Teachers have been allowed to park in the school lot and on the sidewalk. With the Mayor issuing 50,000 new parking permits for teachers and principals without identifying new parking spots, the Agents felt they were targeted. Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** alerted CBS-TV reporter Marcia Kramer to the double standard and she spoke on camera to an Agent—whose identity was concealed. The parking tickets were ultimately rescinded. To view the entire interview go to: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2017/06/12/de-blasio-parking-placards/>.



### DOE Food Service Members Win Final Raise, Retirees Get Full 237 Benefits.

President **Gregory Floyd** said, "When Food Service Members approached us about joining 237, we told them that we would fight for them, but that it would take time to get them up to the same standards as other 237 members. A year ago, the DOE told us it would take two weeks to close contract agreements. And even though 'two weeks' should not take almost a year, and we had to file a complaint with the state Public Employees Relations Board, we were finally able to achieve a contract that preserves all benefits, with no additional costs to members. Our school food service workers deserve nothing less."



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.

The terms follow the pattern established by the Citywide contract and include wage increases of 10.41% (compounded), increases in employer Welfare Fund contributions, a \$1,000 bonus and retro pay.

This is the food service workers second contract since joining Local 237 in March of 2009. And for the first time, they now have parity with Local 237 Citywide members. Significantly, retirees will now have all the same benefits as Local 237 retirees in other Citywide titles. Food Service retirees can now take advantage of union benefits, including prescription drugs, optical and dental benefits, as well as a life insurance policy and participation in the Local 237 Legal Plan. The contract applies to members working in the titles of Supervisor of School Lunch, Associate School Food Service Manager, Chief School Lunch Manager, School Lunch Manager, School Food Services Manager, Supervisor of Stock Workers, Stock Worker, and Education Facilities Officer.

### For Local 237 Members, It's Safety First

"Safety is not an option. Safety is not an occasional thing. Safety should be a constant in your workplace. Coming home to your family at the end of the workday in the same condition you started it, is your right and should be a guarantee," said Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** at a June Safety Congress, a venture Local 237 began in 2013 with a single safety symposium in the Bronx. To date, there are seven Safety Congresses, representing each borough and also NGO1 and Mixed Finance. An eighth Congress is being created to focus on Heat Plant Technicians. President Floyd assured members that "providing a safe environment for all is our goal. It's our commitment. That is why we are here today and that is why, for example, when our members were faced with the FlexOps program, we took legal action to forestall the program's start until safety concerns were addressed first. We then hired safety experts to hold safety training classes, and produced a brochure with safety tips and a video of the lessons. At Local 237, the safety of our members is a priority."



Local 237 hosted an OSHA training seminar focused on information that Inspectors, HA workers from several titles including Caretakers J, Storeroom Keepers, Heat Plant Technicians, Maintenance Workers and Elevator Mechanics, need to know to help ensure safety at their work stations. **Carl Giles**, Safety Coordinator and Assistant to the President, noted: "Usually, this type of training session is held at the Housing Authority. It is the first time it took place at Local 237 headquarters. In so doing, we hope to reiterate a commitment to our members to keep them knowledgeable and up-to-date on ways to maintain a safe work environment."



### Communicating With the Communicators

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) held a two-day seminar to train the communications staffs of Locals throughout the nation on ways to effectively communicate with their members. Local 237 was the host. **Gregory Floyd** (pictured), Teamsters Local 237



President and Vice President-at Large on the Executive Board, kicked-off the event by addressing the audience with some timely advice: "In this time of elaborate Websites, Twitter, Facebook, SNAPCHAT and much more, it's important not to lose the personal touch with our members. You also need to see and talk to the members. Nothing replaces human contact. Successful connectivity is just a handshake away." Floyd then proceeded to shake the hands of all participants in the room.

## Vote NO to the Con Con con

Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** recently held a meeting of all Business Agents and Shop Stewards to urge them to spread the word: "On Election Day, November 7, the most important item on the ballot is not on the top, but instead, on the back at the bottom. It's a question regarding a New York State Constitutional Convention....to hold it or not. It may not seem like such an important question, but it really is THE MOST IMPORTANT question voters have to face every 20 years. Simply, you need to vote NO. Your job security and benefits are hanging in

the balance." At the meeting was labor lawyer, Martin Glennon, who gave an informative power point presentation to members, outlining the safeguards in our current Constitution that are in jeopardy if a Convention takes place. It is feared that union bashers and union busters will use this opportunity to do away with Constitutional guarantees. The only way to stop them: **VOTE NO** on November 7. *To learn more about the Constitutional Convention, see the information outlined on page 16 and in President Floyd's column on page 2.*



## 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  
post-retirement services,  
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](http://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](http://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*

# On November 7th Vote NO to a Constitutional Convention

Although the New York State Constitution is 50,000 words, only about 50 words of it are crucial to union members, especially public employees. In Article V, Section 7, it reads:

***"Membership in any (public) pension or retirement system...shall be a contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired."***

Also, Article XVI, Section 5, states:

***"All salaries, wages and other compensation, except pensions, paid to officers and employees of the state and its subdivision shall be subject to taxation."***

For union members, it is vital that those words be preserved. They guarantee worker safeguards for us and our families that are now in jeopardy.

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



**By Gregory Floyd**

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

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 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:



**Maria Olavarria** and **Sanie Verseli** of the Fetal Assessment Unit at Jacobi Hospital.



Members working for the NYPD Central repair services in Woodside, where parts are stored and provided to mechanics to service vehicles.



**Samuel Mumffree**, Caretaker G working at Hammel Houses.



**Stanley Boyce**, a veteran cook, at Carter, HHC's long-term care facility.



Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** (center) with Housing Director **Kevin Norman** (red shirt) visited members at Edenwald Houses.



Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** (center) visited members at the Charles Gay Men's Shelter with Law Enforcement Business Agent **Charlie Cotto** (left).



Local 237 members of the Redfern Houses.



Twin School Safety Agents, **Stacy** (left) and **Tracy Price**. Stacy is assigned to Patrol Borough Queens North Command/Francis Lewis HS and Tracy is assigned to Patrol Borough Brooklyn North Command/William H. Maxwell High School. Both sisters started working for the NYPD School Safety Division on September 22, 2008.

## Local 237 NEWSLINE

216 West 14th St., New York, NY 10011

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### Executive Board

<b>Gregory Floyd</b> President	<b>Richard Hendershot</b> Vice President	<b>Ruben Torres</b> Secretary-Treasurer	<b>Patricia Stryker</b> Recording Secretary
<b>Edmund Kane</b> Trustee	<b>Curtis Scott</b> Trustee	<b>Jeanette Taveras</b> Trustee	

Newsline and [www.local237.org](http://www.local237.org)

**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.



**Roy DeCosta**, Housekeeping Supervisor at HHC's East New York Diagnostic Center.



Before and After: repairs made by Plasterer **Constantine Ades** at the Astoria Houses.



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



Local 237 President **Gregory Floyd** (center) with Housing Director **Kevin Norman** on the right, visited members at Astoria Houses.



Member **Dale Marino**, who receives and distributes supplies at the East New York Diagnostic Center.



**Cherise Neal**, (center) School Food Manager and staff at PS 308, says that Managers are the face and often the voice of the organization from the perspective of the employee.”



**Mrs. Maya Watson** has been working for the DOE 20 years. She has been a School Service Manager for 10 years in District 27 where she is also the Shop Steward. Maya proudly notes that she has “two wonderful Supervisors and 16 hard-working, dedicated and amazing Managers in the District.”

## 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:



At the September graduation ceremony of DHS, **Nicole Blair** (left) and **Nadira Brown** were promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

## 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 are some family achievements shared with us:



Newest Teamsters, **Angelo Joseph Cardella**, born on July 14 to proud parents School Safety Agent **Anthony Cardella** (who works at Abraham Lincoln HS) and his wife, **Nicole**. Baby, mother and father are all doing fine.



## 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:

### CUNY APPRECIATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

CUNY honored the following individuals for their excellent service.



CUNY Peace Officers with **Patrick Morena**, Director of Public Safety at CCNY (center-right.)



**Melinda Jackson**, Sergeant (left) and **Danielle Harris**, CUNY Peace Officer



(Left to right) **Theresa Bell**, Campus Peace Officer; **Michael Lendor**, Sergeant; **Daniel Brothers**, Corporal and **Geraldo M. Taveras**, Campus Security Assistant.



(Left to right) **Patrick Morena**, Director of Public Safety at CCNY; **Geraldo M. Taveras, Jr.**, Campus Security Assistant CSA of the Year 2016 Award standing next to his proud mother, **Jeanette I. Taveras**, Law Enforcement Business Agent and Trustee on 237's Executive Board of Directors.

### PARTNERS IN SAFETY SOIREE



In recognition for their extraordinary work, School Safety Agents were honored by The Brooklyn United Federation Teachers at the Partners in Safety Soiree 2017. The event was hosted by the DOE/ UFT Victim Support Program Coordinator and UFT School Safety Liaison for the Brooklyn Schools, Katrina Foye.

#### SOIREE HONOREES

**IS 303**  
SSA Wayne Gabriel

**Abraham Lincoln HS**  
SSA Harry Zimmet

**Midwood High School**  
SSA3 Carmela Wade  
SSA Agnes George  
SSA Darryl Lomas

**Franklin K Lane Campus**  
SSA3 Johnnie Washington

**William H. Maxwell HS**  
SSA3 Kim Pricher  
SSA Shauna Covington  
SSA Gwendolyn Graham  
SSA Marvin Kennedy  
SSA Maria Moore  
SSA Ryan Taylor  
SSA Stacey Cortes  
SSA Laniece Ferguson  
SSA Kizzy Hernandez  
SSA Farria McAlpine  
SSA Tracey Price  
SSA Julius Wilder

### APPRECIATION BBQ



School Safety Agents assigned to Tilden Educational Campus were honored with an appreciation barbeque at the conclusion of the Big Apple Games, a summer program coordinated by Tilden Campus cheerleading coach, **Monique Waterman**. School Safety Agent 3 **Nicola McFarlane** and her team at Tilden were recognized for cultivating a strong working relationship with the children of the community.

### SSAs HONORED

In recognition of quality service spanning many years, these Commands honored the following Agents:

#### BRONX EAST



With **Charlie Cotto**, Law Enforcement Business Agent (left) and **Derek Jackson**, Director of Law Enforcement joining in the celebration, School Safety Agents from the Bronx East (center) were congratulated in an awards ceremony for a job well-done.

#### MANHATTAN NORTH



SSA III **Candida N. Rodriguez-Baez** (40 years of service); ASSM **Naomi Aice**, (25 years of Service); SSA III **Alfred Brown**, (40 years of Service) and SSA **Diamond Reed**, part of the ceremonial unit that organized the ceremony, with **Derek Jackson**, Local 237's Director of Law Enforcement.



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



## SSAs SAVE VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

While enroute from a Bronx East Command meeting back to Boys and Girls High School, a van carrying 7 Level III SSAs and 1 MVO was flagged down by a passenger of another van to assist a passenger inside. They found a female crying and asking for help. **School Safety Agent Tramble** ordered the male driver to pull over and let the woman out. As she was tended to by the other Agents, the accused perpetrator fled the scene. A chase ensued; agents radioed for backup; the perp was apprehended by School Safety Agents and brought to the 81st Police Precinct where he was charged. The victim said that she thought she had gotten into a Dollar Taxi Van but once inside, the driver began to inappropriately touch her and refused to let her leave. Pictured, left to right are: **SSAIII Taft Tramble; SSAIII Victor Tolentino; SSAIII Mira Hinds; SSAIII Alicia Baber; SSAIII Paula Finn; SSAIII Jaime Bligen; SSAIII Luis Albino and SSA Adrian Jimenez.**



## THIRST QUENCHING SSAs

In the midst of a heat wave, Brooklyn North held a "Hydrate Our Community" day. **SSA-1 ShaQuanna Rasin** distributed water throughout all 10 Precincts in Brooklyn North to those in need, knowing that, especially among members of the elderly population, it is important to be hydrated in the heat. The recipients of this kind gesture were very thankful.



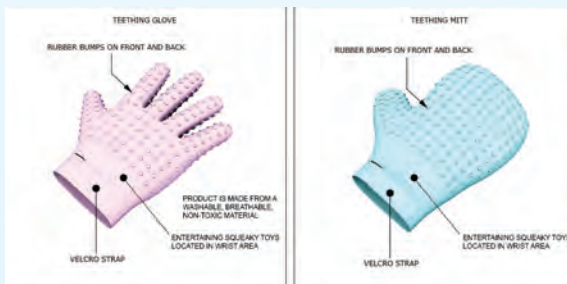
## TRESPASSER APPREHENDED BY SSA

A community is feeling safer thanks to **SSA Level 3 Geliga**, working in George Washington High School, who apprehended a trespasser identified in a homicide shooting.



## STATEN ISLAND'S IS 51 MENTORING PROGRAM

Founded by **SSA III Forster**, IS 51 boasts a productive mentoring program that helps to give meaningful guidance to the school's students. Pictured, left to right: **Commanding Officer Eric Johnson, SSA Level III Foster and Lieutenant Friedman.**



## EXTERMINATOR AND INVENTOR

**Frank Williams**, a NYCHA Exterminator working in the Queens/Staten Island Boro Office, is also an inventor. His latest creation is a teething glove and mitt which permits infants to easily, comfortably and without assistance, get soothing relief from their sore, irritated gums. The closed ended, one-size-fits-all glove fits over the child's hand and comes in flavors of popular baby food.



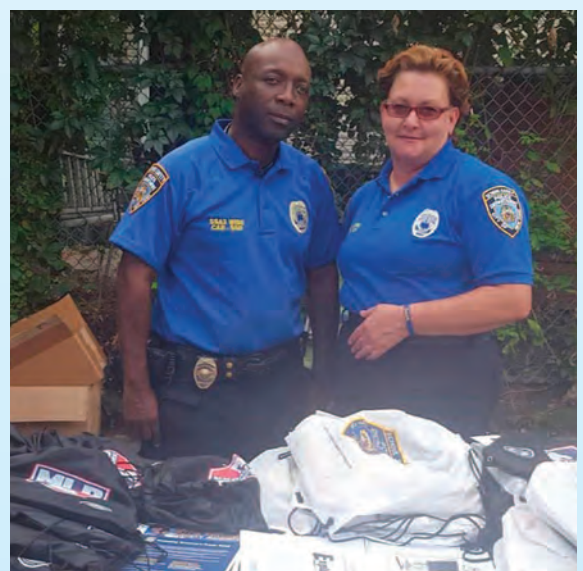
## NYCHA SUPERVISOR OF CARETAKERS NAMED FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

18 year veteran volunteer **Fire Captain Sandy Sonera**, who is also a Supervisor of Caretakers at Hamell Houses, and has worked at NYCHA for 30 years, was named "Mineola Volunteer Fire Department Firefighter of the Year". The Mineola Fire Department issued a press release stating that Sonera's selection was in recognition of "his strong work ethic, devotion to duty and positive contribution to the community. The commitment to service demonstrated by Captain Sonera serves as a role model for our aspiring leaders to follow." Pictured: **Captain Sandy Sonera** (second from right) received the honor of Mineola Volunteer Fire Department Firefighter of the Year 2017.



## RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME

On April 30th, while working Sunday Patrol in the Bronx West, **SSA III Espejo, PA/SSDTU**, and co-workers **SSA Spencer, SSA White and SSA Caballero** were on their way to Clinton HS, when they noticed a taxicab driving on the opposite side of the road and cars where honking at him and swerving around him. Concerned because this was where the main entrances to the Botanical Gardens and Fordham University are located, and experiences heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic, they stopped and asked the driver if he was okay. The cab driver did not respond or seem to understand their questions. A pill bottle was noticed on the passenger side of the taxi. The driver complained that he felt cold. His body started shaking violently and falling. He was having a seizure. A call for EMS was made. The Police arrived as the driver was having a second seizure. He was taken to St. Barnabas Hospital, where he recovered. Pictured: **SSAs Reginald Spencer, Brian Caballero, Samuel White and Suehaly Espejo.**



## HELPING STUDENTS GET A GOOD START TO THE SCHOOL YEAR

Staten Island Community Outreach and NCO wanted to give back to the community. They decided what better way than to help students in lower income neighborhoods get a good start to the new school year by providing free school supplies. Pictured are **SSA Level 3 Harold Wise**, Staten Island, NCO and **SSA Level 1, Janet Coriel** working in Staten Island Crime Prevention.



## SSAs HONORED AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

On August 1, the National Night Out Against Crime was held in 70 Police Precincts throughout the five boroughs. The event is dedicated to fostering positive police interaction with the communities they serve and is hosted by the Police Community Councils. This year, the annual event also featured a special recognition for three School Safety Agents: **SSA3 Wade**, **SSA George** and **SSA Lomas**. Assigned to Midwood HS, in April, they assisted a student by using CPR and an AED. Unfortunately, despite their heroic efforts, the student expired a few days later while in the hospital.



Honorees: **SSA George**, Congress Woman **Yvette Clarke** and **SSA3 Wade**



Pictured left to right are: District Leader **Josue Pierre**; Assembly member **Rodneyse Bichotte**; Assistant Chief **Brian Conroy**; Deputy Inspector **James Palumbo** (who is the Commanding Officer of 70th Precinct); Supervisor of School Security **Cheryl Hemmings**; **SSA3 Wade**; former School Safety Agent and now Evidence and Property Control Specialist, **George**; **SSA Lomas** and **Edward Powell**, (President of the 70th Precinct Community Council).

## BRUNCH WITH THE STARS

School Safety Brooklyn North Command, located inside of P53K, held its 1st "Brunch with the Stars of Brooklyn North" honoring the school's special needs students. This collaboration between members of the School Safety Division and the NYPD was thought of and coordinated by School Safety Agent **Rasin**, and Uniform Task Force Police Officers **Barrett**, **Leighton**, **Parham** and **Terrome**, with special thanks for their assistance given to Associate **Wright**, **Captain Malcolm** and **Officer Vallaro**. The smiles on the children's faces touched the hearts of the entire school staff and an amazing time was had by all.



**Captain Malcolm** Uniform Task Force, **P.O. Vallaro**, Uniform Task Force, **P.O. Parham** Uniform Task Force, **SSA Rasin**, **A.P. Bultstein** of P53K and **X.O. Wright** Brooklyn North Command.



The real stars of the brunch enjoying the food.

## BRIDGING THE GAP AND GROW FROM HERE



In August, Brooklyn North held its first of many "Bridging The Gap" panel discussions. The event was entitled "Grow from Here" and was organized by **SSA Rasin**, who saw this as an opportunity to engage youth in a dialogue with School Safety Agents that would help to forge better relations

through mutual understanding. The event was also geared toward educating stakeholders in the audience, such as the St. Nicks Alliance, on the needs and challenges of students and Agents. Members of the panel included: for Brooklyn North School Safety Division, **SSS Cameron** - ICO Assistant; **SSA Level III Jiminez** - Borough Office; **SSA Charles** - Training Unit; **SSA Jennings** - Crime Analysis; **SSA Davis** - Mobile Task Force, **PAA Widjaja** - Personnel Unit and **Commanding Officer Lavington**. There was also a Summer Youth Employment panel with students from various high schools and a stand-alone charter school not covered by School Safety. After the panel discussion, there was a BBQ and games enjoyed by all.



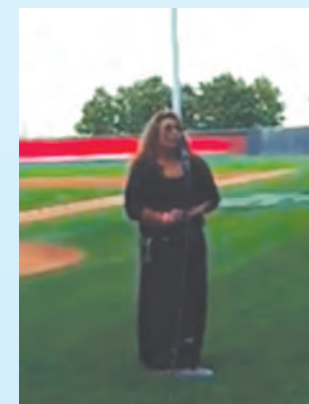
## SI's SSAs LEVEL 3 HOST LUNCHEON

Demonstrating their comradery, Staten Island's SSAs Level 3 hosted a luncheon to mark the end of school and to exchange thanks for a successful year. Pictured among those in attendance were: **SSAs Level 3 Dasilva**; **Foster**; **Hines**; **Kelly**; **Cataldo**; **Mattera**; **Mirsky**; **Gonzalez**; **Weinstein**; **Fattorusso**; **Andrews**; **Wise**; **Castro**; **DiGioia**; **Agosa**; **Wiggins**; surrounding **SSS Glessner**; **Lt. Friedman**; **CO Johnson**; **XO Maher**; **XO Panicker**; Local 237 Business Agent and Executive Board Trustee, **Taveras** and 237's Law Enforcement Director, **Jackson**.



## THE PINK PATCH PROJECT

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. To show their support, pink patches will be worn by sworn peace officers throughout the nation during the entire month. The Pink Patch Project is dedicated to fighting against breast cancer by raising public awareness that through early detection, lives are saved. Pictured: Left to right: **PO Siraisi**; **Spcl Ramirez**; **Sgt. Kirk**; **Sgt. Szczesny**; **Sgt. Cintron**; **Sgt. Jefferson**; **Lt. Greene** and **Captain Darren Arakawa** from the South Gate Police Department (from California).



## SSA SINGS AT YANKEE STADIUM

**Daniella Taormina Fullbrook**, a **SSA Level 1** at PS 42 on Staten Island, is an accomplished singer who recently added to her list of achievements by singing the National Anthem and God Bless America at Yankee Stadium.



# Labor Day – A Day

By Gregory Floyd

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

For many, Labor Day is just a sad reminder of the end of summer and the beginning of school. It's usually the time to get in that last trip to the beach, the last BBQ and the last chance to sleep late during the week. But Labor Day is really about so much more. With 12-hour work days 7-days a week and children as young as 5 and 6 working in mills, mines and factories, Labor Day was conceived in the late 19th century by trade unionists as a way to recognize the contributions of workers and to serve as a show of force and catalyst for change. New York was the first state to push for it as an official holiday and New York City actually held the nation's first Labor Day Parade in 1882 when 10,000 workers took time off from their jobs to march from City Hall to Union Square. But, it was only after the death of 34 striking Pullman workers of the American Railway Union at the hands of US Army soldiers and Marshals that the first Monday in September became an official federal holiday in 1894.

Today, with union membership at an all-time low of only 10.7 % nationwide—as compared with peaks in the 1950s when 40% of American workers were union members—the Labor Day Parade takes on special meaning. Although New York leads the nation in union membership— at 24%, with public sector workers making up the vast majority of those workers and African-Americans the largest component—the City's parade, the biggest in the country, is viewed by some as a mere relic of the past. Quite the contrary, Labor Day and the parade to commemorate it should be looked at as a persevering symbol of the long-lasting presence and indestructible power of the labor movement despite the ever-increasing efforts to do us in—whether in the guise of a Constitutional Convention or the countless other moves by the union bashers, union busters and their big money campaigns to discredit, dishearten and diminish labor's importance.

At Teamsters Local 237, we understand the necessity of our unity and the power of its strength. Our commitment is both practical and moral. We know, for example, that non-union workers earn on average 20% less than union members. We also know that workers' rights are unquestionably intertwined with civil rights. We cannot have one without the other. That is why we join. That is why we march. Local 237 members recently joined over 50,000 other proud union workers from throughout New York City and Long Island in this year's Labor Day Parade, which is unlike any other parade in the City. It is not a protest rally or political demonstration. It is not cultural heritage on display. There are no turkeys or Rockettes either. Instead, this parade features men and women marchers from all races, religions and orientations who are united by one common denominator: We're all union workers. We march together because we know that unions give working families a strong voice... an unflinching advocate... and our children, hope. We march together to send a message to our elected officials and the public at-large: "Support unions. They count. You should count yourself in!"

Visit our website: [www.local237.com](http://www.local237.com) to see our members who participated in this year's Labor Day parade. ■





# Like None Other







# LONG ISLAND REPORT



Brentwood school district member **Nick Pedota** getting the school ready for the 2017 year.



Jakes 58 security guards **Harry** on left and **Robert** in the middle look over the contract with **Benny Carenza**.



Brentwood Security Supervisor **Ray Hernandez** retires and receives a plaque from Brentwood Business Agent **Scott Dimperio**.



Town of Babylon members (left **Bob Verch**, chapter Chairperson and founder of the Home-town hero events) and right Shop Steward **Kirk Johanson** posing in front of the Lightning Loader truck.



Islip Resource Recovery Loader **Danny LaPenna** retires after a 30 year career. Danny was a very hard worker in Resource Recovery. Pictured is **Benny Carenza** and **Chris Cacoperdo** (manager).



**Maria Tufariello** retires from OTB after 19 years as a cashier. Business Agent **Cathy Rice** presented her with a plaque.



Jakes 58 security guards **Mario** (right) and **Michael** (left) with **Benny Carenza** (middle).



Brentwood Custodian **Colin** who is a great mentor to the new members. Great member helping others. Pictured with **Benny Carenza**.



Plainview Old Bethpage schools **William Geyer** receives his plaque for 34 years of service as a maintainer. On right is **John Laub** his supervisor. On left is **Benny Carenza**.





North Babylon mechanics doing an unbelievable job keeping the entire fleet of buses and vehicles safe for the children and teamster bus drivers on a daily basis.



North Babylon school members left to right **Chris** (shop steward and Chapter Chairperson) **Brenda**, **Paul** and **Benny Carenza**.



Town of Babylon member and Vice Chapter Chairperson **Nick Rigney** with **Benny Carenza**.



Plainview Old Bethpage Shop Steward **Donna Vangelatos** worked with **Benny Carenza** on a Teamsters helping Teamsters raffle for another Aide and member with a major family health issue. They raised over 700 dollars which was presented to the aide.



President **Gregory Floyd** with **Benny Carenza** at this year's Labor Day Parade.



Half Hollow Hills member **Guiseppi** who is an alarm specialist doing a great job. Pictured with **Benny Carenza**.



Syosset library workers ratify their contract with 100% Yes vote. Thanks to the committee for a great job!



## POLITICAL AND LABOR NEWS

### Governor Marks LaGuardia Progress



Pictured at the groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of Delta Airline's \$4 billion renovation of Terminals C and D were (left to right): Christopher Erikson, Business Agent Local 3; Gary LaBarbera, President, Building and Construction Trade Council; Shirley Aldebol, Vice President, SEIU, 32 BJ; Mario Cilento, President, NYS AFL-CIO; John Skinner, President, Ironworkers; Governor Andrew Cuomo and Gregory Floyd, President, Teamsters Local 237.

Former Vice President Joe Biden famously described LaGuardia Airport "Third World" and now it is the cornerstone of Governor Cuomo's infrastructure agenda. An \$8 billion makeover of the airport's Terminal B is being undertaken as part of one of the nation's largest public-private partnerships between the Port Authority and LaGuardia Gateway Consortium, of companies including Vantage Airport Group, Skanska and Merridiam. The Governor said the project will result in "a beautiful front door to New York." ■

## HONORING DENNY

For nearly 5 decades, Assemblyman Herman "Denny" Farrell has been a fierce advocate for working families. At age 85, he decided to retire. Governor Andrew Cuomo recently honored the veteran Assemblyman with the renaming of Riverbank State Park after Farrell. The Governor told the audience, other elected officials, community and labor leaders that this was a fitting honor because it was Farrell, incensed that the City had decided to build a garbage depot on the site, yielding to opposition from other communities, who went to Governor Mario Cuomo to lobby for a park on top of the unsightly site. The Governor agreed and allocated funding. ■



Governor Cuomo unveils the sign for the new name of Riverbank State Park as Assemblyman Herman "Denny" Farrell looks on.



Local 237 President Gregory Floyd, talking with former US Congressman Charles Rangel and former NYC Mayor David Dinkins.



Also paying tribute to Farrell was Housing Court Judge Verna Johnson Saunders, former 237 member who worked as an attorney with the Legal Services Plan.

### Reaching out with Gregory Floyd



US Congressman Joseph Crowley (left) talked about the political climate in Washington during his interview on "Reaching Out With Gregory Floyd."

President **Gregory Floyd** hosts his radio show, "Reaching Out With Gregory Floyd" on station 970AM/The Answer. The show airs on Saturday evenings at 9pm. The lively conversations are on hot-button topics in the news that affect our members and all working families. Guests have included Congress members Joseph Crowley and Gregory Meeks; Labor Leaders Mario Cilento and Vincent Alvarez; and civil rights activists Hazel Dukes and Christine Quinn. ■

## Trying to Save Eber

**Eber Garcia Vasquez** has been a member of Teamster Local 813 for 26 years. He came to the United States nearly three decades ago from his native Guatemala seeking political asylum following the brutal murder of his mother and other family members during a bloody civil war. While his asylum case was still pending and he was on track to receive his Green Card, he was detained after a visit to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement office, which is usually a routine and annual visit. Teamsters Local 237 joined other members of Joint Council 16 in a rally to support Eber. He was deported despite the effort. He leaves behind his wife, daughter and granddaughter. All of them are US citizens. ■



Eber's family.



Teamsters rally in support of Eber.





## COMMON ESTATE PLANNING MISTAKES

By Mary E. Sheridan, Esq.

Director Local 237-Legal Services Plan

Time and again I hear the same common mistakes people make when discussing estate planning. The most common is when a client says he doesn't have much, so why bother with a Will. It's amazing how many people will let State law decide how their property should be distributed rather than spell out their own wishes in a Will. If someone is married with children and dies without a Will, New York State law provides that a portion of the estate goes to the surviving spouse and a portion to the children. This could have unintended consequences such as leaving property to minor children. And, speaking of minor children, if you die and haven't named a guardian in your Will you will leave family members to decide on who will care for your children.

Another common mistake I have seen is failing to review your beneficiaries named on life insurance policies, bank accounts or retirement accounts and understand the interaction of these assets with the Will. A Will

cannot change the beneficiary you have already designated on a particular asset. Also, on most retirement accounts, not naming a beneficiary could have negative tax ramifications for your survivor, who instead takes through the Will where one cannot delay distributions over a life time and minimizing the tax consequences.

On many occasions I have been directed by a client to leave all assets to one person whom they trust to "do the right thing" by doling out assets to survivors. Too many times you hear about family fights and the one named person not doing the "right" thing. Your wishes should be spelled out in the Will, not left for someone else to decide after your death.

Finally, drafting your own Will is not a great idea. Too often there will be mistakes that could end up costing your survivors a lot of money during probate. Remember, you have a free Legal Services Plan available for a wide array of civil legal matters. Call us at (212) 924-1220. ■

## MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT



### MEET KENNETH TORAN, A MAN WITH A PLAN

Kenneth is the Property Maintenance Supervisor at Edenwald Houses. The married father of three and former resident of Edenwald, has worked at the Housing Authority for 22 years, starting as a 16-year old High School student doing seasonal volunteer work in the community. By age 19, he was offered a full time position with NYCHA. Kenneth credits the Resident Association and its President, Walter McNeil, with

helping him to know about programs and opportunities available to him and guiding him toward advancement. Kenneth started a non-profit organization called "We Can Get Along" to encourage young people to get involved in their community in a positive way, using the basketball court as the "classroom" to teach social interaction skills, responsibility, understanding and the importance of education. Kenneth says, "I feel that I have to give back. I see myself in these kids." Kenneth has been a proud member of Teamsters Local 237 for his entire work-life saying: "Many young people today don't know how important a union is. Too many take the 40-hour work week, health benefits and safety guarantees in the workplace for granted. But that's not the case. Unions fight for all of us, so we don't have to suffer separately." As for the future, Kenneth says: "Along the way, I've gotten to know many elected officials who I have turned to for assistance on community projects. One day, I may consider joining their ranks myself."

Finally, Kenneth believes that the key to success is knowledge. He said that throughout his life, being well-informed opened many doors for him and he wants to help others to acquire that same capacity for achievement that wisdom can provide. Toward that end, Kenneth will be providing Newsline with nuggets of information he thinks would be beneficial for our members to know, featured in a column entitled: DID YOU KNOW?!

## DID YOU KNOW?!

By Kenneth Torain

Property Maintenance Supervisor, Edenwald Houses

The New York City Council is the lawmaking body of the City of New York. It has 51 members from 51 council districts throughout the five boroughs. The role of the City Council is to monitor the operation and performance of city agencies, make land use decisions and approve the City's budget. It also legislates on a wide range of other subjects. The Council is an equal partner with the Mayor in the governing of New York City. ■

## EMPLOYEE SMOKING CESSATION PROGRAM

# Escape

to a smoke-free life...

### Enroll in the Employee Smoking Cessation Assistance Program

- Available to ALL New York City government employees
- Free quit-smoking support includes:
  - Medications (nicotine patch, gum and lozenge, Zyban and Chantix)
  - Confidential counseling provided by experienced specialists in-person or by phone

### Call 212-676-2393 for an appointment

Call-in hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Office hours: Wednesdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Tobacco Control  
42-09 28th Street, 11th Floor, Long Island City, NY 11101  
Bus: Q32 or Q60; train: E, M, R, 7, N, Q or G

**You can quit. We can help!**



### WorkWell NYC is here to support your effort to quit smoking!

New York City government employees can enroll in the Employee Smoking Cessation Assistance Program (ESCAPE) and receive personalized, confidential counseling and smoking cessation medications for free. No matter how long or how much you have smoked, it is never too late to stop. ESCAPE can help you quit smoking and stay quit for good.

Contact your business agent to find out when ESCAPE will attend Local 237 monthly meetings this fall to offer free nicotine patches and lozenges to help members quit.

- To learn more about ESCAPE, visit [NYC.gov](http://NYC.gov) and search "ESCAPE"
- Find information on how to quit and how to cope with common nicotine withdrawal symptoms by visiting [NYC.gov](http://NYC.gov) and searching "NYC Quits"
- To find out about other free wellness programs for

Effective July 17, 2017, **Abbott Gorin**, became the new part-time Business Agent for CSBA. His Salary will be \$1,372.00 per week (or \$71,344.00 per year). He will not receive his medical benefits from the Union. He will be entitled to 13 days vacation and one personal day per year.

### Personal Notes



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

### MASTERS GRAD



Housing Assistant **Jacqueline Jacobs**, a 25-year veteran with NYCHA, earned her Masters Degree in Psychology from the College of New Rochelle. Ms. Jacobs is a member of the National Honor Society of Psychology and graduated with a 3.89 Grade Point Average.

### GRADUATES BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Albert Rodriquez**, Supervisor of Stock Workers Level I, Central Receiving and Stockroom, proudly received his Associates degree in Human Services from Bronx CC.

### CUNY GRADS



Recently, a graduation ceremony was held for CUNY PEACE OFFICERS to mark the successful completion of their training program. Participating in the festivities was **Gregory Floyd**, President of Local 237 President, pictured on the lower right.

### DHS GRADS



At a June ceremony held at John Jay College for Criminal Justice, a class of cadets was graduated upon completion of a rigorous 6-week training program.



In September, John Jay College welcomed a new class of officers who successfully completed their training program.

## 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:



Special Officer **Tana Knowles Brown**, Jacobi Hospital; **Pamela Davis**, Hospital Police, Jacobi Hospital; Special Officer **Simone Robinson**, North Central Bronx; and Hospital Police, **Delores Solomon**, Jacobi Hospital, (pictured left to right) with Local 237 President, **Gregory Floyd** who was on hand to wish them well after decades of dedicated service for HHC.

The big question: Could a retirement party for **Ron Germana** be kept secret? Apparently, the answer is yes! Local 237's Comptroller, who retired after 24 years on the job, was led into the Feinstein Conference Room under false pretense to surprise Ron with a retirement luncheon. Attended by family and co-workers, the celebration in honor of Ron's dedicated service to the union also provided a lighthearted opportunity to poke fun at the often staid Comptroller.



President Floyd leads Ron into a surprise retirement luncheon.



**Ron Germana** with members of the Accounting Department: **Sobeyda Rodriquez**, **Jani Ramos** and **Kayk Rohena**.



**Luis Holguin**, NYCHA Elevator Dispatcher in Long Island City retired after 38 years on the job pictured with Business agent **Noberto Luna** upon receiving a plaque of appreciation.



**Winton George**, Deputy Director of the Retiree Division, **Lillian Rodriquez**, Office Manager in the Legal Services Plan and **John Picucci**, an attorney working for CSBA have a combined number of years of service at Local 237 of nearly 80 years, with Lillian claiming 40 of them. In recognition of the number and quality of years and service, President **Gregory Floyd** hosted a retirement luncheon to say "thank you" to all three.



Stuyvesant Gardens Shop Steward, **Thorton Bynum**, is given a fond farewell from co-workers and **Curtis Scott** (fourth from right in the white shirt), Housing Business Agent and Trustee on Local 237's Executive Board.



After 20 years working for HHC, Captain and Director at Seaview Hospital, **Ruben Morales** has retired. Ruben was presented with a plaque in appreciation of his service by **Gregory Floyd**, President of Local 237 (left) and **Donald Arnold**, Director of the Citywide Division.



**Phyllis Lee**, Administrative Assistant in the Welfare Fund, retired after 44 years with Local 237. Surrounded by family, friends and co-workers, Phyllis was congratulated by President **Gregory Floyd** in a celebration of her incomparable work record. Phyllis, (pictured third from the left with President Floyd and her sisters, granddaughter, daughter and son) acknowledged this as a bittersweet moment.



## Resumen En Español

AQUÍ HAY ALGUNOS EJEMPLOS RECIENTES DE ACCIONES E INFORMACIÓN PARA BENEFICIAR A NUESTROS MIEMBROS:

# Entregamos

Ayudando a los miembros a obtener los resultados que exigen y merecen

"Creo que lo más importante que puedo hacer como Presidente del Local 237 es centrarme en los problemas que molestan a nuestros miembros y trabajar para obtener los resultados que merecen. También creo que mantener a nuestros miembros informados sobre asuntos que pueden poner en peligro sus derechos y bienestar es fundamental para ayudar a los miembros a tomar decisiones acertadas para protegerse a sí mismos y a sus familias," dijo **Gregory Floyd**, Presidente de Teamsters Local 237.

## Agentes de Seguridad Escolar Víctimas de Multas. Floyd Obtiene Acción.

Durante décadas, agentes de seguridad escolar en Curtis High School en Staten Island se les permitió parquearse en la calle en áreas designadas "no días escolares permanentes" usando letreros emitidos por el DPNY. Esta tradición terminó recientemente cuando 8 Agentes recibieron \$ 115 en multas de estacionamiento. A los maestros se les ha permitido estacionar en el parqueo escolar y en la acera. Con el Alcalde emitiendo 50,000 nuevos permisos de estacionamiento para maestros y directores sin identificar nuevos lugares de estacionamiento, los Agentes sintieron que fueron un blanco. El presidente del Local 237, **Gregory Floyd**, alertó a la reportera de CBS-TV Marcia Kramer al doble estándar y ella habló en cámara con un Agente cuya identidad estaba oculta. Las multas de estacionamiento fueron finalmente rescindidas. Para ver la entrevista completa diríjase a: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2017/06/12/de-blasio-parking-placards/>



## Los miembros del Servicio de Alimentación del DOE ganan el aumento final, los jubilados obtienen los beneficios 237.

El Presidente **Gregory Floyd** dijo: "Cuando los miembros del Servicio de Alimentos se acercaron a nosotros para unirnos al 237, les dijimos que pelearíamos por ellos, pero que tomaría tiempo alcanzarlos igual que otros 237 miembros. Hace un año, el DOE nos dijo que tomarían dos semanas para cerrar los contratos. Y aunque "dos semanas" no debe tomar casi un año, y tuvimos que presentar una queja con la Junta de Relaciones Públicas de Empleados del Estado, finalmente pudimos lograr un contrato que preserva todos los beneficios, sin costos adicionales para los miembros. Nuestros trabajadores de servicio de comida escolar merecen nada menos." Los tér-



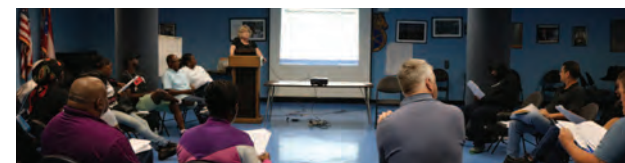
Supervisores de Servicio de Alimentos en una audiencia de quejas presentada con Mal Patterson, Director de audiencias y quejas (segundo desde la izquierda), Jerry Simmons, Sidney Grabill, Chris Maniace y Kelly Bacci.

minos siguen el patrón establecido por el contrato de Citywide e incluyen incrementos de salario de 10.41% (compuesto), aumentos en las contribuciones del fondo de bienestar del empleador, un bono de \$ 1.000 y pago retro.

Este es el segundo contrato de trabajadores de servicios de comida desde que se unió al Local 237 en marzo de 2009. Y para el primer tiempo, ahora tienen paridad con los miembros de Local 237 Citywide. Significativamente, los jubilados ahora tendrán todos los mismos beneficios que los jubilados del Local 237 en otros títulos de Citywide. Los jubilados del Servicio de Alimentos pueden ahora aprovechar beneficios, incluyendo medicamentos recetados, beneficios ópticos y dentales, así como una póliza de seguro de vida y participación en el Plan Legal Local 237. El contrato se aplica a los miembros que trabajan en los títulos de Supervisor de Almuerzo Escolar, Gerente de Servicio de Comida de la Escuela Asociada, Jefe de Almuerzo Escolar, Gerente de Almuerzo Escolar, Gerente de Servicios de Alimentación Escolar, Supervisor de Trabajadores de Stock, Trabajador de Acciones y Oficial de Instalaciones de Educación. ■

## Para Miembros del Local 237, Su Seguridad Primero

"La seguridad no es una opción. La seguridad no es algo ocasional. La seguridad debe ser una constante en su lugar de trabajo. Llegar a casa a su familia al final de la jornada de trabajo en la misma condición en que lo inició, es su derecho y debería ser una garantía", dijo el Presidente de la Local 237 Gregory Floyd en un Congreso de Seguridad de junio, una empresa local 237 comenzó en 2013 con un solo simposio de seguridad en el Bronx. Hasta la fecha, hay siete Congresos de Seguridad, que representan a cada municipio y también ONG1 y Finanzas Mixtas. Un octavo se está creando un congreso para enfocarse en los técnicos de plantas térmicas. El Presidente Floyd aseguró a los miembros que "proporcionar un ambiente seguro para todos es nuestro objetivo. Es nuestro compromiso. Es por eso que estamos aquí hoy y es por eso que, por ejemplo, cuando nuestros miembros se enfrentaron con el programa FlexOps, tomamos medidas legales para prevenir el inicio del programa hasta que las preocupaciones de seguridad se abordaran primero. A continuación contratamos a expertos en seguridad para impartir clases de capacitación de seguridad, y produjimos un folleto con consejos de seguridad y un video de las lecciones. En el Local 237, la seguridad de nuestros miembros es una prioridad." ■



Local 237 organizó un seminario de capacitación de OSHA enfocado en la información que los inspectores, los trabajadores de la HA de varios títulos, incluyendo los cuidadores J, los guardianes del almacén, Técnicos de Planta, Trabajadores de Mantenimiento y Mecánicos de Ascensores, necesitan saber para ayudar a asegurar la seguridad en sus estaciones de trabajo. **Carl Giles**, Coordinador de Seguridad y Asistente del Presidente, señaló: "Normalmente, este tipo de capacitación / sesión se lleva a cabo en la Autoridad de Vivienda. Es la primera vez que ocurre en la sede local 237. Al hacerlo, esperamos reiterar el compromiso de nuestros miembros de mantenerlos informados y actualizados sobre maneras de mantener un ambiente de trabajo seguro." ■



## Vote NO al Con Con con

Local 237 y su Presidente **Gregory Floyd** celebró recientemente una reunión de todos los Agentes de Negocios y Comisarios de la tienda para instarles a difundir la palabra: "El Día de las Elecciones, 7 de noviembre, el elemento más importante en la papeleta no está en la parte superior, pero en su lugar, en la parte posterior en la parte inferior. Es una cuestión relativa a una Convención Constituyente del Estado de Nueva York que lo mantenga o no. Puede que no parezca una pregunta tan importante, pero realmente es la pregunta MÁS IMPORTANTE que los votantes tienen que enfrentar cada 20 años. Simplemente, usted necesita votar NO. La seguridad y los beneficios del trabajo están

en el equilibrio". En la reunión fue el abogado de trabajo, Martin Glennon, quien dio una presentación informativa de poder a los miembros, describiendo las salvaguardias en nuestra Constitución actual que están en peligro si se celebra un convenio. Se teme que los partidarios de la unión y los busters de la unión utilicen esta oportunidad para acabar con las garantías constitucionales. La única manera de detenerlos: **VOTE NO** el 7 de Noviembre. ■

Para más información sobre la Convención Constitucional, vea la información resumida en la página 16 y en la columna del Presidente Floyd en la página 2.

## Comunicándose con los Comunicadores

La Hermandad Internacional de Teamsters (IBT) celebró un seminario de dos días para capacitar al personal de comunicaciones de los locales en toda la nación sobre maneras de comunicarse efectivamente con sus miembros. El local 237 fue el anfitrión. **Gregory Floyd**, Presidente de los Teamsters Local 237 y Vicepresidente



en general de la Junta Ejecutiva, dio inicio al evento dirigiéndose a la audiencia con algunos consejos oportunos: "En este tiempo se ha elaborado Sitios-Web, Twitter, Facebook, SNAPCHAT y mucho más, es importante no perder el contacto personal con nuestros miembros. También se necesita ver y hablar con los miembros. Nada reemplaza el contacto humano. ■



# Help for Puerto Rico

At this time, only the following supplies are being collected:

**Ladder 79:** 1189 Castleton Avenue, SI, NY 10310 (Port Richmond)

PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID  
AT NEW YORK, NY

FALL 2017

## DATED MATERIAL

# Are you moving?

To change your address, fill in the form below, cut it out, and mail it back to Newsline at the above address.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Don't let your hard-earned Pension go up in flames.  
Say NO to a State Constitutional Convention.**



X



**NYS AFL-CIO**  
**NO CON-CON**  
ON NOV. 7, VOTE NO ON PROP. #1

For more information: contact the NYS AFL-CIO at **518-436-8516**  
visit **[www.nhsaflico.org](http://www.nhsaflico.org)**, or text ConCon to **877877**

## Condolences

A man in a U.S. Air Force uniform is saluting. He is wearing a dark blue uniform with gold buttons and a pilot's wing badge on his left chest. He is standing in front of an American flag and a U.S. Air Force flag.



To the family of CUNY Specialist and Shop Steward, **Ruben Lopez**. Specialist Lopez was a dedicated public servant whose commitment to a job above and beyond the call of duty, earned him high praise and recognition by his supervisors.

To SSA **Renee Saunders**, working in Brooklyn South, on the recent passing of her cherished sister, Gwendolyn Merritt.

To Educational Facility Officer, **Mark Meredith**, on the death of his beloved sister Penny Eastman.

# MEETING NOTICES

**All meetings will take place at Local 237 Headquarters,  
216 West 14 Street, NYC, in the first floor conference room.**

## CITYWIDE/LAW ENFORCEMENT

November 13 - Food Service Administration - **George Wade** 5 p.m

## HOUSING AUTHORITY

Dec. 5 - Exterminator - **Ken Roper/Vincent Lattimore** 6:00 pm.