

**RETIREE**

# news & views



A PUBLICATION OF LOCAL 237's RETIREE DIVISION

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## Fun in the Sun

Retiree Division trips are held twice a year usually summer and fall. Trips are a great way to stay connected with other retirees and create fun memories. Trip mailings go out to retirees residing in New York City several weeks in advance. If you are interested in attending trips, please fill out RSVP slips as soon as you get them. Trips fill up fast and space is limited. We hope to see you at our next trip. Have a great summer!



On July 18, 2025 retirees participated in a trip to Krucker Picnic grove in Pomona, NY. We laughed, danced, played games, and there was food galore.

## JOIN YOUR

For a calendar for events please visit the Local 237 website.



**STAY CONNECTED!**

Four times a year, the Retiree Division hosts community groups in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx/Westchester, Queens & Long Island. Community groups are a great way to connect with other retirees as well as obtaining great information. Topics covered in the community groups included Medicare, Social Security, Local 237 Welfare Fund and Legal Services, Alzheimer's Associations, Department of the Aging, Police Department, Dignity Memorial and more. For retirees residing in NYC, you will receive an invitation letter for the community groups in your very own borough.



by **Gregory Floyd**

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

Even though the summer is still in full swing, we know that Fall is not far behind. Fall marks the end of summer and the beginning of a new season. For some of us, the change is met with a little sadness due in part to fewer day-light hours and heavy clothing moved to the front of the closet. While for others, Fall is greeted with relief: No more messy beach sand to contend with or stuck-on hamburgers to scrap off the BBQ grill. With Halloween and Christmas looming ahead, their fabulous colors, lights, family traditions and gatherings, make the holidays something many look forward to. Decorations will start to come out. The list of gifts to buy will be made and recipes dusted off — all life-affirming and fun.

But first, there's Labor Day. It's the time when we salute working men and women across our country and a parade we participate in. Labor Day is very unique. It's not so easy to find a holiday that crosses all party affiliations, religious, racial, ethnic and gender lines. Your political party, favorite color, if you're a vegetarian or meat-lover, chunky or slim, if you're White Collar or Blue--matters little. For sure, it's not easy to find a holiday in which most Americans celebrate in similar ways—usually involving a hot dog or two and an ear of corn. Yes, Labor Day is a rarity: A holiday we can all agree upon and no Hallmark card necessary.

And then there's the Labor Day Parade, held in New York City on the Saturday after the actual holiday, which is the largest and the oldest one in the nation, started by the Central Labor Council—in 1882, when 10,000 workers took off from their jobs in celebration of all workers, and marched from Union Square to City Hall.

Even though Ralph Chaplin wrote the classic song associated with the holiday: "Solidarity Forever" in 1915 for the Industrial Workers of World War I, its refrain is as relevant and important today as it was more than 100 years ago: "When the union's inspiration thru the worker's blood shall run, there can be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun, yet what force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one, but the union makes us strong. Solidarity forever, solidarity forever, solidarity forever, for the union makes us strong." The formal acknowledgment of the importance of workers came in 1894 when Congress created Labor Day by making the first Monday in September a national holiday. But sadly, it only did so in response to the death of 34 striking Pullman workers from the American Railway Union at the hands of U.S. Army soldiers and Marshals.

Unfortunately, union membership across the nation has declined from its peak of 35% in 1954 to only around 10.8% currently. With New York among the states with the largest number of union workers—

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Falling Leaves, Unions Rising

—roughly 22% — about 70% of the union workforce is in the public sector — consistent with the national percentage of public sector union membership being approximately five times that of the private sector — with African Americans making up the largest component of that group.

But today, after a decades-old hiatus, union membership in both the public and private sectors is showing signs of being on the rise in defiance of endless union busting and union bashing efforts. And, here's where labor unions shine the brightest, as in the remarkable win by Amazon workers in Staten Island to unionize. It was no small feat. Just a few years ago, this newly formed "Amazon Labor Union (ALU)" did not even exist. A Staten Island Amazon warehouse worker, Christian Smalls, led a walkout in protest of deplorable, Covid-related workplace conditions. Amazon general counsel's meeting notes said of Smalls: "He's not smart, or articulate, and to the extent to which the press wants to focus on him versus us, we will be in a much stronger PR position." WOW! They not only dismissed Smalls as insignificant but arrogantly

employees did and continue to do. Let's not forget that during the height of the pandemic, at a time of unimaginable grief, when a sudden, highly contagious virus rocked the entire globe and our own personal world, union members—our union members and thousands of other public sector workers—didn't give up; they got up and went to work. During a time that immersed us in dread and paralyzed so many with fear— an unnerving time that, for some, meant there would be no final hug, goodbye or sacraments to meet our maker—these essential municipal workers were on the job. Now, as we are trying to revive the City, the State and nation, public workers remain an essential ingredient in recovery and rebuilding.

That's why Labor Day is so important. Recognizing the efforts of workers — especially those in the public sector — is a well-deserved recognition. But it also serves in sending a message to our elected leaders, political wannabes, big business and to the public at-large: You can bash us. You can try to bust us. But you need us. And, when you see the words "Union Made", they also mean "Union Strong"—we're a movement not just a moment. ■

**YOU'RE INVITED**  
**LABOR DAY PARADE**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th**

Local 237's Kick off location is:  
**West 45th St., between 6th & 7th Avenues**

Local 237's Kick off time is: **11am**

**BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**  
**FREE TEE SHIRTS AND FOOD!**

**A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**

# I am eligible for Medicare. What's next?



by **Julie Kobi LMSW**  
Director of the Retiree Division

**W**e receive many calls at the Retiree Division regarding what to do when a retiree or spouse becomes Medicare eligible. *Here are a few frequently asked questions:*

### When am I eligible for Medicare?

- If you turned 65 and are currently receiving social security, you will receive Medicare automatically.
- If you are not receiving social security, you should Apply for Medicare three months before your 65th birthday.
- If you're receiving Social Security Disability, you will be eligible for Medicare about 24 months from your first disability payment.

### Should I enroll in Medicare Part B?

Yes — you must enroll into the Medicare Part B. The only exception for declining Part B is if you are still working, or you're covered by a working spouse's health insurance. If you do not meet these exceptions, you must enroll. Failure to enroll in Medicare Part B when you are eligible can become problematic and more expensive later.

### When should I expect to receive the Medicare Part B Reimbursement?

Medicare Part B reimbursement is in the month of April. The funds are issued the way you receive your pension ie: if you receive direct deposit, therefore Medicare Reimbursement will be issued via direct deposit. If you receive a paper check, the Medicare Part B will be a paper check.

### What happens to my spouse/ dependents insurance who are not yet Medicare eligible?

Your spouse/ dependent(s) will remain on the non- Medicare side of the insurance. The opposite is true for retirees who are not yet Medicare eligible, but the spouse is. You will remain on the non-Medicare side of the insurance and your spouse will be moved over to the Medicare side of the insurance. This is what is referred to as split contract by the insurance company.

### How do I enroll in the Medicare Part B reimbursement?

Medicare Part B reimbursement comes from the City of New York's Office of Labor Relations. Retirees and their Medicare eligible spouse are eligible for this. However, to receive the reimbursement, copies of Medicare Cards must be submitted to the Office of Labor Relations. *Also, to be eligible for the Medicare Part B reimbursement through the City, the Retiree and spouses must be enrolled in a City health plan. If you have waived coverage, you are ineligible for Medicare Part B reimbursement.*

*\*The Medicare Part B reimbursement is not automatic.  
You must notify OLR that you have become Medicare eligible.*

### How to notify the Office of Labor Relations of your Medicare eligibility

VIA MAIL: Office of Labor Relations, 22 Cortlandt Street 12th Floor NY, NY 10007  
Attn: Medicare Unit  
or ELECTRONICALLY: Submit electronically via secured portal  
<https://nycemployeebenefits.leapfile.net/>

### How to notify Local 237 of your Medicare eligibility

Mail a copy of your Medicare card to:  
Welfare Fund 216 West 14th Street 3rd Floor New York NY 10011  
or VIA EMAIL: at [welfarefund@local237.org](mailto:welfarefund@local237.org) ■

*As always, the Retiree Division is here to help with any questions you may have.*

**CALL: 212-807-0555 EMAIL: [retirees2@local237.org](mailto:retirees2@local237.org)**



# Maintaining A Healthy Diet During the Summer Months

by **Elaine Williams, LMSW**  
Assistant Director, Retiree Division

**S**ummer highlights include warm weather, long days with early sunrise and late sunsets. With the increased opportunities for outdoor activities like picnics, barbecues, summer festivals and long days at the beach, there is also the possibility for healthy eating and maintaining a nutritious diet to be lost or sabotaged. To eat healthy during the summer months, focus on staying hydrated and incorporating plenty of fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables into your diet.

Here are a few tips to consider for healthy summer eating despite the summer activities:

#### Hydration is key:

Drink plenty of water throughout the day, consider adding fruits like lemon, cucumber, or mint to your water for extra flavor and nutrients.

#### Embrace seasonal produce:

Summer is a great time to enjoy fresh, in-season fruits and vegetables, which are often packed with vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. Some great options include: watermelon, berries, peaches, tomatoes, corn and leafy greens.

#### Choose light and lean proteins:

Opt for grilled chicken or fish, tofu, or legumes like lentils and chickpeas over heavy fried or processed meat.

#### Prepare light and refreshing meals:

Consider making salads, smoothies, grilled vegetable skewers or cold soups to stay cool and hydrated.

#### Be mindful of added sugars:

While fruits are a healthy choice, be mindful of sugary drinks, deserts, and processed foods that can be high in calories and added sugars.

### Here is a recipe for my favorite HOMEMADE SUMMER FRUIT SMOOTHIE

- Fresh Blueberries - 1 cup
- Chopped fresh strawberries - 1 cup
- Peaches (peeled and chopped) - 2 cups
- Yogurt (nonfat) flavored or unflavored
- Almond milk (unsweetened) - 1 cup
- Ice - ½ cup

*Combine all ingredients in a blender and puree until smooth, add some honey to taste.*

Remember: Whatever you choose to eat during this season make it be nourishing to your body, pleasing to the taste and healthy for the soul. ■

### RETIREE news & views

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## Teamsters Walk to End Alzheimer's

by **Luz Nieves-Carty MPA**

Assistant to the Director, Retiree Division

On November 15, 2025, put your sneakers on and join the Retiree Division in Central Park for the Walk to End Alzheimer's. Join other retirees and staff as we will be raising awareness and funds to advance the fight against this disease — funds that allow the Alzheimer's Association to provide 24/7 care and support while accelerating critical research. The ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION® 24/7 HELPLINE | 800.272.3900 receives over 200,000 calls each year and provides confidential information and support in callers' preferred language.

### HERE ARE A FEW FACTS:

- One in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia
- Nearly 7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. Over 11 million people are serving as unpaid caregivers.
- Almost 2/3 of Americans living with Alzheimer's — and approximately 2/3 of caregivers — are women.
- Hundreds of thousands of Alzheimer's Association® advocates nationwide speak out on behalf of the needs and rights of people facing Alzheimer's. ■

**Together we can end Alzheimer's disease.**

**WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S**  
ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION®

### Walk to End Alzheimer's Event Details

**Date:** Saturday November 15, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 AM: Check-in/Registration

11:15 AM: Opening Ceremony

11:30 AM: Walk starts

### Location:

Central Park - Naumburg Bandshell

Mid-Park at 71st St., New York, NY 10019

Register to walk with us or donate by scanning the QR code with your phone camera.



or visit:

<http://act.alz.org/goto/TeamstersLocal237>



## Wrapping Up the Summer and Welcoming the Fall

by **Edith Johnston, LCSW**

Deputy Director, Retiree Division

As the golden days of summer begin to wind down, there's a quiet beauty in the air mix of nostalgia and anticipation. But remember it's not the activities themselves that matter most, but the connections formed around them. Think about time spent outdoors with loved ones' laughter shared over a picnic in the park, or a quiet moment on the porch or balcony. These simple acts of togetherness remind us of what truly matters: family, friends, love, and making cherished memories together.

Now more than ever, family and friendships matter. Many of you have shared with me how one of the most meaningful aspects of retirement is the chance to spend more time with those you care about. Through all the changes happening around us—political or otherwise—these relationships remain our constant. They're like the warm sweaters of our emotional wardrobes.

Whether we're gathered around a fire pit, sharing a homemade meal, simply checking in with a call or sending a message, these connections remind us of what really counts. I encourage you to stay connected throughout the year.



With the school year starting soon, your friends and relatives who aren't yet retired will likely be busier—but that just makes your efforts to stay in touch all the more meaningful.

### Ideas for Welcoming the Season and Staying Connected:

- Host a seasonal dinner with comfort foods and warm drinks—an opportunity to reconnect with loved ones.
- Start a new ritual like weekly family walks, book clubs, or Sunday soup nights.
- Declutter and cozy up your space to reflect the season—bring out the blankets, light candles, and embrace a slower pace.
- Practice gratitude. Fall is a natural time to give thanks—for the joys of summer and for the people who enrich our lives all year long.

As the leaves begin to change, let's lean into this season of connection, comfort, and quiet growth. After all, it's not just about saying goodbye to summer—it's about embracing what comes next, hand in hand with those who matter most. ■



## Check the Status of Your Social Security Benefits Claim Online

by **Ravi Gopaul** Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

If you applied for Social Security benefits, or have a pending reconsideration or hearing request, you can check the status online using your free personal **my Social Security** account. If you don't have an account, you can create one at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount) to review the following information about your appeal:

- Date of filing.
- Current claim location.
- Scheduled hearing date and time.

- Incomplete applications.
- Servicing office location.
- Publications of interest, depending on the claim and current step in the process.

If you have questions about retirement, disability, Medicare, or survivor benefits, or about Supplemental Security Income, visit our webpage at [www.ssa.gov/benefits](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits).

Please share this information with your loved ones. ■



## I Rent and I Need Repairs in My Apartment

by **Jennifer Hudson, Esq.**  
 Director of Local 237 Legal Services Plan

When you rent your home, whether through an oral or written lease, the apartment must be: "...fit for human habitation and for the uses reasonably intended by the parties and that the occupants of such premises shall not be subjected to any conditions which would be dangerous, hazardous or detrimental to their life, health or safety." The law, Warranty of Habitability RPL§ 235-b, applies to all rental units in New York State. The landlord has to make repairs.

### What should you do if you need repairs?



- 1) Tell your landlord: You should tell your landlord, in writing, that you need repairs and you should keep a copy/picture of the letter or email that you send the landlord, and proof that you sent it to your landlord.
- 2) Call 311: You should call 311 and make a complaint; keep the claim number they give you for your records, be sure to make yourself available for HPD inspectors to come and inspect.
- 3) Be available for access dates for inspections and repairs during the week – repairs and inspections do not typically take place on weekends.
- 4) Take pictures and video of the condition(s)
- 5) Keep a log of the condition(s): when and who you contacted about the condition(s).

### If you have done all of the above and the landlord still isn't making repairs:

- 1) Take your landlord to court with an HP action: HP Action stands for Housing Part Action – this is the only way that a tenant can bring their landlord to court.
- 2) File an HP petition: Go to housing court Petition Clerk and file an Order to Show Cause (OCS) for repairs, you must:
  - a. Be a lawful occupant, but you don't have to be the tenant of record
  - b. Know the full, actual, name of the landlord (often an LLC)
  - c. Bring proof that you asked landlord to make repairs (letter or email sent)
  - d. Bring proof of the conditions (photos and video)
  - e. Bring proof that you called 311 and they inspected (violation report from HPD website and claim # from 311)
  - f. Bring lease
- 3) Petition Clerk will give you the Order to Show Cause that you must serve on your landlord and HPD.
- 4) The OSC tells you exactly how to serve it, you must serve it exactly the way the papers tell you – ask the petition clerk to explain how you should serve.
- 5) You must bring the proof of service to your first court date.
- 6) The filing fee you must pay to the clerk is \$45.
- 7) Mentally prepare yourself to come to court several times.
- 8) Continue to pay your rent unless you get an order from DHCR or the court telling you to stop.
- 9) Be aware that repairs might not be up to your standards; if the landlord does what is legally required, that may be all you can enforce.

If you have any questions call Local 237 Legal Services Plan, 212-924-1220. ■



## Spotlight on Retiree Member Services Representatives

by **Diana Nappi**  
 Director of the Retiree Benefit Fund



Our Member Services Representatives, Emma and Natalia are specialized in handling Local 237 Retiree Benefits. They are here to assist new retirees or members who are getting ready to retire with the transition. Many retirees have been successfully guided through the retirement process regarding their new retiree benefits, so please do not hesitate to contact us we are here for you.

Recently, Emma was able to assist a new retiree who had moved out of the Metro area and was having a problem finding an in-network provider. Emma worked with United Healthcare, and we were able to place the retiree in a larger out of area network so that they could utilize an in-network provider, which helped her maximize her benefit.

On another case, Natalia was able to assist a retiree who was in hospice care with her paperwork for retirement. The member didn't have anyone to help her and she needed her medications. Natalia was able to gently guide her step-by-step over on how to scan the necessary paperwork through her iPhone, so that our department could complete the enrollment process, and the member could fill her prescriptions. These are just a couple of the many stories of how our Retiree Member Service Representatives can help.

### Some common questions about dental and prescription benefits:

#### Dental

- You will receive a NEW dental identification card for you to present to your dentist.
- The annual plan maximum is \$1250 for retirees.
- Dentists will need to resend any dental pre authorizations for major work being completed now that your status has changed.
- Have you retired out of the New York Metro area and experiencing difficulties finding an in-network dentist? Contact the Welfare Office and we can help.
- Visit UHC at [www.uhc.com](http://www.uhc.com) or call 1-877-591-1789

#### Prescription

- You can visit the Member Portal at [Aetna.com](http://Aetna.com) or contact Aetna directly at 855-352-1599 to check if a medication is covered.
- Ask your doctor to consider prescribing drugs that are on the Pharmacy Drug Guide (Advanced Control Formulary) You can do a quick search right on the Aetna portal.
- Sometimes a Prior-Authorization is required for certain medications, your doctor can obtain this by contacting Aetna directly.
- Going out of town and need to fill your prescription? Contact the Welfare Fund 2-days in advance and we can make sure you can fill your prescription with no issues.

#### What happens if I have HIP/VIP HMO?

Medicare eligible participants who elect a health plan such as HIP/VIP HMO. All prescriptions are received with your health card from the health insurer. (Medicare Advantage Plan).

Partial reimbursement rate for anyone who chooses this option.	\$24/Month single coverage \$36/Month family coverage
Payment is sent out 2x a year usually in February and August.	Single \$144 / Family \$216 = (6) Months of Premium Reimbursement

**If you have any other Medicare Part D plan you will not be entitled to this benefit or the Local 237 Aetna Retiree Plan.**

Teamsters Local 237 Welfare Fund offers a welcoming and confidential environment for Retirees and Members to come and seek assistance regarding their benefits. We have well versed Member Services Team ready to assist you.

We can be reached at 212-924-7220 or [welfarefund@local237.org](mailto:welfarefund@local237.org) and are located on the 3rd Floor at 216 West 14th Street. ■



## Cantándole al verano

por Néstor Murray-Irizarry  
Historiador y gestor cultural

Si consultamos los recursos digitales contemporáneos de búsqueda de datos encontramos que el verano es una:

*Estación del año que, astronómicamente, comienza en el solsticio del mismo nombre y termina en el equinoccio de otoño.*

*Época más calurosa del año, que en el hemisferio boreal corresponde a los meses de junio, julio y agosto, y en el austral a los de diciembre, enero y febrero.*

*En las regiones tropicales, donde las estaciones no son sensibles, la temporada de sequía dura aproximadamente seis meses, con algunas intermitencias y alteraciones.*

Para muchas regiones, como la querida Bogotá, Colombia, sentiremos, por solo mencionar una de ellas, un frío muy especial, que nos acaricia como una bella flor tropical. En mi país, Puerto Rico, particularmente, la ciudad de Ponce, el calor es muy severo, y a veces aterrador. Sin embargo, un buen chapuzón en nuestras playas o ríos convierten esos intensos momentos en un placer, alivio y deleite sin igual.

Sin embargo, contrario a lo que pudieran pensar o imaginar nuestros lectores, poetas y compositores le han cantado en verano. La poeta, escritora y pianista puertorriqueña, Trina Padilla de Sanz le cantó al verano en una poesía, bajo el tema de *Las estaciones*, titulada *verano*, publicada en el Puerto Rico Ilustrado el 28 de diciembre de 1918:

*La tierra es horno, candente, exhala  
un cendal de vapor que el cielo sube;  
en la foresta el ave pliega el ala,  
y parece un gran cisne en cada nube.*

*Los árboles, al borde del camino,  
Sus ramas polvorientas y abrasadas  
Presentan a su paso al peregrino  
Como importantes manos extenuadas.*

*Sus verdes abanicos, los palmares,  
agitan débilmente, amortecidas;  
muere la onda, sin rumor, los mares  
salmodiando su plegaría adormecidos,*

*No hay arrullos de amor en el ambiente,  
ni fulgor en las gotas de rocío,  
ni canciones parleras en la fuente  
ni en el profundo órgano del río.*

*La cigarra estridente, se fermata  
eleva en la ígnea ola que calcina;  
y pasa, como obscura cabalgata  
en cortejo nupcial la golondrina.*

*Y la tierra es un horno: todo exhala  
un cendal de vapor que el cielo sube;  
en la foresta el ave pliega el ala,  
y parece un gran cisne en cada nube.*

En verano y durante los días que incluye el 25 de julio, en Puerto Rico se celebran en el pueblo de Loíza las *Fiestas en honor a Santiago Apóstol*. Aunque en este pintoresco municipio de Puerto Rico, el santo patrón es San Patricio, desde hace muchísimos años se veneran a tres Santiagos: *el Santiago de las mujeres, el Santiago de los hombres y el Santiaguito de los niños*.

David L. Ungerleider Kepler en su artículo titulado *Una re-mirada Fiestas en honor a Santiago*, opina que:

“Se dice que la fiesta ocupa un lugar fundamental en la cultura popular, y para el pueblo de Loíza esta hipótesis tiene validez; la única forma de entender la historia de Loíza, sus conflictos y sus anhelos, es acercarse al pueblo en momentos de fiesta, tratar de captar y comprender su modo peculiar de vivir y celebrar la vida, su visión del mundo explícitamente expresada e implícitamente vivida con profundidad cuando esta la fiesta.” (75-80) Te esperamos. ■

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www.casapaolipr.com

## MENSAJE DE LA DIRECTORA

### Soy elegible para Medicare. ¿Qué sigue?



by Julie Kobi LMSW  
Directora de la División Jubilados

Recibimos muchas llamadas en la División de Jubilados sobre qué hacer cuando un jubilado o su cónyuge se vuelve elegible para Medicare.

*Aquí tiene algunas preguntas frecuentes:*

#### ¿Cuándo soy elegible para Medicare?

- Si cumplió 65 años y actualmente recibe el Seguro Social, recibirá Medicare automáticamente.
- Si no recibe el Seguro Social, debe solicitar Medicare tres meses antes de cumplir 65 años.
- Si recibe el Seguro Social por Discapacidad, será elegible para recibir Medicare aproximadamente 24 meses después de su primer pago por discapacidad.

#### ¿Debo inscribirme en la Parte B de Medicare?

Sí, debe inscribirse en la Parte B de Medicare. La única excepción para rechazar la Parte B es si aún trabaja o si está cubierto por el seguro médico de su cónyuge que trabaja. Si no cumple con estas excepciones, debe inscribirse. No inscribirse en la Parte B de Medicare cuando es elegible puede resultar problemático y más costoso más adelante.

#### ¿Cuándo debería recibir el reembolso de la Parte B de Medicare?

El reembolso de la Parte B de Medicare se realiza en abril. Los fondos se emiten de la misma manera que recibe su pensión; es decir, si recibe depósito directo, el reembolso de Medicare se emitirá mediante depósito directo. Si recibe un cheque en papel, la Parte B de Medicare también lo será.

#### ¿Qué sucede con el seguro de mi cónyuge/dependientes que aún no son elegibles para Medicare?

Su cónyuge/dependientes permanecerán en la parte no elegible del seguro. Lo contrario aplica para los jubilados que aún no son elegibles para Medicare, pero su cónyuge sí. Usted permanecerá en la parte no elegible del seguro y su cónyuge pasará a la parte de Medicare. Esto es lo que la compañía de seguros denomina contrato dividido.

#### ¿Cómo me inscribo para el reembolso de la Parte B de Medicare?

El reembolso de la Parte B de Medicare proviene de la Oficina de Relaciones Laborales de la Ciudad de Nueva York. Los jubilados y sus cónyuges elegibles para Medicare son elegibles para esto. Sin embargo, para recibir el reembolso, deben presentar copias de las tarjetas de Medicare a la Oficina de Relaciones Laborales. Además, para ser elegible para el reembolso de la Parte B de Medicare a través de la Ciudad, el jubilado y sus cónyuges deben estar inscritos en un plan de salud de la Ciudad. Si ha renunciado a la cobertura, no es elegible para el reembolso de la Parte B de Medicare. \*El reembolso de la Parte B de Medicare no es automático. Debe notificar a OLR que se ha vuelto elegible para Medicare.

#### Cómo notificar a la Oficina de Relaciones Laborales sobre su elegibilidad para Medicare

POR CORREO POSTAL: Oficina de Relaciones Laborales, 22 Cortlandt Street, Piso 12, NY, NY 10007. Atención: Unidad de Medicare  
o ELECTRÓNICAMENTE: Envíe su solicitud electrónicamente a través del portal seguro <https://nyemployeebenefits.leapfile.net/>

#### Cómo notificar a Local 237 sobre su elegibilidad para Medicare

Envíe una copia de su tarjeta de Medicare a:  
Fondo de Bienestar Social, 216 West 14th Street, Piso 3, Nueva York, NY 10011  
o POR CORREO ELECTRÓNICO: [welfarefund@local237.org](mailto:welfarefund@local237.org)

**Como siempre, la División de Jubilados está aquí para ayudarle con cualquier pregunta que pueda tener.**

**LLAME AL: 212-807-0555**  
**CORREO ELECTRÓNICO: [retirees2@local237.org](mailto:retirees2@local237.org)**



## Alquilo y necesito reparaciones en mi apartamento

Por **Jennifer Hudson** Abog.  
Directora del Plan de Servicios Legales, Local 237

Al alquilar su vivienda, ya sea mediante un contrato de arrendamiento verbal o escrito, el apartamento debe ser: "...apto para la habitación humana y para los usos razonablemente previstos por las partes, y los ocupantes de dicho inmueble no estarán sujetos a condiciones que puedan ser peligrosas, dañinas o perjudiciales para su vida, salud o seguridad". La ley de Garantía de Habitabilidad RPLS 235-b se aplica a todas las unidades de alquiler en el estado de Nueva York. El arrendador debe realizar las reparaciones.

### ¿Qué debe hacer si necesita reparaciones?



- 1) Informe a su arrendador: Debe informarle por escrito que necesita reparaciones y conservar una copia o foto de la carta o el correo electrónico que le envió, así como un comprobante de envío.
- 2) Llamar al 311: Debe llamar al 311 y presentar una queja; guarde el número de reclamo que le proporcionen para sus registros y asegúrese de estar disponible para que los inspectores del HPD vengan a inspeccionar.
- 3) Esté disponible para las fechas de acceso para inspecciones y reparaciones entre semana; las reparaciones e inspecciones no suelen realizarse los fines de semana.
- 4) Tome fotos y videos de las condiciones.
- 5) Mantenga un registro de las condiciones: cuándo y a quién contactó para informarle sobre ellas.

### Si ha hecho todo lo anterior y el propietario aún no realiza las reparaciones:

- 1) Lleve a su arrendador a los tribunales con una demanda de vivienda (HP Action): HP Action significa Acción Parcial de Vivienda (Housing Part Action). Esta es la única manera en que un inquilino puede demandar a su arrendador.
- 2) Presente una petición de HP: Diríjase al secretario de Peticiones del tribunal de vivienda y presente una Orden de Justificación (OCS) para las reparaciones. Debe:
  - a. Ser un ocupante legal, pero no es necesario ser el inquilino registrado.
  - b. Conocer el nombre completo del arrendador (generalmente una LLC).
  - c. Presentar prueba de que solicitó al arrendador las reparaciones (carta o correo electrónico enviado).
  - d. Presentar prueba de las condiciones (fotos y video).
  - e. Presentar prueba de que llamó al 311 y que inspeccionaron la propiedad (informe de infracción del sitio web del HPD y número de reclamo del 311).
  - f. Traiga el contrato de arrendamiento
- 3) El secretario de la petición le entregará la Orden de Justificación que debe notificar a su arrendador (HPD).
- 4) La OSC le indica exactamente cómo notificarla; debe hacerlo exactamente como se indica en los documentos. Solicite al secretario de la petición que le explique cómo debe hacerlo.
- 5) Debe traer el comprobante de notificación a su primera cita en el tribunal.
- 6) La tarifa de presentación que debe pagar al secretario es de \$45.
- 7) Prepárese mentalmente para comparecer ante el tribunal varias veces.
- 8) Continúe pagando su alquiler a menos que reciba una orden de la DHCR o del tribunal que le indique que deje de hacerlo.
- 9) Tenga en cuenta que las reparaciones podrían no estar a la altura de sus expectativas; si el arrendador cumple con lo requerido legalmente, es posible que eso sea todo lo que pueda hacer cumplir.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame al Plan de Servicios Legales Local 237 al 212-924-1220. ■



## Representantes de Servicios para Jubilados

Por **Diana Nappi**  
Directora del Fondo de Beneficios para Jubilados

Nuestras Representantes de Servicios para Jubilados, Emma y Natalia, se especializan en la gestión de Beneficios para Jubilados del Local 237. Están aquí para ayudar a los nuevos jubilados o a los miembros que se preparan para jubilarse con la transición. Muchos jubilados han recibido orientación exitosa durante el proceso de jubilación con respecto a sus nuevos beneficios, así que no dude en contactarnos; estamos aquí para ayudarle.



Recientemente, Emma ayudó a una nueva jubilada que se había mudado fuera del área metropolitana y tenía dificultades para encontrar un proveedor dentro de la red. Emma trabajó con United Healthcare y logramos ubicar a la jubilada en una red más amplia fuera del área para que pudiera utilizar un proveedor dentro de la red, lo que le ayudó a maximizar sus beneficios.

En otro caso, Natalia ayudó a una jubilada que recibía cuidados de hospicio con su documentación para la jubilación. La miembro no tenía a nadie que la ayudara y necesitaba sus medicamentos. Natalia la guio paso a paso con delicadeza para escanear la documentación necesaria a través de su iPhone, de modo que nuestro departamento pudiera completar el proceso de inscripción y la afiliada pudiera surtir sus recetas. Estas son solo algunas de las muchas historias sobre cómo nuestros Representantes de Servicio a Miembros Jubilados pueden ayudar.

### Algunas preguntas frecuentes sobre beneficios dentales y de recetas:

#### Servicios dentales

- Recibirá una NUEVA tarjeta de identificación dental para presentarle a su dentista.
- El máximo anual del plan es de \$1,250.00 para jubilados.
- Los dentistas deberán reenviar cualquier preautorización dental para trabajos importantes que se realicen ahora que su estado ha cambiado.
- ¿Se jubiló fuera del área metropolitana de Nueva York y tiene dificultades para encontrar un dentista dentro de la red? Comuníquese con la Oficina de Bienestar Social y podemos ayudarle.
- Visite UHC en [www.uhc.com](http://www.uhc.com) o llame al 1-877-591-1789

#### Recetas

- Puede visitar el Portal para Miembros en [Aetna.com](http://Aetna.com) o comunicarse directamente con Aetna al 855-352-1599 para verificar si un medicamento está cubierto.
- Consulte a su médico si considera recetar medicamentos que estén en la Guía de Medicamentos de Farmacia (Formulario de Control Avanzado). Puede realizar una búsqueda rápida directamente en el portal de Aetna.
- A veces se requiere una autorización previa para ciertos medicamentos. Su médico puede obtenerla contactando directamente a Aetna.
- ¿Va a viajar y necesita surtir su receta? Contacte al Fondo de Bienestar con dos días de anticipación y le aseguraremos que pueda surtir su receta sin problemas.

### ¿Qué sucede si tengo HIP/VIP HMO?

Participantes elegibles para Medicare que eligen un plan de salud como HIP/VIP HMO. Todas las recetas se reciben con su tarjeta de salud de la aseguradora (Plan Medicare Advantage).

Tarifa de reembolso parcial para quienes eligen esta opción.	\$24/mes cobertura individual \$36/mes cobertura familiar
El pago se envía dos veces al año, generalmente en febrero y agosto.	Individual \$144 / Familia \$216 = (6) meses de prima Reembolso

Si tiene otro plan de Medicare Parte D, no tendrá derecho a este beneficio ni al Plan para Jubilados de Aetna del Local 237.

El Fondo de Bienestar del Local 237 de Teamsters ofrece un ambiente acogedor y confidencial para que los jubilados y miembros acudan a solicitar asistencia con respecto a sus beneficios. Contamos con un equipo de Servicios para Miembros altamente capacitado, listo para ayudarle. Puede comunicarse con nosotros al 212-924-7220 o [welfarefund@local237.org](mailto:welfarefund@local237.org) y estamos ubicados en el tercer piso en 216 West 14th Street. ■

## In Memoriam



To the family of retiree **Mal Patterson**, Local 237's Director of Hearing/Grievances who retired in 2024, passed away 5/7/2025. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family.

## RETIREE news & views

216 West 14th Street  
New York, NY 10011



Affiliate of



JULY/AUGUST 2025

## RETIREES CORNER

### Congratulations



Retiree **Vera Edwards** retired from HPD Hospital Police, shares a photo of her first granddaughter Bobbi Catherine.

## Are you a Veteran?



### Did you serve in any of the U.S. military branches?

If yes, please contact the Retiree Division and share your branch, years of service, etc. with us.

### We want to celebrate you on Veterans Day!

Give us a call  
212-807-0555  
or via email  
retirees2@local237.org



## Bringing the (New Tax) Picture into Focus

by **David Bonington, CFP®**  
Financial Planner, Stacey Braun Associates, Inc.



Today's cameras and cell phones allow all of us to be photographers. By simply pointing and clicking, we end up with an immediate, clear snapshot that can be saved (or discarded in favor of a re-take), texted or emailed, and if worthy, stored or printed for its place in an album.

If you are in retirement, you know it wasn't always like this. You or someone in your family may have been lucky enough to own an early-model Polaroid, which produced immediate but not always clear and color-faithful results (remember all those people with red eyes?) but it was always fun to watch an image form in 60 seconds while you looked on. And if you didn't happen to own that Polaroid? Well, you had to wait about a week for your film to be developed at the camera shop or the drugstore. You waited a week because that process was complex: your film had to be re-spoiled onto a reel in complete darkness within a temperature-controlled room, placed into a light-proof developing tank, agitated in special fluid, slipped into a "stop bath" to halt development, immersed in fixer solution, and washed and dried. And all this to obtain no, not even the picture yet, but merely the negative!

Speaking of progress, recent Federal legislation has provided a picture of Income Tax guidance for the balance of 2025 and for years ahead. Among changes made by this new law, several items are important – very important – for seniors and retirees to understand and eventually take advantage of and apply. But the legislation itself is the "Polaroid" version of the revisions. What remains is for the IRS and other regulators to fashion the legislation into specific, clear, and reliable elements of the Tax Code, and to re-format Form 1040. It's no fun waiting for the "drug-store" to process this "film," but once the guidelines are completed, tax suggestions and recommendations will be able to be (what else?) developed with greater confidence. If you can't wait, in a one-hour phone or Zoom meeting a Stacey Braun planner can go over the currently available "Polaroid version" of changes likely to have an impact on your taxes, and also explain why, alas, Social Security is still Federally taxable. If you can wait, a Fall meeting in October or early November might be enough time for IRS guidelines to have been fashioned, which in turn would permit the planner to offer sharper information and ideas for consideration.

But whether you are more interested in the highlights now or more detail later, by all means take advantage of your benefit and make an appointment. ■

*Free, confidential telephone or Zoom sessions with a Stacey Braun planner can be arranged by calling 1-888-949-1925. No financial products are sold and there is no sales pressure.*

**IF YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED CALL 212-924-7220**

In addition to notifying the union, please contact the Social Security Administration, your pension system, and the Office of Labor Relations. You do not want to miss important information.