

RETIREE

news & views

A PUBLICATION OF LOCAL 237 RETIREE DIVISION

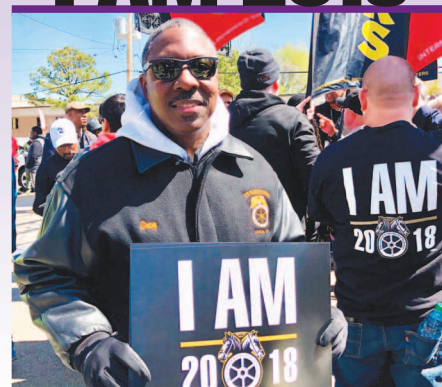
VOL 25, NO. 1, JAN./FEB. 2019



Dr. KING'S PROMISE



I AM 2018



Gregory Floyd honors Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Delegation of From Local 237 In Mourning

There were eleven of them, eleven among 40,000 who had come to Memphis to walk in the march that Martin Luther King should have been in but wasn't because he was dead, cut down by an assassin's bullet. They had come

Many of Dr. King's closest aides wanted to just build on the successes of the civil rights movement that resulted in the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and the Voting Rights Act in 1965. Dr. King disagreed. He wanted to expand his agenda. He insisted on yet another march on Washington, dubbed the Poor People's Campaign. He wanted to move on to other causes... he wanted to help other people in need. To the objections of many of his aides, Dr. King went to Memphis in 1968 to support striking sanitation workers — men who made a \$1.65 an hour and were treated by their bosses like the garbage they hauled. It was there, at a Mason Temple, that he delivered the very emotional sermon "I've been to the mountaintop" in which he said: "I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land." He was assassinated the next day on the balcony of his motel room. Outrage and riots erupted throughout the nation and in the end, the Memphis workers were treated better and allowed to form AFSCME Local 1733. ■

and equality.

World W

He dreamed

do, of a world

Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr.
234 SUNSET AVENUE, NORTHWEST
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

August 2, 1968

Public Services Employees Union
216 West 14th Street
New York, New York

Dear Sirs:

Let me thank you for your contribution and your expression of concern and sympathy following the death of my husband. It means so much to my children and to me to know that there are persons all over the world who share our sense of loss and who also share our sense of re-dedication to the ideals for which my husband worked and gave his life.

Although his span of years on this earth was far too short, we are consoled in knowing that his was a life well spent. In our family, we soon learned that it was the quality, not the quantity, of time we spent together which was important. Even though our family times together were all too brief and fleeting, they were imperishable moments filled with love, warmth, and happiness.

It is indeed gratifying to know that there are persons such as yourself who are willing to share their means to further the cause of justice, brotherhood, and peace.

I solicit your continued support in our common endeavor as we struggle to bring about the realization of my husband's dream.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Historic photos and the letter from Mrs. King are courtesy of the Teamsters Local 237 Oral History Project.

On April 4, they came from across the nation to Memphis—thousands of people including labor leaders, politicians, clergy, teachers and sanitation workers—all waving signs reading: "I AM". They were there to mark the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Many expressed concern that Dr. King's legacy had been either minimized, or sanitized or simply forgotten. The "I AM 2018" signs were an acknowledgment of the effective slogan that sanitation workers used when they were striking in 1968. Their "I AM A Man" cause was what brought Dr. King to Memphis where he was killed. Teamsters played a significant role in the Civil Rights movement of the '60s, and many were on hand 50 years later to show support for a struggle that continues. Local 237 President Gregory Floyd joined the IBT's General President James P. Hoffa and other Teamsters to participate in a special program to highlight the occasion. Mr. Floyd addressed the audience by recalling a recent rally: "When an adorable 9 year-old girl came to the mic, she had to stand on a box to reach it. From the stage, she could see thousands of people, most of them not too much older than her. They carried signs like: "Enough is Enough" and "Stop Killing us." She was greeted with thunderous applause as they waited to hear what she had to say. Little Yolanda King, standing in the very same spot her grandfather stood 55 years before, did not disappoint. Referring to her grandpa's famous "I have a dream" speech, she told the crowd that she had a dream of her own. She said: "This should be a gun-free world. Period!" Yolanda then went on to lead the crowd in a roaring chant that went: "Spread the word, have you heard, all across the nation, we are going to be a great generation." Later, in an interview with CNN, she was asked what her grandfather would have thought of that day's massive rally. This question really makes all of us wonder. What would Dr. King think about other protest movements like "Black Lives Matter", "The Women's March", "Me Too" and "DACA"? and what would he do? As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of Dr. King's assassination, many people are asking that question. A discussion of his legacy can't be just a history lesson. His legacy must live and grow. Surely, Dr. King's work is needed as much today as ever before. Just look around you. Many people are hurting. The true legacy of Dr. King is that the commitment to do what's right when you've been wronged is still alive and will stay alive because his inspiration is deep-seeded and draws upon the best instincts of each generation. He keeps bringing people together." ■



by Gregory Floyd

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

February has been described as the border between winter and spring. To former major league baseball player and manager, Whitey Herzog, the month of February had even greater importance. As Herzog put it: "You sweat the free agent thing in November, then you make the trades in December, then you struggle to sign the guys left in January and in February, I get down to sewing all the new numbers on the uniforms."

The takeaway is that, although February is the month with the fewest days, it's not short on significant days...days of fun and folly and days of remembrance and reflection. From Groundhog's Day, to Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, to Super Bowl Sunday, to Oscar Night, to Thank a Mailman Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day and the Chinese New Year, February has nearly 30 different days on which someone, somewhere in our nation, commemorates an occasion.

Then there's February, Black History Month. It's a time to celebrate and educate on the accom-

a message from the president Owning February

plishments and heritage of black people in America. Its founder, historian Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, along with his associate, Jesse E. Moorland, created the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915 to promote black history and recognize achievements of African Americans.

But they knew that was not enough. As Woodson argued, "If a race has no history, it has no worthwhile tradition, it has a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and stands in danger of being exterminated." So, in 1926, they launched "Negro History Week", on the second week of February, because both President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist Frederick Douglass' birthdays coincided. But it took 50 years for the week to become a month when President Gerald Ford, by decree, created Black History Month.

Today, Black History Month is not without controversy. To some critics, the argument goes that empowerment is not accomplished by one month of recognition. Some find it outdated, only symbolic, and separatist. For me, there's no controversy. Black History Month is not about validation, it's about action. It's an important organizing principle

when we access our current power, strategize ways to harness the potential of those who will lead us further, as well as a time to remember and thank those who have led the way. There are many humble giants who, with their words and actions, changed history. To name but a few:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.—"Everyone has the power for greatness, not fame but greatness because greatness is determined by service."

Jackie Robinson—"Life is not important except in the impact it has on others."

Maya Angelou—"I've learned that people will forget what you said. People will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

A. Philip Randolph—"Freedom is never given. It is won."

Barack Obama—"Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change we seek."

Oprah Winfrey—"Turn your wounds into wisdom."

Although February is a month with only 28 days—add an extra day only every 4 years—it is a month known for celebrating love, a new year and forecasting the arrival of the next season. It's also the month for acknowledging "The Best" in many categories, so, let's not sell February short. Let's own it instead. The telling of Black History can't really be contained to any one period of time anyway...Black History Year? Decade? Century? Never mind. Let's just stick with 'February is Black History Month' and wear it with pride. ■



by Nancy B. True

Director of the
Retiree Division

New York City is a big place. But, that's not a surprise to anyone. Making sure that life in the City runs smoothly – in all of its facets – seems to be a mystery to many New Yorkers. However, from Local 237's perspective, we know about the hard work that goes into making public schools, city universities and hospitals safe as well as cleaning, managing, making repairs to NYCHA Housing and all the work that Local 237 members do to make the City a better place to live. These are just some examples of ways that Local 237 members working in the 250+ job titles we represent contribute to the quality of life of New Yorkers.

Recently, we spoke to some of our members about the work they do. Their answers reflected the

pride they feel in a job well done and in making life a little better for the people of New York.

Charles Newton, a Superintendent at Fort Independence Houses said that he feels he "makes a difference in people's lives." "When you make a repair and fix something you make people smile." Making life better for the (NYCHA) residents makes him smile too.

Charles Robinson, a Caretaker J, who grew up in public housing, and now works at Fiorentino Plaza-Unity Plaza, feels a connection to the residents of his development. In his words, he likes to "spread good vibes by talking with everyone while he works and tries to be a calming presence."

Vera A. Ooft is an Evidence and Property Control Specialist with the NYPD. She finds it very satisfying to work with a wide range of people – police officers, prisoners and crime victims. While helping everyone with matters related to her work, she learns from each group and overall this makes her job interesting, informative and very satisfying.

Taneka Johnson is a Special Officer with the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene. She likes working with people and helping them out. Her job requires patience and understanding and when she can be a help to someone, it makes her feel good.

These four union members reflect the larger group of "unsung heroes" that make up the nearly 22,000 working members of Teamsters Local 237. Their jobs are not easy, they work hard to see that they make the lives of everyday New Yorkers a little better. The recent government shut-down, although it did not affect city workers – made it clear how government workers are critical to the functioning, not only of the City but the country at large.

When these members retire, they know that they will "Retire from Work, but not from the Union." Local 237 has historically believed in life-

long unionism. They know that they will continue to be a part of our fierce and loving union family. They will continue to have pride in the work they did throughout their working lives – and will be strong supporters and advocates for working members. They will march with pride in the Labor Day Parade, The Puerto Rican Day Parade and the African American Day parade as today's retirees do.

Retired members are the foundation of the union and supporters of the City in different ways. Although no longer working, they volunteer and participate in their churches, synagogues and mosques. They work with community organizations to help with activities like holiday toy drives – most recently with the Puerto Rican Family Institute – collecting over 100 toys for children in Head Start programs throughout the City. Retirees participate in the union's Oral History Project – preserving our great history for future generations of union members. They volunteer on committees, such as the Black History Committee, El Comite Latino, The Italian Heritage Committee and the Veterans Committee to develop programming that reflects and celebrates the diversity of our membership.

On June 14th, at Founders Day, we will celebrate 39 years of the Retiree Division. In our words "Why wait until 40?" We will have an opportunity to reflect upon the role of the union and the Retiree Division in your lives. It will feature the Oral History Project, activities of the cultural and Veteran's committees – dancing, song and theater. I'd like to hear from you about what the union and the Retiree Division means to you so that we can incorporate your ideas into the program. Write me at the union or email me (ntrue@local237.org) with your ideas. Let's celebrate our members who make New York City a wonderful place to live – and let's celebrate lifelong unionism. ■

RETIREE news & views

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Martin Luther King, Jr. Program

Thursday, January 17, 2019

Guest artists: **LaVonda Elam and Michael Greene**



Michael Greene and LaVonda Elam



LaVonda Elam and Michael Green with Imani, the director of "Before the Mountaintop there was Memphis... The Lorraine Motel..." as well as the instructor of the Retiree



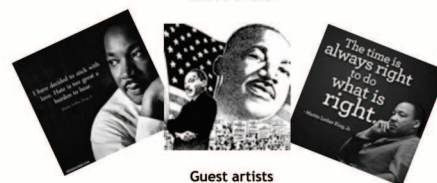
Martin Luther King, Jr. Program



Thursday, January 17, 2019

Place: Marguerite Feinstein Conference Room

11:00 A.M.



Guest artists

La Vonda Elam and Michael Greene pay tribute to King

Directed by Imani Douglas

"Before the Mountaintop there was Memphis The Lorraine Motel..."



LaVonda Elam



Michael Greene



LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

NYLPI

Disability Rent Increase Exemption - (DRIE) Clinic

DO YOU HAVE A DISABILITY AND NEED HELP WITH RENT?

- ▶ ARE YOU 18 YEARS OR OLDER?
- ▶ ARE YOU RECEIVING DISABILITY-RELATED BENEFITS?
- ▶ DO YOU PAY MORE THAN 1/3 OF YOUR INCOME TOWARDS RENT?
- ▶ IS YOUR ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME \$50,000 OR LESS?

FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DRIE, GET ASSISTANCE APPLYING OR RECERTIFYING

DRIE CLINICS WINTER 2019

For an appointment or information, contact us at
DRIE@lenoxhill.org or 212-218-0503, option 0

Please let us know if you need a reasonable accommodation;
necessary transportation will be provided

Be sure to bring:

1. Proof of Age
2. Proof of prior calendar year's household income (tax returns and/or 1099s)
3. Copy of Award letter for State or Federal disability-related benefits (SSI, SSDI, VA disability pension or compensation; or disability-related Medicaid)
4. Applicable apartment documents:
Rent Stabilized: Current and prior leases
Rent Controlled: Documents RN-26 & RA33.10
Mitchell-Lama, Limited Dividend, Redevelopment, HDFC Co-op, Section 213 Co-op: Rent history printout or letter from your management office with the date of your last rent increase, and the amount paid before and after the increase. If this is your first rent increase, specify the date you moved into your apartment.
Rent Regulated Hotel/SRO: DHCR annual apartment registration for current and prior year, AND a letter from management or owner indicating current and prior rents.

AND



LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

NYLPI

Exención del Aumento de Alquiler por Motivos de Discapacidad - (DRIE)

¿TIENE UNA DISCAPACIDAD Y NECESITA AYUDA CON RENTA?

- ▶ ¿TIENE 18 AÑOS O MAS?
- ▶ ¿RECIBE BENEFICIOS RELACIONADOS A UNA DISCAPACIDAD?
- ▶ ¿PAGA MÁS DE 1/3 DE SU INGRESO HACIA SU RENTA?
- ▶ ¿ES SU INGRESO ANUAL DEL HOGAR \$50,000 O MENOS?

ENTÉRESE SI ES ELEGIBLE PARA DRIE, OBTENGA ASISTENCIA APLICANDO O RECERTIFICANDO

CLINICAS de DRIE INVIERNO 2019

Para una cita o información, contáctenos a
DRIE@lenoxhill.org o 212-218-0503, opción 0

Por favor déjenos saber si necesita una acomodación
razonable; transporte necesario será provisto.

Asegúrese de traer:

1. Prueba de Edad
2. Prueba de ingreso del hogar del año anterior (declaraciones de impuestos y/o formulario 1099)
3. Copia de declaración de beneficios Estatales o Federales por discapacidad (SSI, SSDI, Pensión o compensación por discapacidad de veteranos; o Medicaid relacionado con discapacidad)
4. Documentos aplicables a su tipo de apartamento:
Renta Estabilizada: Actual y anterior contratos de alquiler
Renta Controlada: Formularios RN-26 y RA33.10
Mitchell-Lama, Dividendo limitado, Desarrollo Recalificado, Co-op de HDFC, Co-op de Sección 213: Impresa del historial de renta o carta de la oficina de administración con la fecha de su más reciente aumento de renta, y la cantidad pagada antes y después del aumento. Si es su primer aumento de renta, especifique la fecha en la que se mudó al hogar.
Hotel de Renta Regulada /SRO: Registro anual del apartamento ante DHCR del año anterior y año actual, Y una carta de la administración o del propietario que indique la renta actual y la anterior.

Y TAMBIEN

Teamsters Local 237 Oral History Project



Yvette Jenkins

In her own words:

Yvette Ann Jenkins

Senior Public Health Educator

Retired from Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

I retired from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) on June 1, 2010 after 30 years of continuous service to the City of New York. I actually worked at Bellevue Hospital for 9 months in 1968 as a Clerk in Purchasing but resigned because I wanted to go back to school full time. I graduated in 1969 from Fashion Institute of Technology where I majored in Fashion Illustration and Advertising Design and worked in the field for 5 years before getting married and becoming a mother. I also worked as a clerk for the Human Resources Administration (HRA) briefly in 1979 before becoming an Office Aide at the former Cumberland Hospital in 1980.

Eventually, I transferred to Woodhull Hospital where I worked in Nursing Administration, Ambulatory Care, Social Work, Activity Therapy, Psychiatry and the AIDS clinic. During this period, I was majoring in Communications at the College of New Rochelle, DC37 campus, since I was a member of that union and graduated in 1986. I was able to advance from my original title to Office Associate to Caseworker to Community Liaison Worker to Public Health Educator as a member of the Managed Care team. While working at Woodhull, I assembled committees to present Black History and Women's History Month programs for the staff annually. I left Health and Hospitals Corporation

(HHC) in 1996 when DOHMH was recruiting Public Health Educators for its School Health Program. At that point, I became a member of Teamsters Local 237.

Assigned to the Brooklyn field office, I was responsible for covering several school districts in western Brooklyn and Staten Island. My job was to assist the school nurses and physicians in teaching public health issues to students, parents and staff on such topics as personal hygiene, substance abuse and nutrition. DOHMH partnered with the American Lung Association to teach Open Airways for Schools, and asthma management program for 3rd grade students and the Public Health Educators were tapped to teach this curriculum to asthmatic students throughout our regions. I served on the Health Education Committee where we put together posters and brochures to be placed in the medical rooms of our schools. I appreciated the opportunity to use my artistic ability on the job although I have been a freelance artist for many years. Lastly, I was instrumental in planning and obtaining speakers for the School Health annual staff training at the beginning of the school year.

In 2002, I was promoted to the title of Senior Public Health Educator when I transferred to the Bureau of Immunization. I was part of the Health Education and Training Unit which consisted of

Educators, Public Health Advisors and Community Liaisons. We covered the 5 boroughs and promoted the importance of immunizations to parents, students and senior citizens. We did numerous presentations at drug treatment programs on Hepatitis A, B and C, childhood vaccines at W.I.C. programs and adult immunizations at senior centers, staff development and community board meetings, especially during Flu season. We set up tables at several health fairs and coordinated our own events during Hepatitis Awareness Month and National Infant Immunization Week. I was thrilled to be chosen, along with my co-worker to travel to Orlando, Florida to attend a Society of Public Health Educators (SOPHE) conference in 2004. I served on the bureau wide Women's Health Committee to emphasize the historic role that women have played in our nation's health care.

In closing, I must say that I am grateful to Local 237 for the benefits that I have received over the years, especially the optical, since I have worn glasses since I was a child. I also received excellent support from a social worker at the union when one of my sons became disabled and needed assistance. I am truly grateful for the annuity that is another benefit of the Teamsters and I hope to be active in the union as a retiree for years to come. ■



Susan Millisits

Deputy Director
Retiree Division

Create Your Lifestyle in Retirement

So, now that you are retired what are you going to do with your time? For years you have worked. You had a schedule of getting up at a certain time and going to work for eight hours. You worked to provide for your family. And you had a great union behind you ensuring that you would have benefits for you and your dependents in retirement. But what is the next step? In retirement your old schedule no longer exists. You make all the decisions. You can do what you would like to do. Perhaps you would like to travel, pursue a hobby or a range of other activities. Retirement brings change into your life. This change, at sometimes can be very daunting. When you were working, you had a sense of purpose. In retirement, you will need that sense of purpose as well. You will find that your lifestyle may have changed.

At the union, through the Retiree Division, the retired members are offered a way to stay

connected and explore their interests. The retiree education program offers classes for retirees. These classes are a retiree benefit. They are taught by instructors who are professionals in their field. The purpose of the classes is to allow you to explore interests that you have always had but due to working you were not able to pursue. You may find former co-workers are taking classes as well so you can maintain those relationships and make new ones with other retirees. You may find that you have found a talent that you didn't know you had. Some of the classes go on field trips to various museums and explore New York City. Being creative can make your retirement more enjoyable. It also keeps you connected to the union. By taking the classes and keeping up with union activities you will find you have enriched your lifestyle. Who knows what potential you may have!

The Retiree Division offers the following classes to retirees;

Art, Salsa, Tai Chi, Politics and Theater. Coming this spring we are offering a class called Lifestyle. This will be a series of seven weeks of classes. This class will have guest speakers to present on health and wellness and cultural activities offered in New York City.

If you live out of New York City you can pursue your interests by going to senior community centers, churches, synagogues and look into what they may offer. You may consider being a foster grandparent in your local school and help children with their studies. You might like to take classes at a local college to enhance your knowledge. If you like to read you may consider starting a book club with some friends. If you exercise, go walking or are a gardener you could start a club around these activities. The more active you the richer your life will be. ■



Getting The Landlord To Make Repairs

by Sara Wagner, Esq.

Assistant Director of Local 237,
Legal Services Plan

If you have conditions or violations in your home which need to be repaired, including lack of heat and hot water or lack of other services, or have other emergency conditions, you may begin a proceeding against the landlord to force the landlord to make repairs and correct building violations. This is called an HP proceeding, or HP Action.

Before you do this, you should contact the landlord and let the landlord know that the conditions exist, that you want them repaired, and that you will go to court unless the repairs are made. If you write to the landlord, keep a copy of the letter so that you can bring it to court. After you have contacted the landlord, and if the conditions are still not repaired, go to court in the county where your apartment is located, to begin an HP proceeding against your landlord.

When you come to court be sure to bring the name and address of the landlord, or the managing agent, or both. The clerk will give you forms to fill out called an "Order to Show Cause Directing the Correction of Violations (HP Action)." and a "Verified Petition in Support of an Order to Show Cause Directing the Correction of Violation." In your petition you should list all the conditions in need of repair in each room of the apartment and public areas. You should also request an inspection of the conditions from the Department of Housing Preservation and Development by filling out a Tenant's Request For Inspection. If you are seeking emergency repairs, you may not be able to have an inspection prior to the hearing date.

You must submit your signed and completed forms to the HP clerk along with payment of the court fee of \$45.00. The fee must be paid by cash, certified check, money order or bank check. Personal checks will not be accepted. If you cannot afford to pay the fee to start this case, you may fill out a "waiver form" to apply to proceed as a poor person. After you pay the fee to the cashier in the clerk's office you will be given an index number. If the HP Judge approves your application to proceed as a poor person, you will be given a free index number.

The clerk will notarize your petition, and your application to proceed as a poor person if also submitted. The clerk will also assign an inspection date if you requested one. Your papers will be given to the HP Judge, who will review and sign your application. The clerk of the HP part will then assign a hearing date and a date by which you must serve these papers.

After obtaining the signed Order To Show Cause and the Petition from the clerk, you must have the papers served on the respondent and the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) (and the New York City Corporation Counsel's Office if you are proceeding as a poor person). Check the Order to Show Cause for the directions as to how and by when the papers must be served. It may direct that the papers be served by certified mail, return receipt requested. The HP clerk will give you envelopes for service of these papers. Once you have served the papers you must fill out an Affidavit of Service, which is a sworn statement that is filled out after someone is served. This proof of service may be filed with the HP clerk before the court date, or with the clerk in the courtroom on the date of the hearing. The HP clerk will file the original of the petition with the court and give you a copy of the papers. Bring your copy of the papers with you to court on the hearing date, as well as any other records you think are important to your case.

On the hearing date, an HPD lawyer will get your testimony about the conditions and the judge will order the repairs to be done by a certain day, or you can sign a stipulation of settlement (agreement) with the landlord that the repairs will be done. If the repairs are not done, you must go back to court and tell the judge so that the judge can fine or punish the landlord.

Although the Legal Services Plan does not appear for you in an HP proceeding, we do represent you when your landlord is suing you for nonpayment of rent and/or eviction. You can reach the Legal Services Plan at (212) 924-1220. ■



Cost Saving Pharmacy Benefits

by Mitch Goldberg

Director of the Retiree Benefit Fund

In a previous column, I reviewed three cost savings programs that were implemented on January 1, 2019. Lately we have received many calls from retirees asking questions about how these programs work. I thought it would be useful to review the three programs — Choose Generics, Maintenance Choice and Step Therapy. They are an important part of your Retirees' Fund Pharmacy Plan. They are free services that can help you control your costs and manage your medications.

Choose Generics

Generic drugs, in many cases, work just as well as their brand-name counterparts. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) checks them for strength, quality, purity and potency. With the Retirees' Fund Pharmacy Plan, you can get a brand-name drug if you prefer, but you'll pay more for it. If a generic is available, and you choose to get the brand name, you'll pay the difference in cost between the brand and generic plus the applicable copay for your plan. Ask your physician to prescribe generics if they feel it is appropriate. If you're already taking a brand-name drug, you can inquire about changing your prescription. However, if your doctor has a medical reason for you to continue taking a brand-name drug, have them contact Aetna's pre-certification department at (855) 240-0535.

Maintenance Choice

To save a co-pay on medications you take every day, Aetna has developed this program. The Maintenance Choice Program is for drugs that help you control conditions like high blood pressure, asthma, high cholesterol and more. You can save a co-pay when you get 90 days of your medication at a time. That's because under the program one 90-day supply costs the same as two 30-day supplies when you refill month to month. The program offers two choices to receive your medication.

To fill at your local CVS/pharmacy store, you'll need to get a 90-day prescription from your doctor first.

— OR —

For mail order, ask your doctor for two prescriptions: One for a 30-day supply to fill right away. The other is for a 90-day supply to send to Aetna Rx Home Delivery®. Choose from these options to submit your prescription:

1. Mail the 90-day prescription along with a completed order form. You can access the order form online. Visit www.aetna.com and log in to your secure member website. Forms are also available at the Fund office, call (212) 924-7220 and ask for a form to be mailed to you.
2. Ask your doctor to fax in your new prescription, with your completed order form. The fax number is 1-877-270-3317. Make sure your doctor includes your Aetna member ID number, your date of birth and your mailing address on the fax cover sheet. Only a doctor may fax a prescription.
3. Call toll-free at 1-888-792-3862. A representative can contact your doctor on your behalf to attempt to get a new prescription for you.

Aetna Rx Step

In this program, you may have to try less expensive or more common drugs before a drug on the step-therapy list will be covered. Many of the alternate drugs work the same way and treat the same conditions but they usually cost much less. Your doctor might want you to skip an alternate drug for medical reasons. If so, you can ask for a medical exception. Your pharmacist can also ask for an exception for antibiotics and pain medication. Examples of medications that are subject to step therapy are Cymbalta, Abilify, Diovan and Lipitor. To see if your medications require step therapy you can call the number on the back of your Aetna ID card. If you do not have your card, please call Aetna member services at 1-855-352-1599.

If you experience any issue with your pharmacy benefit or need further explanation, please call the Fund office and let our staff assist you. The Fund office receives calls from 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. Monday thru Friday. The phone number for assistance is (212) 924-7220.

Chairman Gregory Floyd and the Local 237 Retirees' Fund Board are committed to ensuring your benefits remain intact with as minimal cost to you as possible and hope that each of you take full advantage of all of your Retiree benefits. ■

on a personal note... Condolences...



Condolences to the family of **Tyrone Powell**, long time Local 237 member and on the Board of the Civil Service Bar Association, who graduated cum laude in the top 10% of his class at law school. Tyrone was also a talented musician, composer, arranger and producer.

RETIREE news & views

216 West 14th Street
New York, NY 10011



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JAN./FEB. 2019

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POSTAGE
PAID AT
NEW YORK,
NY

“

**Our lives begin
to end the day
we become silent
about things
that matter.”**

**We must learn to live together as brothers
or we will perish together as fools.**

Martin Luther King

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

(1929-1968)

**I have
decided to
stick with love.
Hate is too great
a burden to bear.**

**what are
you doing
for
others?**