



Published by TWU Local 100

Transport Workers

BULLETIN

Summer 2016 • Vol. 7 • No. 2

A Summer of Union Family Fun

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GCS CALL CENTER WORKERS – PAGE 11

TWU HELPS TRANSIT GO GREEN – PAGE 4

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AT WEST INDIAN DAY PARADE
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New Contract Campaign Underway

THIS TIME FIVE YEARS AGO, THE MTA, THE REGION and the entire nation faced a genuine economic crisis.

Late 2011's destitute economy made for a bad bargaining environment as we neared the expiration of our contracts with MTA covering TA, OA and MTA Bus members. Instead of setting a strike deadline as the union had done so many times in the past, we adopted a strategy to wait it out and to continue negotiating with the Authority until an economic recovery gained some real momentum.

The strategy paid off. We won a solid contract with raises in every year. We were the only public sector union to achieve that in the last contract go-round.

But that was then and this is now. Mitigating economic factors no longer exist. New York and the MTA are in a much stronger financial situation than 2012. But that doesn't mean that this contract campaign will be any easier or any less acidic.

With the summer behind us, and only four short months until the expiration of our current MTA contracts on Jan. 15, 2017, the union will be expending all its resources on our new campaign to secure an on-time agreement.

The MTA has a history of souring negotiations with unacceptable demands that usually involve cutting jobs and changing work rules. In 2012, those demands included part time bus operators, expansion of OPTO and negative changes to health coverage.

I expect them to come at us hard again. But we will be ready for all contingencies. We obviously have certain lines-in-the-

sand concerning the protection of our work and our benefits that we will not allow the MTA to cross.

I ask that each and every member stay informed. We will be sending out regular updates electronically and by the tried-and-true method of one-on-one interaction. I ask that you be ready to participate in whatever we think is necessary to win a fair contract in a timely fashion.

Productivity and Wages

I recently attended the New York State AFL-CIO's convention in Manhattan. Our State Fed is the largest and most active statewide labor body in the nation.

Gov. Cuomo was one of the headline speakers on Monday, August 22nd. The Governor appropriately focused on the many issues facing American workers. But what particularly caught my attention was his comments on productivity and wages.

He said that in the 30-year post World War II economy, worker productivity went up 97 percent and real wages burst upwards as well. "You produce more, you make more, the company is making more profit, you get paid more," said the Governor. But, in the past 30 years, productivity has jumped 74 percent, but real wages have gone up only 9 percent. "Do you know what that means," asked the Governor. "That means the middle class is going backwards. Nine-percent? That's basically zero. Over the same time, houses went up 20 percent, college education went up 60 percent, and consumer goods went up 30 percent. Your middle class is going backwards."

The Governor then gave transit workers a shout out. "We have a mass transit system that is over capacity, carrying millions of more people than it was ever designed to do, but the TWU workers make it work and they make it work every day."

Those are powerful words coming from the person who is ultimately in charge of the MTA, and who ultimately will have to sign off on anything we bargain collectively with management.

I'm looking forward to it.



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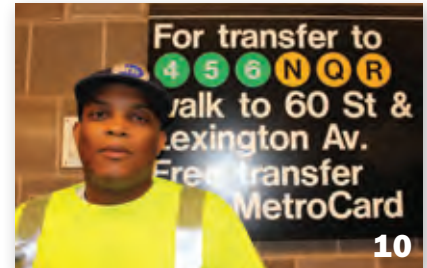
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10 Hero Cleaner Bags Subway Groper

At least one of New York's nastiest is off the streets and out of the subways' thanks to heroic Local 100 CTA Darren Johnson. Darren ran down a suspected subway groper at the 63rd St. Lexington Avenue station after a female passenger screamed for help. He held the suspect until cops arrived.



10

12 Local 100 Scholarship Program Awards 50 New Grants

The TWU Local 100-M3 Technology Scholarship Program lightened the tuition load for 50 more families. Awards were given at a luncheon at the Union Hall earlier this summer. Administrative Vice President Angel Giboyeaux (left), Vice President Tony Utano (right) and M3 Technology President John Pescitelli are shown with one of the winners.



12

18 Union Participates in Dominican Parade

Local 100 President John Samuels and two members are shown at the Dominican Day Parade in August. The union participated in numerous ethnic events over the summer including Dominican Day, Pride Parade, the Puerto Rican Day Parade and the West Indian American Day Parade.



18

33 Union Marks 15th Anniversary of 911

Local 100 sponsored its 2nd annual recognition of the contributions of transit workers in the aftermath of the 911 attacks with a medal ceremony for those who responded. ST Earl Phillips and VP Tony Utano hand out medals.



33

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Front Page Photos
Alan Saly



Secretary Treasurer Earl Phillips is spearheading the union's efforts to provide a healthier workplace. Here he shows off new battery powered scrubber at ENY depot.



Cleaner Helper Mike Welch demonstrates new machine at ENY.

TWU Pushing Green

LOCAL 100 CONTINUES TO PUSH NYC TRANSIT to go green – behind the scenes – and is making progress.

Diesel-powered equipment is used to perform many tasks that the public doesn't see, ranging from the hauling of garbage to cutting rails to removing oil from shop floors.

At the union's urging, the agency has agreed to replace the diesel-powered floor scrubbers, that workers now drive in bus depots, with clean-energy alternatives.

The agency, also because of union prodding, is testing a battery-operated tug that can move subway cars and work equipment on flat track in yards and tunnels.

The ultimate goal is to phase out all equipment that spews diesel pollution, which can cause cancer, severe asthma and other illnesses, Secretary-Treasurer Earl Phillips said. That would create a healthier environment not just for transit workers but also for riders and residents living near transit facilities, Phillips said.

"That is our vision," Phillips said. "That is our fight. Will it happen tomorrow? No, but we're being proactive and prodding management to do the right thing. Soon, we will be enlisting our political allies in Albany to join us on our quest for higher standards and improved conditions."

Phillips met with top transit brass at the East New York bus depot in Brooklyn on Aug. 25 to check out a battery-

powered floor scrubber. Cleaners had been driving the machine for a pilot program that managers and workers deemed a success.

The test model featured better visibility of the floor from behind the wheel, and is easier to fill with the proper combination of water and cleaning solution, Cleaner Helper Mike Welch said.

"It's far better than the older ones," he said.

With union input and worker feedback, transit executives said they were gearing up to solicit bids from manufacturers who could supply clean-fuel scrubbers.

On the subway side, a remote-controlled tug was demonstrated for Local 100 officers at the Pelham yard over the summer. It can pull 330 tons of railcar but only on straight track.

The challenges ahead, Phillips said, include finding a manufacturer to build battery powered tugs powerful enough to climb the inclines of the NYC subway system and tackle the tasks now done by diesel locomotives.

Phillips explained that diesel exhaust is made up of two types of materials: gases and particulates (soot). Gases include carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, phenol, formaldehyde and PAHs (polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons). When breathed in, the particulates carry chemicals in the gases into the lungs where they can cause cancer and cause irritation.

TWU Scores Big on Cleaners Assault Bill

GOV. ANDREW CUOMO SIGNED INTO LAW A BILL THAT fulfills a key objective of Local 100 – increasing penalties for any assault on an MTA/NYCT Station or Terminal Cleaner.

“Subway Cleaners are on the front lines of the biggest transit system in the country and certainly the most violent transit system in the country,” said Local 100 President John Samuelsen. “Our Cleaners have been the victims of unprovoked, unwarranted and unacceptable attacks while working among the 6 million daily riders. This bill, which we fought long and hard for, gives them protection. The tougher penalties should deter anyone from harming a subway cleaner. If they don’t, police, prosecutors and judges should seek the maximum sentence.”

TWU mounted a sustained political effort highlighted by a dedicated lobby day on May 24 in which rank and file Cleaners got on the bus to personally make their case to legislators. Several assaults on transit cleaners this year have highlighted the dangers facing them on a daily basis – especially women who work alone on platforms late at night. Many who attended used their own personal time. Multiple titles from Stations were represented, including RRSW’s, S/A’s and of course CTA’s. The trip and overall lobbying effort was organized by TWU’s Political Action Director, Marvin Holland, and his able staff. But the real credit belongs to rank-and-file Station Cleaners “who took the time to travel to Albany to fight for their rights and respect on the job said Samuelsen.”

Upon signing the measure, Governor Cuomo said: “These workers perform tasks that are vital to the operation of New York institutions and have increasingly become the targets of aggression and assaults. Signing this measure into law will help better protect these employees from harm and I thank the sponsors for their work to get them passed.”

Assemblywoman Diana C. Richardson, who spearheaded the legislation in the Assembly, said, “I thank Governor Cuomo for his leadership in protecting the rights of our hardworking brothers and sisters in New York State. No employee should go to work facing the threat of assault. This legislation will help ensure a



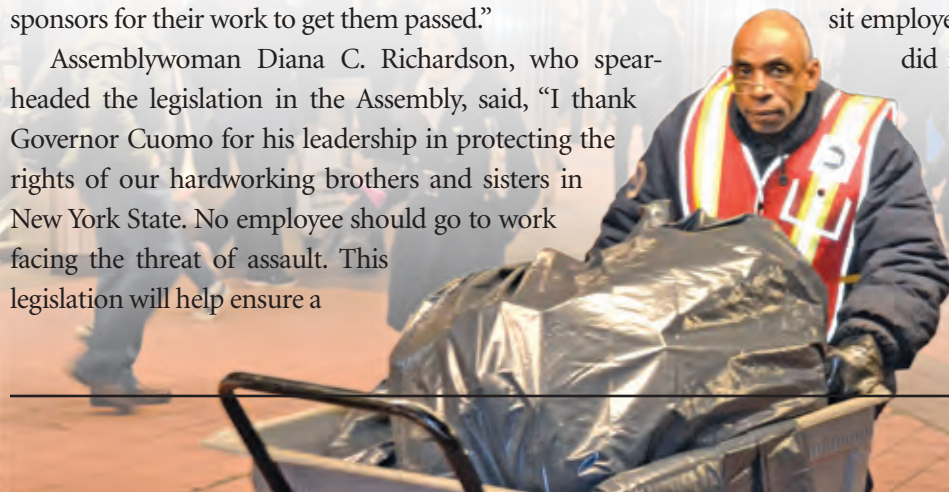
Cleaners Lobby Day in late May helped push the bill over the top. VP Derick Echevarria and Div. Vice Chair (Cleaners) Antonio Roldan are shown.



Stations Division Chair Joe Bermudez (right) at Cleaners Lobby Day.

hardworking and dedicated part of our workforce is properly protected under the law. I am proud to stand with the Governor on this issue and thank him for signing this important piece of legislation.”

Senator Kevin Parker, who carried the union’s message on the Senate side, said, “I enthusiastically applaud Governor Cuomo for signing this legislation into law as the passage of this bill increases the penalty for assaulting our MTA station and terminal workers to a class D felony. Although laws were enacted in 2002 to protect and deter assaults on transit employees while performing their duties, the law did not include station and terminal workers. I am extremely proud to be a part of this milestone achievement and I stand eager to continue working with the Governor and Legislature to pass laws that improve the quality of life of New York State residents.”



Union Scores Major

By Pete Donohue

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

Military veterans who are now working public sector jobs in New York can enjoy early retirement - or bigger pension payments - thanks to a successful campaign spearheaded by TWU Local 100.

Under legislation signed by Gov. Cuomo in May, all veterans with public retirement plans can now buy back up to three years of their military service as time on the job when doing pension calculations.

That means a 55-year-old bus operator who served three years in Afghanistan, for example, will now be able to retire with health insurance after 22 years working for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, instead of the 25 years now required for full benefits under Tier IV.

Another provision allows veterans who are at least 55 years old, and have worked at least 25 years, to get credit for their military service to boost their pension income by between 4.5% and 6%.

"This is a huge victory for Local 100 but more importantly for the men and women who served their country - regardless of when and where they served," TWU Local 100 President John Samuelsen said.

Before the Veterans Equality Act, pre-existing state legislation stated that only certain groups of veterans could buy back three years of pension credit with retroactive retirement plan contributions, including: veterans who were in the armed

forces during WWII, the Korean War or the Vietnam War; veterans who served during "hostilities" in Iraq and Kuwait, and veterans who received certain medals for service during the conflicts in Panama, Lebanon and Grenada.

That left many veterans behind, including soldiers who fought in Afghanistan or participated in peacekeeping missions around the world.

The Veterans Equality Act corrects that shortcoming. It grants the pension benefit option to all veterans - including those who were never deployed into theaters of combat.

Veterans like Train Conductor David Scichilone and Train Operator Eddie Creighton say the correction was long overdue.

"Anyone who was in the military, whether or not they were deployed, raised their hand, pledged allegiance to the flag and swore to protect the constitution and their country," Scichilone, who served in the Army, said. "They took risks. There are training accidents all of the time in grueling military exercises. This isn't a job of picking up the phone and working nine to five in an office."

Creighton, who served in the Navy, said: "All served, all deserve."

While individuals and veterans groups had raised the pension issue with legislators for years, extending the benefit to all veterans became a top priority of TWU Local 100 during Samuelsen's second year as president.

When Samuelsen opened up the floor to questions and comments at Local 100's mass membership meeting at the

TWU VETERANS SPEAK OUT!

Eddie Creighton, 59

Title: Train Operator

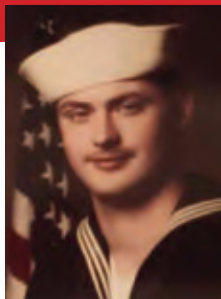
Year of Transit Hire: 1982

Military Service: Navy, 1976 - Feb. 1981

Eddie Creighton had to wait more than a decade to sign up.

"I knew from the time I was seven years old that I was going to go into the military," Creighton said. "I just knew it was something I was going to do, and that's no BS. I thought it was part of your duty."

Creighton, who grew up in Queens, joined the Navy when he



was 19 years old. His father, Brendan, a bus operator, was an Army veteran.

Creighton was on the U.S.S. Texas for its maiden deployment to the Mediterranean and North Arabian Sea during the Iranian hostage crisis. He received a Navy Expeditionary Medal but couldn't buy pension time for his

service until the Veterans Equality Act was passed.

He was hired as a Train Conductor in 1989 and became a Train Operator about 18 months later. He plans on working a few more years before buying his military time and retiring with an enhanced pension.

Win for Veterans

Roseland Ballroom in December 2011, Scichilone stepped up to the microphone. "I told them who I was and about this issue and a lot of people started applauding," Scichilone said. "John Samuelsen said, 'We're going to do something about that.'"

Now retired RTO Vice President Kevin Harrington helped lead the charge. The dedicated contingent of veteran activists and elected Local 100 officers who lobbied legislators in Albany included Scichilone, Creighton, Bus Operator John Owens, current Veterans Committee Chairman Kevin McCawley and committee member Phil Caruano. Local 100's Political Action Committee, headed by Marvin Holland, relentlessly worked the phones and the corridors of the State Capitol Building. Holland also put together a statewide union coalition to press the bill forward.

Their efforts prompted state Sen. William Larkin (R-Orange County) to draft the Veterans Equality Act in 2013. Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (D-Westchester County) sponsored the legislation in the Assembly. Both chambers actually passed the bill in 2013 and 2014 but Gov. Cuomo, citing funding concerns, vetoed it. This time, under mounting pressure from Local 100 and Veterans organizations, and the possibility of a veto-override, Cuomo signed the bill into law.

"All veterans will be rightfully honored and rewarded Harrington said. "None will be left behind."

TWU VETERANS SPEAK OUT!

Hillary Davis, 60.

Transit Title: Work Train Operator

Year of Transit Hire: 1998

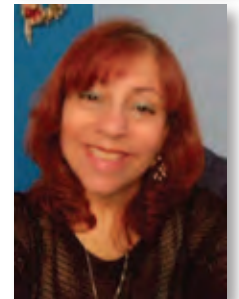
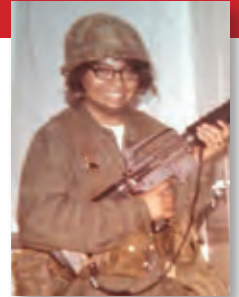
Military Service: Army, 1979 - 1982

Davis, who grew up on Long Island, was traveling around the country with friends when an Army recruitment poster caught her eye in San Francisco in the late 1970s. A recruiter came out to talk to the then 23-year-old Davis, and she was soon on her way to basic training, following in the footsteps of her father, who served in the Army stateside during the Korean War.

"I have always been patriotic," Davis said. "It stems from my parents. They just taught me to love our country and be proud of who I was."

She was trained as a personnel data specialist and spent the majority of her military service in Germany.

Davis, who has 18 years with Transit, was planning on working two more years to retire at 40% at age 62. With the Veterans Equality Act, she's going to explore her new options.



TWU VETERANS SPEAK OUT!

Leonard Spero, 59.

Title: Plant Equipment

Year of Transit Hire: 1993

Military Service: Navy, 1975- 1978

Spero followed his father and two brothers into the military. His father served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. His brothers served during Vietnam: one in the Air Force, the other in the Navy.

"I was 19 years old when I joined in 1975," Spero said. "At the time, I wasn't really doing anything. I was working at Firestone. I wanted a change of pace, to do something different, to



travel, to serve my country. I figured it was my obligation at the time."

An electrician's mate, Spero spent most of his three years in the Navy on the U.S.S. America, which was based out of Norfolk, Va. His service included two seven-month Mediterranean cruises and another long trip to South America.

He has 23 years on the job and sent in paperwork to buy his service credits as soon as he heard the Veterans Equality Act was passed. "I just want to be out and relax," he said. "I did enough time here. I'm going to pay it in one lump sum. I've never been so happy to write a check in my life."



Trampling the Constitution

Mayor Ignores Judge's Vision Zero Ruling

A VISION ZERO LAW THAT MAYOR DE BLASIO USED to arrest non-reckless Bus Operators has been ruled unconstitutional by a Queens judge.

Echoing the arguments TWU Local 100 has made for more than a year in its well-publicized fight with City Hall over Vision Zero's right-of-way provisions, Judge Gia L. Morris in June dismissed criminal charges that police levied against School Bus Operator Isaac Sanson in a right-of-way fatality case. The driver was charged under the "Right of Way" law for allegedly failing to drive with "due care."

But that's too vague a standard for a criminal charge, and wrongly put the burden of proof on the defendant, Morris ruled. The vague "due care" is more suitable for a civil case, Morris wrote in the decision.

Morris sided with the plaintiff's claim that the law violates his right to due process because it imposes criminal penalties without prosecutors needing to prove intent or knowledge of wrongdoing.

"The very fabric of our criminal justice system is that an accused person stands before a court innocent until proven guilty, and is entitled to significant constitutional protections separate and distinct from a civil case," Morris wrote.

TWU Local 100 President John Samuelsen applauded Judge Morris' ruling. "Judge Morris clearly, forcefully and correctly ruled that Bill de Blasio essentially trampled on the constitution, and on the rights of hard working, conscientious MTA Bus Operators," he said. "The judge has validated TWU Local 100's objection to these wrongful arrests in the aftermath of accidents."

"Judge Morris clearly, forcefully and correctly ruled that Bill de Blasio essentially trampled on the constitution, and on the rights of hard working, conscientious MTA Bus Operators."

**-JOHN SAMUELSEN,
PRESIDENT, TWU LOCAL 100**

However, instead of accepting the Court's ruling and simply fixing the Vision Zero language, Mayor de Blasio supports Queens District Attorney Richard Brown's decision to press the case to the next level.

In late July, Brown moved to appeal Justice Morris' ruling. The DA assigned a senior assistant district attorney in his appeals bureau to the case and filed notification with the appellate court.

The Mayor's office claims the Morris decision is non-binding and does not affect the city, or the NYPD because it is a trial court ruling resolving an individual criminal prosecution in which the City was not a named party and that broader injunctive relief was not available, sought or granted.

"This is an important piece of Vision Zero's comprehensive approach to reducing death and serious injury on our streets," Austin Finan, a de Blasio spokesman, said. "We disagree with this court's non-binding decision and will continue to investigate, enforce and charge this law."

TWU's campaign against the arrest of bus operators under Vision Zero included a federal lawsuit, full-page ads in major newspapers and job actions that slowed down bus service.

Heroic Cleaner Bags Subway Groper

CTA Darren Johnson took out the trash – after chasing it down.

Johnson chased a subway groper up four flights of stairs and escalators at a very deep subway station in Manhattan and held the molester for the police.

The man took off after Johnson confronted him for assaulting a 25-year-old woman while she waited with a young child for an elevator on the northbound platform of the 63rd St./Lexington Ave. station.

“I didn’t want him to get away because maybe he would do it again to someone else,” Johnson said. “I have a 17-year-old daughter. When you hear about something like this you think that it could have been your daughter or mother or someone that you know.”

Police charged the suspect, Leonardo San Juan Godinez, 20, of Queens, with forcible touching and sex abuse, and led him from the subway station in handcuffs, authorities said.

Johnson was in uniform on the platform when the visibly-upset woman pleaded for help.

“That guy just fondled me,” she said. “He just groped me.”

Johnson called out to Godinez to stop walking when Godinez bolted. Johnson pursued him up 106 steps before catching him near the turnstiles in front of the token booth.

“He reached into his pocket like he was going to grab something and I said to myself, ‘I’m not going to get stabbed here,’” Johnson said. “I grabbed both his arms and held him.”



Stations Vice President Derick Echevarria (left) and rep Paul Flores (right) came out to congratulate Johnson for his heroism.

The station agent alerted the RCC and the police.

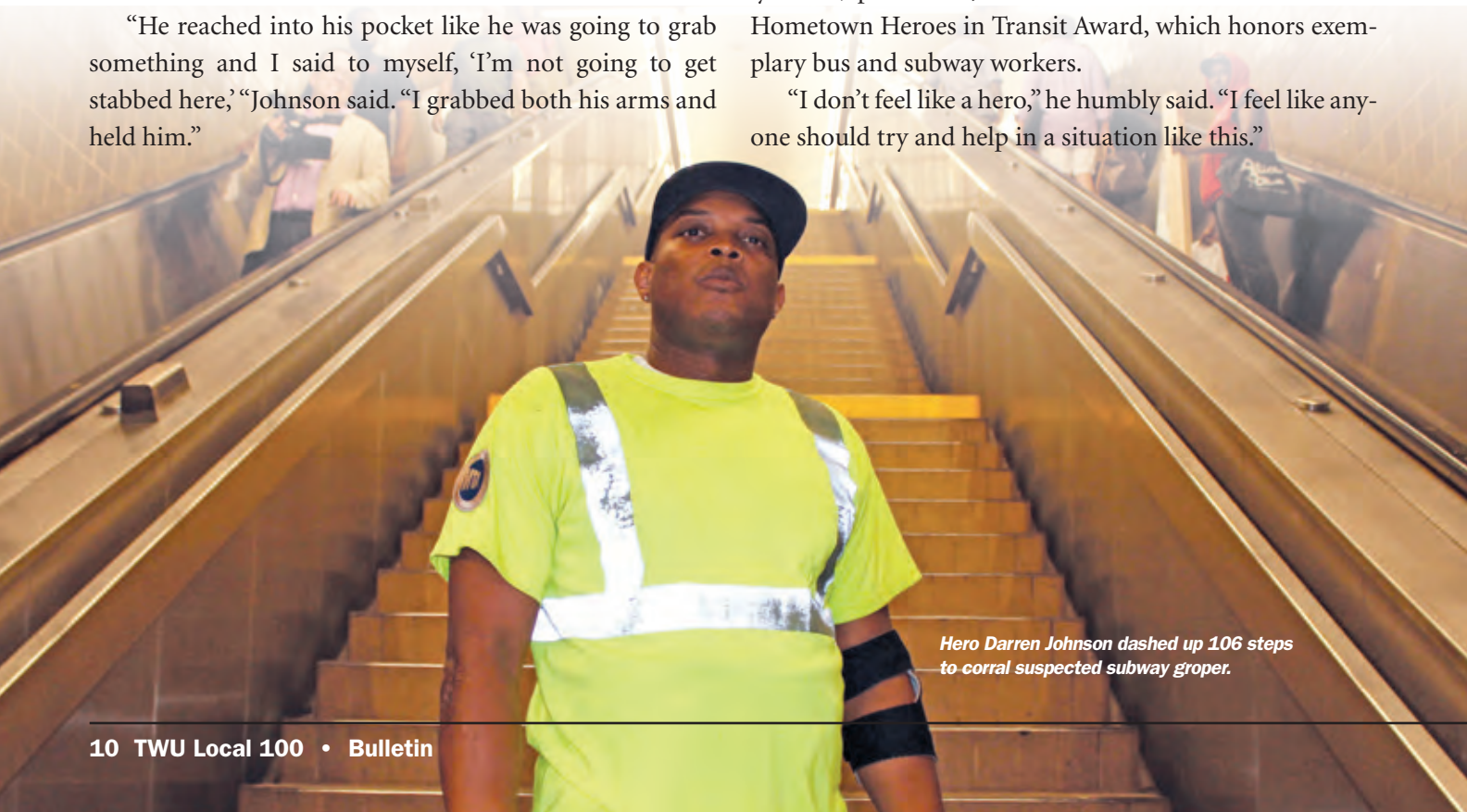
Johnson didn’t have much time to catch his breath. Minutes after the police and suspect left, Johnson was in the booth getting a NYC Transit form to file his report when someone ran to the booth and said there was a fire by the street entrance.

Johnson grabbed the fire extinguisher and extinguished the blaze, crediting his training from the union and NYCT with knowing how to handle the situation calmly.

“This was the craziest day of my life,” he said.

Dan Rivoli, transit reporter for the New York Daily News, predicted Johnson would be nominated for a Hometown Heroes in Transit Award, which honors exemplary bus and subway workers.

“I don’t feel like a hero,” he humbly said. “I feel like anyone should try and help in a situation like this.”



Hero Darren Johnson dashed up 106 steps to corral suspected subway groper.



Photo shows one of the rallies outside GCS in Long Island City. This one brought out Public Advocate Letitia 'Tish' James and City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (center).

Union Cheers 1st Contract for GCS Workers

THE APPROXIMATELY 730 UNDERPAID, MISTREATED and overwhelmingly minority women workforce at the Access-A-Ride call center will get significant percentage raises - and job security – with a first union contract negotiated by TWU Local 100.

The newest TWU members ratified the contract in near unanime fashion, 378-10.

“We took on an anti-worker, anti-union contractor from the South and won a major victory,” Local 100 President John Samuelsen said. “It was a long and hard fight that lasted two years. But we stayed united, fought together and can be proud that we are bringing significant and positive changes to hundreds of working families.”

Recently hired call center workers, employed by GCS, will see their pay rise from \$9 an hour to \$15 an hour – up 70% - by the end of the contract.

More experienced workers now making \$11 an hour will see their pay rise to \$15.40 – up 40% - over the life of the agreement.

Perhaps more importantly, the contract with GCS, which is a private company retained by the MTA to operate the Queens facility, also brings workers the ability to challenge and appeal disciplinary actions by management. Union officers can take cases to an independent arbitrator when a worker is being wrongly or unfairly punished.

“GCS no longer can run roughshod over GCS workers,” Samuelsen said. “We’ve not only secured vastly improved wages for our brothers and sisters but also a mechanism to defend their right to be treated fairly and with respect.”

Local 100’s coordinated multi-front campaign to secure a contract included putting a spotlight on the company’s brazen mistreatment of workers. The New York Times, The Daily News and other media outlets reported on the paltry pay and astronomically high number of firings at the call center.



The TWU negotiating committee for GCS show off first union contract for the call center workers.

Local 100 filed a discrimination lawsuit against GCS while both current and fired call center workers repeatedly brought their complaints – and pleas for help – to the MTA board.

NYC Transit and the MTA Inspector General’s Office launched separate investigations of GCS operations. One board member vowed to seek termination of the GCS contract if the company didn’t clean up its act.

Samuelsen, meanwhile, let the MTA board and GCS know that Local 100 was prepared to strike.

“We put a lot of pressure on GCS and forced them to the negotiating table,” Frank McCann, chief Local 100 organizer said. “It was a textbook campaign.”

Local 100 won the right to represent call center workers during a heated contest against two other unions and GCS management in 2014. The company is headquartered in Salisbury, NC, about 50 miles north of Charlotte. GCS chief Greg Alcorn has touted his company’s success at keeping GCS union-free. Days before the election, Alcorn jetted to NYC to urge workers to reject unionization.

The union emphasized that the workers perform a vital service to New York’s disabled and elderly communities, the main users of Access-a-Ride services, and that they were not being compensated properly for this work.

50 More Students Awarded



Scholarship winners and families gather for group shot with Local 100 President Samuelsen, VP Tony Utano, and M3 Technology President John Pescitelli.

FOR THE SIXTH YEAR IN A ROW, COLLEGE-BOUND children of good standing members got a financial head start thanks to grants provided by M3 Technology, the union's voluntary insurance administrator for life, disability, critical illness, home owner and auto benefits. Annually since its inception in 2010, the program presented \$1,000 grants to 25 winners. But this year that number was increased to 50.

That brings to 175 the number of young people who have received the scholarships.

"Every little bit helps considering the skyrocketing costs of college tuition," said Local 100 President John Samuelsen.

This year's awards were presented to recipients at a luncheon at TWU headquarters on May 20, 2016. President Samuelsen and M3 President John Pescitelli announced at the event that the commitment to the program will double again next year.

All Local 100 members in good standing are eligible to submit the names of spouses, children or grandchildren (or themselves) who are entering or attending a 2 or 4-year college.

Student loan debt in the US has reached a staggering \$1.2 trillion, and the average 2015 graduate will have to repay more than \$35,000.

And it's not just the private colleges and universities. Costs for state institutions are increasing as well. In 2015-16, the average tuition and fee prices for in-state students at public four-year institutions ranged from \$4,890 in Wyoming to \$15,160 in New Hampshire. New York is around \$8,000 and New Jersey approaches \$13,000.

"As president of M3 Technology, it is my privilege to participate in the sixth annual Local 100 Scholarship Awards established by your President, John Samuelsen" said Pescitelli. "This year M3 Technology is sponsoring 50 scholarships for the children and grandchildren of Local 100 members. There is a saying going around that we need to make America great again! I don't believe that because America has never stopped being great! It's up to you, the scholarship recipients today to make America even greater! So, put down your laptops and other electronic devices and dream. Dream of a better world without disease and hunger, and you can make it happen. Congratulations to all of the winners, their parents, and grandparents. We'll see you next year."

Local 100 Scholarship Grants

2015 M3 Technology, LLC - TWU Local 100 Scholarship Winners

STUDENTS

Kimberly Coggins
Ashley Coggins
Jake Interrante
Lori Hutchinson
Celena Gonzalez
Isaiah Springer
Mohammed Raffik
Devendra Chrisandut
Cameron Dion Brown
Tianyu She
Karen Sepulveda
Tamra Boodie
Sabrina Gallagher
Edlynn E. Williams
Phylicia Sinclair
Danny Puma
Aaron Gardner
Yeraldin Tejeda
Jennifer Landron
Jerry Mathai Parackel
Ryan Sharma
Denisse Murillo
Lilyana Lopez
Christina A. Slaughter
Joselyne Aucapina
Anu John
Katrina Badree
Jazmin Johnson
Kamali Lowe
Tia Hamilton
Christian Cangiano
Alena Gibbs
Allison Boodoo
Alexandra Gambino
Patrick J. Meehan
Xosa Lewis
Alexandra Fuentes
Joel Ayoade Benjamin
Haaziq Walker
Caleb J. Lopez
Daniel Morales
Brandon M. Dingle
Navanita Saha
Vincent Fensore
Nicole Collymore
Jevadhi Neale
Khadijha Shiniqua Kipp
Samuel D. Aponte
Carmela Nittoli
Victoria Fung

COLLEGE

University of South Florida
Case Western Reserve Univ.
Bentley University
City College of NY
Manhattan College
Buffalo State
Hunter
Essex County College
William Paterson
SUNY New Paltz
New School University
CUNY Brooklyn College
F.I.T.
West Virginia University
Howard University
Hunter
Morrisville State College
Lehman
Iowa
SUNY Old Westbury
East Stroudsburg University
Connecticut
Hunter
Rutgers
Hunter
LIU
Valencia College
Albany
Hampton University
College of Westchester
Stony Brook
Hunter
John Jay
SUNY Cortland
SUNY Delhi University
Clark Atlanta University
Nassau Community
Quinebaug Valley CC
SUNY Farmingdale
Kean University
LaGuardia CC
Norfolk State University
Rutgers
Sacred Heart
Penn State
LIM College
Oakwood University
Bloomsburg University
NYIT
Boston University

TWU MEMBER

William Coggins
William Coggins
Vincent Interrante
Richard B. Hutchinson
Ernesto Gonzalez
Isabelle Louis
Ahmad Ally Raffik
Chetpaul Chrisandut
Darren Brown
Shen She
Maria Jimenez
Errol Boodie
Michael Gallagher
Edward E. Williams
Noel Sinclair
Carlos Puma
Glen Gardner
Salvador Tejeda
Gerald Landron
Parackel M. Mathai
Ramnarine Sharma
Mery Villa
Leticia Galvan
Welton M. Slaughter
Juan Aucapina
Alex John
Hurdis Badree
Trevor Johnson
Phillip Henry
Jessica Hamilton
Joseph Cangiano
James R. Gibbs
Lall Boodoo
Frank Gambino
Eugene P. Meehan
Orin Lewis
John Fuentes
Linden Benjamin
Celeste Walker
Miguel Lopez, Jr.
Alba Morales
Donnamae Dingle
Nirmal K. Saha
Domenico Fensore
Lawrence Collymore
Fitzroy Neale
Aubrey F. Kipp
Luz Burns
Rocco Nittoli
Kwok H. Fung

DEPARTMENT

MOW-Power
Mow-Power
MOW-Power-Third Rail
RTO T/O
Stations S/A
Retiree
Stations S/W
CED
RTO C/TR
MOW LES
MABSTOA
MOW Structure
RTO T/O
RTO T/O
MTA Bus B/O
MOW Power Third Rail
PBL Liberty
CED
RTO C/TR
MOW Structure
PBL Liberty
N/A
PBL School Buses
RTO T/O
MABSTOA B/O
CED
PBL Liberty
CED
TAS Maintenance
RTO C/TR
Property Protection
N/A
MOW Structure
CED
RTO C/TR
MOW Structure
RTO T/O
MOW LES
MOW Power
TAS B/O
TAS B/O
TAS B/O
MOW Structure
TAS B/O
Stations S/A
MOW LES
TAS B/O
RTO C/TR
Bus Operator
TAS B/O

Espallat Takes a Victory Lap with TWU

After State Sen. Adriano Espallat's stirring primary win on June 28 to replace the retiring Charlie Rangel as Representative for the 13th Congressional District, he took a bit of a victory lap around the neighborhood with TWU Local 100 members and officers by his side.

Espallat's primary win practically guarantees his victory in the November election in the massively Democratic district. That would make him the first Dominican-born American to ever be elected to Congress. He would also be the first person elected to Congress who was once an undocumented immigrant. TWU volunteers went all out in support of the Espallat campaign.

Espallat's victory was rewarded with a speaking slot at the Democratic Convention in late July.

He told the Convention delegates about his immigrant experience, and said: "For us immigrants our commitment to this country isn't always found in our papers, in our documents."

Espallat greeted TWU Local 100 President John Samuelsen on the floor of the Convention with a handshake and heartfelt 'thank you' for the union's help in his recent victory.

Espallat also appeared at a post-primary event hosted by Local 100 and the NAACP's NYCHA Chapter in central Harlem at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.



With TWU members and kids from the neighborhood.



Local 100 Secretary Treasurer Earl Phillips (right) with Espallat on night of primary win.



Adriano Espallat with Local 100 President John Samuelsen and other officers and members prior to neighborhood walk.



Alfredo Perez got 4 years in prison.

Bus Operator John Browne addresses media at court after sentencing of his attacker. He is supported by Local 100 officers including TAS Vice President J.P. Patafio, Division Chair Willie Rivera, Louis Marrero, Keith Wilkes, Carlos Saliva, and (partially obscured) Armando Serrano.

Union Lauds Tough Sentence

Perp Gets 4 Years for Assault on Bus Op

A TRANSIT WORKER FINALLY GOT JUSTICE.

A knife-wielding lunatic slashed Bus Operator John Browne on the neck in Brownsville, Brooklyn, nearly two years ago.

This summer, Browne watched a Brooklyn Supreme Court justice sentence his attacker, Alfredo Perez, to four years in state prison. “Today is a victory for me and for all Bus Operators,” Browne said. “Mr. Perez assaulted me and today he paid the consequences. I’m pleased in my heart, and I would like to see more of these kinds of actions by the justice system.”

Browne was concerned – and rightly so – that Justice Michael Gary might simply sentence Perez, 31, to probation, counseling and community service, or to a month or so in a local jail. Judges and prosecutors rarely if ever throw the book at criminals who abuse and assault Bus Operators, Train Conductors and other vulnerable transit workers. But Gary said Perez’s actions were far too serious to warrant a slap on the wrist. He also cited a pre-sentencing evaluation that concluded there was a “moderate to high risk” Perez would commit violence again if freed.

Browne was waiting outside a bodega for an MTA tow

truck to come for his disabled bus when Perez, a walking time bomb, erupted. Perez apparently thought Browne, a soft-spoken married father of six kids, was looking inappropriately at his girlfriend. So, spewing curses, Perez charged Browne and slashed him with his knife, causing an approximately six-inch gash. Browne is permanently disfigured with a raised, puffy and painful-looking scar. It starts behind his left ear and extends down onto his neck. “He could have killed me,” Browne said after the sentencing. “My kids could be growing up without a father. My wife could be left without a husband.”

Before leaving the courthouse, Browne said he wanted his case to serve both as a warning and an example. “If you assault a Bus Operator you are going to get caught,” Browne said. “You are going to be arrested and sentenced to prison.”

TWU Local 100 President John Samuelsen struck a similar note. “Hopefully, we’ve turned a corner on the problem now, and hopefully tougher sentences become the norm rather than the exception,” Samuelsen said. “Until judges and others start looking at assaults on transit workers as a heinous event against society we’ll see subpar sentences and that is not acceptable.”

TWU Guiding Next Generation of Apprentices

MAKING GOOD ON A COMMITMENT TO SECURE transit jobs for young New Yorkers, TWU Local 100 hosted a welcome breakfast for 27 high school grads from five area technical schools who are looking to join New York City Transit.

18-year olds from Transit Tech, Queens Vocational Technical School, Thomas Edison, Westinghouse, and Bronx Design and Construction came to the Hall to consider NYCT's offer of careers in transit. These tech school graduates – selected by their Principals for the apprenticeships – will start the three-year training in late summer, which will culminate in an offer to become a Maintainer within MOW and eventually sit for a civil service test.

Moving local area kids into transit has been a long-held goal of TWU Local 100, one that has been prominent in talks with clergy and politicians over the years.

Addressing the room of apprentices, TWU Local 100 President John Samuelson spoke proudly of the Union's history in fighting for good jobs and working conditions – and noted that it was Local 100 that broke the color barrier in transit careers back in the 1940's. Also present were Secretary-Treasurer Earl Phillips, Recording Secretary La-Tonya Crisp-Sauray, MOW VP Tony Utano, whose Department will absorb the apprentices, LES Division Chair John Chiarello, and others.



Vice President Tony Utano talks to high school students interested in careers in transit.

Funding is provided by NYCT, but the Union's advocacy for apprenticeship programs dates from 1999. But funding was elusive. When he gained office, President Samuelson renewed the union's commitment to the idea and secured funding from transit to move ahead with it.

Enthusiastic and ready to sign up with NYCT was Quincy Jefferson, who just graduated from Transit Tech in Brooklyn. No members of his family have been transit employees, but Jefferson has always liked trains and tech. He's looking to put his training in electrical engineering into service. Quincy and other tech graduates enjoyed the breakfast and gathered in groups to ask TWU officers about the work they would be doing. MOW VP Tony Utano answered questions from a group of tech grads, many in pressed shirts. He jokingly cautioned them that they'd be over-dressed for field work.



High School students listen to presentation at TWU headquarters in Brooklyn.



Ghostbusters 2016 Gets Thumbs Up from TWU

LOCAL 100 MEMBERS WHO WERE TREATED TO A special July 15 screening of the Ghostbusters reboot – in which Leslie Jones plays an NYCT Station Agent who joins the all-female team – more or less liked what they saw on the big screen.

Stations Executive Board Member Vanessa Jones said that her namesake screen star “kept it real in the booth and with the customers, like we all do. And I liked that she knew the history and geography of the City. We do learn a lot about [New York] from working in the system.”

Station Agent Theresa Green, who has 23 years of service, said, “I felt she was believable as a Station Agent – until she went down onto the tracks. Because that is not part of our deal. Now people are going to go the booth and ask us if we can do that when they lose their cell phone.”

In the film, Station Agent Patty Tolan has an encounter with a ghost in the subway tunnel near her booth that impels her to call on the Ghostbusters for help – and ultimately to convince them that she’ll be essential to their success. Along the way, she challenges a graffiti artist who spray paints a station platform and has words with a customer who ends up being an integral part of the plot.

Jose Domenech, a CTA with 16 years on the job, went to the TWU screening with his wife and 9-year-old daughter Felicity, who got a kick out of posing with studio aides



dressed in Ghostbusters outfits. Along with fellow Station Agents and CTA’s, they enjoyed the free movie, with popcorn and soda courtesy of Sony Pictures. Joe saw one technical error: “Leslie Jones’s character had a red pass. That was wrong.”

But he had no criticisms of her acting: “Station Agent Patty Tolan was the badass of the group. She was the one who set the tone. She said, I’ve quit a good paying job in Transit for this?”

CTA Chair Joe Bermudez also called Jones “very believable as a Station Agent, she was as nice as could be,” and saluted her characterization as a savvy New Yorker who earned her way onto the Ghostbusters team of scientists. “She was their equal,” he said.

TWU'ers Show Pride in Dominican Heritage



Public Advocate Letitia "Tish" James stopped by to greet marchers.

It was 10 degrees cooler and a little less humid in the Dominican Republic on Sunday August 14 than it was on 6th Avenue in Manhattan. But that didn't seem to matter to the estimated 32,000 marchers from TWU Local 100 and 400 other groups who participated in sweltering heat at this year's Dominican Day Parade. Thousands more waved a sea of red,

white and blue Dominican flags and cheered from the sidewalks on the mile-long march from just north of Herald Square past Bryant Park to 52nd Street.

State Sen. Adriano Espaillat, who is poised to become the first Dominican-American to be elected to the U.S. Congress after his recent victory in the New York Congressional primary for the 13th



President John Samuelson with State Sen. Adriano Espaillat at parade.



CD, put on a TWU cap and marched the entire parade route with the union delegation.

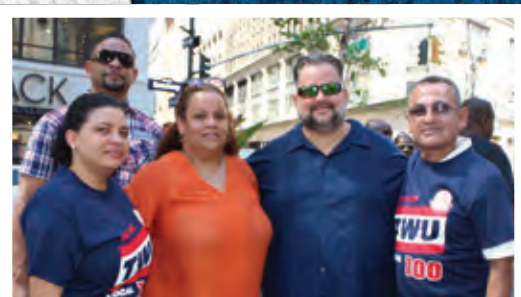
City Councilman Ydannis Rodriquez also marched with TWU.

The festivities for the sizeable TWU contingent, led by President John Samuelsen and Vice Presidents Richard Davis, Derick Echevarria and Kia Phua, kicked off at 11:00am with

a sidewalk “brunch” of traditional Dominican food provided by the union.

Public Advocate Letitia “Tish” James stopped by to pay her respects and take some photos with the TWU group.

A number of members came straight from work to show their pride in their Dominican heritage.



Quality Transportation Members Ready for New School Year

TWU's School Bus Division members, including TWUer's at Brooklyn's Quality Transportation, are ready to transport America's most precious cargo, our children, for the new school year. Good luck to all our brothers and sisters who do this vital work for our communities.



TWU-NYCT Sponsor Health Fair at Quill

The swing-room at Quill Depot was turned into a health fair in the latest of the union-management effort to encourage healthy lifestyles for transit workers.

TWU Local 100 partnered with management in the summer of 2015 to launch the Health Fair series.

The fairs include awareness seminars, screenings and "how to" classes on healthy cooking and eating,

First Aid, exercise equipment demos, and much more.

Representatives from the health care carriers show up to answer questions on benefits, and health professionals do screenings on blood pressure, cholesterol, blood glucose, vision testing, and more.

Free lunch (healthy fare of course) is provided at the fairs.



Recent health fair was a big hit at Quill Depot. Cholesterol and other screenings were part of the fair. Wraps and salads for lunch. A good start to healthy eating.

'An Officer and a Gentlewoman'

Local 100 Mom Proud of her Air Force Graduate Daughter

WHEN YAIRA DIAZ WAS A LITTLE GIRL IN THE Dominican Republic, she daydreamed about being an officer in the U.S. military, wearing a crisp and shiny uniform that commanded respect, just like the characters on her favorite television show, JAG.

In June - just 12 years later - Diaz's daydream became reality when she graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. She received her diploma from none other than the Commander in Chief: President Barack Obama.

"I couldn't believe it," Diaz, 23, said. "I was just standing there and looking at him in shock. I actually don't remember what he said to me or what I said to him. It was incredible."

Diaz's proud mother, Local 100 member Gayda Saroli, who works in Supply Logistics, and her equally proud father, Joseph Saroli, a field rep with the Teamsters, traveled to Colorado from Queens to attend the regal ceremony.

"There is a message in her story," Gayda Saroli said. "If you have a dream, any kind of dream, it is possible. That's the message."

When Diaz was about two years old, Saroli came to the United States determined to provide a better life for her daughter. Diaz remained in the Dominican Republic with Saroli's parents.

She first worked at an auto parts store in the Bronx before moving up to a union job in a warehouse.

"Whatever money I made I sent to my parents for Yaira's education," Saroli said who also worked as a civilian in the NYPD before joining NYC Transit.

Saroli was finally able to bring her daughter to the United States in the summer of 2004. Yaira was 11 years old and only knew a few phrases in English when she started fifth grade at PS53 in Maspeth, Queens.

"The only thing I was able to understand was math because

it's numbers," Diaz said. "It was pretty horrifying sitting there with kids talking and laughing all around you and not knowing what was going on."

Diaz took extra English classes after school and on weekends. She worked hard, spending many hours in the public library, and flourished in class and on the volleyball court.

She was captain of the Christ the King High School varsity volleyball team that won the Brooklyn/Queens Division II championship in 2010.

Diaz was starting to think about college when she began seeing military recruiters in the high school hallway.

"Every time I'd see them in uniform I really admired them," she said. "I just knew I wanted to be there."

About 9,500 kids apply to the Air Force Academy each year but only 1,400 are accepted, Lt. Colonel Peter Clunie, Diaz's recruitment officer, said. More than a

few don't make it through boot camp or the Academy, which can be punishing both academically and physically.

Diaz struggled mightily with some courses. She had to repeat Chemistry and Engineering after initially flunking them, she said.

"Overall, it was pretty stressful," she said. "Stress was my best friend."

She was buoyed, however, by the camaraderie shared with her other cadets, she said. And as always, she had the constant support of her parents, she said.

"They never doubted me," she said. "They were always extremely helpful."

At the end of the day, however she was the one who took the tests, ran the many miles in rain and snow and did more pushups than she can remember.

"She has drive and ambition and tenacity, and she's making the most of the opportunities this country has to offer," Clunie said. "Graduating from the Academy, and being able to serve and lead, is a tremendous achievement."



Proud parents Gayda and Joe Saroli with Daughter, Yaira, at grad ceremony.

Yaira getting diploma from President Obama.





RS LaTonya Crisp Sauray (right)
C/TR Chair Crystal Young at parade.

Union Colors Fly at West Indian

TWU Local 100's pride in its Caribbean-American heritage and the union's growing political clout in the City and State were on full display at this year's West Indian Day Parade on Eastern Parkway in Brooklyn.

TWU Local 100 got the festivities started early at the Labor Day event. The union's huge procession featured a large float on a flatbed with a DJ blasting Caribbean tunes – following a custom-made union banner, then brought up with an NYCT bus and several hundred marchers. In addition, eight dancers on stilts and others in flamboyant costumes made the TWU's contingent the most eye-catching as the parade began.

State Assemblywoman Diana Richardson, who was instrumental in the passage of the Cleaner Assault bill,

proudly marched with TWU, and a host of other politicians from both City and State government stopped by to greet the union's officers and rank-and-file members.

Local 100's top four officers – President John Samuelsen, Secretary Treasurer Earl Phillips, Recording Secretary LaTonya Crisp-Sauray and Administrative Vice President Angel Giboyeaux – all marched. President Samuelsen and Secretary-Treasurer Phillips were acknowledged by Governor Cuomo and invited to march with him at the head of the parade.

Phillips especially enjoyed the celebration of his Caribbean roots. He was last year's Grand Marshal.

Jerk chicken was served to members and guests, along with other Caribbean favorites.

TWU's marchers line up for a group shot.





LES officers including John Chiarello, Charles Jenkins and Sherlock Bender with Admin. VP Angel Giboyeaux.



Day Parade



The union's top four officers – President Samuelsen, ST Earl Phillips, RS LaTonya Crips-Sauray and AVP Angel Giboyeaux – with NYs Comptroller Tom DiNapoli (2nd from right).



Gov. Cuomo cuts the ribbon on the 2016 West Indian Day Parade as President Samuelson (far right) and other dignitaries join in.



TWU Local 100 Family Day

Brings 10,000 to Coney Island

TWU Local 100 reached a milestone on June 6 when 10,000 (FDNY estimate) members and their families came out to MCU Park in Coney Island for another fabulous, sun-filled Family Day. Right down the block from Nathan's Famous, our hot dogs and burgers were free, and so were the drinks. With the sound of surf overpowered by the pulsing music at Local 100's tailgate parties, fun times began at 10 AM and continued until sundown. Local 100 President John Samuelsen and other top officers welcomed our members as they arrived, enjoying a day when management misdeeds weren't part of the conversation.

There was face painting and bouncy castles for the kids, vendors with give-aways and raffles, dancing and fun for the

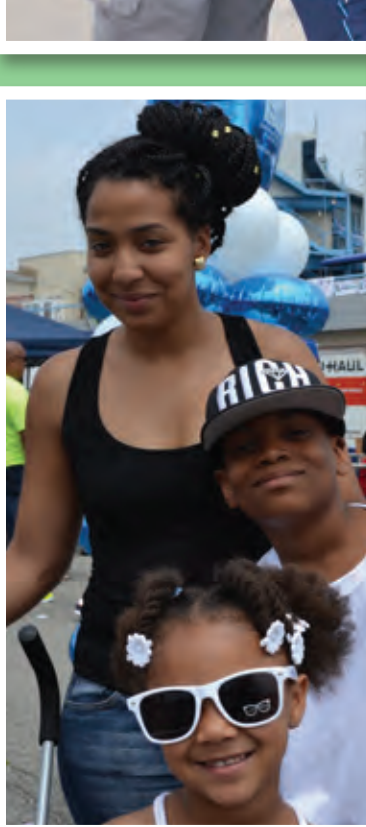
adults. A big screen TV was won by Bus Operator, Ellisha Flagg.

The adventurous walked over to adjacent Luna Park for extreme rides and other attractions (at reduced rates thanks to Local 100).

Family Day attendees also got to meet and greet a special guest, NBA Hall of Famer and St. John's legend Chris Mullen.

Inside MCU Stadium, a wellness fair sponsored by the Union and the MTA brought nutrition tips, CPR training, and blood pressure checks. The softball games provided a welcome opportunity to sit in the shade and see the TWU Local 100 team best other competing TWU Locals including Locals 101, 501, 252 and 229.

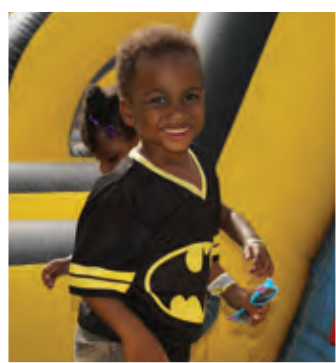
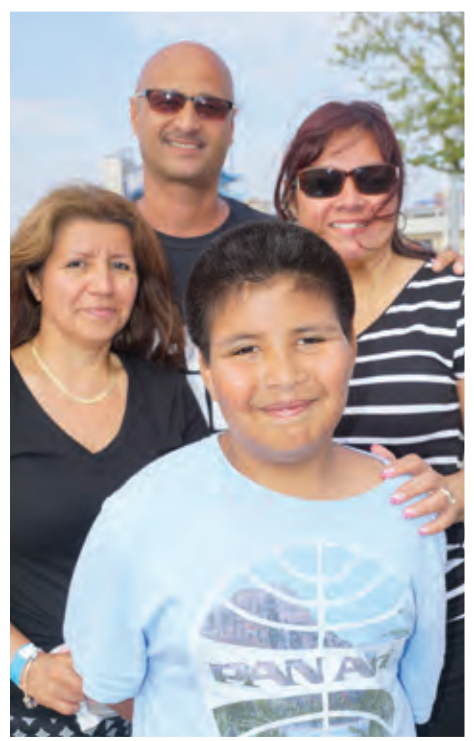




Family Day 2016

Continued from page 21





Family Day 2016





HS Interns Get Real Life, Real Transit Experience

By Pete Donohue

The kids are coming.

There's always turnover when you have a workforce so massive that it exceeds the population of many cities. But the MTA could be undergoing an unprecedented transformation in the near future.

Retirements - and resulting job openings - are coming at a very rapid clip.

Exams are going on constantly. They're pulling so many people off hiring lists the rosters are regularly exhausted. And the pace is expected to pick up. Approximately 40% of the MTA's 65,000 employees are currently eligible for retirement, or will be eligible to retire in the next couple of years.

This poses a series of recruitment challenges for management. It also presents valuable opportunities for city kids who don't see college in their immediate future - and for the union itself.

"There's been a lot of talk during this presidential election about there not being any good jobs out there," TA Surface Vice President J.P. Patafio said at NYC Transit headquarters in August. "Let me tell you something. At NYC Transit, there are good jobs, and because of the union, you get health benefits, a pension, and a good wage you can raise a family on."

Patafio was talking to 25 high school students who just completed a new Transit summer internship program. Union officers like Patafio, TA Surface Maintenance Division 1st Vice Chairman Pete LiCausi, and Division Chairman Danny Ascona took leading roles in the six-week program, which gave the teenagers hands-on experience



Students with TWU maintains ??????? could not read.....please send

working alongside Local 100 transit bus mechanics, electricians, carpenters and plumbers.

The students came from five city Career & Technical Education (CTE) high schools: Alfred E. Smith, Thomas A. Edison, Transit Tech, William E. Grady and Bronx Construction & Design. The Department of Education paid their wages.

"It was a wonderful experience," Calvin Bradford, 17, a senior from Brooklyn, said. "They go through the step-by-step operation. They make sure you don't just take an engine part, remove it and put it back, but also understand what that part is doing in the engine. High school is small stuff: oil changes, tire rotations. Here we got the bigger picture."

The big picture also included an early introduction to TWU Local 100 and the labor movement. Students worked side-by-side with Local 100 members and heard how medical benefits, pensions and wage increases weren't simply handed down by the benevolent bosses but secured by the union.

With programs like this, Local 100 can begin their indoctrination before they even get their first Transit paycheck, ensuring TWU is even stronger and more unified in the years to come.





Mike Cordero answers questions about pensions. New class, at right of transit workers hear about pension benefits from Mike Cordero and James Manzella.

Welcome to TWU Local 100

Every new transit worker gets a special “Welcome to TWU” orientation before embarking on his/her career in transit. The new members spend a day at TWU’s union hall in Brooklyn to go over benefits, meet union of officers, and listen to veteran workers.

Local 100 President John Samuelson, who tries to greet as many of the new employees as possible, said that the

union orientation program is a key element of embracing the new job.

“Transit workers will be facing all sorts of challenges on the job, whether it be long hours, abusive bosses, dangerous work conditions, or nasty passengers,” said Samuelson. “It’s very important that our new members know that they have a strong union standing behind them 24-7.”



New Stations members with Local officers, including VP Derick Echevarria (center rear), Tareque Ahmed, Antonio Roldan and Lynwood Whichard.



New class of Bus Operators with officers from TAS, including Willie Rivera, Louis Marrero, and Keith Wilkes.



President John Samuelson greets newest members of a Stations Division class.

Career Criminal Arrested in Arson Attack on Station Agent

In a crime reminiscent of the bad old days of crack-fueled robberies, a career criminal with five felony convictions was arrested in mid-August and charged with lighting up a gasoline-soaked rag and shoving it into the money slot of a station booth to force the Station Agent to give up cash.

The late-night attack on Friday August 12, 2016 at the Nostrand Avenue station on the #3 line in Crown Heights left Station Agent Percillia Augustine-Soverall fearful and in shock when the halon system in the booth came on to douse the fire, filling the booth with a white cloud of fire retardant.

Local 100 President John Samuelson told the press: "This was a cowardly, evil act against a transit worker who was simply doing her job. New York is able to work because we run the subways and buses every day. But our members

face countless dangers, including arson attacks, while providing this vital public service."

The perp, Everett Robinson, 51, has been charged with the crime, he was arraigned in Brooklyn Criminal Court. He has an extensive rap sheet including a five-year stint in jail for robbery.

TWU Local 100 is demanding that Robinson pay the maximum possible penalty for this horrific crime against a transit worker.



Station Agent Percillia Augustine-Soverall, experienced hellish assault attempt.

TWU Secures MTA Pledge to Help Create Manufacturing Jobs in U.S.

Manufacturing in New York state and the rest of the country will get a potential \$3.2 billion shot in the arm, thanks to a national campaign to bring blue-collar jobs back to our cities and towns championed by TWU and the pro-labor group, Jobs for Move America.

After more than a year advocacy by TWU leadership, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Gov. Cuomo's office agreed to offer railcar producers additional incentives to increase manufacturing in the United States, instead of shipping the work overseas. Bids for an estimated \$3.2 billion contract to build 1,025 MTA subway cars will be rated in part on the strength of their "U.S. Employment Plan," transit officials said.

The MTA is instructing potential bidders to include in their Employment Plans such information as the number of domestic jobs they would create, where they would create them and what wages they'd pay employees.

"This is a huge win for workers in New York and across the United States," Local 100 President John Samuelson said. "Taxpayer dollars that are used to buy equipment like subway cars should create good quality manufactur-

"Taxpayer dollars that are used to buy equipment like subway cars should create good quality manufacturing jobs here, not overseas."

—John Samuelson
President, Local 100

ing jobshere, not overseas. We in TWU urge transit agencies across the country to adopt a similar pledge to use the power of local tax dollars to create good middle class jobs in their own regions."

Samuelson and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. secured a good bit of prime real estate in The New York Daily News on July 14 with a convincing Op-Ed piece that urged the MTA to put strong job-related language in the railcar RFP.

Jobs To Move America, a coalition that includes labor, environmental and civil rights groups, provided the MTA with a blueprint and legal framework for crafting a U.S. Employment Plan, along with data from academics.



Twelve Local 100 members, who became ill after their service in the 9/11 response, show their medals with Secretary Treasurer Earl Phillips and Vice Presidents Tony Utano and Derick Echevarria joining in.

Honoring Transit's Responders on 15th Anniversary of 9/11

It's been 15 years, and the 3,000 transit workers who served at Ground Zero are older and grayer. Some 200 aren't with us at all. All were honored by President John Samuelsen and the union leadership on September 7th at Local 100's 2nd commemoration of what transit workers accomplished at the World Trade Center site on 9/11 and for weeks and months thereafter.

The event included the presentation of medals and pins to those who served, and a photographic exhibition, documenting in pictures transit workers' central role in the rescue and recovery effort.

President Samuelsen, who was a 9/11 responder, remembered the day as an all-out, unrelenting effort to do what had to be done after the towers came down. Guest speaker City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley called 9/11 "an attack on our way of life," and saluted the role of transit at the site. Since Samuelsen became President, Local 100 has been recording interviews and obtaining photographs from the attack on America, and the true dimensions of transit's efforts at the site have become clear.

Almost from the instant the towers went down, transit workers all over the City were told to stop their current work and stand by for new orders – then to head down to Ground Zero with all of the heavy rigs in transit's inventory. Our photographs – supplemented by images from New York Times photographer Aaron Lee Fineman, and the Baltimore Sun's Jeff Makely – show transit workers excavating mountains of rubble, moving crushed vehicles and debris so emergency responders could get to the scene, supplying fuel for generators, repairing cables, and operating massive cranes. Photos document our members shoulder-to-shoulder with fire, police, and EMS – but having a broader role than they did.



Guest speaker, City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley with President John Samuelsen.

Two staffers from the National September 11th Memorial and Museum, Joshua Walker and Hicks Wogan, attended and expressed interest in photos documenting transit's efforts. So did three others from the 9/11 Tribute Museum, which represents 9/11 families and has several Local 100 members volunteering there as guides.

Twelve current and retired TWU Local 100 members received large medals honoring their service. All have become ill from their Ground Zero service, and some have cancers that are cutting their lives short. About 60 members received the union's 9/11 participation pin, which goes to anyone who can demonstrate that they served at Ground Zero.

The union's photo exhibit on 9/11 is currently being displayed on the third floor of the Union Hall.

TWU Celebrates at Puerto

By Noah L. Rodriguez

TWU LOCAL 100 TOOK OVER THE STREETS OF Manhattan to celebrate the 59th annual National Puerto Rican Day Parade on Sunday, June 12.

With over 400 members and families in attendance dancing to salsa music, enjoying the best of Puerto Rican cuisine from Arroz con gandules (rice and peas), Pernil, Yuca, Alcapurria's and more, Local 100 represented the Boricua Way.

From the morning on, scores of Local 100 members swarmed the meet-up location on 46th street for some grub, tee-shirts, hats, and flags.

Salsa dancers clad in Local 100 shirts transformed the middle of the streets, surrounded by floats, into a dance floor.

As the festivities continued, Local 100 raffled off goodies that represented the culture of the enchanted island by giving away baskets full of Goya products, hats made from palm leaves, and Pilón's (mortars) perfect for mashing up garlic, plantains (for mofongo) and other Borinquen delights.

TWU Local 100's leadership also celebrated by honoring our newly recruited cadets with a first time pinning ceremony. The young troops, lead by Jose Domenech (Stations) marched gallantly holding up the Puerto Rican, American and our very own TWU Local 100 flags.

The weather was perfect for such an event as there wasn't a cloud in sight! By the time we began marching, it felt as if we were on the very Island itself. TWU Local 100 walked/ danced up 5th avenue, to the cheers of 1.5 million spectators holding giant Puerto Rican flags and singing to the music spun by our very own DJ Jose Palacios (Bus Operator/ Liberty Lines).

Among the flags representing TWU Local 100 and Puerto Rico was our message "Save Puerto Rico from Drowning" encouraging law makers to reinstate Puerto Rico's right to file for Chapter 9. That right was mysteriously removed in 1984 and since has not been an option for the island. The Spanish language newspaper, El Diario la Prensa, was also on hand distributing copies of their Sunday edition which featured our ad recognizing the Puerto Rican community in transit as well as fighting for Puerto Rico's right to file for chapter 9.

If there's one thing you can say about TWU Local 100 and the Puerto Rican Day Parade, is that we know how to show the city that we move New York. Segue Palante!



Rican Day Parade



SALVEN A PUERTO RICO DE AHOGARSE

Vamos todos juntos a enviar un mensaje a Washington, DC

¡Vida, libertad y búsqueda de la felicidad! Hay que restaurar la autoridad legal de Puerto Rico y aplicar el Capítulo 9 para poder reestructurar su deuda y salvar su economía, empleo, escuelas y demás servicios públicos vitales.

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TWU Local 100 saluda con orgullo a la comunidad puertorriqueña de Nueva York.



Unión de Trabajadores del Transporte Local 100
John Samuelsen, President
Angel Giboyeaux, Vicepresidente Administrativo
Earl Phillips, Secretario Tesorero
Lafonia Crisp-Sauray, Secretaria de Registros
195 Montague St., Brooklyn, NY 11201
www.twulocal100.org

Westchester Picnic an

Nearly 800 transit workers from the School Bus and Private Operations Division and their families enjoyed a fabulous picnic with first-class entertainment at Redmond Park in Yonkers on July 9. It was the union's third picnic at the same venue.

TWU Local 100 Administrative Vice President Angel Giboyeaux, who organized the outing, said: "It was an awesome event, everyone had a really good time, and I'm very pleased that not only did many members from Liberty Lines and many Westchester school bus properties show up, but we also had members come from Quality Transportation in Brooklyn."

Mirroring much of the fun at the TWU Local 100 Family

Day at Coney Island, there was face painting and bouncy castles for the kids, loads of food and music, and a thrilling magic show.

President John Samuelson, Secretary Treasurer Earl Phillips, Recording Secretary Latonya Crisp-Sauray, and Vice Presidents Tony Utano and Pete Rosconi attended the event. Samuelson used the occasion to announce that TWU Local 100 is making an aggressive bid to help secure bus routes planned for the new Tappan Zee Bridge for Local 100 members. He pledged that the Union would continue to make a substantial investment of resources in the Private Operations and school bus properties.



‘Awesome Success’





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Union Pride on Display at LGBT Parade

TWU Local 100 turned out in numbers for the 2016 NYC Pride Parade along with thousands of marchers from many organizations, including many of the City's unions. Democratic Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton marched alongside Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio and a host of dignitaries.

The march's message of equality took on an added urgency this year, as the parade fell just two weeks after the mass shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. Local 100 Recording Secretary Latonya Crisp-Sauray and MaBSTOA Vice President Richard Davis led the TWU contingent.

Members from all divisions attended the march which goes from 36th St. and Fifth Ave. south to Christopher and Greenwich Streets.



Recording Secretary Latonya Crisp-Sauray (standing center) and Vice President Richard Davis (3rd from right) led the Local's contingent.



Group shot of some of Local 100's contingent at the NYC Pride Parade. Below, Marchers show pride in TWU Local 100.





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Bangladeshi-American Picnic Has Record Turnout



President John Samuelsen, Recording Secretary LaTonya Crisp-Sauray, VP Tony Utano and LES Chair John Chiarello with Ex. Bd. Member Tareque Ahmed and picnic organizers.

Nearly 500 members and their families turned out at this year's Bangladeshi-American TWU Local 100 picnic, easily a new record for the popular event.

Local 100 President John Samuelsen, Recording Secretary

Latonya Crisp-Sauray, Vice President Tony Utano and LES Chair John Chiarello attended. Executive Board member Tareque Ahmed helped organize the event, which this year was held at Sunken Meadow State Park on Long Island.



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Clarence Little, Retired Executive Board Member, Passes

TWU LOCAL 100 MOURNED THE passing August 9, 2016 of retired Executive Board member and RTO 'A' Division officer Clarence Little, one of the early members of the New Directions Caucus that brought a new generation of leadership to Local 100. He was only 58.

Brother Little started as a Car Cleaner in 1985 and later gained a promotion to Train Operator.

His older sister, Nellie, said: "Clarence loved driving the train. He was very proud as a native New Yorker that you didn't have to have a car to get around. Just jump on the train or a bus."

"Whenever anyone complained to him about the subways or buses not being on time, he would tell them, 'you know that guy who delivers the mail despite snow or rain or heat



Clarence Little

or gloom of night, well he rides with me," she recalls with a smile.

Retired Local 100 Recording Secretary Noel Acevedo, a close friend, said "Clarence was a person of high ethical standards. He was a very principled man." Noel remembers that he took great pleasure in representing his co-workers against management. His sister, Nellie, agrees. "Clarence loved a good argument."

A lifelong resident of Harlem and a die-hard Yankee fan, he attended All Saints Catholic Grammar School and then went to Food and Maritime High School on West 13th Street "because he loved to cook," recalls Nellie. "He was a good cook, and insisted the family call him the Grill Master. He had an apron that declared him the 'Grill Master, the Man, the Myth, the Legend.' It was one of his prized possessions."

He is survived by three sisters and a host of friends.

TWU Mourns CTA Harold Richardson, 47

Co-workers were stunned by the passing of CTA Vice Section Chair and Shop Steward Harold Richardson, a 15-year transit veteran who suffered a stroke in March. He was being cared for at hospice and had been in a coma for some time. CTA Division Vice Chair Antonio Roldan, Jr., who knew him well, said: "What he brought to his co-workers is immeasurable. He was a great person and a caring friend. He gave 100% in this union and to our department. He always spoke his mind no matter what."

Stations VP Derick Echevarria said he will be greatly missed. He cared deeply about the people he worked with." Local 100 Director of Education Nick Bedell, who guided him through Shop Steward training, recalled that "when Harold spoke up you couldn't miss his deep baritone. He was an active Steward who was very good at motivating others to join the union cause."

Brother Richardson leaves his daughter, Cassandra, 14, and his wife, Michelle, also a CTA.



Local Unveils New Plaque to Officers

The union unveiled a plaque in August honoring union officers who passed away during their terms of office, starting with five names from the past 10 years, including Kevin Malusson (Track), Pete Foley (LES), Duane MacMenamie (LES), Richard Bermudez (MaBSTOA 1) and Renee English (Structure). President John Samuelsen (shown holding plaque) honored the deceased officers, and praised Executive Board Member Edwin Benjamin for the concept, and for getting the plaque made. It hangs in the lobby of the union hall on the 3rd floor.



The Union Flame is Still

By James Gannon

TWU Local 100 and International President Sonny Hall, now 84, has been retired from the rough and tumble world of big time union politics since 2004. When he left the job after more than a half century as a proud dues paying member and officer of TWU, he was one of the most respected labor leaders in the country. But Sonny still has the fire in his belly to fight for his beloved brothers and sisters of TWU.

WHEN HAROLD “SONNY” HALL, LOCAL 100’S sixth President and one of TWU’s most memorable and charismatic leaders, came on the job as a Bus Cleaner at the old 146th Street Depot in 1953, the union was in the midst of its epic fight for the five-day, 40-hour work week in the private bus industry.

Sonny now recalls with a chuckle: “I was way ahead of the union on that one. I was on the four-day work week.”

Unfortunately for the young transit worker, the company bosses weren’t all that amused.

“I remember getting taken out of service for my poor time and attendance record. I wasn’t sure if I would get fired, but I was sure I was going to get a long suspension,” Sonny said in a recent interview.

He credits union organizer Frank Gavin with saving his job. “Frank was a veteran union rep. He went into the hearing with management and really fought for me. When he emerged from the meeting he told me that I was going back to work the next day but also told me that if I kept doing what I was doing I was going to end up on the street,” Sonny said. “That cured me of my time and attendance issues.”



Then Local 100 Vice President Sonny Hall and officer Paul Caiozzo holding the court order enjoining the 1980 strike.



Then Local 100 President Hall (right) addresses shop gate meeting at 207th St. shop.

But ironically, the positive interaction with the union was not Sonny’s springboard to his union career.

“I really wasn’t a union activist in my early years on the job,” he recalls. “But I did like to go to union meetings to find out what was going on.”

It was his good record of attending those meetings that finally got him involved. “Our depot chair at 146th Street was retiring, and the person who was running for the job, Jimmy Hood, needed someone else on his slate. I was one of the few people who had the required number of meetings to qualify, so Jimmy asked me if I would run with him. That’s how it all started.”

Burning in Sonny Hall



Then Senator Hillary Clinton with Sonny at event in Washington.



Celebrating election victory at TWU International Convention in 1997 with Exec. Vice President Frank McCann (right) and Sec'y Treasurer John Kerrigan.

Sonny was born January 30, 1932 in the Bronx. His father, Harold Sr. was a Bus Operator at the 100th Street Depot. "My dad was Harold, and I didn't particularly like being called Harold too so he started calling me 'Sonny' and it stuck. I'm sure a lot of people over the years didn't even know my real name."

Sonny served in the military as an Army MP at a nuclear facility in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He had enlisted in the Marines when he was 16 with his older brother's papers, but was sent home after being discovered.

He started out with Omnibus as a cleaner and shifter and then moved to Bus Operator.

Despite his initial reluctance to get involved in the union, once he did his trajectory was straight up.

He formed a team with his partner Jimmy Hood. "If you were ever in trouble, Jimmy is the guy you'd want in your corner. He was relentless. Management was never right in Jimmy's eyes. He would just push and push until they finally caved in."

He served as Vice Chair at 146th Street beginning in 1964 with Hood as Chair. "We must have done something right for the members, because we kept getting elected."

During the City-wide transit strike in 1966, Sonny was assigned to picket outside the old City jail where TWU In-

ternational President Mike Quill and other union leaders were being held after their arrest for defying a court order. "I was at the press conference where Mike Quill famously told the judge to 'drop dead in his black robes.'"

He also recalls that "it was freezing cold on the picket-lines. The police supported us by coming outside to give us coffee and donuts. We felt like we were fighting for all public employees."

Sonny continued his climb up the ladder. When the union went out on its second city wide strike in 1980, he had risen to Vice President for MaBSTOA Division 1. "I told the reporters that the Executive Board was split and we were really going to strike. They thought we were crying wolf, but we weren't."

As Vice President, Sonny was responsible for all contracts for the private bus companies. He oversaw an 11-week strike against New York Bus Service in 1984.

In 1985, the Executive Board thrust Sonny into the role of President when then Local 100 President John E. Lawe moved up to TWU International President after the unexpected death of William G. Lindner.

For the next 9 years, he guided Local 100 through three major contracts with the MTA and numerous other agreements with the private bus lines.



With Gov. Mario Cuomo.

In 1991, he succeeded in launching Local 100's Union Assistance Program (UAP), which he personally negotiated with then Gov. Mario Cuomo after the tragic Union Square crash on the L line that claimed five lives. The Train Operator was arrested for being intoxicated and spent five years in jail.

"Everyone hated management's EAP because it was punitive. I insisted that ours be completely confidential and non-disciplinary," Sonny recalls. "It's my proudest achievement. It's helped so many transit families over the years."

As President, he also instituted the bargaining unit protection program to preserve the union's traditional work, and bring back in-house some of the contractors' work. He beefed up the union's political department in Albany as well.

In 1993, Sonny was elected TWU International President, a position he held until his retirement in 2004. During this time, he broadened TWU's brand nationally, and launched an aggressive buildup of the union's political operation on Capitol Hill.

In 1998, he was elected President of the 2-million member AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department, where he brought all elements of transportation labor together into its most unified political force in decades. His influence was felt in Congress, the Federal Agencies overseeing transportation and the White House.

Looking back on his amazing career, Sonny always begins and ends with his beloved days in the trenches fighting management with Local 100.

"I think the one thing I can point to in life is that



President Bill Clinton and Sonny Hall at Washington reception.

the good Lord allowed me to a union officer," Sonny said recently. "I loved every minute of it even when I was getting booed. I miss it every single day. I would come back in a minute. Being a union man is very important to this country."

Sonny continued: "Was it fun, oh absolutely. I was just a normal joe who liked to play the horses too much. But the union gave me direction. I really enjoyed saving a worker's job."

Sonny's wife of nearly 65 years, Maureen, passed away a few years back and that has left a giant void in his life.

Sonny always wrote his own columns for the union newspaper, and he did so with great passion.

In his final message as International President to TWU members in the September 2004 edition of the TWU Express, he revealed once again the selfless dedication to the union that had always marked his career.

Here's what he said: "One should never forget where they came from. Here in New York City, where I was born, TWU Local 100 was my life, as it was for my dad.

"I leave TWU as an active member, but will always pay dues to my Union until the day the good Lord takes me.

"Regrets, sure I have a few, mistakes—heck, yes, but I did my very best, and I am proud of what I have accomplished and I am proud that I have respected every TWU Sister and Brother, even when we disagreed.

"This is your union; understand that it is a working person's partnership. One must not always take from their union, we must give of ourselves as well."

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