



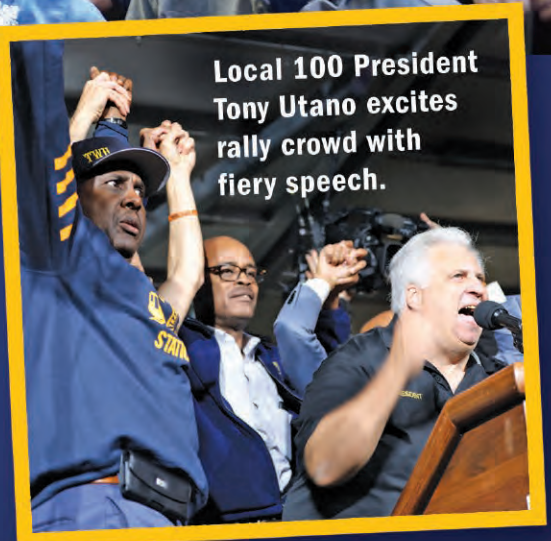
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# Transport Workers BULLETIN



## 10,000 Strong Rally Boosts Union To Contract Victory

Members Ratify 4-Year Agreement With 2-1 Ratification Vote. PAGES 4-11





## Unity Above All Else

OUR CONTRACT BATTLE WITH THE MTA WAS A good fight, and an even better win for us and our families.

The membership put a giant exclamation point on the victory by ratifying the agreement in overwhelming fashion.

Thank you so much, brothers and sisters, for standing by me and the elected leadership of Local 100 throughout this long and difficult process. Together, we decisively turned back a determined effort by the MTA to strip our contract of vital benefits and job security provisions.

We secured a contract that provides a wage package that beats current inflation rates, and beats the economic packages won by the city unions.

It also holds the line on healthcare and provides other important gains.

But, most importantly, we have won an agreement that provides security for ourselves and our families for four years.

The MTA came gunning for our wages, our healthcare, our work, our sick pay, and vacations. They wanted to turn solid middle class full time jobs into substandard part time employment.

The MTA attacked us for months in the press and disgracefully tried to paint all transit workers as overtime cheats and no-shows undeserving of a fair contract.

We fought back with every tool in our arsenal. We effectively exposed the MTA for its ridiculous spending on outside consultants, as well as its reprehensible practice of

blaming its workforce for its own gross mismanagement. It was trench warfare with the bosses for more than 6 months.

Then came our breakthrough contract rally. On October 30, 2019 more than 10,000 transit workers showed up at the MTA's doorstep at 2 Broadway to speak with one voice that transit workers are a united force and that we were ready for anything to get a fair agreement.

The sea of workers was an amazing sight to behold from the stage, where I was joined in solidarity by labor leaders from the ATU, the LIRR, Metro North and the City and State labor movements.

That rally crumbled management's resolve to stand against fairness for its workforce. The final result is the agreement that our TA, OA and MTA Bus members just approved in landslide fashion.

In the final analysis, transit workers proved that a unified workforce is still the most potent weapon to defeat a powerful company.

### A Full Plate for 2020

With this battle now behind us, we can move on resolutely to other priorities. We have a number of expiring agreements, including our members in the MTA's Career and Salary titles. We also have contract battles ahead for some of our school bus companies and privately operated bus companies.

The Albany political season has already begun, and we have several important bills we will be championing this year. This is also a vital election year both on national and statewide levels. We will be very active to insure that friends of labor and the working class make it to the halls of power in Albany and Washington, DC.



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**Manny Agosto**

**Gus Moghrabi**

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# Transport Workers

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**BULLETIN**

## 16 Union Presses Case for More Car Cleaners

Numerous politicians, including Rep. Adriano Espaillat, joined TWU in demanding that the MTA restore Car Cleaners to terminals often left unmanned at nights. The union used a campaign named "Trash Train" to draw media interest to the fight.



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## 18 5th Annual 911 Remembrance

Local 100 awarded 911 commemorative medals to numerous transit workers who participated in the post 911 work at Ground Zero, with special recognition for 13 workers who were made ill because of the toxins they were exposed to.



18

## 22 Walking for the Cure

Local 100 turned out for the "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk in the Bronx in October. Local 100 President Tony Utano, Recording Secretary LaTonya Crisp, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Vice President Peter Rosconi were among the marchers for TWU.



22

## 40 Italian Night Celebration Honors Sal Montanino

Special guest at the 2019 Italian American Night event was Sal Montanino, who retired recently after 61 years on the job, most of them at the 207th Street Main Shop. Sal received a special proclamation from the NYS Assembly.



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# Membership Ratifies

## *4-Years of Job, Financial Security for Transit Families*

TA, MABSTOA AND MTA BUS MEMBERS COVERED by the new 4-year contract with the MTA overwhelmingly ratified the package by a 2 to 1 vote.

The vote count took place at the offices of the American Arbitration Association in lower Manhattan. AAA announced the results of the balloting at about 5:00pm on Jan. 9, 2019.

A total of 10,112 members voted “Yes” and 5,176 voted “No”, or 66 percent in favor of ratification.

Local 100 President Tony Utano immediately praised the membership for its solidarity during the contract fight. “Transit workers proved that a unified workforce is still the most potent weapon to defeat a powerful company,” he told the media.

The agreement provides an impressive total of more than \$800 million in wages and other benefits to transit workers and their families.

“Most importantly, this agreement provides real job and financial security for our families for four years,” said Utano.

### **Wages**

The Union scored a 9.84 percent compounded wage increase over the life of the 4-year contract. The first raise of 2 percent is fully retroactive to May 16, 2019. Annual raises thereafter are: 2.25 percent on May 16, 2020; 2.5 percent on May 16, 2021 and, finally, 2.75 percent on May 15, 2022.

### **Other economic elements of the contract include:**

- Overtime Caps will be RESET TO ZERO. (in other words, if you have capped out, or are near capping out, you start fresh after implementation).
- Bonus pay for operating articulated buses doubled to \$2.00 per hour
- Maintainers bonus increased \$150.00 from \$500.00 annually to \$650.00 (including MTA Bus Maintainers for the first time).
- Commuter Pass for All Express Buses. (MTA Bus members to receive same pass privileges as TA & OA.
- ME TOO clause on general wage increases with LIRR Unions.

### **Health Care**

The union held the line on Health Care Costs, and battled back against the MTA’s demands for a doubling of the payroll deduction. As a result, there is no increase in out of pocket payroll deductions.

The union agreed to a modest increase in co-pays for prescription drugs, as well as a co-pay for visits to a hospital emergency room. However, if the member uses Generic drugs, and Urgent Care centers, there is no increase at all. Even with the increase for non-generic drugs, and emergency room visits, they are less than the co-pays imposed on City workers, who also pay for generics.





# Contract With MTA



Workers at the American Arbitration Association office in lower Manhattan tabulate the vote.

Nationwide Aetna has been added for in-network coverage for out of state residents.

## Important Dental Improvements

The union negotiated numerous upgrades to the dental plan, including for the first time, coverage for implants,

which includes an allowance of \$1,000 per covered family member per year.

## Additional Gains

Other important wins for transit workers include:

- Active Service Duty Death Benefit doubled to \$50,000
- Line of Duty Death Benefit Doubled to \$500,000
- Committee formed to discuss set-aside (i.e. light duty) jobs for pregnant transit workers, and disabled workers.
- MTA to opt in to the NYS Paid Family Medical Leave Program as soon as feasible.

Swap Lincoln's Birthday Holiday for the day after Thanksgiving. (As a result, Lincoln's Birthday 2020 will not be considered a holiday in lieu of the day after Thanksgiving 2020.)

## Job Protection Provisions

The union negotiated a number of important clauses to protect union jobs against the advance of technology in the subways, most notably the MTA's introduction of the OMNY contactless fare collection system. They include:

- No Layoff clause for Station Cleaners for the duration of the contract.

Continuing discussions with the Authority on the following:

- to protect Station Agents and Collecting Agents in the face of OMNY fare collection.
- grievance and arbitration issues.
- promotional path for Car Cleaners
- Promotional opportunities for Traffic Checkers

## FULL BREAKDOWN OF VOTING BY DIVISION

*Do you accept the provisions of proposed contract?*

	YES 66.14%	NO 33.86%
<b>Total All Votes</b>	<b>10112</b>	<b>5176</b>
CAR MAINTENANCE	1300	635
CONDUCTOR	389	771
LINE EQUIPMENT- SIGNAL	1343	199
MABSTOA DIVISION 1	601	186
MABSTOA DIVISION 2	629	225
MABSTOA MAINTENANCE	651	86
MTA BUS	661	249
POWER	415	77
STATION	945	888
STRUCTURE	868	93
TA SURFACE - MAINTENANCE	378	76
TA SURFACE - OPERATORS	872	371
TOWER OPERATORS	47	69
TRACK	474	311
TRAIN OPERATORS	539	940



# Massive Rally Helps Catapult

UPWARDS OF 10,000 TRANSIT WORKERS FLOODED the streets outside the MTA's doorstep at 2 Broadway on October 30, 2019 to send a clear message to the bosses that Local 100 members were ready for anything to win a fair contract and to turn back management's challenge to the power of a united workforce.

The MTA bigwigs on the 20th floor must have been listening, because less than 5 weeks after the rally, the union had negotiated a gain-filled four-year contract, with full retroactivity, and many other improvements.

Local 100 President Tony Utano, who led the TWU team in negotiations, said that the rally "really turned the tide in our favor. Before the rally, the MTA was content to stall bargaining while pushing a narrative in the media that transit workers would have to pay for our own raises."

But, said Utano, management's tune changed drastically after seeing the unity displayed by the membership at the rally. "The rally proved to the bosses that they would not be able to break our solidarity," said Utano. "I was never more proud of being part of this great union than during that rally. It was an impressive sight to behold."



As the rally gets underway, Local 100 President Tony Utano stands with International President John Samuelson, who lent his full support. At right, President Utano stands with Brother union officers from Metro North.





# Union to Contract Victory

The sea of transit workers began building at the rally site early, even as the staging area and police barricades were still being set up.

By 5:00 pm, the time the union's fliers, emails and web posts urged members to begin gathering, the streets were already filled to overflowing. The police detail assigned to the rally decided early that keeping a lane open down Whitehall street for emergency vehicles was hopeless against the crush of blue collar humanity.



Teamsters Local 808 President Chris Silvera (white shirt) with President Uta-no and Local 100's Shannon Poland, left.



Admin VP Nelson Rivera with Brothers from Car Equipment.





In addition to the thousands of members who arrived by subway, two marches by anywhere from 1,000 to 1,500 more transit workers descended on the rally from the south and the north. MABSTOA members, carrying banners displaying pride in their union and their depots, powered up Broadway along Battery Park from South Ferry and across Bowling Green Plaza into the fray.

TAS members streamed southward from City Hall to join the rally just as it was beginning. These powerful displays added another jolt of energy to an already supercharged crowd.

Local 100 President Tony Utano galvanized the crowd with an opening salvo to the MTA and its Chairman Pat Foye that TWU will not be denied. He inspired chants of “we got the power,” from the excited crowd, and then answered them, with a definitive, “That’s right, we got the power, and we’re going to use it.”

Numerous labor leaders, including TWU International President John Samuelson, State Federation President Mario, Cilento, City Central Labor Council President Vincent Alvarez, LIRR/SMART General Secretary Anthony Simon, Teamsters Local 808 (Metro North) Secretary Treasurer Chris Silvera, ATU Presidents Danny Cassella (Staten Island) and Mark Henry (Queens), and AFSCME District Council 37 leaders Henry Guerrido and Shaun Francois, further inspired the crowd with messages of solidarity.

Politicians from across the City, including Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, and representatives from the City Council, New York State Assembly and Senate also delivered messages of support.

The media, which rarely covers rallies, swarmed the event from all the major outlets in TV, radio and print giving the rally and its message of fairness for transit workers universally positive coverage.



Local 100 Recording Secretary LaTonya Crisp with newly-elected Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.



President Tony Utano with SMART (LIRR) President Anthony Simon (left).







Buses and Subways showing unity as TA Surface, Car Equipment, and MTA Bus hoist banners.





<b>Job Titles</b>	<b>Current Wage Rate</b>	<b>2.00% increase on 5/16/19</b>	<b>2.25% increase on 5/16/20</b>	<b>2.50% increase on 5/16/21</b>	<b>2.75% increase on 5/16/22</b>	<b>Total \$/Hr. Increase In Contract</b>
Bus Maintainer A, B, CM, BM	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Bus Operator	\$34.0650	\$34.7475	\$35.5300	\$36.4175	\$37.4200	\$3.3550
Cleaner/Helper OA	\$30.6650	\$31.2775	\$31.9800	\$32.7800	\$33.6825	\$3.0175
Cleaner	\$28.8800	\$29.4575	\$30.1200	\$30.8725	\$31.7225	\$2.8425
Car Inspector A&B	\$37.8500	\$38.6075	\$39.4750	\$40.4625	\$41.5750	\$3.7250
Car Maintainer Trainee	\$32.4150	\$33.0625	\$33.8075	\$34.6525	\$35.6050	\$3.1900
Collecting Agent	\$32.4025	\$33.0500	\$33.7925	\$34.6375	\$35.5900	\$3.1875
Conductor	\$31.6350	\$32.2675	\$32.9925	\$33.8175	\$34.7475	\$3.1125
Electronic Equipment Maintainer	\$37.4350	\$38.1825	\$39.0425	\$40.0175	\$41.1175	\$3.6825
Woodside Shop EEM II & REM II	\$40.3900	\$41.1975	\$42.1250	\$43.1775	\$44.3650	\$3.9750
Helper (Light, Tel, Mech)	\$30.6650	\$31.2775	\$31.9800	\$32.7800	\$33.6825	\$3.0175
Helper (Power)	\$31.3650	\$31.9925	\$32.7125	\$33.5300	\$34.4525	\$3.0875
Maintainer Helper B	\$30.6650	\$31.2775	\$31.9800	\$32.7800	\$33.6825	\$3.0175
Light Maintainer	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Maintainer Trainee A, B, C, D	\$32.4150	\$33.0625	\$33.8075	\$34.6525	\$35.6050	\$3.1900
Mechanic Maintainer C (not in car equip)	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Mechanic Maintainer C	\$37.8500	\$38.6075	\$39.4750	\$40.4625	\$41.5750	\$3.7250
Money Truck Operator OA (Paid as B.O.)	\$34.0650	\$34.7475	\$35.5300	\$36.4175	\$37.4200	\$3.3550
Money Truck Operator TA (Coll. Agent + \$0.75 diff)	\$33.1525	\$33.8000	\$34.5425	\$35.3875	\$36.3400	\$3.9375
Train Operator Yard	\$34.8275	\$35.5250	\$36.3250	\$37.2325	\$38.2575	\$3.4300
Train Operator Road	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Plant & Equipment Maintainer	\$37.6550	\$38.4075	\$39.2725	\$40.2550	\$41.3625	\$3.7075
Power Cable Maintainer	\$37.2325	\$37.9775	\$38.8325	\$39.8025	\$40.8975	\$3.6650
Power Elect. Tech	\$33.2800	\$33.9450	\$34.7100	\$35.5775	\$36.5550	\$3.2750
Power Elect. Maintainer	\$37.5525	\$38.3025	\$39.1650	\$40.1450	\$41.2500	\$3.6975
Power Distribution Maintainer	\$36.5200	\$37.2500	\$38.0875	\$39.0400	\$40.1125	\$3.5925
Power Maintainer B	\$36.5200	\$37.2500	\$38.0875	\$39.0400	\$40.1125	\$3.5925
Railroad Stockworker I	\$31.9675	\$32.6075	\$33.3400	\$34.1725	\$35.1125	\$3.1450
Railroad Stockworker II	\$35.7450	\$36.4600	\$37.2800	\$38.2125	\$39.2625	\$3.5175
Revenue Equipment Maintainer I & II	\$37.4350	\$38.1825	\$39.0425	\$40.0175	\$41.1175	\$3.6825
Roadcar Inspector	\$38.8300	\$39.6075	\$40.4975	\$41.5100	\$42.6525	\$3.8225
Signal Maintainer	\$37.8500	\$38.6075	\$39.4750	\$40.4625	\$41.5750	\$3.7250
Station Agent	\$31.2825	\$31.9075	\$32.6250	\$33.4400	\$34.3600	\$3.0775
Station Agent Non-AFC	\$29.7925	\$30.3875	\$31.0700	\$31.8475	\$32.7225	\$2.9300
Structure Maintainer A-H	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Telephone Cable Maintainer	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Telephone Maintainer	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Tower Operator	\$34.2400	\$34.9250	\$35.7100	\$36.6025	\$37.6100	\$3.3700
Track Equipment Maintainer	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Railroad Track Cleaner	\$30.0600	\$30.6600	\$31.3500	\$32.1350	\$33.0175	\$2.9575
Track Worker	\$33.1025	\$33.7650	\$34.5250	\$35.3875	\$36.3600	\$3.2575
Traffic Checker	\$18.3175	\$18.6850	\$19.1050	\$19.5825	\$20.1200	\$1.8025
TPPA	\$28.2575	\$28.8225	\$29.4700	\$30.2075	\$31.0375	\$2.7800
Track Specialist	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
TEMM - HVAC, V&D	\$36.2500	\$36.9750	\$37.8075	\$38.7525	\$39.8175	\$3.5675
Elevator/Escalator Maintainer	\$38.2940	\$39.0600	\$39.9400	\$40.9375	\$42.0625	\$3.7685





Top Officers (upper left) and Stations in the house: VP Lynwood Whichard (upper right) and Mobile Wash Steward Shameeka Spearman (holding banner). Car Equipment (bottom photo) brought large contingents from Manhattan's 207th Street and Pelham Yard.



# 30 Transit Workers Graduate from TWU's Third Apprenticeship Class

**A**t 38 years of age, Sakina Brown, a NYC Transit Cleaner went back to school. She spent six months learning carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electricity in the industrial classrooms and tool-laden shops of the Apex Technical School in Long Island City, Queens. At night, Brown, a single mother of two daughters, studied take-home materials, including building codes, and prepared for tests on both theory and application.

It all paid off on Monday, Aug. 26, when Brown – in front of her two girls, her mother, sister and two nieces – graduated along with 29 other transit workers. They are now Transit Structure Apprentices - and solidly on new career paths as tradesmen and tradeswomen. “I’m proud of myself,” Brown said. “It’s a big accomplishment, and I’m grateful. Because the union gave me this opportunity, it will be so much easier for me to get a promotion and better pay.”

Part of the training included building two small structures – one brick and one wood framed – with fully functioning electrical systems and plumbing. “It was tough,” graduate Craig Hodge, 40, a former CTA, said. “When everyone got here they all probably thought it was going to be a cakewalk but it was challenging. We had to learn so much in a short amount of time.” For the next three years, Brown and the other graduates of the program, which is administered by the TWU Local 100/NYCT Training & Upgrading Fund, will work side-by-side with Transit car-



*CTA Sakina Brown, with her children and Pres. Utano*

penters, masons, electricians and plumbers. The next step will be elevation into Maintainer titles.

“Congratulations,” Local 100 President Tony Utano told the graduates at a ceremony at the Queensboro Plaza school. “Today, a trade is like gold. They don’t have enough people in the trades in the city, state and country. Everbody learns computers, but they don’t know how to fix and build things.”

Local 100 Secretary-Treasurer Earl Phillips, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Car Equipment Vice President Shirley Martin were also on hand to congratulate the grads. “You should be very proud of yourselves,” Rivera said. “You made a big accomplishment, every one of you.” He urged the group to learn from the veterans in the field,



*TWU families through the Apex Technical School as we graduate 30 new Apprentices.*





and to share their knowledge with the union brothers and sisters who come up behind them.

TWU Local 100 secured NYC Transit funding for the program in contract negotiations. This was the third transit class to graduate from Apex since the trades program was revived three years ago, TUF Director Charles Jenkins said.

The apprentices are paid their full transit salaries during the comprehensive six-month training program. They experience 900 hours of classroom and hands-on instruction in plumbing, masonry, carpentry and electrical. The participants are selected from among applicants working in the Cleaner, Traffic Checker and TPPA titles.



**Union families celebrating the graduation included sons, daughters, and even grandparents who are Local retirees.**







Winners and parents gather for photo with Local 100 officers at August 29th luncheon at union hall.

# \$88,000 More in College Grants are Awarded

TWU LOCAL 100 AND M3 TECHNOLOGY presented \$88,000 in college scholarships to the sons and daughters of TWU members and retirees at an annual luncheon celebration on Aug. 29, 2019. The union and M3, which provides voluntary insurance coverage to TWU Local 100 members, have been sponsoring the program for the past 8 years. Since its inception, a total of \$388,000 has been awarded. Members who are enrolled in trade schools are also eligible.

The winners are chosen at random from among hundreds of applications in a public drawing attended by officers and members.



Joy Kelson, who is attending Loyola Maryland, was one of the \$5,000 winners. She's with her dad, Peter Kelson, from MOW-LES. Also in photo, from left, LES Chair Duvet Williams, Local 100 President Tony Utano, M3 Technology President John Pescitelli, Trustee Shannon Poland, and Joy's brother.

This year's recipients included six \$5,000 winners, one \$8,000 winner and fifty \$1,000 winners. The students may spend the winnings on any related educational expense. Members can apply on behalf of their children by going to the Local 100 website, and clicking on the drop down menu "More Services/Scholarships."

Local 100 President Tony Utano urged the scholarship winners to respect and honor their parents who have worked hard to give them this opportunity.

Also congratulating the winners was John Pescitelli, President of M3 Technology, who said that he is increasing the amounts given to scholarship winners this year to \$100,000.



# 2019 M3 TECHNOLOGY, LLC - TWU LOCAL 100 SCHOLARSHIPS

Students	College	Rel	TWU Local 100 Member	Department
David Shepherd	Queens College / Computer Science	Son	Frederick Shepherd	MOW LES
Jemarni Farrell	Brooklyn College / Computer Science	Son	Julian Farrell	CED C/I
Aroosha Aamir	New York University / Biomolecular Science	Daughter	Aamir Ghori	TAS B/O
Damaya Francois	York College / Nursing	Daughter	Daniel Francois	TAS B/O
Briana Cordero	CUNY School of Public Health Masters Program	Daughter	Mike Cordero	CED CTA
Sarai Zabala	John Jay Coll. of criminal justice / Law & Society	Daughter	Albeiro Zabala	MOW LES
Abdul Ahad Asad	New York City Coll. of Technology / Circuits Analysis 1	Self	Abdul Ahad Asad	MOW POW
Jennifer Arzu	John Jay Coll. of Criminal Justice / Criminal Justice	Self	Jennifer Arzu	Stations S/A
Joy Kelson	Loyola University Maryland / Biology	Daughter	Peter Kelson	MOW LES
Katherine Caceres	Kean University / Interior Design	Daughter	Miguel Collado	CED C/I
Ethan J. Franco	Stony Brook University / Biology	Son	Eddie Franco-Martinez	MOW LES
Michael A. Howell	SUNY ESF / Environmental Conservation & Biology	Son	Mike B. Howell	TAS M
Petr Lelikov	City College of New York / Electrical Engineer	Son	Oleg Lelikov	CED C/I
Shabih Rizvi	Brooklyn College (CUNY) / Biology	Daughter	Syed A. Rizvi	MOW LES
Eshe Patterson	Johnson C. Smith University / Biology	Daughter	Seanette Taliaferro	Station CTA
Daryl Thomas	St. Johns University / Pharmacy	Daughter	Kuzhikandathil Thomaskutty	CED C/I
Xavier Bertrand	West Connecticut State University / Jazz Studies	Son	Julia Brown	CED CTA
Andre Daughtry, Jr.	Delaware Valley University / Business Management	Son	Rosaline Daughtry	RTO T/O
Danielle Coggins	University of South Florida / Marketing and Business	Daughter	William S. Coggins	MOW POW
Julio Rivera Jr.	SUNY Orange County Community Coll. / Criminal Justice	Son	Natasha Blas	RTO - C/T
Sakib Salim	Columbia University Electrical Engineering	Son	Mohammed Salim	Stations S/A
Umayar Hossain Taseen	Rochester Institute of Technology / Electrical Engineering	Son	Mohammed Farhad Hossain	MABSTOA B/O DII
Imoni Edwards	New York City College of Technology / Hospitality	Daughter	Ian B. Edwards	RTO C/T
Darryl Jones II	John Jay Coll. of criminal justice / Comp. Sci. & Info.Tech.	Son	Yvette Jones	MABSTOA M CAIII
Antara Chowdhury	The City College of New York / Childhood Education	Daughter	Nitai Nath	MOW LES
Nikolas Kinalis	Suffolk Community College / Computer Science	Son	Minas Kinalis	MABSTOA B/O DII
Mariel Lechner	St. Francis College / Nursing	Daughter	Franklin Lechner	MOW LES
Joanna George	Rochester Inst. of Tech. / Human Centered Computing	Daughter	Zach George	STATIONS S&L
Madisyn Padilla	University of Rhode Island / Psychology	Daughter	Thomas Padilla	RTO C/T
Samantha Mannino	SUNY Oneonta / Psychology	Daughter	Anthony Mannino	MOW LES
Anna Mohan	Queensborough Community Coll. / Liberal Arts and Nursing	Spouse	Nicholas Mohan	CED C/I
Madison McCormick	Towson University / Early Childhood Education	Daughter	Dennis McCormick	MOW TRACK
Cristal P. Joseph	Medgar Evers College / AA Teachers Education	Daughter	Cyprian M. Joseph	TAS M
Emily Wu	Stony Brooke University / Biology	Daughter	Xiu Tang Wu	CED C/I
Jonathan Bachan	New York Inst. of Tech. / Electrical & Comp.Engineering	Son	Stephen Bachan	CED C/I
Sherlene F. Benoit	Adelphi University / Nursing	Daughter	Frandy Benoit	Stations C/A
Amanda Nath	LIU Post / Pre-Pharmacy	Daughter	Ghanshaam R. Nath	MOW TRACK
Gloria Elaine Rosario	Bronx Community Coll. / Princ. of Acc. I, Micro Eco.	Self	Gloria Elaine Rosario	MABSTOA B/O DI
Kiyya N. Brooks-Rivera	Villanova Univ. Mastering Org. Effectiveness, Strategic	Self	Kiyya N. Rivera	RTO C/T
Sanai Ray	Frostburg State University / Nursing	Grand-daughter	Lucy J. Flowers	CED CTA
Audrey Victor	John Jay Coll. of Crim. Justice / Int'l Crim. Justice & History	Daughter	Bernard Victor	RTO T/O
Talia Casimir	Oneonta State SUNY / Undecided	Daughter	Gaetan Casimir	RTO T/O
Analin Bello	Binghamton University / Liberal arts	Daughter	Nestali Dominguez	MABSTOA M
Brittany Barnes	SUNY Canton / Nursing	Daughter	Aisha Mickens	RTO C/T
Rocco Pasquariello	John Jay College / Criminal Justice	Grandson	Rosa Gizzi	R* MTA BUS B/O
Damani Lucus	New York City Coll. of Technology / Electrical Engineer	Son	Sheldon Lucus	MOW LES
Destiny Mingo	University of New Haven / Forensic Science	Daughter	Tawana Mingo	PBL QU SB
Jasmine Watts	Tiffin Univesity / Exercise Science	Grand-daughter	Carmen Norman	Stations - S/A
Antony Alan Riello, Jr.	West Connecticut State University / Criminal Justice	Son	Antony Riello, Sr.	MOW TRACK D/R T/I
Trent Sickles	City College of New York (CWE) / Psychology	Self	Trent Sickles	STATIONS C
Gabriella Karcic	SUNY Oneonta / Education	Daughter	Eraldo Karcic	TAS M
Kyle Mulcahy	Five Towns / Music Composition	Son	John Mulcahy	MABSTOA M
Quincy M. Washington	SUNY Purchase College / New Media (GPA 4.0)	Son	Robert L. Washington	MOW TRACK
Niema J. Miree	Bronx Community College / Nutrition & Dietetics	Self	Niema Miree	RTO Conductor
Chanel Gaither	Coll. of Staten Island / Corporate Business Management	Daughter	Tiffany Sherman	Stations S/A
Matthew Lechner	Hofstra University / Law	Son	Franklin Lechner	Signals / Signal Maint.
Marco King Jr.	University of Albany / Business	Son	Claudina King	Stations S/A





Assemblywoman Inez Dickens, sporting a TWU cap, joined the union at its Bronx presser on Nov. 27, 2019 to urge the MTA to increase the car cleaning workforce.



Car Cleaner Tania Garcia shows off her winning 'Trash Train' photo at presser at TWU hall in Brooklyn.

# Union's 'Trash Train' Campaign Pressures the MTA to Clean

DOZENS OF LEGISLATORS FROM ACROSS THE CITY rallied behind Local 100's 'Trash Train' campaign to win back approximately 80 car cleaner positions lost to attrition in recent MTA budgets.

The elected officials signed onto a letter calling on the MTA "to make subway car cleanliness a higher priority and provide proper staffing, starting with the restoration of the positions eliminated in recent years."

Some of the lawmakers who signed the declaration joined

union leaders at a press conference the day before Thanksgiving at the 148th Street Lenox Ave. No. 3 subway train terminal station.

Congressman Adriano Espaillat; Assemblymembers Al Taylor, Inez Dickens and Robert Rodriguez; Councilmembers Ydanis Rodriguez, Bill Perkins, Mark Levine and Ben Kallos; and state Senator Brian Benjamin attended in support of TWU's position.

Local 100 Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera, who developed the campaign, told the media: "Subway cars are too often disgusting messes because the MTA doesn't have

## 'Trash Train' Photo Contest

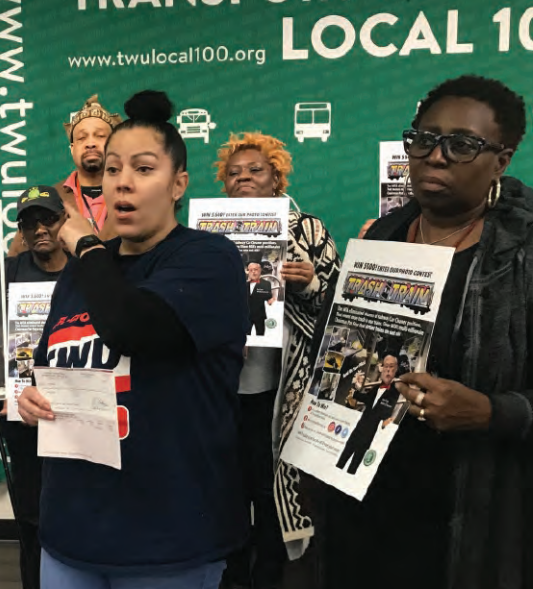
The union brought a high level of public interest to the campaign by sponsoring a 'Trash Train' photo contest, which invited workers and the public to submit images of soiled and particularly "trashed" subway cars in hopes of winning a \$500 prize.

Hundreds of photos were submitted, which the union published on a special 'Trash Train' website. The public voted on line for the winning photo, showing a mess of human feces between two cars.

The winner, Tania Garcia, herself a subway car cleaner, said she encountered the disgusting condition on her way to work. "It's like a public bathroom," she said of the subway. "We seriously need more cleaners to deal with this."







City Councilman Ydanis Rodríguez holds up TWU's 'Trash Train' poster, depicting MTA Chair Pat Foye, in a tux and top hat, as oblivious to the conditions that must be endured by riders and workers in the subways.

# gn Up Its Act



NY1 News Reporter on air describing the union's 'Trash Train' photo contest rules.

enough workers at the end of subway lines to clean them. Riders shouldn't have to put up with this. Train Operators and Conductors shouldn't have to put up with this. We're not only talking about spilled drinks and trash in subway cars but even urine and human waste. The MTA has to clean up its act and staff these positions properly."

Rivera pointed out that incidents of "soiled" subway cars have soared with 1,623 in the first 8 months of 2019 – more than the 1,504 incidents recorded in all of 2017.

## MTA Adding Cleaners to Several Terminals

Local 100's Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera announced that the union's 'Trash Train' campaign has produced results. He said that the MTA is hiring new cleaners and will add some to the overnight shift at two terminals that now have no cleaners on the overnights, including 205th St. and 179th St. There will be 6 terminal cleaners at those locations when the MTA completes the hiring and training of two classes of cleaners, Rivera said.

"The MTA needs to keep moving in that direction and put proper staffing in place," Rivera said. "This is a start."



Local 100 Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera tells the media at a union hall presser, that the MTA must hire additional cleaners to prevent the escalation of "trashed" and soiled subway cars.





President Tony Utano, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Vice Presidents John Chiarello and Eric Loegel present special medal to Patricia Musicaro, widow of Joseph Musicaro who succumbed to a 911-related cancer.



Medal recipients, from the left: Ben Scheier, Vito Scudiero, Vincent Vallone and Matthew Kelleher.

# Local 100 Honors 911 Transit Res

For the fifth year in a row, TWU Local 100 honored transit workers who served at Ground Zero, and awarded 13 medals to those made ill by the toxic exposures they were subjected to. Sadly, one medal was awarded posthumously to Joseph Musicaro, a Track Worker. It was picked up by his wife, Patricia.

Over 3,000 transit workers took part in the rescue and recovery effort on and after 9/11/2001. When the towers went down, tons of rocks and rubble had to be removed so that

rescue crews could get to underground spaces where victims might have survived.

In the first days, transit workers operated the heavy equipment to do that job. Local 100 members manned lo-boys and other rigs to move abandoned cars, cleaned and inspected subway stations in the area, and brought hundreds of rescue personnel to the scene on city buses -- along with rescuing many who were trapped by the cloud of debris.



Moyse Loksh receives medal from union officers.



REM Alberto Columbani is battling a 911-related illness.



President Utano presented medals to all recipients including Reginald Royal and Raymond Schnarr.





# ponders in 5th Annual Ceremony

But the story of what transit workers did at 9/11 has not gotten the recognition it deserves. For that reason, Local 100 holds these annual commemorations of 9/11 and transit's role in the rescue and recovery effort.

Union members who participated in rescue and recovery are entitled to receive an official commemorative pin. Those who have been injured and have verified Victim's Compensation Fund claims are entitled to receive the union's official medal.

In remarks at the event, Local 100 President Tony Utano said that although it's been 18 years since the attacks, "the fallout from that day continues to rain down death on the heroic transit workers, firefighters, cops, EMS, and construction tradesmen who worked for months and months after the event to resurrect New York."

Utano concluded: "For you, 911 is not a distant memory, but a real life and death drama that you must cope with every day. We all honor your service and your continuing sacrifice."



Event emcee Mario Galvet (MOW-LES), with past recipients John Tagliarino and David Goon.



Retired MOW officer, Joe Pajewski, with President Utano.



# 5th Mid Autumn Festival

MORE THAN 650 MEMBERS, OFFICERS AND families turned out for the union's 5th Annual Mid-Autumn Festival to celebrate the contributions and rich heritage of TWU's Chinese American membership.

This year's event was held on Friday, Oct. 11, 2019 at the Affable Eatery Restaurant on 65th street in Brooklyn.

The festival has become one of the union's most popular ethnic celebrations, indicative of the growing demo-

graphic of Chinese Americans in the union.

Local 100 Vice President John Chiarello, co-founder of the event along with President Tony Utano and the Chinese American committee, served as emcee.

Vocal performances by Winnie Huang entertained the big crowd, as did several troupes of traditional dancers.

Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Vice Presidents Shirley Martin, JP Patafio and Eric Loegel also attended.

*Sponsors included Investors Bank, the Fusco, Brandenstein & Rada Law Firm, and Nationwide Mortgage.*





# Draws Huge Crowd





# TWU Walks Proudly in Bronx Breast Cancer March

LOCAL 100 MEMBERS AND OFFICERS WERE FRONT and center at the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk at Orchard Beach in the Bronx on Oct. 20, 2019.

Local 100 President Tony Utano, Recording Secretary LaTonya Crisp, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Vice President Peter Rosconi led the union's contingent along with OA Maintenance Chair Mike Rehn and Director of Member Services Chris Lightbourne.

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. marched with TWU at the event.

More than 650 teams registered to participate in the Bronx walk to raise funds for the cure. Local 100's Team, the West Farms Crusaders, finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in fundraising with nearly \$23,000 pledged.

Local 100 President Utano did the honors of cutting a pink ribbon to start the walk. All participants received pink t-shirts to commemorate the day.

Earlier in the month, the union sponsored a "Kickoff to Breast Cancer Awareness Month" event at the union hall. Representatives of the American Cancer Society addressed the attendees. The West Farms Crusaders were also introduced to launch the team's fundraising effort.



The union kicked off Cancer Awareness Month with an event at the union hall on Oct. 1, 2019.



Local 100 President Tony Utano did the honors of cutting the ribbon to the Bronx "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk.



# Around the Local



## Advanced Training for Local 100 Officers

Officers from CED (above) and MOW (right) took part in a Local 100 training class focusing on leadership skills, grievance and arbitration. Local 100 President Tony Utano and Vice President John Chiarello are shown in the MOW photo, and Utano and Vice President Shirley Martin are with the CED class. Dr. Bob Wechsler, who conducted the programs, is shown in both photos.



## Union Turns Out for World Pride March

TWU Local 100 members were among the estimated 100,000 marchers at the 2019 World Pride parade in New York, the largest in the country. Local 100 Recording Secretary LaTonya Crisp led the Local 100 contingent.

## Local 100 Marches in Korean Day Parade

Local 100 President Tony Utano, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera, MOW Vice President John Chiarello and CED Vice President Shirley Martin marched with Korean American transit workers in the 39th Annual NYC Korean Parade on Oct. 5, 2019. The parade route covers 38th to 27th Streets along Avenue of the Americas. An estimated 100,000 Korean Americans call New York City their home.





A Trackworker's Job Hardly Routine

# Death Without Dignity for Subway's Homeless

By Alan Saly

THERE ARE A THOUSAND WAYS TO DIE IN THE big city – and quite a few ways underneath it as well. While train crews are the workers who mainly must deal with the tragic results of 12-9's – other union members are not immune to the harsh realities of working on the tracks.

Exhibit A is the 56 year old man who Track Inspector Joel Rowley, 41, found fetched up against the side of a tunnel which brings the F train into midtown from the lower East Side at 1:45 AM on July 25th, his back burned from contact with the third rail.

Rowley, 41, carries a heavy sledgehammer, radio, gloves, and flashlight as he walks the tracks at night – generally along the F line – with his Flagger. It's a quiet job – until a train roars up, which forces Rowley and his teammate to clear up in a niche.

"Your flagger walks a couple of hundred feet in front of you, and you're walking with your head down, looking for defects on the tracks," Rowley says. "My flagger walked past the pool of blood. He's looking for trains. I'm walking behind him. I'm looking down. We had just cleared up for a train.

"I came upon this little pool of blood. My flashlight just followed the blood and then I saw the guy behind the third rail and I just froze. It was a surreal feeling. But once the initial shock was over, it was, all right, let me do what they trained me to do: call the rail control center, stop traffic, get help. I went to the call box 50 feet away."

Police, Fire, and EMS responded. Someone tipped off the New York Post, which ran a story on its website later that morning without, of course, mentioning the transit workers involved.

"He was homeless. One of the officers on the scene later said she dealt with him the previous week. I see homeless people on the tracks all the time. On my regular walk in Brooklyn there's a homeless guy south of 7th Avenue who's there all the time. He snores real loud. We make noise so as not to startle him. I've seen furniture, Christmas trees, in the tunnels, set up like a living room.

"As long as they're not in my way or causing a problem, it's not in my best interests to try to get them out. I'll alert the Rail Control center that there's an unauthorized person on the tracks, but I won't interact, because some of them will get pretty angry sometimes. In the tunnels, every once in a while you will get this feeling that there's someone watching you. And you'll turn around and see someone. It's an eerie feeling."

Rowley worked as a plumber for 19 years before joining Transit in 2016, after he says he got tired "doing the same thing over and over again."

"Let me try my hand at track work, I thought. I wanted to go into track maintenance, not capital construction – because it's in maintenance that you learn the tricks of the trade. You're working with live traffic and you've got to make sure the tracks are safe for the train. I like what I do.

"During the winter, when it's real cold, I find a lot of broken rails, broken joint bars, broken plates under the joints. Stuff you can take care of, call it in, get it done real quick."

He also took note of the many assaults on transit workers that have become routine. "Every day, we seem to be the villains. We're the ones who get spit on, assaulted. Someone might be delayed. Service goes out."

And it could be because someone died on the tracks.





# TWU, BP Eric Adams Applaud Hiring of 500 New Cops

LOCAL 100 OFFICERS JOINED BROOKLYN BOROUGH President Eric Adams to applaud the insertion of 500 new police officers into the subway system and to call for more surveillance cameras in and around subway stations at a press event in late December.

Adams made his case outside the Seventh Avenue stop in Park Slope, where just days before a young man was shot inside the station.

“Public safety is the prerequisite to prosperity. If people feel unsafe using our subways, then our transit system – and by extension, our city – will suffer,” Adams told the media. “We must use every tool in our toolbox to keep riders and workers safe, and be vigilant against backsliding into lawlessness.”

Local 100 President Tony Utano echoed the BP’s sentiments. “The men and women who spend the most time in the subway – transit workers – do not feel safe,” said Utano. “They are targeted, assaulted and abused on a regular basis and they need protection.”

Adams, a retired transit cop, said that additional CCTV cameras need to be installed, and announced a partnership

with local businesses to pay for cameras to surveil the subway entrance.

Adams rejected criticism from politicians and some community leaders that the additional police presence is “unwarranted over policing.”

As long as the officers are respectful and “interact well” with the community, they should be welcomed by New Yorkers, said Adams, the co-founder of 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care. “I have never witnessed a passenger watch a police officer walk through the train and say, ‘What are you doing here?’” Adams said. “I see them saying, ‘I’m happy to see you here.’”

Adams pointed to the recent rise in subway crime stats as further evidence of the need for more cops.

According to figures compiled by the NYPD, there were 1,185 transit misdemeanor assaults citywide from January 1st through November 17, 2019. Of these 68 were hate crimes on the subways, up more than 50 percent from last year, and incidents of groping were up 10.6 percent over the same time period last year. Attacks on workers have also increased; as of December 7, 2019 there had been 122 transit worker assaults in the subway, including spitting incidents, while there were just 84 last year during the same time period.



**“THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SPEND THE MOST TIME IN THE SUBWAY – TRANSIT WORKERS – DO NOT FEEL SAFE. THEY ARE TARGETED, ASSAULTED AND ABUSED ON A REGULAR BASIS AND THEY NEED PROTECTION.”**

–TONY UTANO,  
PRESIDENT, LOCAL 100

*Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams tells news media that the hiring of more cops to patrol the transit system is necessary, as is the installation of more surveillance cameras. Local 100 Vice President Lynwood Whichard (left) looks on with other Station Division officers.*



# Family Day 2019 Draws Th

**L**ocal 100 members and families turned out by the thousands to the annual Local 100 Family Day Celebration at Coney Island's MCU Park on June 16, 2019.

The day-long event featured all the food and soft drinks anyone could want, as well as a variety of activities for children of all ages including bouncy castles, face painting, basketball courts and ice cream trucks.

Individual departments sponsored tents with additional food, music and dancing in an area set aside for tailgating.

This year's special guest was Brooklyn's own Albert King, who starred in basketball for Fort Hamilton High, the University

of Maryland and four NBA teams in a 10-year professional career with the Nets, 76ers, Spurs and Bullets.

Two prominent Brooklyn politicians dropped by to pay their respects, Assemblyman Peter Abbate and Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez.

The always popular softball tournament was, once again, won by the excellent Local 100 squad, captained by OA Bus Operator Jesse Mendoza. Teams from Locals 101, 501, 570, 252 and 2001 tried to knock the Local 100 crew off their perch to no avail.

The bottom line: a good time was had by all.



**Special Guest, retired NBA star Albert King, with Local 100 President Tony Utano, Secretary Treasurer Earl Phillips, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Local 101 President Constance Bradley (left).**





# Thousands of Transit Families





# Family Day 2019









# Union Celebrates 14<sup>th</sup>

HUNDREDS OF LOCAL 100 MEMBERS AND FAMILIES gathered for a gala celebration of the 14th Annual TWU Local 100 Indian Day on Sept. 28, 2019 at the IBEW Local 3 facility in Queens.

Special guest speakers included State Senators John Liu and Kevin Thomas, NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer, and City Councilman Donovan Richards.

Local 100 President Tony Utano delivered opening remarks, along with retiree Jolly Eapen, who has served as Committee Chair for the first 13 Indian Day celebrations. Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Vice Presidents Shirley Martin and John Chiarello also attended and participated in the Lighting of the Lamp ceremony.



State Sen. Kevin Thomas (center) and City Councilman Donovan Richards (2nd from right) with union officers and Indian Day organizers.



City Comptroller Scott Stringer (3rd from left) with President Utano and union officers.



President Utano (center) with State Sen. John Liu (center left), as well as Admin. VP Nelson Rivera, VP's John Chiarello and Shirley Martin, and Indian Day Chair Sam Ponnolil and retired Chair for 13 years, Jolly Eapen.



# Annual Indian Day

Riya Alexander performed the American and Indian national anthems. Neel and Neeta performed traditional Indian songs, and a Bollywood Dance was performed by Anil Diwakar of DPA Events & Entertainment.

Sponsors included Grey & Grey, LLP, Fusco, Bradenstein, Rada, and prominent businessman Henry Selwyn.

The traditional Indian dinner was provided by Sitar Palace. The Indian Day Committee members included: Committee Chair Sam Ponnolil, and members Nelson Rivera, Shirley Martin, Jolly Eapen, V.K. Pillai, Roy Mathews James Elampurayidathil, Bobby C. Parambil, Ragunathan Nair and Henry Selwyn.







# TWU Reigns at West Indian Day Parade

THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

That was the attitude of TWU Local 100 participants, who marched between the raindrops at the 2019 West Indian Day Parade this past Labor Day along Eastern Parkway.

Raindrops began falling shortly before the parade kicked off and continued throughout the day. At some moments the downpour, with accompanying gusts of wind, was so bad floats had to halt their processions.

But the weather didn't dampen TWU Local 100's pride in our Caribbean-American heritage, as members and

supporters marched behind the union's dancers, banners and a colorful float.

TWU Local 100 got the festivities started early before the weather turned sour by serving traditional Caribbean foods to hardy TWU members and guests.

Many of New York's top political leaders, including State Attorney General Leticia James, NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, Assemblymen Kevin Parker and Nick Perry, and City Councilman Robert Carnegie dropped by to greet TWU marchers.











# DON'T MISS THIS

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- **Terminal Illness Benefit** - allows the withdrawal of **50%** of death benefits for terminal illness for a maximum of **\$100,000**.<sup>3</sup>
- **Long Term Care Benefit** - allows the withdrawal of **100%** death benefits at **4%** per month for **25** months for Long Term Care for a maximum of **\$150,000** (**\$6,000** per month for **25** months).<sup>3</sup>
- **Automatic Increase Option** - allows future increases in death benefits for five years without evidence of insurability.<sup>3</sup>
- **Layoff Protection Benefit** - pays for coverage for six months, after a 60 day waiting period.<sup>3</sup>
- **Lifetime Retirement Incomes** - can be requested from cash accumulations.
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Simply return the Priority Information request form today. Do not miss this opportunity for Guaranteed Acceptance Life Insurance and Tax-deferred Cash Accumulation, Long Term Care, Automatic Increase Option, Terminal Illness, Disability, and Layoff Protection benefits!

Fraternally,  
Anthony Utano  
President

1. Based on current IRS regulations.
2. After mortality and expenses. Current interest rate is 5.00%
3. Consult your policy for details.



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#### NEW BENEFIT INFORMATION & \$100,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION

I would like information about the following benefit offering for TWU Local 100 Members:

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Insurance With Guaranteed Cash Accumulation at 4.00% <sup>2</sup> and Living Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Accident and Wellness Benefits         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disability Income Paycheck Protection Benefits   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Paid Legal Benefits                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Critical Illness and Wellness Benefits   | <input type="checkbox"/> Discount Homeowners and Auto Insurance |

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

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

Home Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept: \_\_\_\_\_

Work City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Hours: From: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm To: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm Days Off : \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would also like to apply for the \$100,000 in TWU Local 100 Student Scholarships

**You must complete the entire form to qualify!**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Pass Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Union Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Accredited Two or Four Year College: \_\_\_\_\_

Course of Study (Major): \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility: children and grandchildren of Local 100 members; no participation in insurance program required.  
Student must be accepted or attending an accredited college.

To receive your requested information, and to apply for the 2020 Scholarship, please return the completed form to:

M3 TECHNOLOGY, ADMINISTRATOR  
PO BOX 512, MATAWAN, NJ 07747



# Capacity Crowd Gathers for Russian Day Celebration

**L**ocal 100's 14th annual celebration of Russian-American Heritage Day drew a wall-to-wall crowd of transit workers and spouses on Oct. 6, 2019 to Tatiana Restaurant in Brighton Beach. Over 700 union members and guests enjoyed a festive afternoon with dancing, entertainment, and a few speeches from key political figures, including NYS Assemblywoman Mathylde Frontus, City Councilman Mark Treyger, Assemblyman Peter Abbate, and New York State Assemblyman Steve Cymbrowitz, among others.

Event Chair Grigory Dunichev said that the membership stands behind Local 100 President Tony Utano in fighting for a fair contract for transit workers.

International President John Samuelson, a regular at Russian Day, joined Local 100 officers at the celebration, including President Tony Utano, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera, and Vice Presidents John Chiarello, Eric Loegel and Shirley Martin.









# Local 100 Sponsors 50<sup>th</sup> African American Day Parade

TWU LOCAL 100 WAS AMONG THE PROUD SPONSORS OF THE 50TH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN Day Parade on Sept. 15th along Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. in Harlem. The union turned out a large contingent for the line of march that included a union float decorated in red, black and green balloons, and a vintage bus.

More than 200 organizations marched in the parade along Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. on September 15th, including community groups, unions, law enforcement, fraternities and sororities.

Parade Chair Chairman Yusuf Hasan explained the importance of the event to the African American community. "I want people to understand that being African-American is an experience and a strength as opposed to a skin color and a struggle," he said.

Performances included Tony Award and Grammy-winning actress/singer Melba Moore, who sang the Black

National Anthem, Lift Every Voice and Sing.

This year's event honored African American achievement in the area of politics and government with the theme "Integrity & Transparency = Good Government."

Local 100 President Tony Utano, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera and Vice Presidents John Chiarello, Lynwood Whichard and Shirley Martin led the union in the mile long walk.

Local 100 PAC Coordinator Sharase DeBouse was an Honorary Parade Marshal.









# Union Honors Sal Monta

DWIGHT EISENHOWER WAS PRESIDENT OF THE United States when Sal Montanino started working for transit in 1957 as a Railroad Porter.

Sal retired just a few months ago after a great career in transit in titles from Cleaner to Station Agent, to Maintainer Helper, Light Maintainer, and finally for decades as a Car Maintainer at the 207th Street shop.

Sal is one of the few transit workers who can say he walked in the picket lines as an active member in all three of TWU's city-wide transit strikes, 1966, 1980 and 2005.

Sal, the son of Italian immigrant parents, was rightfully honored at the Union's 14th Annual Italian American celebration for his longevity on the job, and more importantly, for his activism over six decades as a member of TWU.

Local 100 President Tony Utano, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera, and Vice Presidents Shirley Martin and John Chiarello all paid tribute to Sal.

President Utano summed it up best when he said: "It was men like Sal who stood tall for this union in those tough early years; men who built a strong organization, and who fought for good contracts, so that newer generations of transit workers, like me and everyone in this room today, would have it better than they did."

Brooklyn Assemblyman Peter Abbate, who like Sal is a lifelong Brooklynite, presented Montanino with an official Citation from the New York State Assembly heralding his long career of service to the City of New York.



*President Tony Utano proudly recognizes Sal Montanino's outstanding service with the Union.*

In accepting the adulation of his brothers and sisters, Sal said simply, "thank you for this party. I'm glad I worked for transit and have been a member of Local 100."

Vice President Chiarello, who served as emcee of the event, said that between 1860 and up until World War II, "an incredible 13 million Italians immigrated to America, where they found jobs manning the factories, building America's great infrastructure, and of course, building New York's subway system. They became the foundation of America's blue collar working class, and, a huge building block of the American trade union movement. It is that legacy of hard work and devotion to family and union that we celebrate tonight."



*Top officers salute Sal Montanino at Italian Night as he picks up a plaque recognizing his 61 years of exemplary work.*



# nino at Italian Night



MTA Bus VP Pete Rosconi and top officers.



Sherlock Bender (in tan coat) and his MOW crew.



Assemblyman Abbate with Sal Montanino.



MOW VP John Chiarello with rank and file members



Pres. Utano with MOW veterans and retirees.



TA Surface in the house with VP JP Patafo and Officers



RTO Members with officers and VP Eric Loegel



Italian night is for everyone as this multi-ethnic photo says it all.





# Hundreds Turn Out for Annual Westchester Family Day

NEARLY 400 LOCAL 100 MEMBERS AND FAMILIES from the School Bus and Private Operations divisions enjoyed a day-long union-sponsored picnic at FDR State Park in Yorktown Heights. Good weather, good food, and good company made for an enjoyable and memorable event.

President Tony Utano, Administrative Vice President

Nelson Rivera, SB Division Chair Gus Moghrabi, Private Ops Division Chair Carlos Bernabel and other Division officers joined in the fun.

NYS Senator Shelley Mayer, a regular visitor to the union's Westchester Family Day event, dropped by to say hello to her many constituents.

On top of all the free food and refreshments, children of all ages enjoyed the ice cream truck and the great outdoors. The event took place on June 29, 2019.









# TWU Celebrates Dominican

**T**WU Local 100, along with New York Presbyterian Hospital, Chivas Regal, Delta Airlines, and Anheuser Busch, sponsored the 2019 Dominican Day Parade in Manhattan on August 11th.

Local 100 President Tony Utano, International President John Samuelson, and Local 100 Vice Presidents John Chiarello and Peter Rosconi marched at the head of the TWU contingent, which included a colorful float decked out in the red, white and blue colors of the Dominican flag, a new bus from the current MTA fleet and a vintage bus from the 1950's.

This was the 37th annual parade, which included approximately 10,000 marchers and untold thousands lining

the parade route from 36th Street to 56th Street on the Avenue of the Americas.

Felix "Flex" Oliva, from MaBSTOA Division 2, heroically wore his "diablo cojuelo" costume, despite temperatures in the mid-80's.

The union served traditional Dominican dishes to union members and families who turned out for the event.

The event commemorates the war for Dominican independence against Spain, which began in 1863, and it honors the Dominican community in the U.S., its culture and heritage.

New York State is home to the largest population of ethnic Dominicans in the country, with a population surpassing 670,000. The Bronx also sponsors a Dominican parade.





# Day Parade





# Union Honors Veterans at Annual Dinner

A GOOD CROWD OF UNION VETERANS OF THE U.S. armed services and supporters attended Local 100's annual Veterans Appreciation Night on November 7, 2019 at Transport Hall in Brooklyn.

Local 100 President Tony Utano said, in opening remarks, that all Americans should show respect for those who served. "I always told my children that they should look up to veterans, because they are the ones who made this country safe for them and their children," said Utano.

Dartagnan Magana, a Marine Corps vet and chair of Local 100's Veterans Committee, said that Veterans Day "is a time for this nation to recognize those who have served it selflessly and gallantly. And our Veterans Night is our opportunity to

not only thank those same people in this fine union, but to thank their families as well," he said.

Magana announced a new lineup for the Veterans Committee, including himself as chair; Ronnie Gregory and Dexter Victory as Co-Chairs and Joe DiPaola, Recording Secretary. "Two marines, a soldier and a sailor doesn't exactly make us the Joint Chiefs, but it's a start," joked Magana.

Magana announced that the TWU committee will, for the first time, begin partnering with the NYC Transit Veterans Employee Resource Group, which includes represented and non-represented supervisory titles. He said he believes the partnership "will be beneficial for all Transit Authority veterans. It will also allow us to present a greater united front and everyone in this room knows exactly how important that is."



Veterans Committee Chair Dartagnan Magana hosted the event.



The Local 100 Honor Guard begins the Veterans event, as Local 100 President Tony Utano looks on.





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# VP Shirley Martin Receives Special Recognition Award During Caribbean Heritage Month

New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli singled out Local 100 Vice President (CED) Shirley Martin for special recognition during June's National Caribbean Heritage Month.

DiNapoli presented Martin with a special New York State Proclamation praising her "outstanding service" to transit workers and the Caribbean community at large. The event took place at Restoration Plaza on Fulton Street in Brooklyn as part of the State's Salute to Caribbean Heritage celebration.

Recording Secretary LaTonya Crisp, Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera, CED Division Chair Matt Ahern and other CED officers and Local 100 staff attended the event.

Martin, a native of Jamaica, is the first woman to serve as CED Vice President. A 26-year transit veteran, she was the first woman to operate the wheel grinding machine at Coney Island Overhaul, that shapes subway car wheels into true circles.

Growing up in Jamaica, Martin was the first woman to graduate from Kingston Technical High School as a Machinist, then going to work – also in a first for a woman – for the Bauxite Company, an industrial firm that extracted



*Vice President Shirley Martin, center, was honored at "Salute To Caribbean Heritage" event, hosted by NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli in June.*

the valuable mineral used in aluminum production. She was also the first woman union rep in Jamaica's National Workers Union (NWU) at the Bauxite Company.

Martin's TWU Local 100 union career includes positions as Shop Steward, Division Vice Chair for Coney Island Overhaul Shop, Recording Secretary for the Division, Division Chair, and Executive Board Member.

## Union Sponsors Annual Bangladeshi Picnic



**Local 100 President Tony Utano was warmly welcomed at the annual Bangladeshi-American picnic this summer. The event was held at Sunken Meadow State Park on the north shore. Utano, center, is shown with members and families at the event**



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# Stations Division

## Vice Chair Jose Torres Remembered Fondly

**T**WU Local 100 mourned the passing of Brother Jose Torres, the elected Vice Chair for Supply Logistics. He died of a heart attack on the evening of July 16, 2019. He was only 56 years old. Jose was born and raised in the Bronx of Puerto Rican parents, who came to New York in the 50's.

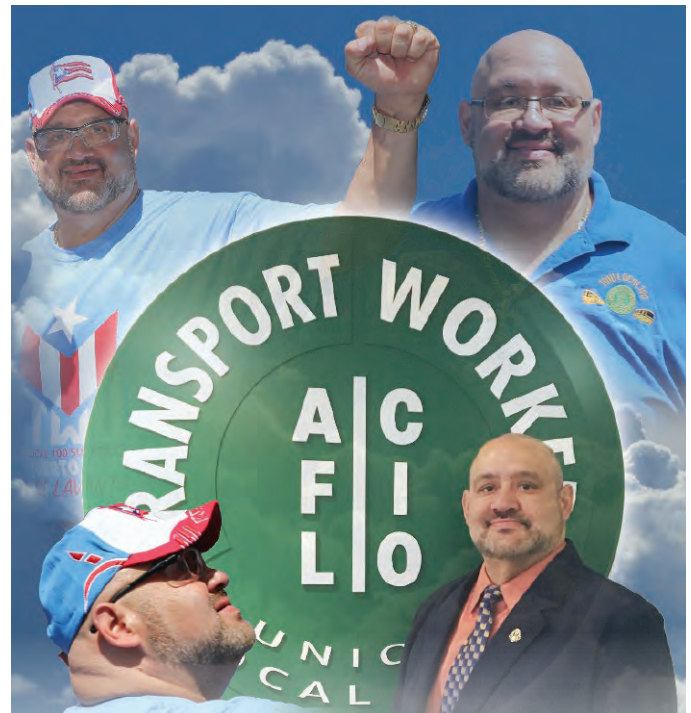
He came to New York City Transit and TWU Local 100 in 2011 after an early career as a stock worker, warehouseman, doorman, driver and cook. He graduated from Herbert Lehman HS in the Bronx.

"I love to cook," said Jose in an interview last year. "From time to time I bring food to share with my co-workers and because of that some of them call me the 'Cook.'" Jose was an avid fisherman, who loved being out on the water.

Stations Vice President Lynwood Whichard called Brother Torres a "champion" for the cause of labor, and said that he "was the glue that united Supply Logistics. This is a terrible loss for his family and every one in Stations."

Administrative Vice President Nelson Rivera, a fellow Puerto Rican, offered his condolences to the family and said, "Jose was a true Boricua to the core."

Local 100 President Tony Utano expressed his heartfelt sympathy to Jose's family, friends and colleagues saying: "This is a very sad time at Local 100. Jose was a wonderful person



who fought hard for his members while always maintaining a high degree of professionalism and good will. Everyone at the union hall liked him and respected him. He will be deeply missed. I know that we, as his brothers and sisters, will continue to stand strong for his wife, Maritza, and the rest of his family."

Hundreds of people paid their respects to the family during the wake, and subsequent funeral.

VP Whichard delivered the eulogy at the funeral at St. Helena's RC Church. He was also a pallbearer along with family and friends.

## TWU Mourns Ursula Levelt, Retired Director Of the Local 100 Legal Department

Longtime in-house attorney and labor activist, Ursula Levelt passed away on July 7, 2019 of cancer in her beloved Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She had moved there weeks before her death to spend her final days in the place of her birth. She was 60 years old.

Her husband, Bill, informed the union of her death, saying: "Ursula was dedicated to the labor movement and to TWU Local 100. She remembered the many friends and comrades there that she had worked with and fought for over the many years."

Ursula Levelt was born in Amsterdam on April 14, 1959. She immigrated to the U.S. and attended The New School in New York, earning a BA in 1997. She then attended CUNY Law School, graduating in 2000.

Her first job as an attorney was with the firm headed by Arthur Schwartz in 2001, then General Counsel to Local 100.

According to Schwartz, Ursula skillfully defended Local 100

members in hundreds of disciplinary arbitrations. In 2005, Local 100 established its own Legal Department and Ursula was among the first attorneys hired. She continued to focus on disciplinary arbitrations. She became an expert on Medical Appeals, and fought hard for the rights of Local 100 members with disabilities. She handled many contractual arbitrations on medical issues. In 2011 Ursula became the Legal Director of Local 100, a position she served in until her retirement in 2016.

Arthur Schwartz said of his long-time colleague: "I will always remember Ursula as a person with endless energy, with a smile on her face even in difficult times. She was smart, principled, easy to get along with, and a fierce fighter for what she believed in. And she was a good friend. Her death is a real loss for the Labor Movement and progressive politics."

She is survived by her husband and son.



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