

IMPACT

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NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 2014

LOCAL 246 WINS TWO-YEAR BATTLE WITH CITY ON PREVAILING RATE LAWS



After a two-year battle with the City of New York and the former Bloomberg mayoral administration, Local 246 has succeeded in putting a final stop to the Personnel Order (E.O. 88) that would have changed the protections afforded under the 220 prevailing rate laws.

Local 246 President Joe Colangelo called the battle “long and difficult.” For more than a century, skilled trades titles — including members of Local 246 — have had their wages and

Pictured at the DOT Staten Island shop are, from left: Auto Mechanics Chicky Ciechanowsky and Jim Vaccaro, President Joe Colangelo, Auto Mechanics Joe Cicero and Tom Harkins, Auto Mechanic Diesel Steve DiGiario, and Recording Secretary Anthony Reyes.

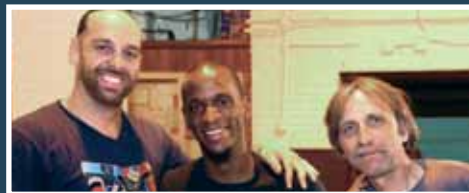
benefits determined in accordance with prevailing rates as required by Section 220 of the New York State Labor Law.

On April 11, 2012, the Bloomberg Administration adopted a resolution (E.O. 88), without notice to Local 246, reclassifying

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About Our Members



June Membership Meeting



Komnick Scholarship Winner

New York City SEIU Local 246

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Message from President JOSEPH A. COLANGELO



I hope everyone had a great summer and was able to spend some time with family and friends. It never ceases to amaze me how quickly the summer months fly by.

The Union was very busy these past few months, and I'm starting this message with some great news.

As you read about on the front page, the City has agreed to drop its appeal on the 220 reclassification — or E.O. 88 as most of us refer to it. Our two-year battle was supported by both the public and private sector trades, which in part helped us resolve this pending disaster that would have impacted more than 10,000 City employees.

All along, the consensus was that once the 220 salary was eliminated in the public sector, the private sector would follow since so many projects are tied to the prevailing rate. If City employees earned less, the pressure on outside contractors to meet costs would have forced them to lower their bids and in turn drive down wages of their workers, a classic domino effect. Once Mayor Bill de Blasio was in office, his Administration was updated constantly, and many discussions transpired that resulted in the City finally withdrawing its appeal.

I would like to thank everyone who made this victory possible: MLC Chairman Harry Nespoli; NYC Central Labor Council President Vincent Alvarez; Gary LaBarbera,

2014 LABOR DAY PARADE

Local 246 is marching in this year's

LABOR DAY PARADE

Saturday, September 6, 2014

Please bring your family and friends and show your support for our union.

There will be t-shirts for everyone.

Food and refreshments will be served

at the staging area. Bring your antique cars, trucks and motorcycles.

We will begin assembling at 8 a.m. on West 46th Street
between 5th and 6th avenues.

If you need any additional information,
call the Union office or check website.

President of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York, as well as our Attorneys Robert Burzichelli and Harry Greenberg. This was a tremendous victory for all working men and women.

During the summer, we visited many of our shops to talk about the one most important issue on everyone's minds — contracts. As you know, we had our first meeting with the City on June 17, regarding our Auto Trades contract. This is our largest contract to negotiate, and covers members in the titles of Auto Mechanic, Auto Mechanic Diesel, Auto Machinist, Machinist, and Machinist Helper. I want to thank the following Auto Trades Negotiating Committee members for their time and effort so far: Auto Mechanic Jack Minerva (San), Machinist Ed Wojcik (BOE), Auto Mechanics Stanley Pirpinias (Police), Mordechai Ziv (DOT), and Mike Faix (San), as well as Vice President James Grillo, Treasurer Raymond S. Schacor, Recording Secretary Anthony Reyes, and Trustee Wayne Esposito.

The City has not yet contacted us with a response to our demands; however, we did request all costing of the Teachers' contract settlement and Healthcare agreement, and how these would apply to our negotiations.

In July we met to begin negotiating the Motor Grader Operator and Tractor Operator contracts. We share a bargaining certificate with Local 15 of the International Union of Operating Engineers on these titles, so it is one that is jointly negotiated. At that meeting, the City told us that the costing of 220 prevailing rate contracts will take some additional time in order to finalize the values. This will, of course, affect most of our other 220 contracts. Local 246 is in the process of reviewing similar contracts with 220 titles in the private sector to evaluate if the comparisons work to our advantage.

We have requested dates for bargaining on all our other 220 titles as well — the outside NYC Auto Trades, Rubber Tire Repairer, Carriage Upholsterer, Door Stop and Door Check Maintainers, Letter/Sign Painter and Sheet Metal Workers. The Auto Service

Workers contract is a career and salary contract and is directly impacted by the Citywide settlement. This contract includes the titles of Auto Service Worker Level I and II, Auto Body Worker, Oil Burner Specialist, and Marine Maintenance I & II.

With each contract, we will select members from that title to participate at bargaining so all titles can express their concerns and demands for themselves. The contract talks are always difficult and the Executive Board is committed to doing our very best to achieve the goal of settling the contract. We have waited years to make it this far and are hopeful that with the new de Blasio Administration, actual "negotiating" takes place. From what we have seen so far, we are remaining optimistic and are hopeful that all our contracts will be resolved very soon.

On a different note, Welfare Fund trustees met in June and are in the process of evaluating improvements to the dental program. Target date for these changes is January 1, 2015. Once everything has been finalized, plan participants will receive letters detailing the improvements. The prescription plan took steps to protect our funds and made additional changes to the benefits. Letters are being sent out explaining those new guidelines.

The annual Central Labor Council Labor Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, September 6. Local 246 will be marching in unity and solidarity with dozens of other unions from the City and beyond. Please join us as we gather on West 46th Street between 5th and 6th avenues. We are striving for at least as large a turnout as last year. Come with your friends, your family, your coworkers, and of course your antique cars, trucks, and motorcycles.

I look forward to seeing you at the September General Membership meeting, the first after our two-month summer hiatus, so I can give you all further updates on issues impacting our Union.

IMPORTANT INFO FOR: 9/11 RESCUE & RECOVERY WORKERS

New York State would like to ensure you preserve your right to Workers' Compensation if you participated in the rescue, recovery and clean-up of the World Trade Center through September 12, 2002. File a WTC-12 form (wcb.ny.gov/WTC12) with the New York State Workers' Compensation Board by 9/11/14. This preserves your right to future benefits, should you ever need them. For questions, please call 855-WTC-2014. Tell us you were there. To learn more about benefits available through the 9/11 WTC Health Program for rescue and recovery workers, visit www.cdc.gov/wtc. Additional information and resources for 9/11 rescue and recovery workers are available on a dedicated page at 911memorial.org.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, **SEPTEMBER 18, 2014**

6:00 p.m.

St. Stanislaus Church
61-17 Grand Avenue
Maspeth, NY 11378

- ▶ 50/50 Raffle
- ▶ Door Prizes
- ▶ Refreshments



GOOD & WELFARE

IN MEMORIAM

Joseph Bernardo Sr.
Retired Auto Machinist — San

Arnold Cohen
Retired Auto Mechanic — San

Richard Denino
Retired Auto Mechanic — San

George Holt
Retired Machinist — HHC

Johann Olberding
Retired Auto Mechanic — San

Joseph Sinatra
Retired Machinist — G/S

IN MEMORIAM FAMILY

William Buchak (Father)
Auto Mechanic — Fire

David Canner (Sister)
Auto Mechanic — San

Michael Capritto (Mother)
Auto Mechanic — San

Alfred Castronovo (Father)
Auto Mechanic — DOC

Michael Clohessy (Sister)
Auto Machinist — San

Giorgio Dessi (Brother)
Ret. Machinist — DEP

Manuel Nieves (Mother)
Auto Mechanic — San

Theodore Olberding (Wife)
Ret. Auto Mechanic — San

Robert Stewart (Mother)
Auto Mechanic — Fire

REPORTING ILL:

Edward Wojcik
Shop Steward
Machinist — DOE

NEW MEMBERS

Phillip Abiboutros
Auto Electrician — San

Alex Andonian
Auto Mechanic — San

Philippe Battaglia
Machinist — BOE

Kyle Bauccio
Auto Service Worker — San

Glyne Browne
Auto Mechanic — San

Ivan Ceballos
Auto Service Worker — San

Santana Cesar
Auto Service Worker — San

James Cooper
Auto Service Worker — San

Vito Cucuzza
Auto Service Worker — San

William Davids
Auto Service Worker — San

Thomas DeLeo
Auto Mechanic — San

Christopher DiGregorio
Auto Service Worker — San

George DiLieto
Machinist — San

Daniel DiMitri
Auto Mechanic — San

Michael J. DiPaola
Auto Service Worker — San

Anthony Dombrowski
Machinist — HOU

Joey Djelevic
Auto Mechanic — San

Juan Duarte
Auto Mechanic — San

Jesse Echanique
Auto Mechanic — DOT

Paul Fiorerosso
Auto Mechanic — San

Ray Fisher
Auto Mechanic Diesel — San

Randy Hall
Auto Mechanic — San

Kin Huang
Auto Mechanic — San

Anthony Ibelli Jr.
Auto Mechanic Diesel — San

Shazam Ibrahim
Auto Body Worker — Police

Mathew Jakubowski
Auto Service Worker — San

Sebastran Kasprozcz
Auto Electrician — San

Kevin Kenny
Auto Service Worker — San

Thanh Lien
Auto Mechanic — San

Jocque Miller
Auto Mechanic — San

Alim Mohamed
Machinist Helper — BOE

Kerry Nobie
Auto Mechanic — San

Albert Padilla
Machinist — Parks

Ricardo Pinedo
Auto Electrician — Correction

George Plevritis
Auto Mechanic — San

Zamin Rahaman
Machinist — BOE

NEWBORN CHILDREN

Shafraz Bacchus (Girl)
Machinist — DEP

John Grieco (Boy)
Auto Mechanic Diesel — San

Maksim Kodinsky (Girl)
Auto Mechanic — San

Wayne Mazzella (Grandson, Boy)
Ret. Auto Mechanic Diesel — Fire

Antonio Napolitano (Girl)
Machinist Helper — DEP

Gregory Valestin (Boy)
Auto Mechanic — Fire



Congratulations to **John Grieco** (Auto Mechanic Diesel — San) and his wife Maria Ann on the birth of their first child, a son John Anthony Grieco IV. He was born on August 1, 2014, weighing in at 9 lbs. 8 oz. and was 21" long.

Congratulations to **Gregory Valestin** (Mechanic — Fleet Services, FDNY) and his wife Michelle on the birth of their son Gradye Samuel Valestin, born June 24, 2014.



Congratulations to **Wayne Mazzella** (Retired Auto Mechanic Diesel — Fire) and his wife Theda on the birth of their grandson, Joseph Wayne. He was born June 28, 2014, weighing 9 lbs. 7 oz., and as 19½". Parents are Wayne Jr. and Randa Mazzella.



Tractor Operator Dennis Mayes and his wife Ofelia stopped by the Local 246 office this summer to speak to Business Agent Tom Graziano. Mayes is employed at the Department of Environmental Protection working out of the East of the Hudson facility.

Andy Rodriguez
Auto Service Worker — Police

Michael Ruocchio
Auto Service Worker — San

Robert Sher
Auto Mechanic — San

Kamil Slazak
Auto Service Worker — San

Patrick Van Wettering
Auto Mechanic — BOH

Paul Vetrano
Motor Grader Operator — DOT

Damian Vergot
Machinist — DEP

Joseph Wint
Auto Electrician — San

William Wong
Auto Mechanic — San

RETIRING MEMBERS

Marc Abrams
Auto Electrician — San

William Curiel
Auto Machinist — San

Jerome Fischer
Auto Mechanic — Fire

Paul Hinds
Auto Mechanic — San

Wieslaw Koziorzewski
Machinist — DEP

John Miele
Auto Mechanic — Police

Edward Moroch
Auto Mechanic — Fire

Louis Munnier
Auto Mechanic — Fire

Angelo Pepe
Auto Mechanic — San

Daniel Pisani
Auto Mechanic — Police

James Pugliese
Auto Mechanic — San

Joseph Ross
Auto Mechanic — Fire

Joseph Simone
Auto Mechanic — San

Raymond Szumski
Auto Mechanic — Fire

JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING





NEWS & NOTES

COBRA APPLICATIONS — If you are no longer in active pay status you may not be eligible for health benefits and/or welfare benefits. You must purchase these benefits directly through the COBRA program for welfare benefits you should contact the union office. For health benefits you should contact the agency benefits coordinator. You must enroll within 60 days from the qualifying event.

DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION RETIREMENT & REUNION DINNER

— The 51st annual retirement and reunion dinner is scheduled for Monday, November 3. Please contact Jim Grillo at 212.233.0616 for more information and to purchase tickets.

URGENT CALL TO UPDATE YOUR BENEFICIARY CARD

— Members when was the last time you thought about, who's your Beneficiary? Over the years your beneficiary might have changed. It's important to you and for our office to have the correct information for each member on their beneficiary card. Please contact the Fund office at (212) 233-0616 and request that a new beneficiary card be sent to you. Once you received the card, fill it out completely and accurately and send it back to our office immediately before you forget.

ONLY MEDICARE-ELIGIBLE RETIREES ENROLLED IN APPROVED HMOs

— NYC Local 246 will prepare the first half of 2014's reimbursement payments for those Medicare eligible retirees currently enrolled and/or who have opted to purchase their drug rider through deductions in their pension checks. In order to receive reimbursement from the Retirees Welfare Fund, eligible retirees must forward to the Union Office copies of their pension stubs for the period of January 1-June 30, 2014.

COLLEGE LETTERS DUE NOW FOR RETIREE

— Retiree members with dependents ages 19 to 23, who are attending college full time, must submit proof each semester – fall and spring. A

letter that is signed dated and bears the seal of the College Registrar, stating that the dependent is a full time, matriculated student is required as proof of eligibility for the prescription Welfare Benefit. Prescription claims for dependents that letters have expired will not be honored. They will be terminated.

ANNUITY FUND STATEMENTS

— Annuity Fund statements and transactions should already have been received by members. If you have not yet received yours, please contact ASO at 877.999.3555 ext. 5520 or check your account online at www.asonet.com/annuity/signin.asp

UNION WEBSITE

— The Union's website contains numerous downloadable forms for members' use, and has various links to useful information. Please visit the site at www.nyclocal246.org regularly for important updates. Please call the Union office if you don't know your user name and password.

DOWNLOAD DENTAL CLAIM FORMS

— Members can now download their dental claim forms and find a participating dentist by logging on the Union's web site at www.nyclocal246.org. Once you do find a dentist, please call the dentist to verify that they still participate with Healthplex. The group number is GG-493.

DENTAL CLAIM SUBMISSION

— All dental claims should be filed with the Union's Dental Administrator. Claims should be sent to Healthplex, Inc., 333 Earle Ovington Blvd., Suite 300, Uniondale, NY 11553. Claims must be submitted within one year after completion of dental treatment. You can also visit their web site at www.healthplex.com at any time to view your account, or call their customer service department at 1.888.468.5178, option 1.

COPE RAFFLE WINNER — Winner of the 50/50 Cope Raffle for June 2014 was **Raymond Schmidt** — Retired Auto Mechanic, Sanitation.

DOT HONORS LONGTIME MEMBERS



Vice President James Grillo (far right) attended this year's DOT awards ceremony in June honoring those members with 25 years or more of service. The event, gives special recognition to those who day in and day out work to keep New York City rolling.

"Our members put their hearts and souls into their jobs every day without accolades from the City," Grillo said. "When a Department honors workers for the efforts, it goes a long way."

Pictured with him are Auto Mechanic Chicky Ciechanowsky, Executive Director John Paterno, and Auto Mechanic Ernie Ferrante.

VISIT THE UNION'S WEBSITE
www.nyclocal246.org
for the most
up-to-date
information on
both
union matters &
welfare fund benefits.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

KOMNICK SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Congratulations to Thomas A. Ferriello, son of John Ferriello (Auto Mechanic — San) and his wife Mary, on winning this year's \$1,000 Lawrence Komnick Scholarship Award.

"I am extremely happy and honored to receive the Lawrence Komnick Memorial Scholarship. I would like to thank SEIU Local 246 for this award. With the help of this scholarship, I will be attending the University of North Florida, where I hope to find my passion and a future career," Ferriello said. "This scholarship will help me keep my student loans affordable and give me more of a chance to focus on school and learning, rather than finances. I can't wait to attend UNF in the fall where I hope to meet new friends, learn many new things, and build a foundation for a great future."

The scholarship is named after Lawrence Komnick, an Auto Mechanic who worked at the Police Department and was tragically killed in the performance of a truck inspection.

"The Union is glad to offer this yearly scholarship to help one deserving young student defray some of the costs of college education," said President Joe Colangelo. "I had the pleasure of speaking with Thomas and John when I presented the award. This is a young man with a very bright future ahead of him. I'm glad Local 246 had the opportunity to be a part of that."



SEIU SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Katarzyna (Kasia) Endler, daughter of Michael (Auto Mechanic — Police) and Krystyna was this year's winner of the \$1,500 2014 SEIU Lottery Scholarship Program that will help her offset the cost of her college education.

Kasia is attending Fordham University in the Bronx. "As a sophomore in the fall, I will be declaring my two majors: Education and International Affairs. When I graduate, I plan to teach English to students outside of the United States. Thank you for this wonderful aid that will significantly help further continue my education."

Union President Joe Colangelo said he was glad to hear that a Local 246 member's child was the recipient of an International scholarship.

"We are proud that SEIU provides this valuable benefit that helps fulfill the educational aspirations of our members and their children," he said.

Join Local 246 is marching in this year's

LABOR DAY PARADE

Saturday, September 6, 2014

LOCAL 246 WINS TWO-YEAR BATTLE WITH CITY ON PREVAILING RATE LAWS

Continued from page 1

the Union's titles from Labor Law §220 prevailing rate employees to graded titles. This reclassification plan altered wages and supplements and leave regulations.

"The change to benefits alone would have amounted to more than \$6,000 per new hire," Colangelo said. "This massive reclassification overhauled a system that had been in place for more than a 100 years, whereby prevailing rates are set by the New York City Comptroller. The Bloomberg Administration tried to sneak this through under the cover of night in an attempt to undermine the unions. It didn't work."

Local 246 sought and obtained a temporary restraining order from the New York City Supreme Court. The same court later granted Local 246's petition annulling the City's reclassification plan and concluding that it was arbitrary and capricious because it violated New York State Civil Service Law §20 and New York State Labor Law §220(8-d). The City then appealed the Trial Court's decision, but the Appellate Division unanimously affirmed the lower court's decision. In late 2013 the Bloomberg Administration pressed on, appealing to the State's highest court, the Court of Appeals, and the matter was scheduled for oral argument in September 2014.

Colangelo said Local 246 extends sincere thanks to the Union's Attorneys, Robert Burzichelli and Harry Greenberg, for their great work and collaboration with counsel from the other impacted unions. Thanks also goes to Harry Nespoli, Chairman of the MLC; Vincent Alvarez, President of the CLC; and Gary La Barbera, President of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York.

"Everyone came together to make this possible," Colangelo said. "It was a team effort fighting the City and we won."



Pictured at the Sanitation Staten Island 1 facility, from left: Auto Mechanics William Lauren, John Lagatta and Monty Taylor, Local 246 President Joe Colangelo, and Recording Secretary Anthony Reyes.

Through fruitful discussions with Mayor Bill de Blasio's office and Corporation Counsel, all parties were able to agree to withdraw the pending appeal before the State's highest court. As a result, the Appellate Division's decision in favor of Local 246 stands, and the reclassification continues to be invalid.

"This not only is a great victory for our members, but a victory that will live on through the lives of future members and of all the prevailing wage employees who work for the City of New York," Colangelo said.

PASTORELLI RECEIVES PROCLAMATION



Local 246 President Joe Colangelo presented recently retired Vice President Charles Pastorelli with a Proclamation from New York State Assemblyman Peter Abbate. The Proclamation — marking Charlie's 33-year career with the Police Department — in part read:

"Whereas, Charles Pastorelli became active with SEIU Local 246 as a Shop Steward in 1996 ... and Whereas, Charles Pastorelli has been a fierce advocate for members of the Unions and the labor movement as a whole ... and Whereas, Charles Pastorelli was instrumental in building solidarity throughout the membership by reaching out to various Union shops and being accessible to members; and Whereas, Charles Pastorelli defines himself by the deeds he always does for others and by the goodness of his heart; now, therefore, be it Proclaimed, that Charles Pastorelli now be recognized for his many years of dedication to SEIU Local 246."

GOLFERS WANTED FOR 9/22 WOUNDED WARRIOR GOLF OUTING

If you like to golf, you won't want to miss the Civil Service Coalition of Building Trades' September 22 golf outing to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

Registration for the event begins at 7:00 a.m., followed by a Continental Breakfast at 8:00 a.m., and Shot Gun Start at 9:00 a.m. The event is taking place at Pelham/Split Rock Golf Course, 870 Shore Road in the Bronx.

Cost is \$600 per foursome (price includes continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, dinner and open bar). Individual golfer price is \$150 and also includes continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, dinner and open bar. For those who do not golf but want to attend the dinner, the cost is \$40.

Please make checks payable to: Civil Service Coalition of Building Trades, and send to 395 Hudson Street, 9th floor, New York, NY 10014, c/o Bill Lacey or Martin Lydon. They can be reached at 212.366.7500 for those who have questions or who want to become a Gold, Silver or Tee sponsor.

The Wounded Warrior Project is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. Programs are specifically structured to engage warriors, nurture their minds

and bodies, and encourage their economic empowerment.

Warrior families and caregivers are provided comfort, care, and education to help support the recovery of their injured warrior. All programs are provided free of charge for warriors and their families. Whether through caregiver retreats, combat stress recovery programs, career and education services, or inclusive sporting opportunities, WWP empowers warriors with the tools essential to not just survive their injuries but to thrive and achieve personal and professional success.

Local 246 President Joe Colangelo said that the Union, which is a member of the Coalition, has been promoting the event to its members via Shop Stewards.

"Many of our Shop Stewards have gone above and beyond the call of duty to get members to sign up for this great event," Colangelo said.



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IMPACT

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REMEMBER OUR TROOPS & PRAY FOR THEIR SAFETY

QUEENSBORO INTERNS

Local 246 President Joe Colangelo welcomed summer interns to the Sanitation Queensboro Shop when he visited this summer to speak with members.

"These three young men are part of an internship program run by the City that allows students learning automotive trades to put their skills and knowledge to use in an actual working environment," Colangelo said. "Working alongside Local 246 members who are the best in the trade, gave these students the chance to learn on the job what it's like to work in one of the busiest automotive environments around."

"I told them how lucky they were to be a part of our team, even if only for a short while," Colangelo said. "Our members who worked with these students commented on their skills, determination and drive to really learn and get the job done. They are an impressive group of students."

Pictured from left are Surindra Ramjit (Thomas Edison), Local 246 President Joe Colangelo (Aviation High School), Dylan Santiago (Brooklyn Automotive), and Manuel Tejada (Brooklyn Automotive).

