

IMPACT

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WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBERING THOSE WHO DIED ON THE JOB

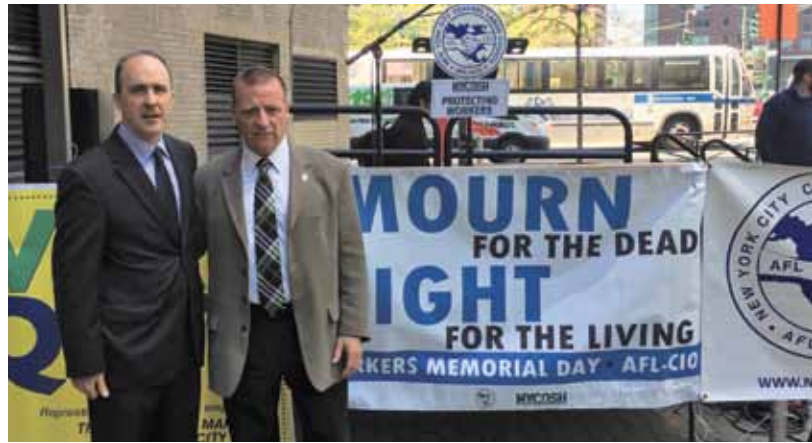
Each year, thousands of workers are killed and millions more are injured or become ill because of their jobs. On April 28, unions across the City observed Workers Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job, and to renew the fight for safe jobs.

President Joe Colangelo said that although unions have made great strides in workplace safety, there is still so much more to do.

"We have come a long way from the days of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in which hundreds died due to unsafe working conditions," he said. "However, any single life we lose is still one too many, especially when that one death could have easily been prevented. As labor leaders, we are all committed to fighting until all workers have safe jobs and the freedom to form and belong to unions that are set up to help protect workers on the job."

The Occupational Safety and Health Act and Mine Safety and Health Act promise workers the right to a safe job. Unions and our allies have fought hard to make that promise a reality — winning protections that have made jobs safer, saved hundreds of thousands of lives, and prevented millions of workplace injuries and illnesses.

"The current attack on safety regulations and unions in general is a threat to us all," Colangelo said. "Enforcement programs designed to protect workers are on the chopping block in



President Colangelo with NYC Central Labor Council President Vincent Alvarez

Washington, thereby putting all workers at risk when they are on the job. We cannot turn back the clocks to a time when going to work meant your life was on the line."

Unions need to fight back to defend OSHA laws, safety, and health protections, and workers' rights; fight any attempts to cut job safety budgets or weaken enforcement; increase efforts to protect the safety and health of workers; pass the Protecting America's Workers Act to provide OSHA protection for the millions of workers without it; and ensure workers' right to have a voice on the job, and to freely choose to form a union without employer interference or intimidation.



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Message from President JOSEPH A. COLANGELO



The challenges facing labor today are numerous, and the attacks on collective bargaining and workers' rights will surely continue indefinitely. That being said, it's important to understand the history of labor, because if we don't, like Santayana wrote in *The Life of Reason* (1905), "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Unions started to organize early in the history of our great nation, with the skilled trades leading the way. The first strike involved journeymen tailors in 1768, while the formation of the Federal Society of Journeymen Cordwainers (shoemakers) in Philadelphia in 1794 marked the beginning of sustained trade union organization among American workers.

The labor movement in the United States grew out of the need to protect the common interest of workers. For those in the industrial sector, organized labor unions fought for better wages, reasonable hours, and safer working conditions. The labor movement led efforts to stop child labor, give health benefits, and provide aid to workers who were injured or retired — and we still fight for these today.

I get asked many times from new and seasoned members alike how Local 246 came into being. It's a history lesson worth repeating.

Originally, Local 246 was one of three unions representing the Auto Trades, along with the International Association of Machinists and Local 237 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. There was intense rivalry between the three, until the newly created Office of Collective Bargaining held a citywide election. Since Local 246 was a member of the Building Service International, the other unions labeled us as "window washers." Despite their attack to cast us in a wrong light, Local 246 was a well-organized unit and had been more responsive to both work location

SHOE REIMBURSEMENT TIME IS RUNNING OUT

The Officers and Executive Board of Local 246 are pleased to announce that all Active Dues Paying Members may be reimbursed up to \$60 toward the expense incurred for one pair of work related shoes that you purchase AT ANY STORE.

Reimbursement will apply only to shoes purchased between January 1, 2017 and May 31, 2017. Claim must be submitted by June 15, 2017.

Shoe expense reimbursement claim forms were already sent to Active members in January. Only **original purchase receipts** will be accepted for reimbursement.

and bargaining needs of the trades, leading us to win the election by a wide margin.

The Local's original attorneys, with an extensive record in the field of labor law, won a case called the "Don" Case, named after Steve Don who was a Carriage Upholsterer working in CRS, that preserved the right of City trades employees to be covered under Section 220 of the New York State labor law. A second successful case, the "Kelly" case that involved a member of a DC37 local, required the City to pay trades workers according to the "duties performed" and not their civil service title.

These two cases became a cornerstone of Local 246's success in ensuring our members receive the pay they are rightfully due.

In its early days, the Union functioned under rules established by a Mayoral Executive Order and a City Department of Labor. During this period, the Union obtained certification to represent trades in the Department of Sanitation. When then-Mayor John Lindsay proposed creating a new labor relations agency and rules governing collective bargaining, Local 246 joined James Bishop of the Bridge Painters' Union and testified before the City Council obtaining an exclusion for 220 titles from the citywide unit that was being formed by that legislation.

The informal trades group that had been formed to coordinate improvement in benefits for the trades, again led by Local 246 and Jim Bishop, made significant improvements in the initial benefits for the 220 titles, such as paid holidays. Prior, workers in the trades titles took holidays off, but without pay, meaning months like November with three holidays led to significantly reduced pay checks.

In the days before citywide unit contracts, the Sanitation Workers Union won a groundbreaking "Memorandum of Understanding" in the Department of Sanitation that covered a lot of the work rules governing daily on-the-job activities of the Sanitation Workers. Local 246 was quick to follow suit.

The Local 246 Memorandum covered new work rules about overtime, transfers, and certain work place improvements. The benefits and rules that make our workplaces safer and more structured go back a long way.

In fact, the early labor movement in this country was fighting for the same things we fought for as our Local was being formed, and the same things we fight for now — the immediate job interests of our members. The formation of the AFL-CIO in 1955 testified to the powerful continuities persisting through the age of industrial unionism. The central purpose remained what it had always been — to advance the economic and job interests of the union membership. And that's still what it's all about today.

Just as unionism was a hot topic then, it remains so today. Our numbers are on the decline as the labor movement is under a constant barrage of attacks. Too many politicians are out to dismantle a system that has only worked to better the lives of millions.

Between 1975 and 1985, union membership fell by five million. In manufacturing, the unionized portion of the labor force dropped below 25 percent, while mining and construction, once labor's flagship industries, were decimated. Only in the public sector did the unions hold their own. By the end of the 1980s, less than 17 percent of American workers were organized, half the proportion of the early 1950s.

In 2009, just 12 percent of American workers belonged to unions. The anti-union movement remains strong. We need to remain stronger. We need to make our voices heard. We need to fight the fights that need fighting, like making sure we secure enough NO votes in November to stop a Constitutional Convention. The history of the labor movement and our Union holds tremendous lessons. We need to learn from them as we continue to fight the uphill battles that lie ahead.

CON CON

HARMFUL FOR LABOR

 **New York State**
CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION
Detrimental for Labor
VOTE NO!

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, **MAY 18**, 2017

6:00 p.m.

St. Stanislaus Church

61-17 Grand Avenue, Maspeth, NY 11378

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

NEW MEMBERS

Victor Adams

Auto Service Worker — Police

Nowaf Ali

Auto Service Worker — Police

William Baez

Auto Mechanic — San

Alex Bonomi

Auto Service Worker — Police

Michael Botros

Auto Service Worker — Police

Matias Burgos

Auto Service Worker — Police

Isael Candelario

Auto Service Worker — Fire

Xavier Carrillo

Auto Service Worker — Police

Daniel Coraggio

Auto Service Worker — DOT

Royston Cumberbatch

Auto Mechanic — Parks

Marc Curley

Auto Service Worker — Fire

Delon Geness

Auto Service Worker — Parks

Michael Lopez

Auto Service Worker — Police

Linval Manbauman

Machinist — DOH

Wilkie Martinez

Auto Mechanic — Fire

Adam Sussy

Auto Service Worker — Police

Zewen Tan

Auto Service Worker — Police

Omar Taveras

Machinist — DOH

Tevaughn Campbell

Auto Service Worker — Parks

Darius Willis

Auto Service Worker — Police

GOOD & WELFARE

IN MEMORIAM FAMILY

Walter Chapman (Wife)
Ret. Auto Mechanic — San

Elvis Mundell (Father)
Machinist — DEP

Ravindra Sewsankar (Father)
Machinist — DEP

Gerald Stegner (Wife)
Ret. Auto Electrician — San

NEWBORN CHILDREN

Attilio Agostino (Twin Girls)
Machinist Helper — DEP

Joseph Parascandola (Boy)
Auto Mechanic — San

Vickram Sawh (Boy)
Machinist — San

Zong Shao (Girl)
Auto Mechanic — DOT

RETIRING MEMBERS

Richard Cristiano
Auto Mechanic — Police

Vincenzo Fecentese
Auto Mechanic — Police

Daniel Savino
Auto Mechanic — San

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Joseph Parascandola IV** (Auto Mechanic — San) and his wife Meranda on the birth of their son Joseph Anthony V on March 23, 2017. He weighed 6 lbs., 14 oz. and was 20½" long. Congratulations also to older sister Abigail.

"He will be helping daddy fix cars before we know it," Parascandola said.



Congratulations to **Attilio Agostino** and his wife Elizabeth on the birth of their twin daughters, Charlotte Marina and Violet Isabelle. The girls were born on March 21, 2017. Charlotte weighed 3 lbs. 4 oz. and Violet weighed 4 lbs. 2 oz. They were born at 6:22 p.m. and 6:23 p.m. respectively.

"They were born early and teeny, but they're growing so fast," Elizabeth said. "There's not much else to say about them — they just eat, sleep, and poop, lol."



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NEWS & NOTES

KOMNICK SCHOLARSHIPS — The drawing for the two Lawrence Komnick Scholarships will take place at the May 2017 membership meeting.

CORRECTION — We inadvertently identified Imran Massiah as the new Shop Steward from the Board of Elections. He is the new Shop Steward for Board of Education. He can be contacted at 929.214.0359. We apologize for the error.

GIFT CARD WINNERS — Congratulations to the Gift Card Winners from the April Membership Meeting: **Michael Antonette** (Retired Auto Electrician — San), **Pauline Sealy** (Sheet Metal Worker — Parks), **Daniel Trezza** (Auto Mechanic — DOC), **John Mathews, Jr.** (Auto Electrician — DOT), and **Matthew Reno** (Sheet Metal Worker — DOT).

UNION ANNUITY FUND — Administrative Services Only is the Union's Plan Administrator. We recommend that you visit

their website, www.asonet.com/annuity, periodically to review your contribution history and to verify that your account is being credited properly. You should check that you have the proper beneficiary designation on file. If you do not complete a beneficiary form, the Fund will make the distribution according to rules it may adopt. If you have any question please call Administrative Services Only at 877.999.3555.

THE MERMAID PARADE — The 35th annual Mermaid Parade is Saturday, June 17 at 1:00 p.m. Come join the fun at Coney Island in Brooklyn. Along with kicking off the summer, the Mermaid Parade originated to help continue the tradition of Mardi Gras like events that were often held on Coney Island in the first half of the 20th century. Artistic self-expression is also a highly encouraged part of the parade, and Mermaid Parade observers are likely to see mermaids, mermen, and a wide variety of other sea creatures. The Mermaid Parade also features local celebrities who take on the coveted roles of King Neptune and a Queen Mermaid each year. For more information, go to www.coneyisland.com/programs/mermaid-parade

NEW MEMBERS — New members must send us a copy of their marriage certificate and/or dependent(s) birth certificate(s). Members who are divorced must send us a copy of their divorce papers. You will be responsible for any outstanding bills your spouse/domestic partner submits for reimbursement that they are not entitled to.

RETIREES IN APPROVED HMOs — Local 246 is preparing reimbursement payments for July-December 2016. In order for us to send out checks to retirees enrolled in the City's approved HMOs with a drug rider, you must forward copies of your pension stubs to Local 246, 217 Broadway, Suite 501, New York, NY 10007.

COPE RAFFLE WINNER — Winner of the 50/50 Cope Raffle for April 2017 was **Vito DiVittorio** (Auto Mechanic Diesel — San).

REPORTING ILL

Michael Kramer (Mother, Florence)
Auto Mechanic — DOT

Anthony Sconzo (Wife, Tina)
Auto Mechanic — DOT

A TRAGIC DAY FOR THE RAM FAMILY

It was a grim day at the FDNY Repair Facility at Review Avenue on February 11, 2017, about noon. Rakesh Ram, son of **Yagyeshwar Ram** (Senior Auto Service Worker — Parks, Randalls Island Shop) was involved in a tragic forklift accident that took his life. He was at the time a parts contractor employee.

Rakesh leaves behind a fiancée, a younger brother, and his distraught parents.

"Words are not worthy enough to express our sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the entire family on this loss," said Local 246 President Joe Colangelo.

Auto Mechanic Seukumar Gandharry (FDNY Review Avenue Shop), as a Hindu Missionary, spoke to a capacity gathered at the farewell service, where he represented the Local 246 Executive Board and the entire membership (pictured at right). Using the authentic Hindu text, he echoed words of consolation to the grief stricken family and finished with prayers of faith, courage, and understanding to help them cope with their great loss.

His clarion call to all members of Local 246 — be proactive in the name of safety.



Auto Mechanic Seukumar Gandharry speaking at the farewell service.

EXEMPLARY WORK DOT HONORS MEMBERS



Eight Local 246 members were honored recently for their exemplary work and commitment in the Department of Transportation. "Whenever our members get honored for outstanding service, commitment to their jobs, or going above and beyond, it shines not only on them as individuals, but also on Local 246 as the union representing them," said Union Recording Secretary Anthony Reyes. "The members recognized by the DOT are true examples of what it means to be a dedicated municipal worker." Pictured from left: Anthony Sconzo (Auto Mechanic, 35 years), Michael Kramer (Auto Mechanic, 35 years), Alexander Soutanis (Letterer, 30 years), Henry Chin (Letterer 30 years), Julio Alverio (Senior Auto Service Worker, 30 years), and Reyes. Honored but not pictured were James Culbert (Auto Mechanic, 35 years), David Mattessich (Auto Mechanic, 30 years), and Hilario Menendez, Jr. (Auto Mechanic, 30 years).

31 YEARS ON THE JOB



On April 12, 2017 Recording Secretary Anthony Reyes attended the NYPD Retirement Ceremony held at One Police Plaza, where Nazeem Ali (Auto Mechanic), who retired after 31 years, was honored for his dedicated service to the NYPD. He started in 1984 at CRS front desk as a vehicle coordinator. He then transferred to Shop 3 to manage the stock room, and eventually transferred back to CRS Contract Office where he managed a budget of more than a million dollars. "Nazeem was a dedicated NYPD Support Services employee whose experience will definitely be missed. We wish him a healthy and happy retirement," Reyes said.

FLEET SERVICES RETIREMENT DINNER



NYPD Fleet Services Division honored two Local 246 members recently at its March 30 NYPD Retirement Dinner.

Both George Sher (Auto Mechanic, Diesel) and Tommy Hom (Auto Mechanic) were honored at Russo's on the Bay at the event that pays tribute to those who have dedicated themselves to the City as municipal employees.

"Local 246 members provide a much needed and vital service to the City, which would not be able to function without our contributions," said Vice President Jim Grillo.

MEMORIAL DAY

As you celebrate Memorial Day at the end of May, please take a few minutes to remember our troops who died in active military duty while serving our Country and pray for those still serving to protect our freedoms.



OFFICER & TRUSTEE ELECTION

NOMINATIONS FOR ALL POSITIONS AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

This upcoming Local 246 election is for the entire slate of officers and trustees. The following are those up for re-election:

For the position of President Joseph A. Colangelo
For the position of Vice President James Grillo
For the position of Secretary/Treasurer . . . Raymond S. Schacor
For the position of Recording Secretary . . Anthony Reyes
For the position of Sentinel Philip Mazal

For the position of Trustee Position #1 . . . Stanley Pirpinias
For the position of Trustee Position #2 . . . Edward Wojcik
For the position of Trustee Position #3 . . . Jack Minerva

Nominations for all eight positions will be announced at the September General Membership Meeting. This upcoming election will be by Mail-In Ballot Only. Honest Ballot Association will oversee the election according to the By-Laws of Local 246. All candidates must adhere to the Constitution and Bylaws when submitting their nomination petition, including but not limited to, submitting the necessary number of member signatures by June 15, 2017, and agreeing to be bound by the Election Committees' rules.

Ballots will be mailed to you by the end of September 2017. Voting will take place from the end of September until October 19, 2017. Please follow instructions on voting according to the information indicated on the ballot. Ballots must be received by the Post Office prior to 12 noon on October 19, 2017, so they can be

processed through your postal system and received by Honest Ballot Assoc. in time. Honest Ballot Assoc. will then commence the tabulation at a location approved by the Election Committee. The tabulation is open to all candidates and/or their observers and will be counted the afternoon of the October General Membership Meeting. The results will be certified and the newly elected officer appointed and sworn in at the October 19, 2017, General Membership Meeting that evening. Again, please follow the instructions for voting listed on the ballot. Please make sure to notify the Union office immediately of any address change.

If you do not receive a ballot by October 6, 2017, call the Union Office immediately. **IMPORTANT: TO MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS, PLEASE FILL OUT THE BALLOT & RETURN IT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE!**

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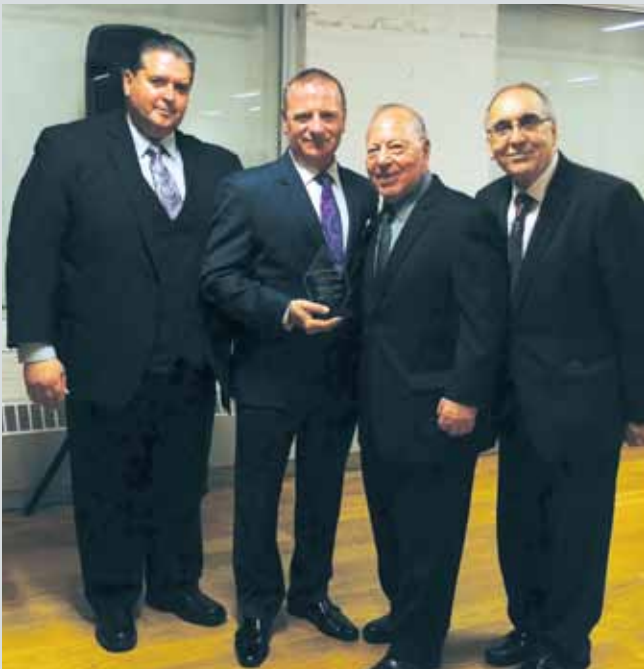
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REMEMBER OUR TROOPS & PRAY FOR THEIR SAFETY

PRESIDENT COLANGELO HONORED WITH LABOR LEADERSHIP AWARD



Local 246 President Joe Colangelo was this year's recipient of the Labor Leadership Award presented by the Civil Service Merit Council. He was honored by fellow labor leaders at the April 27 event, at which he received his award from Council President Neal Tepel.

The Civil Service Merit Council was founded in 1971 by Alfred Engel (d. 2007), an engineer who had worked in many New York City agencies and was active as a chapter chairman in the Civil Service Technical Guild, Local 375 (AFSCME, DC 37), and attorney Julian Jackson. Engel became the Council's first president. The purpose of the Merit Council was to advocate for strict adherence to civil service examination results, and against patronage, favoritism, and other abuses in civil service employment. The Council is a non-partisan coalition of individuals and organizations.

"It is an honor to be recognized for my contributions to the labor movement and for the battles we fight for our members," Colangelo said. "The City is full of outstanding labor leaders and I am privileged to be amongst them."

Pictured from left are Local 246 Recording Secretary Anthony Reyes, President Colangelo, Tepel, and Local 246 Business Agent Tom Graziano.