

New York subway hero an active member of Laborers Union

New York City subway hero Wesley Autrey — now known around the world for saving a student's life by risking his own — is a shop steward and 10-year member of Laborers Local 79. Autrey jumped on a subway track and shielded the student's body with his own as subway cars roared two inches overhead.

"Since I do construction work with Local 79, we work in confined spaces a lot," said Autrey in a Laborers Union press release. "So I looked, and my judgment was pretty right. The train did have enough room for me."

While the student recovered in a hospital, Autrey declined medical attention and was only a half-hour late for work. His boss apparently forgave the tardy, as he bought Autrey a "hero sand-

wich" for his actions. Autrey's story has now been told in newspapers and on TV around the world. He has received the Bronze Medallion from the mayor of New York.

"Wesley Autrey possesses the qualities of our shop stewards," said Local 79 Business Manager John Delgado. "He is always helping others and he serves as a real role model to other Laborers. We are proud and honored to have him as a member."

NOLC, LCSA donate record amount of gifts for children

Labor's Community Service Agency and the Northwest Oregon Labor Council and their affiliates donated a record 1,219 gifts to underprivileged children in the Portland metropolitan area during the holiday season, part of their annual Presents for Partners program.

On Dec. 16, over 350 children attended a party at Genesis Community Fellowship in Northeast Portland, where they enjoyed treats, visited with Santa Claus and received gifts.

"This was by far the biggest donation of toys in the history of the program," said Glenn Shuck, executive director of Labor's Community Service Agency. "It was the local unions who helped make it all happen."

Shuck said there were so many gifts this year that after every child at Genesis got two or three toys, the remaining items were donated for distribution through the Bethel Drop-In Center, the Dislocated Workers Project and Portland's Help the Homeless program.

In addition to the numerous unions that donated cash and toys, \$2,500 came from the BULL Session Charity Golf Tournament and toys were collected at Saturn of Beaverton.

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