

825. NEWS



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SERVING THE LOCAL 825 MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

VOL. 8 ISSUE 1

Members bring joy for kids to holiday party US Marines on hand to sort and distribute Toys for Tots



The 2017 holiday party ended the year on a high note, thanks to the generosity of Local 825 members. They streamed into the East Brunswick Hilton carrying bags, boxes and bicycles, all destined for children who will cherish them. Above, Greg Laveve and John Wood join with members of the US Marine

Corps Combat Logistics Battalion Headquarters in Red Bank. The Marines, led by Staff Sergeant Elio Rodriguez, transport the toys, sort them by age group and then distribute them to New Jersey organizations that designate recipients. See more photos on pages 4 and 5.

CALENDAR

Note, all district meetings begin at 7 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

JANUARY

1 – New Year’s Day
UNION HOLIDAY

8 – Semiannual Meeting
Hilton East Brunswick,
3 Tower Center Blvd., East Brunswick

15 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

FEBRUARY

2 – Groundhog Day

5 – District 1 meeting
Kerri Brooke Caterers
755 S. White Horse Pike, Hammonton

7 – District 2 meeting
FairBridgE Hotel
195 Davidson Avenue, Somerset

12 – District 3 meeting
Russian Hall
464 Outwater Lane, Garfield

14 – District 4 meeting
NY Training Center
6 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY

14 – Also Ash Wednesday and Valentine’s Day

19 – President’s Day
UNION HOLIDAY

26 – Blood Bank
Springfield Hall
3rd Floor, 1 pm – 6 pm

27 – Blood Bank
NJ Training Center
338 Deans Rhode Hall Road, Dayton
1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



2017 was great; 2018 may be better.

We know a good year when we see one and 2017 was a good year by any measure.

PSE&G and the Transportation Trust Fund provided the biggest sources of work. But contractors also provided much work, as they now know that Local 825 offers the best talent pool.

Our membership continues to edge up, showing growth as other unions have struggled to keep up

For all of that, momentum is strong as we enter 2018. We’re looking forward to an even stronger next twelve months.

Gaining STEAM

The economy is so strong that we’re facing a challenge to provide enough skilled operators in certain fields. The demand for milling and paving is so great that we must innovate to come up with a solution.

Enter STEAM – Supplemental Training Education And Mentorship – a fast-track program to train new OEs in high-demand areas, like the paving industry, while providing new opportunities for veterans, minorities, women and the sons, daughters and grandchildren of our members. Details are still being worked out but you can read more about this innovative program on page 6.

Politically speaking

To cap off an otherwise great year, our slate of

endorsed candidates, starting at the top with Gov. Elect Phil Murphy, turned in a stellar performance. And within a week of his election, Murphy ensured a strong voice for Local 825 by selecting me to serve as a co-chair of the Labor and Workforce Development team.

Gov. Elect Murphy had visited with us twice during 2017 and pledged each time to be receptive to our input. More on the gubernatorial transition on page 3.

Of interest: every one of the candidates who supported the gas tax increase of 2016 – which helped save the Transportation Trust Fund – was reelected to office. Despite all the threats at the time from those who opposed the gas tax, no candidate who backed the tax lost their election.

On December 12 we celebrated our annual holiday party at the East Brunswick Hilton. See story and photos on pages 4 and 5. As in the past, we had a great evening and were impressed by the generosity of our members who donated toys. We also appreciate the work of our US Marine Corps representatives who were on hand to load the toys after the event and transport them for distribution.

Thanks to everyone who attended and all who gave.

I hope all of you enjoyed the holidays with your families and I wish each of you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Contact Information

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(973) 921 - 2918 FAX

District Offices:

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(856) 470-1480
(856) 470-1485 FAX

96 Bates Gates Road
New Hampton, NY 10958
845-674-9020 - Phone
845-674-9025 - Fax

Health & Welfare office

65 Springfield Avenue, 2nd FL
Springfield, NJ 07081
(973) 671 - 6800
(973) 921 - 0706 FAX

96 Bates Gates Roads
Suite 70
New Hampton, NY 10973
(845) 374-2559
(845) 374-2564 FAX

NJ Training Center

338 Deans Rhode Hall Rd.
Dayton, NJ 08810
(732) 798-2170
(732) 798-2175 FAX

NY Training Center

Wawayanda location
96 Bates Gates Road
New Hampton, NY 10958
845-674-9020 - Phone
845-674-9025 - Fax

ELEC Office

65 Springfield Avenue, 2nd FL
Springfield, NJ 07081
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(973) 630-1013 FAX

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Local 825 influence expands with key recognition

On the heels of the November election, a series of appointments and recognitions demonstrated the growing influence of Local 825.

Labor & Workforce Development

Gov. Elect Phil Murphy made good on his pledge to represent the voice of labor in his administration by appointing Greg Lavee as a co-chair to his transition team on Labor and Workforce Development, along with other labor representatives and diverse segments of the population.

"I pledged to build my administration to mirror the diversity, talent, and potential of New Jersey," Murphy said in a statement. "Our co-chairs boast a rich diversity of background and experiences, of valuable government experience and unique outside perspectives."

In addition to Greg, other members of the Labor and Workforce Development transition team include:



Greg Lavee participates in Labor & Workforce Development Transition Team meeting.

Kevin Brown, NJ State Director and Vice President, 32BJ Service Employees International Union;

Lizette Delgado, Political Director, Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters;

Maria Heidkamp, Director, New Start Career Network;

James H. Moore, Jr., Ph.D., former Dep-

uty Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor;

Hetty Rosenstein, NJ State Director, Communication Workers of America;

Nelida Valentin, Vice President, Princeton Area Community Foundation.

InsiderNJ's Power 100

Shortly after being named co-chair, InsiderNJ named Greg No. 26 in its Power 100 list of "the most muscular players in New Jersey politics, across a broad spectrum of industries and disciplines."

Executives of the Year

South Jersey Biz magazine named Greg to its Executives of the Year publication.

"What's important in all this recognition is that Local 825 has become an important voice in labor matters that affect all of us," Greg said. "Being involved ensures that our voice will be heard when issues are discussed that are vital to our livelihood."

Stark priorities await new administration

In an Op-Ed published by NorthJersey.com in November, Greg Lavee laid out specific areas of priority facing the Garden State.

After congratulating Gov.-Elect Phil Murphy, Senate President Stephen Sweeney and the strong Democratic majorities in both houses of the Legislature, Greg enumerated the following critical areas to help rebuild the state's infrastructure and maintain high levels of employment.

Rail infrastructure

Governor-elect Murphy was right to make the woeful condition of our transit agency a priority of his campaign. Now he must follow



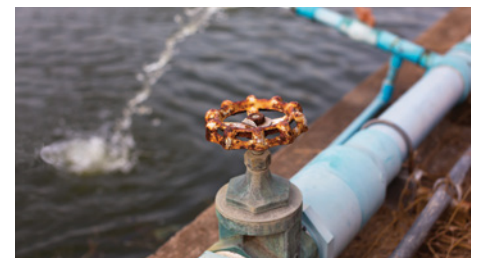
through to deliver on the funding sources.

Amtrak's Gateway program is perhaps the most important infrastructure project in the United States. Federal funds are still needed to build new rail tunnels under the Hudson River and improving the approaches in New Jersey. This will require a forceful voice with our U.S. senators and members of Congress.

The Portal North Bridge Project is a critical component of the Gateway Program – a comprehensive rail investment program would add resiliency and create new capacity on the 10-mile stretch of the Northeast Corridor between Newark and New York's Penn Station.

Water systems

Too many of our municipal water systems are dependent on wooden pipes that date to the 1800s. Worse, lead-lined pipes are still in use in cities and suburbs alike. Sewer systems that during heavy rains dump untreated sewage into our rivers. Our new gover-



nor needs to pressure utilities to step up and make these improvements.

Energy grid

Some utilities, like PSEG and others, have invested heavily in building a stronger, more resilient power system following the devastation by Superstorm Sandy. But more needs to be done, as severe weather resulting from global warming will continue to challenge our energy grid.

It will take time to address all of these needs but the start of a new administration provides the perfect opportunity to begin that process and set it in motion.

Members fill ballroom with holiday cheer in record celebration

Members began arriving up the escalator of the East Brunswick Hilton by 6 p.m., carrying toys of every size for this year's holiday party and piling them in bins and on tables.

By 7 p.m. the mound of toys reached over 6 feet high and 20 feet long. Members of the US Marine Corps were on hand to help receive the toys and join in the celebration.

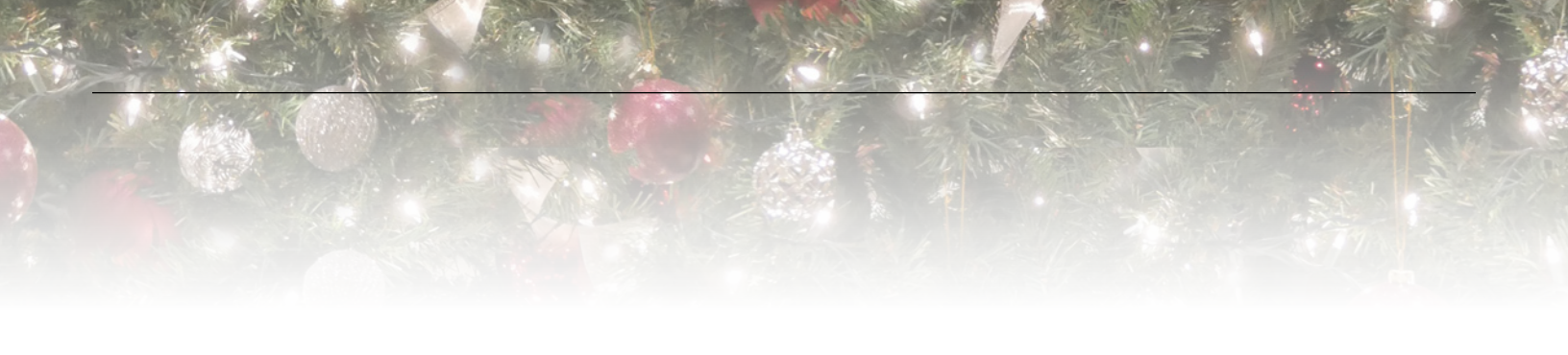
Business Manager Greg Lavee and President John Wood greeted members as they passed through the doors to the East Brunswick ballroom. The room was filled to capacity, as members enjoyed a holiday feast and enjoyed each others' company.

Over the course of the evening, the crowd was estimated to number between 400 and 500, which may be a record attendance for a holiday party.

As the party was still in full swing, members and Marines pitched in to help transport the toys in bins to the ground level, where they filled a van and a truck to begin their trip back to Red Bank Headquarters.

The photos on these two pages tell the story in more detail.





Vaccaro assumes role as training center co-director

Third-generation member of Local 825

Willie Vaccaro has stepped into his new role as co-director, along side of co-director Al Zabicki.

Willie grew up in a family of Operating Engineers and learned to operate equipment at age 18. A Local 825 member since 1984, he has worked as a part-time milling and paving instructor in the Dayton center since 2015.

“Willie is extremely valuable to the organization,” said Greg Laveve, Local 825 business manager. “He’s hands-on, he knows the ropes and he’s good with people.”

Vaccaro started as a mechanic. His grandfather, Frank Sr., operated steam shovels doing infrastructure work after World War II. Father, Frank Jr., served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1950s. He was well rounded, working in cranes and dirt. He served as a lead engineer for the last several years of his career.

Willie steps into the job during one of the busiest years in history for trained operators.

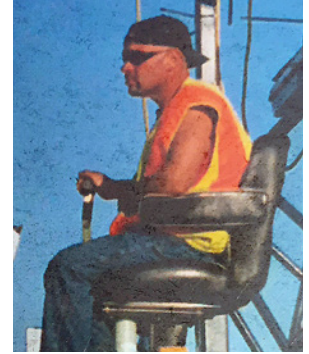
Working closely Al Zabicki, their first order of business is to organize and



Frank Vaccaro Sr.



Frank Vaccaro Jr.



Willie Vaccaro

host the annual winter classes, which run this year from Jan. 8 to March 2. Their intention is to double the programs and participants over last year, to meet increasing demand for operators.

Gaining STEAM

The STEAM program – for Supplemental Training Education And Mentorship – was developed to prepare recruits for work in the paving industry (see story below).

Normal winter classes will include basic crane, pile driving, milling and paving, pipeline, angle blade dozer, side boom. Then we

have our spider crane, our Brokk robotic and GPS classes on the dozer, excavator and rover.

“Training is always important but as our workforce ages, it’s even more vital to bring in young people who will be there tomorrow and in years to come,” Willie said.

The good news is that contractors are calling our dispatchers. Companies are ramping up and demand is increasing.

“With our Local’s investments in equipment and physical plant, our strong support staff and stable of experienced trainers, we’ll be ready to meet the challenge.”

In response to high demand, full STEAM ahead

The new STEAM program was developed in direct response to increased demand for operating engineers, particularly in the field of milling and paving.

The purpose of the Supplemental Training Education And Mentorship program is to train and acclimate recruits on a fast track to get them into the field as soon as possible.

“STEAM addresses three primary needs,” said Greg Laveve.

“First, it will help respond to the increasing demand for skilled operators.

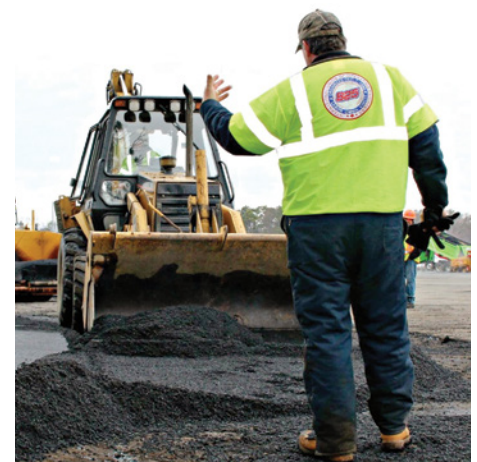
“Second, it provides the opportunity for greater diversity in jobs for minorities, women veterans and children and grand-

children of members.

“Third, it responds to the need to revitalize our membership by adding younger members in the organization. Many of our most experienced operators will be eligible to retire over the next several years and we need to provide new blood that will take us into the next generation.”

The program provides an opportunity for entrance into Local 825, in a guided path parallel to membership. STEAM training may be extended beyond normal winter classes to provide as much training as possible.

This program serves several needs and provides a win for members, contractors and Local 825.



TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

(732) 798-2170

JANUARY 8 – MARCH 2 Winter Classes

Classes start at 7 a.m. unless noted otherwise.

Contact the NJ Training Center to register for any of the following:

- Pipeline (angle-blade dozer, side boom, excavator, log loader truck.)
- Black-top (paving, milling, transfer machine, roller.)
- GPS (covers rover, dozer, excavator.)
- Basic crane (includes the all-terrain.)
- Pile driving (3900 with fixed & hanging leads, Junttan.)
- Casagrande drill.
- Bauer drill rig.
- Brokk.
- Helical piles.
- A WS welding class.

NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

(845) 673-3154

Contact either Craig Boyd at 845-673-3154 or Chris Rumsey at 845-674-9020 to sign up for either of the following two classes, or if you are interested in a class or certification not listed here. Once we have enough members for a class, you will be notified.

- OSHA 10 Class
- CPR Certification

www.facebook.com/IUOE825Training

ELEC News

NAIOP cites ELEC, Local 825 efforts to secure TTF

The New Jersey chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) honored Business Manager Greg Laveve for 2016 efforts by ELEC and Local 825 members to resolve the TTF crisis.

Greg accepted the group's Advocacy Award on behalf of ELEC Director Mark Longo and Kate Gibbs, both NAIOP members, with Kate serving on the Regulatory Affairs Committee for the past several years.

"The resolution of secure funding for the

Transportation Trust Fund was one of the most critical public policy achievements of the past decade," acknowledged NAIOP's award statement. "ELEC mobilized its members and deployed significant resources in support of a public information campaign that was needed to educate New Jersey residents and the media."

The 2017 President's Awards were presented at a dinner on Nov. 6 at the Short Hills Hilton.



NAIOP HONOREES – Back row, left to right: NAIOP NJ President Dave Gibbons; Patrick Leary (Gottesman Real Estate Partners); Neil Yoskin (Cullen and Dykman LLP); Greg Laveve (ELEC / Local 825); Brian Golden (JLL); Patrick Eichner (Avison Young); NAIOP NJ CEO Michael McGuinness. Front row, left to right: Andrew Merin (Cushman & Wakefield); Stacey Weinberg (Federal Business Centers); Jorge Berkowitz (Langan Engineering & Environmental Services); Kim Brennan (Colliers International); and Thomas Michnewicz (Somerset Development Group). NAIOP Photo.

ELEC Updates

HR 3017 reauthorizes brownfields program

A bill that assists localities with the environmental cleanup of properties for redevelopment has passed the U.S. House of Representatives, 409-8. The bill, sponsored by Congressman Leonard Lance (7th Congressional District) was approved by every New Jersey representatives.

According to Lance's statement, The Brownsfields Program has worked. "More than 59,000 sites nationwide (419 in New Jersey) have been transformed by emediation and removal of harmful chemicals and other hazards."

Efforts help pave way for recycled asphalt

Assembly bill A5195, sponsored by Tim Eustace and Kevin J. Rooney, calling for

the expanded use of recycled asphalt pavement, moved out of Assembly committee in December.

This bill provides that recycled asphalt pavement may be used unbound, as a surface material for parking lots, farm roads or pathways, in quarry reclamation or underneath guardrails or mixed with other materials as a base or subbase material, subject to Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) standards.

The Senate version of the bill, S3521, is sponsored by Robert M. Gordon and Steven V. Oroho.



International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

Fugitive flips car, dies in building crash

A runaway car fleeing Union County Police struck the Union Hall and Funds office building on Sunday, Nov. 19, doing significant damage to the side of the building occupied by the Advanced Pain Care medical practice.

The building was closed for following the accident until power and services could be restored. The driver of the car died in the crash.

News reports told the story of a bizarre incident that preceded the crash. The driver had been stopped in the Union Target store parking lot under suspicion of shoplifting.

When police approached, he claimed to have the Aids virus and tried to bite one of the officers. Then he sped away up Springfield Ave. in a Jaguar that had been reported stolen. As he entered the curve on Springfield Ave. in front of the Union Hall, he lost control, flipped over and crashed. The car burst into flames. Three police officers



worked to free him and had to be treated for smoke inhalation after the driver was pronounced dead.

The curve at Springfield Avenue has been the site of several car accidents over the past few years. Sunday's incident was the second time a vehicle crashed into the building this year. Previously, drivers have taken out streetlights and another crashed into the Elks Lodge on the other side of the road.

2018 scholarship season begins

If you have a child or grandchild who will graduate high school in June and is college bound, keep your eye on the IUOE825.ORG website and Facebook page for scholarship assistance.

Local 825 has awarded \$90,000 each year for the past three years and will do the same for 2018. Local 825's students are also eligible to apply for several other scholarships offered by our allied labor organizations. The Essex-West Hudson Labor Council AFL-CIO 2018 scholarships are detailed now on our website and more will be added in the coming weeks.

Given the ever-increasing cost of a college education, you owe it to yourselves to submit an application and lower the financial hurdle.