

# 825. NEWS



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

VOL. 8 ISSUE 4

## Local 825 participates in NYC water-main repair 21-foot-diameter tunnel to bore 3.5 miles, pass under Hudson



Nine hundred feet below Newburgh, in Orange County NY, Local 825 operating engineers are at work. They are part of a team that will excavate 3.5 miles under ground to make way for a new water tunnel. When complete in approximately five

years, the tunnel will bypass a damaged section of the Delaware Aqueduct that passes beneath the Hudson River. It will connect on the other side in Wappinger, NY. In the process, it will conserve millions of gallons of precious water every day.

# CALENDAR

## JULY

4 – Independence Day –  
Union Holiday

9 – Semi-Annual Meeting  
MetLife Stadium, 1 MetLife Stadium  
Drive, East Rutherford.

## AUGUST

No scheduled events

# TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

## NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m. unless  
otherwise noted. (732) 798-2170

## JULY

5, Saturday – Signal Person Class  
12, Saturday – Rigger Class  
21, Saturday – 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher  
7, 14, 21 & 28 (four study Saturdays) –  
CCO – 8 a.m. start time  
Written test – Sunday July 29

## AUGUST

4, Saturday – Signal Person Class  
11, Saturday – Rigger Class  
20, 21, 22, 23, 24, & 25 (Must attend all 5  
days) – 40-HOUR HAZMAT  
25, Saturday – 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher

## NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

(845) 673-3154

If you are interested in attending an  
OSHA 10, or a CPR Certification class  
or a class that is not listed, please con-  
tact either Craig Boyd 845-673-3154 or  
Chris Rumsey 845-674-9020. Once we  
have enough members for a class, you  
will be notified.

# VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



# Tunnels, bridges, highways and utilities fuel jobs

Summer is always a welcome time for  
outdoor construction. This year, employ-  
ment is in full swing.

We are busy on major bridges, heavy high-  
way, transit and utility projects. The Goethals  
Bridge passed a milestone in May with the  
opening of westbound lanes to New Jersey.

The Gateway Tunnel funding seems to  
have remained in the Congressional bud-  
get after all, despite concerns two months  
ago that the funding could be rescinded. In  
June, a Senate subcommittee approved \$2.5  
billion to advance the project as part of its  
2019 appropriations.

One disappointing sector is pipeline con-  
struction. Several pipeline projects have  
been tied up in months and years in legal  
challenges brought by pipeline opponents.  
Together with ELEC, our labor-management  
organization, we continue to advocate for  
these projects to move forward.

## New York underground

Meanwhile, many of our members are busy  
below ground, excavating a bypass tunnel  
from Newburgh, to Wappinger NY, a por-  
tion of which will pass beneath the Hud-  
son River. The Delaware Aqueduct is be-  
ing built over five years to ensure delivery  
of clean water to millions of people, while  
saving millions of gallons a day that cur-

rently is wasted through leaks. Read more  
on page 3.

In the past two months, our members  
participated in two of our most popular fund-  
raising events, the annual golf outing and the  
sporting clays target shooting. Both events  
sold out and raised money for the education  
of our children and grandchildren. Photos of  
these events are on pages 4 and 5.

## Scholarship payouts

The payoff from these events comes each  
year when we present the scholarship to  
nine students (also shown on page 5). Hav-  
ing a chance to meet each recipient and their  
families and hear how much these awards  
mean to them reinforces the importance of  
our members' efforts in staging these activi-  
ties and contributing to them.

Two more events are scheduled for this  
year. The annual motorcycle Poker Run will  
take place on September 23. The bi-annual  
Dinner Dance will be held on November 9  
at the Palace at Somerset Park, Somerset.

## Semiannual meeting in MetLife Stadium

Our next semiannual meeting on July 9 will  
be something special. Through our promo-

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Contact Information

### Local 825 Headquarters

65 Springfield Avenue, 3rd FL  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 671 - 6900  
(973) 921 - 2918 FAX

### District Offices:

5 Allison Drive  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003  
(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  
845-673-3154 - Phone  
845-674-9025 - Fax

### ELEC Office

65 Springfield Avenue, 2nd FL  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 630-1010  
(973) 630-1013 FAX

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# Local 825 members go underground to repair the Delaware Aqueduct

**N**ine-hundred feet beneath a forested hillside off Route 9W in Newburgh, N.Y., ground water oozes from layers of shale rock into a cavernous work space illuminated by bright spots and fluorescent lighting.

The access shaft, completed by Schiavone Construction in 2016, is as deep as the Citigroup Center building is tall. It brings workers down to the job and back up when it's time to go home. Cranes lower custom rail cars to remove debris and hoist them back up again to be dumped.

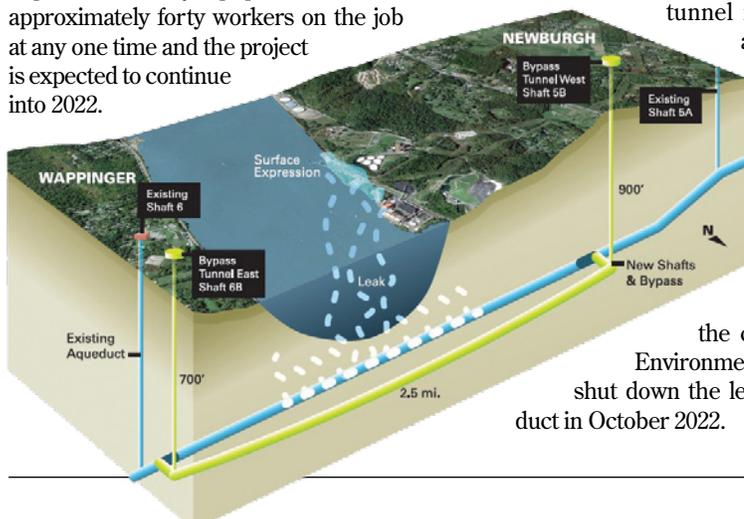
For the past year, Kiewit-Shea Constructors has been carving out a chamber at the bottom of the shaft, 42-feet wide, 100-feet long and 40-feet high, to create a staging area for construction.

Business Manager Greg Lalevee toured the site in late April with President John Wood, Business Agent Tim Muller and Lead Engineer Mark Evans, meeting with Local 825 members and reviewing progress.



**John Wood, Greg Lalevee and Tim Muller confer with lead engineer Mark Evans.**

The project is a major opportunity for Operating Engineers, as so much of the work depends on heavy equipment. Local 825 has approximately forty workers on the job at any one time and the project is expected to continue into 2022.



**Approaching the drill that progresses between five and six feet each day.**

The tunnel walls are reinforced with interlocking steel plates to prevent future leaks from shifting limestone. The floor is lined with rail tracks, allowing miniaturized rail cars to be loaded with debris, hoisted back up through the access shaft to be dumped, then lowered again.

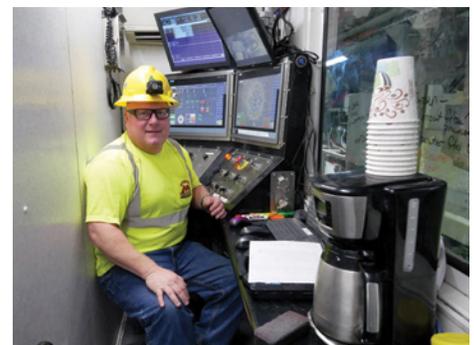
The main attraction is a tunnel-boring machine 21.5 feet in diameter, which slices through 460-million-year-old shale in Orange County, 70 miles north of Gracie Mansion. Its job is to bore a 2.5-mile bypass tunnel that will stop leaks in a portion of the existing pipe beneath the Hudson River.

At a rate of 5.5-feet per day, the tunnel is expected to take approximately five years to complete.

Its destination is the town of Wappinger on the east side of the Hudson, where a second access shaft has been dug. If all goes as planned, the city's Department of Environmental Protection will shut down the leaky Delaware Aqueduct in October 2022.



**The \$30-million drill was built by The Robbins Company of Ohio. It is 42.6 feet long and weighs 1,100 tons.**



**Steve Rhinesmith operates the drill from inside a narrow control room.**

# Popular events raise scholarship funds

## *A golf outing and a shoot-outing draw crowds*

**R**aising money is never easy but it can be fun. Golf, target shooting, motorcycle rides and dinner dancing keep members on their toes, all to benefit the children and grandchildren of Local 825 members while helping parents deal with high tuition costs.

“We’ve gotten these events down so that there is something for everyone,” said Greg Laveve. “We all look forward to the outings and they help us provide valuable support for our young people toward the cost of higher education.”

The sixth annual golf outing was this year’s first event, taking place on May 12 at the Gambler Ridge Golf Club in Cream Ridge. Members, friends and colleagues squeezed 18 holes of golf between rain showers in both the morning and late afternoon.

The annual Clay Shoot took place on June 10 at the Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays range in Pennsylvania. Teams of four each shot their way around the picturesque course, a former limestone quarry that now serves as a state-of-the-art shooting range for sportsmen and women.

On September 23, the annual motorcycle Poker Run will make tracks from the Training Center to Jackson Township. It will be followed by one of the best BBQs you will attend all summer.

Finally, the Local 825 Dinner Dance will take place at the Palace at Somerset Park on November 9.

“The winners of all these events are the children,” said Greg.

The photos of these events tell the tale. This year’s scholarship winners appear on page 5.



# Nine students awarded \$10,000 scholarships

## *Families gather to celebrate achievements*

**N**ine Local 825 families joined together on June 5 at the East Brunswick Hilton to receive the scholarship they were awarded for their application and essay submissions.

More than 30 applicants competed for this year's prizes.

Business Manager Greg Lavee was joined by President John Wood and fellow officers to confer the awards.

"This evening is about the generosity of our members and friends who contribute," Greg said. "It is a feel-good, labor of love to help our families face financial challenges as they struggle to raise and educate their children."

This year's winners are:

- **Morgan Carr** is the daughter of Jeffrey Carr of Hardyston. She graduated from Wallkill Valley Regional High School and was awarded the Understanding Unionism award. She will attend Rowan University to major in Civil Engineering.
- **Michele Modugno**, the granddaughter of the late Emil Modugno of Basking Ridge and a graduate of Basking Ridge High School, was awarded the Outstanding Student scholarship. Michele plans to attend Seton Hall University to study Biology on the Physical Therapy track
- **William Goldsbrough III**, the grandson of William A. Goldsbrough of Sewell, graduated from Delsea Regional High School, was awarded the Outstanding Athlete Award. He plans to attend Georgian Court University to study exercise science and sports medicine.
- **Jessica Landolfi**, the daughter of Joseph Landolfi of Pilesgrove, graduated from Woodstown High School. An academic award winner, she plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh in the fall to study marketing and Nonprofit Management.
- **Emily Carvalheiro**, the daughter of Gil Carvalheiro of Monroe Township, graduated from Monroe Township High School. She won an academic award and will use it to attend Rutgers University to study Biology.
- **Chloe Wong**, the granddaughter of John P. Hammond and a resident of Hillsborough, graduated from Hillsborough High School and won an academic award. She plans to attend Rutgers University to study Nursing.
- **Nelson Capela**, the son of Alcides Capela of Elizabeth, graduated from Union County Magnet High School. An academic award winner, he will attend Stevens Institute of Technology and will study Civil Engineering.
- **Sarah McEvoy** is the daughter Gary McEvoy of Fanwood and graduated from Union County Technical College. A winner of an academic award, she will attend Kean University and major in Elementary Education.
- **Victoria Coles** of Oceanport is the daughter of Heather Coles and the granddaughter of Robert Barclay. The winner of an academic award, she is a graduate of the Marine Academy of Science and Technology. Victoria will attend Rutgers and plans to study biology and neuroscience.



*Local 825 and Rutgers University professors toast 2018 scholarship winners and their families.*

# Health Fairs aim to keep members healthy

Nearly 150 Local 825 members and their families took steps to maintain their health at two health fairs recently. The first was in Springfield on May 16. The second was at the NJ Training Center on June 6.

In addition to lab work, welfare fund partners like Aetna, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, Fidelio, the Digestive Healthcare Center and others were on hand to answer questions about their coverage programs and provide health information.



## Local 825 Political News

# James Skoufis for Senate in NY's 39th

The Operating Engineers Local 825 endorsed Assemblyman James Skoufis for State Senate in New York's 39th legislative district.

In making the announcement, Business Manager Greg Laveve called Skoufis a long-time advocate for the hard-working members of IUOE Local 825 and their families. "He has established a record of success and he has the right balance of experience and energy to champion the region," Greg said.

"We are proud to announce our support for James Skoufis to become the 39th legislative district's next Senator. Assemblyman Skoufis understands that, in order for the Hudson Valley and New York to thrive, we need a strong infrastructure that can support a 21st century economy."

### Appointments and recognition

- Mayor-Elect Andre Sayegh of Paterson has selected Local 825 Business Manager Greg Laveve to be part of his transition team by serving as co-chair of his Environment, Infrastructure & Public Works Committee.
- John Pallone, the newly elected mayor of Long Branch, has appointed Greg Laveve to serve on his Economic Development transition team. Greg has published his views on the need for Long Branch to revitalize its community and share in the prosperity experienced by neighboring towns along the Jersey shore.
- The Jersey Shore Partnership recognized Greg Laveve by presenting him with their Outstanding Leadership Award for Professionalism & Community Service in May.



*James Skoufis has advocated for issues and projects important to Local 825 members.*

# ELEC calls out plan to hike sales tax

**M**ark Longo went on record to criticize a plan to eliminate the sales tax reduction that was approved two years ago as part of the TTF agreement.

That agreement paired a sales tax reduction with a 23-cent increase to the gas tax to fund critical infrastructure repairs, improve New Jersey's transportation systems, and catalyze economic growth.

ELEC – supported by Local 825 members – led the fight to secure this funding. Now their efforts are jeopardized by a proposal by Gov. Phil Murphy to raise the sales tax back to 7 percent.



**Mark Longo**

In addition to breaking a promise to state residents, the proposal would threaten the entire TTF agreement, because a “poison pill” provision in the agreement states that if any of the bill's provisions were changed, the entire agreement could no longer be enforced.

Writing in app.com, Longo said, “Let's not jeopardize the recent successes our state has achieved in improving our infrastructure, lowering our tax burden and improving our economy. Our legislators earned the public's trust through their bipartisan compromise to fund the TTF in 2016.”

Don't violate that trust, he said.

# Goethals span opens to traffic

The New Jersey-bound lanes of the Goethals Bridge opened in the last week of May, following by eleven months the opening of the east-bound lane opening a year ago.

The new bridge features three, twelve-foot travel lanes in each direction, as opposed to the

two, ten-foot travel lanes of the previous bridge. Both spans will include a twelve-foot outer shoulder, as well as a five-foot inner shoulder for emergency vehicles, when needed.

A pedestrian sidewalk/bikeway is expected to be completed this summer.



## VIEW FROM THE TOP

*(Continued from page 2)*

tional sponsorship with the NY Jets, we are able to host this meeting in MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford. There will be plenty of room for everyone. We look forward to seeing you there!

In just a few days, we celebrate our nation's independence on July 4. It is a union holiday. We hope you enjoy the day with your family and that you have a great summer, too.

## BRIEFS

### **Triple P legislation advances**

Assembly bill 1299 permitting public-private partnership agreements for certain building and highway infrastructure projects with Economic Development Authority (EDA) oversight was voted out of the Assembly State and Local Government Committee in May.

Under the bill, local government units, school districts, and state government entities would be eligible to enter into public-private partnership agreements with private entities.

The bill requires that workers employed in the construction, rehabilitation, or building maintenance services of a project by a private entity be subject to the applicable provisions of the “New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act,” that building construction projects undertaken pursuant to an agreement contain a project labor agreement, and that the general contractor, construction manager, design-build team or subcontractor for a project is registered and classified by the State to perform work on a project.

### **SNJDC lists TTF projects**

At the Southern New Jersey Development Council's 22nd Annual Construction Forecast at Rowan University on June 8, the program included a program featuring Gas Tax Funded Construction. The program highlighted infrastructure projects being funded by the replenished Transportation Trust Fund, in which ELEC played a major role.



## International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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## BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

# 39th IUOE convention plans next five years



*Chairman of the Credentials Committee Greg Lavee addresses the convention on opening day.*

Local 825 leadership took an active role in this year's national convention held over four days in Florida.

The Convention's theme, "The Future Is Now," focused on identifying goals and priorities

for the next five years. The convention emphasized organizing, political involvement and job opportunities and training, with a spotlight on the International's new training center in Crosby, Texas.

In addition to passing 16 changes to the international constitution, members also passed 31 resolutions on economic and labor issues, pipeline support, the Gateway Tunnel. There were workshops on safety and support for OSHA and crane certification, information on organizing in the world of politics and guidance to Locals on remaining vigilant on topics like Davis-Bacon.

Speakers included U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta; Patricia Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour; Hassan Yussuff, President of the Canadian Labour Congress; and Richard Trumka, President of the AFL-CIO.

Additional attendees included the general presidents of the Carpenters and Laborers unions, and Unite Here, representing more than 265,000 members the US and Canada.

Greg was reelected as eighth Vice President of the IUOE. His name was placed into nomination by Local 825 President John Wood.