

# 825. NEWS



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

VOL. 10 ISSUE 1

## A second century dawns for Local 825

100 years of work, adaptation and ingenuity reward members



Since 1920, the Operating Engineers of Local 825 have adapted to changing times and technology, building iconic roads, bridges, tunnels and structures that define our daily lives. As our second century begins, we honor the men and women of the last hundred

years for the lives they led and the legacy they left for us who followed in their footsteps. Now entering our second century, we accept the challenge of preparing the future for the generations who will follow us. See page 3 for more information.

# CALENDAR

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

## JANUARY

**1 - New Year's Day - UNION HOLIDAY**

**6 - Semi Annual Meeting**

Hilton East Brunswick  
3 Tower Center Boulevard, East Brunswick

**20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

## FEBRUARY

**3 - District 1**

Kerri Brooke Caterers  
755 S. Hite Horse Pike, Hammonton

**5 - District 2**

FairBridge Hotel  
195 Davidson Avenue, Somerset

**10 - District 3**

Holiday Inn  
1000 International Drive, Mt. Olive

**12 - District 4**

NY Training Center  
96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY

**14 - Valentine's Day**

**17 - President's Day - UNION HOLIDAY**

**25 - Blood Bank**

NJ Training Center  
338 Deans Rhode Hall Road, Dayton  
10 a.m. - 4 pm

**26 - Ash Wednesday**

## VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



# Celebrating the past, preparing for the future

Many of us come from parents and grandparents of operating engineers. We are proud of our heritage and grateful for the life we were exposed to growing up at home. As we mark our first one hundred years as Local 825, we honor those who prepared the way for us and we plan to celebrate throughout 2020.

We are collecting old photos from family albums. If any member wants to contribute copies of photos - or loan them for us to scan - we would be grateful. We would use them to build a photo history of our organization and possibly include them in our newsletters or online.

Here's one of my dad from my own family collection, to get the ball rolling.



These memories and this legacy impresses on us the responsibility we have to those who will come after us. We want to leave our organi-

zation in a healthy condition and positioned to respond to the many changes that are taking place around us. More of our plans to do this are on page 3.

### Winter Classes

Our annual winter classes are set to begin at our two training centers, Dayton and Wawayanda. It is a great opportunity for members to hone their skills and learn new ones and we encourage members to take advantage. See page 6 for the training calendar and more information.

### Holiday Celebration

We enjoyed this year's holiday gathering and we thank all of you who generously donated a mountain of toys and bicycles to the Toys for Tots program. It is a program we have embraced and that makes the season so much brighter for many families who are less fortunate.

### Semiannual Meeting

Our first meeting of the new year is just days away. Join us on Monday evening, January 6 at the East Brunswick Hilton. We'll have a full agenda, welcome new apprentice grads and talk about the year ahead. Hope to see you there.

Best wishes to all for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

## Contact Information

### Local 825 Headquarters

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

### District Offices:

3242 Route 206  
Building A Unit 6  
Bordentown, NJ 08505  
Tel. 856-470-1480  
Fax 856-470-1485

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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(908) 608-2013

# A look back, a look ahead – renewing our commitment to growth

In 1920 a group of men in New Jersey were granted a charter by the International Union of Operating Engineers for a local union. Today, that local is our own: Local 825.

We have now ended one hundred years in existence, serving members in all 21 counties of New Jersey and Rockland, Orange, Ulster, Delaware and Sullivan counties in New York.

Our members worked through the Great Depression, World War II and participated in the greatest economic expansion the world had ever known. They adapted to changes in technology and left us with a way of life that allowed us to raise our families, buy homes, educate our children and retire with dignity.

## A New Century Dawns

The new year brings the dawn of our second century. We announce this milestone with our ad, shown here, and in postings, activities and events planned to take place throughout 2020.

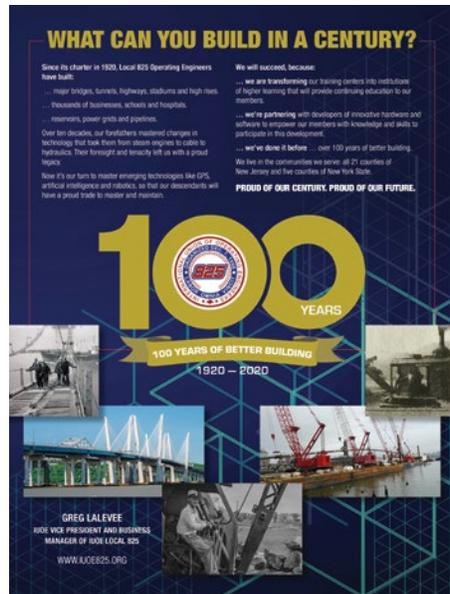
Our new century will be full of new challenges. If we work hard and plan appropriately – it will also be full of new rewards. It is on us now to navigate changes that will be more disruptive and come at a greater pace than ever. Our goal is to adapt to new changes as our forebears did before us.

## Masters of our fate

For one thing, we assert our right to master new technologies the way our ancestors mastered steam and hydraulics. GPS, remote operation, artificial intelligence and virtual reality all will be



involved in the operation of heavy equipment. We cannot relinquish the skills to design, maintain and operate hardware and software to others. We must claim this sphere of work as integral to our daily work.



Toward this goal, we continue our efforts to convert our training centers into accredited technical colleges. We are partnering with developers of innovative hardware and software to empower our members with knowledge and skills to participate in this new line of work.

## Training the next generation

Business Manager Greg Lalevee recently took part in a panel discussion on “Training the Next Generation,” sponsored by ROI-NJ magazine as part of its Thought Leadership Series. The panel explored various ways that career and technical education can develop students’ career focus, technical skills and work-readiness and prepare them for the technology-driven workplace.

## Shortage of qualified workers

With New Jersey’s unemployment rate at a record low, many businesses are struggling to find young, technically skilled employees to replace workers who are nearing retirement.

Training centers, vocational schools and apprenticeships play an important role in educating the next generation with skills in manufacturing, technology, engineering, construction and others. The discussion included topics on how technical education has evolved to include worker-based learning programs and apprenticeships.

This was one of the first activities we are engaged in as we kick off the first year of our new century.



## Training the Next Generation

The panel was moderated by ROI-NJ Editor Tom Bergeron. Panelists included (from left to right): Judy Savage, Executive Director, NJ Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools; Greg Lalevee; Tom Brennan, CIO, Mandelbaum Salsburg; John Kennedy, CEO, NJ Manufacturing Extension Program; and Dr. Howard Lerner, Superintendent, Bergen County Technical Schools.

# Members build a mountain of joy at annual holiday party

## *Compassion, generosity to bring cheer to less fortunate families*

**C**ontinuing their annual tradition, Local 825 members opened their hearts and their wallets to raise holiday spirits for children in countless families throughout New Jersey.

This year's contributions were piled high as members arrived on the third level of the East

Brunswick Hiltton.

Jim McGowan, Alex Kolbasowski and Pat Hjelm arranged the toys and prepared them in bins to turn over to representatives of the U.S. Marine Corps, who transport them to the armory in Red Bank where teams of Marines sort them for boys or girls and for appropriate age groups.

"We've been fortunate," said Business Manager Greg Lavee. "We've had several good years in a row and our members

know how to give back. Their donations not only make the kids happy, they relieve parents who need a hand for one reason or another."

Approximately 500 members arrived at the party and enjoyed the holiday feast inside the ballroom, meeting with friends and enjoying the festivity of the evening.

It was a fitting end to the Local's 100th year and set a high bar for the beginning of its second century.





# Registration begins for winter classes 2020



**WELDING CLASSES** - While classes are being planned for American Welding Society (AWS) certification, members are invited to learn and practice in one of four booths at the Dayton Training Center. It is strongly advised to call ahead and reserve a booth rather than just show up. Booths will be given to members with a reservation before a walk-in.

Turn any slowdown in work into an opportunity to enhance your skills. Winter classes will be held in both Training Centers at Dayton, NJ and New Hampton, NY.

Training is for the next generation of operating engineers and existing members who want to sharpen their skills or learn new ones to be ready for some of the biggest infrastructure projects expected in the coming years, such as the Gateway tunnels program.

The \$11.3 billion project would construct a new set of tunnels under the Hudson River and the existing tunnels. Although not yet approved, supporters believe it is only a matter of time before all or part of the project is given the go-ahead by the USDOT.

A project of this scale will require many hundreds of skilled engineers who are ready to work with short notice.

## School is in session

Classes start at 7 a.m. Monday Jan. 7 and end on Friday March 6.

In addition to classes listed in the training calendar, contact the New Jersey Training Center at 732-798-2170 to register for one of the following:

- Pipeline: (Angle Blade Dozer, Side Boom, Excavator, Log Loader Truck)
- Black Top Classes: (Paving, Milling, Transfer Machine, Roller)
- GPS: (Rover, Dozer, Excavator)
- Basic Crane: (Includes the All-Terrain)
- Pile Driving: (3900 with fixed & hanging leads, Junttan)
- Casagrande Drill
- Bauer Drill Rig
- Helical Piles
- Brokk
- AWS Welding Certification

If you don't find the class you want or the location that suits you, check the Training Center's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/iuoe825/training](http://www.facebook.com/iuoe825/training).

## TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

### NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Call (732) 798-2170 to have your name put on the class list.

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY

#### CCO - 4 Study Saturdays

Sign-up & TSS - Sat., Jan. 4  
TWR at 7 AM; TLL at 8 AM - Sat., Jan. 11  
OVR at 7 AM; LBT at 8 AM - Sat., Jan. 18  
LBC & Review - Sat., Jan. 25  
Written Test - 7 AM - Sun., Jan. 26

**OSHA 10** - Must attend both days to complete Sat., Jan 4 & 18

#### 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher

Sat., Jan. 11 & 25  
Sat., Feb. 8 & 22

#### Signal Person Class

Sat. Feb. 1

#### Rigger Class

Sat. Feb. 29

### NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m. unless otherwise noted. (845) 673-3154

#### Dates to be announced soon for:

#### 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher

#### OSHA 30

#### CPR Certification

#### 40-Hour Hazmat Class

Contact the New York Training Center at 845-673-3154 or call Chris Rumsey at 845-674-9020 for information or to register. Also, consult the Training Center Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training](http://www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training)



**BEST WISH AND THANKS** - We congratulate Al Zabicki for his 30 years of service to Local 825. In the past several years, Al served as co-director of training and was instrumental in getting the New York Training Center project together. We thank Al for his service and wish him all the best as he begins his next chapter.

## Kate Gibbs seeks District 3 seat

**A**fter months of consideration, ELEC’s business developer Kate Gibbs announced that she will challenge freshman U.S. Rep Andy Kim for the congressional seat formerly held by Tom MacArthur. The district represents all of Burlington and parts of Ocean County.

“Washington is broken and we need someone with real world experience outside of Washington to fix it,” Kate says.

A moderate, some would say “common sense,” Republican, Kate pledges to work together to get things done. Her track record with ELEC since joining the organization six years ago gives credence to this promise.

Kate graduated summa cum laude from American University and earned her MBA from Drexel University. She won her first political office as a Burlington County Freeholder and also served on the Rowan College Board of Trustees.



“In Congress, I’ll focus on solving problems, not pointing fingers,” Kate says. “We might not agree on every issue, but we’ll always be united in our love for America and optimism that our best days are ahead.”

For more information, visit her website, [www.katefornj.com](http://www.katefornj.com).

## MRP boosts EUC’s bid

ELEC’s Market Recovery Program, which has been assisting signatory contractors now for four years, recently helped the EUC Corporation win the St. Moses Sewer Replacement project in Piscataway.

It is a significant win for ELEC’s impressive MRP, which was designed to help signatory contractors win contracts in sectors under represented by union operating engineers. MRP grants help level the playing field against non-union contractors, whose anti-union labor practices allow them to cut costs. EUC Corporation is a family owned and operated construction contractor that provides large-scale excavation and utility contracting services for commercial and industrial customers and small building addition site work organizations throughout New Jersey.

## PennEast vows Supreme Court fight

**T**he PennEast Pipeline Company reaffirmed its commitment to completing its beleaguered pipeline by taking its fight to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The State of New Jersey, through the Third Circuit Court, has blocked condemnation of state-owned land for the project, even after the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) previously approved the route. Three other federal agencies and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection had found PennEast to be safe for the environment.

PennEast Pipeline Co. Board of Managers Chairman Anthony Cox argues that “State governments ... should not be allowed to disrupt or veto vital energy infrastructure that expert federal regulators have found to be in the public interest.”

The PennEast Pipeline would carry natural gas along a 120-mile route from Luzerne County, Pa. across the Delaware River and through Holland, Alexandria, Kingwood, Delaware, West Amwell and Hopewell townships in New Jersey.





## International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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**BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE**

# American Dream awakens after 17 years

**A**fter 17 years of starts and stops, the American Dream awoke to a “phased opening” on October 25. “Phase one” includes the entertainment and theme park rides and activities, including the Nickelodeon theme

park, ice rink, roller coasters and assorted rides. The major department stores and shops are scheduled to open in March and the ski mountain and waterpark opened in late November.



***A shout out to the Local 825 Women's Committee and all the women and men who participated in the “More Than Pink” walk and rally at Six Flags Great Adventure. The walk helped to raise funds and awareness for the breast cancer movement. Participants also celebrate breast cancer survivors and honored those who have lost their battle with the disease.***