



# 825News

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

VOL. 1 ISSUE 2

## 825Calendar

### JUNE

- 1** **District 1 Meeting:** Grand Versailles – Maple Shade, NJ
- 6** **District 2 Meeting:** Days Inn – Bridgewater, NJ
- 8** **District 3 Meeting:** Holiday Inn – Mt. Olive, NJ
- 13** **District 4 Meeting:** Knight's Inn – Newburgh, NY

### JULY

- 11** **Semi-Annual Meeting:** Ramada Plaza – Newark, NJ

### AUGUST

- 1** **District 1 Meeting:** Elk's Lodge – Toms River, NJ
- 3** **District 2 Meeting:** Holiday Inn – Hazlet, NJ
- 8** **District 3 Meeting:** Russian Hall – Garfield, NJ
- 10** **District 4 Meeting:** Holiday Inn – Middletown, NY

### SEPTEMBER

- 7** **District 1 Meeting:** Kerri Brooke Caterers – Hammonton, NJ
- 12** **District 2 Meeting:** Springfield Motel – Springfield, NJ
- 14** **District 3 Meeting:** Holiday Inn – Mt. Olive, NJ
- 19** **District 4 Meeting:** Knight's Inn – Newburgh, NY

## Contract ratification sets stage for new three-year agreement

**T**his issue brings you several interesting developments:

### Contract Ratification

After weeks of negotiation, we recently reached agreement on a three-year contract with our primary contractor groups, including:

- Associated General Contractors of New Jersey and AGC of New York;
- The Construction Contractors Labor Employers (CCLE) of New Jersey
- Construction Industry Council (CIC) of Westchester and Hudson Valley

The new contract was ratified at the May District meetings. We achieved the best outcome possible of this negotiation, doing right by our members, giving us an opportunity to sign new members and finding ways to help our contractors remain competitive.

### New Labor-Management Agreement

One outcome of the agreement is the establishment of a new Labor-Management Fund, which will help in a variety of ways:



**Greg Laveve**  
Business Manager

- It will help win projects by enhancing the image of the union and our contractors by answering the question “Why build using union labor?”
- By promoting the skills training and licenses we carry, the new fund will consider assisting members defray the costs of obtaining and renewing these licenses and certifications.
- It will also establish an advocate for our cause, by monitoring changes in the industry and by acting as a voice supporting policies that benefit both the union and the employer.

### Medical spending remains a concern

One concern on the horizon, as it is for everyone else in America, is the continued double-digit increase in medical spending. Since income cannot keep pace with these increases, it will at some point become impossible to sustain them without finding new ways of doing things.

We are getting ahead of this issue by consulting with industry professionals and explor-

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## 825Briefs

- **Job Losses Stabilizing.** New Jersey lost 2,800 construction jobs in March, compared with about 15,000 in March 2010, according to preliminary data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It was the best March for the state's construction industry since 2008. Some industry experts see an increase in activity this year but nothing compared with three years ago.

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# TrainingClasses

All Courses are held at The NJ Training Center

**COURSE DATE** **TIME**

## CCO Written Training Classes

Saturday, June 4 8 a.m.

Saturday, June 11 8 a.m.

Saturday, June 18 8 a.m.

Saturday, June 25 8 a.m.

## CCO Written Test

Sunday, June 26 8 a.m.

## HAZMAT Refresher

Saturday, June 18 7 a.m.

Saturday, July 9 7 a.m.

Saturday, August 20 7 a.m.

Saturday, September 10 7 a.m.

## HAZWOPER 40-Hour Class

July 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 7 a.m.

## Qualified Rigger Class

Saturday, June 11 8 a.m.

## OSHA 30

June 20, 21, 22, 23 8 a.m.

## Signal Person Qualification

Saturday, July 16 8 a.m.

# ContactInformation

## Local 825 Headquarters Health & Welfare office

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

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

## District Offices:

5 Allison Drive  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003  
(856) 470-1480  
(856) 470-1485 FAX

## Training

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

6 Wesley Court  
Middletown, NY 10941  
(856) 674-9020  
(845) 674-9025 FAX

## NY Training Center

6 Wesley Court  
Middletown, NY 10941  
(845) 692-3393

# Jersey City POBA supports Spectra Pipeline

The Jersey City Police Officers Benevolent Association is the latest group to endorse the 15.5-mile natural gas pipeline extension proposed to run through parts of Jersey City Bayonne, and offshore Hoboken.

In an April 8 letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which is reviewing the construction application, the JCPOBA said the project will increase revenue to the city, create over 2,000 jobs and lead to cleaner air.

"We are satisfied with their commitment to the safety of the residents of Jersey City," the letter said.

Local 825 announced its support for the project in February. FERC is expected to rule on the application by the end of the year.



Jerry DeCicco, president, Jersey City POBA

# Heavy Construction Spending Increasing

Heavy construction spending increased 0.4% in March, due to power construction. Natural gas activity continues to expand. Alternative electricity generation is still expanding with federal subsidies but this funding source is now being cut back by Congress. The balance of the heavy market is trending steady to slightly down. The inflow of new public funds will continue to shrink into 2012. However, funding for private facilities will soon be rising in an expanding economy that is quickly absorbing spare capacity. The amount of federal highway funding beginning in October is still uncertain.

Overall, heavy construction is forecast to decline 0.3% in 2011 and then rise 4.0% in 2012.

# 825Briefs

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## • Health Fair June 8 • Dayton Training Center

Periodic health checks are one of the ways to stay on top of your health. On Wednesday, June 8, we'll be offering health screens, including a full metabolic blood screening and a coronary risk profile. Make a date to stay on top of your health.

## BenefitsCorner

### Christine Medich, Funds Administrator

#### Extending Dependent Health Coverage to Age 26

**S**tarting July 1, the Welfare Plan will provide dependent coverage of children until the age of 26, provided a child does not have access to coverage through his or her own employer. The change is made under the new Affordable Care Act (Health Care Reform Law).

Children whose coverage ended or were previously determined ineligible for coverage under the Welfare Plan after turning 19 or graduating from college will be given the opportunity to enroll for coverage. Written notification of this enrollment opportunity will be sent to all participants no later than July 1. The opportunity to enroll will continue for at least 30 days and enrollment will be effective July 1. **Watch for this notice in your mailbox on or before July 1 and call the benefits office if you do not receive it.**

### Seasonal Health Tip:

#### Protect your skin and eyes from ultra-violet rays

**W**orking outdoors in summer has its advantages but make sure to protect your eyes and skin from too much exposure to ultraviolet rays.

The growth of skin cancer over the past several years is strongly related to exposure to the sun's Ultra-Violet (UV) rays. Shade, clothing and hats offer the best protection, with sunscreen being used on those parts of the body left exposed.

Here are some additional tips to keep in mind:

- During the hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. – when UV rays are strongest – reduce your exposure by covering up as much as possible with light clothing, such as a cotton T-shirt and cap or broad-brimmed hat.
- A hat with a wide brim offers good sun protection for eyes, ears, face and neck.
- Remember, shade from trees, awnings, umbrellas are helpful but do not offer complete protection.
- Apply sunscreen with a protection rating of at least 15. And re-apply every two hours.
- Always wear sunglasses to protect your eyes.



*Dismantling the old General Motors plant in Linden, three years ago.*

# LEGISLATIVE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

By Mark Longo, Director of Public Affairs

## Why your vote matters

Electing officials who are friendly to the building trades can affect whether we work or not.

At every level of government — school-board, municipal, county, state and federal — our elected officials determine what gets built, where it's built, who builds it and whether there's a PLA.



*Mark Longo*

This year, every member of the NJ Legislature is up for re-election. In addition, because of the 2010 census, some districts have been redrawn. This may change who is running in your district. For example, District 11's State Sen. Sean Kean (R-Monmouth) — who has been supportive of labor issues — has been redistricted into District 30. Since District 30 already has an incumbent senator, he will run for an open assembly seat instead.

Some people may not be familiar with him and others may not be expecting to see him running for Assembly. It will require special attention to be certain we're supporting the right people.

In October, after hearing all the candidates and making a thorough analysis, we will endorse the candidates we believe will be favorable to labor issues. We will email you our picks prior to the election and urge you to strongly consider supporting them.

Elections mean everything. Let's make sure we decide who will get to represent our issues. Do your part. Register and vote!

## We support Governor Christie's Budget

This fiscal year, transportation projects will be funded in Governor Christie's budget, not the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) as in the past. Since there are heavy highway transportation projects in the budget, its approval is very important to us. The budget normally is voted on in June, so let your local representatives know you're in support.

## Congressman Jon Runyan (R-NJ-3)

Business Manager Greg Lalevee and I have been happy to meet with Congressman Runyan recently to discuss job creation and to learn his views on positions that affect labor and Local 825.

Jon's father was an auto-worker for General Motors for nearly 30 years. Jon played in the NFL for the Tennessee Titans in 1996 and later for the Philadelphia Eagles, making it to the Super Bowl in 2000 and 2004. He retired from professional football at the end of the 2010 season and was elected to Congress in November.

The 3rd District encompasses parts of Burlington, Camden and Ocean counties. We are arranging for him to meet with our members in the coming weeks.





## International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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## Better Building Begins Here

### ViewFromTheTop

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ing a variety of alternate and innovative options that may be open to us. We will provide more information about these choices as they are developed.

#### **8,900 construction jobs**

Gov. Chris Christie announced completion of a deal with “Triple Five” to revive the failed Xanadu project as the new “American Dream at Meadowlands.”

The opening is scheduled for late fall 2013, just a few months before Super Bowl XLVIII at the new Meadowlands Stadium just across the highway. More details are on the Local 825 website ([www.iuoe825.org](http://www.iuoe825.org)).

The project is expected to create 8,900 construction jobs within two years.

These and other recent announcements are promising indicators but we need more than promises. We must - and we will - continue to work toward turning these promises into realities, toward converting every job opportunity into real work for our members.

## IUOE Local 825

**Pride, Professionalism, Integrity**

### Mail or E-Mail?

This newsletter is intended to keep you informed about Local 825. If you'd like to receive future issues by email and help reduce postage, handling and printing expense, send an email to Dave Daleo at [ddaleo@iuoe825.org](mailto:ddaleo@iuoe825.org) and let him know. Please be sure to include your book number, as well as your first and last names. Either way, we're committed to keeping you informed as well as managing our expenses.

[www.iuoe825.org](http://www.iuoe825.org)