

825. NEWS



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

VOL. 4 ISSUE 3

ELEC builds awareness

Meadowlands USA details benefits of collaboration



The April edition of Meadowlands USA, the official publication of the Greater Meadowlands Chamber of Commerce, features ELEC and its collaborative role between union contractors and members

of Local 825. The cover story describes the benefits of working together to promote development opportunities for contractors and valuable construction jobs for our members. (Read more on page 5.)

CALENDAR

NOTE: All District Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

MAY

May 5 – District 1 Meeting

Runnemedede Inn & Suites,
109 9th Avenue, Runnemedede, NJ

May 5 – Blood Bank - 4:30 to 7 pm

Runnemedede Inn & Suites

May 7 – District 2 Meeting

VFW Post 2179, 1 Veterans Lane,
Port Monmouth, NJ

May 10 – 2nd Annual Golf Tournament

Gambler Ridge Golf Course 121
Burlington Path Road, Cream Ridge, NJ.
Lunch at 11:30 am. Golf starts at 1 pm

May 12 – District 3 Meeting

Holiday Inn, 1000 International Drive,
Mt. Olive

May 14 – District 4 Meeting

Holiday Inn, 68 Crystal Run Road,
Middletown, NY

May 15 – Health Fair – 3 to 7 pm

Ramada Plaza, 160 Frontage Road,
Newark

May 17 – 40 Year Dinner

Hilton East Brunswick,
3 Tower Center Blvd., East Brunswick

May 26 – Memorial Day

Union Holiday

JUNE

June 2 – District 1 Meeting

Grand Versailles, 531 Route 38 West,
Maple Shade, NJ

June 5 – District 2 Meeting

Days Inn, 1260 Rte. 22 East,
Bridgewater, NJ

June 9 – District 3 Meeting

Russian Hall, 464 Outwater Lane,
Garfield, NJ

June 11 – District 4 Meeting

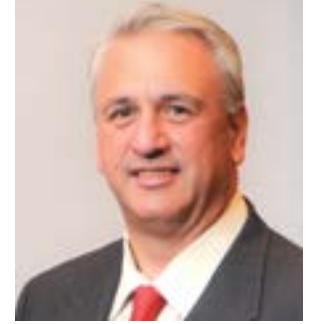
Holiday Inn, 68 Crystal Run Road,
Middletown, NY

June 18 – Health Fair – 3 to 7 pm

Local 825 Training Center,
338 Deans Rhode Hall Road, Dayton

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



Negotiations continue on new contracts and provisions

In April we completed contract negotiations with our New Jersey contractor associations — the Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey (ACCNJ) and the Construction Contractors Labor Employers (CCLE) of New Jersey. The three-year agreement became effective on April 1 and will extend through March 31, 2017. Negotiations with the New York associations are continuing.

We are satisfied so far that the agreements are in the best interests of our members. Details will be discussed in our upcoming meetings.

Part of the agreement includes a drug and alcohol screening policy. We are finalizing the details of this new policy and expect that, once it is approved, it will take effect by October 1, 2014. All testing will be performed by reliable, established, and accredited laboratories utilizing state-of-the-art testing. Test results will be confidential between the employee, the employer and the union.

Spotlight on ELEC

We're proud of ELEC, our labor-management arm, and its staff members for the progress they've made in promoting development and jobs for our members. An ongoing social media effort has expanded its

reach on Facebook while the Meadowlands USA magazine is currently running a cover story and four-page spread on its work to spur development and jobs. Page 5.

Season of recognition

On May 10, many of us will tee off at the Gamblers Ridge Golf Course in Cream Ridge to benefit the Local 825 Scholarship Fund. This year's scholarship and grant winners will be selected soon. They will be honored, along with their families, at a special dinner in June. Watch for our next issue to see who they are.

Our 40-year members will be honored on Saturday, May 17, at the East Brunswick Hilton to receive their pins. This year 71 members have reached this impressive milestone.

Employment and economic outlook

2014 is off to a good start with all signs pointing to a positive year for employment. Bridges, roads, pipelines and residential and commercial buildings are keeping our members busy.

We look to you to, our valued members, to continue the valuable work you do every day and remember to look for ways to give back as members of your communities.

Contact Information

Local 825 Headquarters

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Springfield, NJ 07081
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(973) 921 - 2918 FAX

Wawayanda Office

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Wawayanda, NY 10973
(845) 374-2559
(845) 374-2564 FAX

District Offices:

5 Allison Drive
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
(856) 470-1480
(856) 470-1485 FAX
6 Wesley Court
Middletown, NY 10941
(845) 674-9020
(845) 674-9025 FAX

Health & Welfare office

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

Training

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

NY Training Center

Middletown Training Center
6 Wesley Court
Middletown, NY 10941
Office: (845) 692-3393

ELEC Office

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

Latest endorsements highlight job-creation focus

Local 825's public backing of three candidates signals commitment to candidates who understand economic issues affecting development and jobs. Business Manager Greg Lalevee commented on why these three candidates have won our support.



Eric Jackson, for Mayor of Trenton

In March, the local announced its endorsement of Trenton mayoral candidate Eric Jackson. Citing his experience in Public Works for the cities of Trenton and Plainfield,

along with his grasp of Trenton's economic and employment needs, Local 825 urged support for him.

"We've met face to face with the candidate and we believe that he understands the issues that are important to our members and to working people in general," Greg said.

Jackson's stand on attracting more eco-

nomical development and jobs to Trenton is what is needed to help the city begin to rebuild its infrastructure and its economy, said Greg.



Tom MacArthur, to represent 3rd Congressional District

Later that month Randolph Mayor Tom MacArthur won Local 825's backing to become the next Congressman from New

Jersey's 3rd Congressional District, a post made available by Rep. Jon Runyan's withdrawal from the race.

MacArthur and his family have been summer residents of the District for eight years and are relocating to Barnegat Light community as full time residents.

"We're endorsing Tom because of his record of job creation as Randolph's mayor, as well as for his vision of economic development in District 3," said Greg.

MacArthur has stated that job creation and New Jersey's need for federal tax money to restore worn-out infrastructure, defense and national security will be among his top priorities.



Andre Sayegh, for Mayor of Paterson

As current Council President, Andre Sayegh has championed quality-of-life issues for city residents and he has pushed for the creation of "special improvement districts" to revitalize

economic development within Paterson.

"Paterson needs a fresh approach to tackle its varied problems," said Greg. "We believe that Mr. Sayegh has the right mix of energy, ideas and accomplishments to improve the local economy."

Sayegh also recently won the endorsement of the Paterson Arab American Political Screening Committee.

825.BRIEFS

Pilgrim charts new pipeline course

A recently formed company is proposing a new pipeline through North Jersey's Highlands — potentially along Route 287 — to move oil back and forth between a transportation hub in Albany, N.Y., and the Phillips 66 Bayway refinery in Linden.

The company, Pilgrim Pipeline Holdings, has received only preliminary financing and has yet to file any documents or permit applications but it has begun surveying land and contacting local officials in North Jersey to arrange presentations.

The estimated 150-mile pipeline would most likely run along the New York State Thruway and I-287 as it proceeds through North Jersey's environmentally sensitive Highlands before looping toward Linden.

The crude originates from the booming Bakken region in North Dakota, which is producing about a million barrels of oil a day. It is shipped by rail to Albany,

where New York officials have allowed the amount handled at the Hudson River port to triple to 2.8 billion gallons a year.

The proposed pipeline is part of an evolving oil-transportation business from upstate New York to East Coast refineries as domestic crude oil production reaches historic highs.

Carmageddon in the Skyway

The Pulaski Skyway closed according to plan on April 12 and, as predicted, detoured up to 34,000 cars a day (although



another 40,000 are expected to journey across the narrowed span. Detours will last for up to two years as part of a \$1 billion renovation project.

Renovations to the 81-year-old bridge start on April 12, 2014. They are expected to extend the life of the structure by another 75 years.

PSE&G plans \$10 billion in upgrades

Public Service Electric & Gas announced a capital investment of \$10 billion over the next five years, mostly to upgrade its high-voltage transmission lines.

The investment is a 20 percent increase from the previous five years, primarily because of required transmission upgrades to relieve projected system overloads and to maintain reliability for its customers. The utility has five major transmission line projects under way, with an additional line slated to be in service by June 2018.

TRAINING CALENDAR

All classes begin at 8 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Call in advance to verify class dates and availability.

New Jersey Training Center (732) 798-2170

MAY 2014

OECP Class – study day

- Saturday 5/3

8-HR. HAZMAT Refresher

- Saturday 5/3

40-Hour HAZMAT

- Monday 5/5 thru Friday 5/9

Rigging Class

- Saturday 5/10

8-HR. HAZMAT Refresher

- Saturday 5/17

OECP Class – study day

- Saturday 5/17

Signal Person

- Saturday 5/31

OECP Class – written test

- Saturday 5/31

JUNE 2014

CCO Classes

- Saturday 6/7
- Saturday 6/14
- Saturday 6/21
- Saturday 6/28

CCO Written Test

- Sunday 6/30

8-HR. HAZMAT Refresher

- Saturday 6/14

New York Training Center (845) 374-2559

MAY 2014

8-HR. HAZMAT Refresher

- Wednesday 5/14

JUNE 2014

8-HR. HAZMAT Refresher

- Wednesday 6/11

NJ training center makes progress toward construction

After months of construction and a wicked winter season, the new Local 825 Training Center was nearing completion by the end of April. The last stages of construction – roofing, drywall, electrical, and plumbing – all were completed in early April, leaving the remainder of the month to finish interior flooring, ceiling, painting, drainage, concrete pads for HVAC, sidewalk, curbing, lighting and landscaping.

A temporary certificate of occupancy was expected to be issued in April or May and dates are being set for a move into the new



Wayne Mc Ean moves material for the equipment line.

Once plans are approved internally a meeting date will be scheduled with the town's Planning Board.

Training the trainers

In May, all instructors will attend annual training and refresher classes at the IUOE Training Center in Beckley, West Virginia and Baltimore.

Part of this year's curriculum will include a three-day CPR/AED (for Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillator) class for instructors on May 20, 21 and 22.

The national train-the-trainer and trainer refresher classes provide instructors with the necessary technical skills and knowledge related to workplace hazards so they can teach classes at their home local union training programs.



Bill Davis handles the bulldozer, grading the area for the future road and parking lot.

space and an opening event.

In Wawayanda, the future New York training center is in its early stages of site preparation and planning. Drilling a well site has proved challenging and work continues. Interior floor planning is taking place and architectural plans are being formulated.

Training Center News

Building trades showcased at Hudson Valley Career Daygood health

Local 825 members shared experiences with students at the Hudson Valley Construction Career Day on March 28.

Instructors Bill Davis and Bill LaCass, along with training staff member Chris Szpila joined representatives of more than 30 construction trades that participated in the annual event at SUNY Rockland Community College.

Each year, the event allows high school students to hear about rewarding and diverse

career opportunities in the building and construction trades.

Interested students got to try their skills on the Local 825 crane simulator and received information about our apprentice program. Dozens of booth presentations, each focused on various construction trades career opportunities, were available, ranging from our own, to brick laying, sheet metal work and the like.

State's second largest business magazine showcases ELEC

Developers and Builders in the greater Meadowlands counties and municipalities are learning about ELEC, thanks to a cover story and inside four-page spread on our labor-management organization.

Meadowlands USA, the monthly magazine of the Greater Meadowlands Chamber of Commerce, is running an in-depth report on the two-year old organization, including information from interviews with Greg Lalevee and Mark Longo.

The article recounts how ELEC came about and the collaborative role it plays between union contractors and members

of Local 825.

Meadowlands USA extols ELEC's emphasis on collaboration, recognizing it as a refreshing "win-win" relationship between labor and management. The benefits that Local 825 brings to developers and contractors by far outweigh those offered by non-union operating engineers. The list includes the level of training, experience, licensing and credentialing as well as the health and welfare benefits the local provides to take care of its members in good economic times and bad.

Meadowlands USA has the second high-

est circulation of any business magazine in New Jersey, with a circulation of 10,000 and readership of more than 36,000.

The magazine reaches leading companies in the public, private and manufacturing sectors. It is mailed directly to business leaders, government offices and municipal complexes and is distributed to more than 75 hotels, restaurants, banks and corporate office buildings in the region.

It gives a great boost to our continuing efforts to familiarize developers, contractors and decision makers with who we are and what we offer.

Contractor registration bills clear Assembly committee

ELEC is following two state Assembly bills that would benefit the union contractors we represent and who, in turn, hire the members of Local 825.

If the bills become law, they will make it harder for "cut-rate" or unscrupulous contractors to underbid on contracts. In addition to several beneficial requirements, they authorize the Department of Labor commissioner to pull a contractor's registration or suspend a registration if labor laws are broken.

The bills will need to be passed by the full Assembly and go through the same process in the Senate before going to the Governor's desk to be signed into law. Here is a brief summary of each:

A2388 concerns registration of contrac-

tors and sets criteria for responsible bidders in public works. It requires contractors or subcontractors to demonstrate that they are a responsible bidder by complying with specified requirements. For example, that each:

- Has all valid and effective licenses, registrations and certificates;
- Has not been debarred by a federal or State government agency or authority in the past three years;
- Has not had any type of business, contracting or trade license, registration or other certificate suspended or revoked in the past year;
- Has not been convicted a crime directly relating to the construction business or any other crime which would disqualify it from being pre-qualified by the Division of

Property Management and Construction; and

- Has not, in three prior years, been determined to have a total of three or more violations of state wage, benefits and tax laws occurring on two or more public contracts.

The bill requires that workers be paid at the prevailing wage rates. In addition to other protections, it also requires that each worker be enrolled in or have completed a registered apprenticeship, unless the contractor or subcontractor certifies that the worker is paid no less than the journey worker wage rate.

A965 amends the above "Public Works Contractor Registration Act" to include construction work on public utilities.

ELEC launches social media push



The ELEC staff is building an online presence with targeted Facebook and Twitter campaigns.

The goal is to make more people aware of the benefits and value of union-led construction projects in the region.

In the last month alone, ELEC has added more than 700 likes to their Facebook page

www.Facebook.com/ELEC825. The page features stories about projects, economic development, legislation and other news that encourages growth.

You can receive this information and also help us spread the word by join us on Facebook and Twitter (@ELEC825).

Union Plus® offers members financial services

If you are an active or retired member – or the parent or child of one – you may be eligible for valuable financial benefits through the Union Plus program, which is now offered through Wells Fargo Home Mortgage (WFHM). For example:

Union Plus WFHM

A Union Plus Mortgage Specialist can provide a free home-financing consultation for the purchase or refinance of your home. Exclusive financing benefits are available, which include a \$500 gift card after an eligible loan closes.

My Home Roadmap(sm) Service is a free, tele-based service and is available to any union member who is interested in credit counseling and budgeting to better position



themselves to secure financing.

We also help customers prepare for and achieve sustainable home ownership.

Union Plus First Time Homebuyer (FTHB) Award

Active and retired union members may apply for a \$500 FTHB award once their loan is closed. (Union member parents and children are not eligible.) To qualify, eligi-

ble members write a short essay about the Union Plus Mortgage process and their experience as a first-time homebuyer.

Union Plus Mortgage Assistance Benefit

This program provides grants and interest-free payment assistance in the event of a layoff, strike, or disability.

To learn more or sign up for these benefits, please contact your dedicated Local 825 Union Plus specialist:

Debra Botulinski
Sales Manager
NMLSR ID 460206
Email: Debra.Botulinski@wellsfargo.com
www.wfhm.com/debra-botulinski

Wellness

Pulling the trigger on allergies

Warm weather is upon us and many of us are already working outdoors. For asthma and allergy sufferers, even minimal exposure can leave you wheezing, sneezing and feeling miserable.

If you suffer from asthma or allergies, it's important to know your triggers and learn the solutions to help avoid or lessen your level of exposure.

What are triggers?

A trigger can be something like pollen or a chemical or even stress and emotions. Every season has its own set of potential asthma and allergy triggers.

The key is to be prepared. Here are some tips to help you:

- Check the weather. Daily air quality levels and air pollution forecasts can be found in the newspaper or on the Internet. Be aware of extreme temperatures, which can also trigger asthma and allergies.
- Check the time of day. Early morning and



- evening are when pollen counts are lowest.
- Check your calendar. Know your climate and when outdoor allergy season starts in your area. If advised by a healthcare pro-

vider, you can start a medication before the season is in full bloom.

- Check your environment. Pay attention to where you'll be working. Busy roads mean exhaust from cars and trucks. Lawn fertilizers and freshly-cut grass can also be a trigger. Wear a mask or bandana over your eyes and nose. Goggles can also protect your eyes from irritants in the air.
- Check your sun and insect protection. Swap out aerosol sprays, which can be irritating to the lungs, and use lotions instead. Unscented lotions are best, as many people are sensitive to fragrance. Avoid citronella candles, which can be an irritant as well.
- Check your clothes and shower after working outdoors. During pollen season, your clothing and hair may be covered with pollen.

Always consult with your healthcare provider. If necessary, there are allergy skin tests available to help identify triggers and corresponding medications.

Crews preparing to ‘super-size’ Bayonne Bridge roadbed

Guided by Lead Engineer John Rocco, our members are on the job in Bayonne in the earliest stages of raising the bridge’s roadbed.

One of the largest infrastructure projects taking place in the nation today, the Bayonne Bridge “Raise the Roadway” effort is now seven months into its four-year, \$1.3 billion journey.

Assembling a stiff-leg derrick

Our crews are working to construct a stiff-leg derrick, which lifts more than it weighs and holds extremely high capacities at a long radius compared to cranes. This one will be able to handle 100 tons at a 200-foot radius and will be used to offload the precast



Demolition crews cut sections of the bridge to make room for the Bauer drill rig.

concrete sections for the bridge. The winch has a 240-ton capacity.

At the same time, demolition crews are cutting sections of the bridge to make room for the Bauer Drill rig to dig rock sockets that will be used to pour footings.



Glynn Dubil at work on the triple waterfall winch for the stiff-leg derrick.

“Super-sizing” it

Work continues around the clock in the effort to install a new traffic deck 215 feet above the Kill van Kull. The current roadway, which is 64 feet lower, will then be removed allowing the coming generation of super-sized container ships to pass beneath it.

Raising a bridge’s roadbed while vehicles continue daily crossings is said to be an unprecedented marvel in the history of engineering. And as has been the case since the beginning of the 20th Century, our members are integral to the history-making process.



The Bauer drill rig works on footings for the precast concrete sections that will be used to support the approach roadway.

Be part of our 2nd scholarship golf outing

Members tee off for financial lifeline to aid students

If you missed last year’s golf outing at Gambler Ridge Golf Club, be sure to join us this year for a fun day as we raise money to help the children of Local 825 to offset the high cost of a college education.

This June we will award six \$10,000 scholarships and three grants of \$1,500.



These events help us bring in new money to keep our scholarship fund healthy and growing.

This year’s outing will take place on Saturday, May 10. The Gambler Ridge Golf Club is located at 121 Burlington Path Road, Cream Ridge, N.J. The cost is \$200 per golfer and there are a number of sponsorships available as well.

If you know of anyone who would like to take part and help our scholarship fund continue to grow, call Melissa at the union on her direct line, (973) 671 - 6911.

40-Year members to be honored May 17

This year’s dinner to honor our 40-year members will be held at the Hilton East Brunswick on Saturday, May 17.

Cocktail hour will be from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Dinner and awards are from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Seventy-one members are eligible to receive their gold cards and pins. Photos will be taken prior to the dinner.

Deadline for reservations is May 2. If you received an invitation and haven’t yet responded, please contact Tirsia Hoyos immediately at (973) 671-6930 or email her at thoyos@IUOE825.ORG.



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BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE



Directional drilling throughout the night crosses 5,200 feet of the Wannaque reservation before the new pipeline is pulled back.



Thirty-year members Pat Flynn and Craig Boyd wave on their way to the Mahwah metering station before construction was temporarily halted this winter due to severe weather and environmental considerations. Remaining work – set to resume June 15 – includes completion of the metering station and two miles of restoration work along the right of way.