

# 825. NEWS



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

VOL. 10 ISSUE 5

## Shore towns invest millions to save beaches

Replenishment projects safeguard vital tourism for NJ resorts



From Monmouth County to Cape May County, shore towns are investing millions of dollars to salvage the main attraction to their communities. Their beaches serve as an economic lifeblood, attracting summer visitors and keeping real estate prices afloat. Beaches fuel local businesses,

create jobs and fill tax coffers throughout the year, so allowing them to wash away is not an option. Supervised by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Local 825 members are at work for Weeks Marine and Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company. *Story and photos on pages 4 and 5.*

## CALENDAR

At this time, all dates are subject to change. Please check the IUOE825.ORG website for updated information.

### September

7 - **Labor Day - UNION HOLIDAY**

9 - **Rosh Hashanah**

19 - **Golf Outing**

Gambler Ridge Golf Course, Cream Ridge, NJ  
11:30 a.m. lunch; shotgun start at 1 p.m.

22 - **Autumn begins**

23 - **District 4 Health Fair - Canceled**

27 - **8th Annual IUOE Local 825**

**Motorcycle Poker Run - Canceled**

27 - **Yom Kippur**

29 - **PAC Meeting**

6 PM - Tentatively still on but check back for possible location change.

### October

7 - **District 1 Health Fair - Canceled**

12 - **Columbus Day**

31 - **Halloween**

## TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

### NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Call (732) 798-2170 to request training or certification.

### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

**Asbestos awareness**

Saturday, Sept. 12

**NCCCO study classes.**

Oct. 3, 10, 18, 24, (Saturdays)

Test is Sunday, Oct. 25.

### NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Call (845) 673-3154 to request training or certification.

**Follow training center information on Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training](https://www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training)

## VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



## Large scale projects take shape

**T**his Labor Day we are reminded of the benefits that come with standing up with each other and for each other. Labor Day did not become a holiday without a struggle and that struggle did not end with the holiday.

The recent election victory of Evergreen International employees to be represented by Local 825 is a case in point. The company made every attempt to thwart the vote but we persisted. We won the vote and our victory follows a similar victory with ACV Enviro last year.

### We're doing something right

Coming back to back, these victories mean we're doing something right and our fellow locals have noticed. After the Evergreen victory, we received inquiries from locals to share our success strategies. We invited them, along with IUOE organizers, to meet at our training center in July to discuss ways we can all work together.

Director of Special Projects Kevin Young and our organizers hosted the gathering and the story is covered on page 3. We hope that, as was the case with ACV Enviro, the victory here will be a springboard to workers at other Evergreen plants around the country voting to join the IUOE.

### Infrastructure projects

Meanwhile, we have several large infrastructure projects being approved. Our feature story this issue is about the beach replenishment

work being performed along the Jersey Shore. Likewise, highway maintenance and construction have been taking place on county and local roads and along our major toll roads.

### Wind and water

Meanwhile, Gov. Phil Murphy announced a plan to construct a port in Salem County that will make New Jersey a hub for the coming offshore wind power industry. Weeks later, the state announced a project to upgrade its largest reservoir, Round Valley, in Hunterdon County. This work will be done in three stages through 2021. These projects bode well for solid, long-term work for our members. Read more on page 3.

### Scholarship events

We're looking forward to holding our annual golf outing, which had been postponed earlier this year. It will be held on Sept. 19 the Gambler Ridge Golf Course in Cream Ridge, NJ.

Unfortunately, what would have been our eighth annual Poker Run has been canceled. It is a grim reminder that COVID-19 is still with us. Until a vaccine is approved and available we cannot become complacent. Maintain all hygienic practices, wear masks around other people and maintain distance.

We will emerge from this pandemic before too much longer. In the meantime, stay healthy and enjoy the Labor Day holiday.

## 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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# Wind port, reservoir plans make a splash

**A** plan to make New Jersey a hub for the coming offshore wind power industry and a second plan to upgrade the three dams at Round Valley Reservoir in Clinton Township, promise good jobs stretching into the future.

The emerging offshore-wind industry will require an onshore port facility to stage materials, load ships and provide a base for what happens out at sea. Gov. Phil Murphy said this will be the first port built specifically to support offshore wind power industry in North America.

"A once in a generation opportunity, this is an opportunity to position ourselves as a leader in an emerging global industry," Murphy said.

The New Jersey Wind Port will be built in Salem County on the same island that is home to the Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plant and Salem Nuclear Power Plant in Lower Alloways Creek.

It will create 1,500 permanent jobs and generate \$500 million in annual economic activity. Tim Sullivan, chief executive of the state's Economic Development Authority, said the wind port will make New Jersey the capital of American off-shore wind.

Port construction is expected to begin next year, with a 25-acre manufacturing site and a 30-acre marshaling and staging site coming first.

## Round Valley Reconstruction

Meanwhile, 120 miles north in Clinton Township, three dams in the Round Valley Reservoir are set to benefit from a \$75 million upgrade.

"It's been nearly 60 years since our members worked on this massive project," said Business Manager Greg Lavee. "We applaud the Water Supply Authority for ensuring that it remains viable by today's standards."

The first stage of construction is already under construction. A second stage is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year. A third stage is scheduled to be rehabilitated in 2021.

Round Valley Reservoir was formed in 1960 when the NJ Water Authority constructed two large dams and flooded a large valley. It is named after the naturally formed circular valley surrounded by Cushetunk Mountain.



**Proposed wind port will support work on facilities at sea like this one.**

In addition to supplying water, it also has become a major recreation area for area visitors, offering swimming, fishing and hiking.

## Evergreen victory establishes record as organizing leader



**Kevin Young led the organizing effort.**

Local 825 won a resounding victory as employees of North American Industrial Services, Inc. (Evergreen Environmental) withstood countless obstacles to win their election and chose to be represented by Local 825.

Despite the obstacles, the unit voted overwhelmingly to be represented by Local 825 with the final votes in a 23-person unit being 15 "Yes," and 3 voting "No." Two votes were objected to by the company and three by the

board, leading to speculation that these five voided votes probably would have been "Yes" votes.

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) had suspended elections due to the COVID-19 shutdown at the time. After the suspension was lifted an anti-union campaign led by American Labor Relations

Group, known as a "union busting firm," was initiated. Federal unfair labor practice charge(s) were filed against the company.

Evergreen primarily works in refineries, providing environmental consultation, remediation assistance and hazardous waste management services to facilities throughout the country.

Last year, Local 825 organized nearly 200 employees working for ACV Enviro, Inc. in the same industry, located in New Windsor, NJ and New York. The effort was led by Director of Special Projects Kevin Young, who also assisted other IUOE locals in organizing employees working for ACV Enviro throughout the Northeast. The result was that more than 800 employees are now being represented by IUOE locals.

IUOE and Local 825's past success with ACV Enviro spread across the industry and led to the employees of Evergreen reaching out to Local 825's organizing team. Kevin spearheaded the Evergreen campaign with the support from Local 825 organizers, Drew DiPalma, Evan Daniels and Ken Riley, as well as Business Agents, James McGowan, Alex Kolbasowski and Pat Hjelm.

With this second-most recent victory within this industry, IUOE international representatives, Local 825 representatives and the employees of Evergreen met recently to discuss the process of negotiations and the strategy going forward.

Kevin described the meeting as extremely positive and was looking forward to beginning the negotiations in August.



# 825 moves mountains of sand to shore up battered beaches

**T**owns along the Jersey shore are investing millions of dollars to restore the beaches that serve as the economic lifeblood of their communities.

## **Ocean City, Strathmere, Sea Isle**

In Ocean City, Strathmere and Sea Isle, Local 825 members are working for Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Co., rebuilding beaches that have been all but washed away over

years of storms and high tides. The last major storm in October washed away dunes and left dangerous cliffs as high as 10 feet.

These three towns are part of a \$32.5 million Army Corps of Engineers project to return 1.5 million cubic yards of sand to the shoreline. There are options in the contract for even more sand if needed, which could increase the cost of the project to \$41.3 million.

The cost is split evenly between the federal

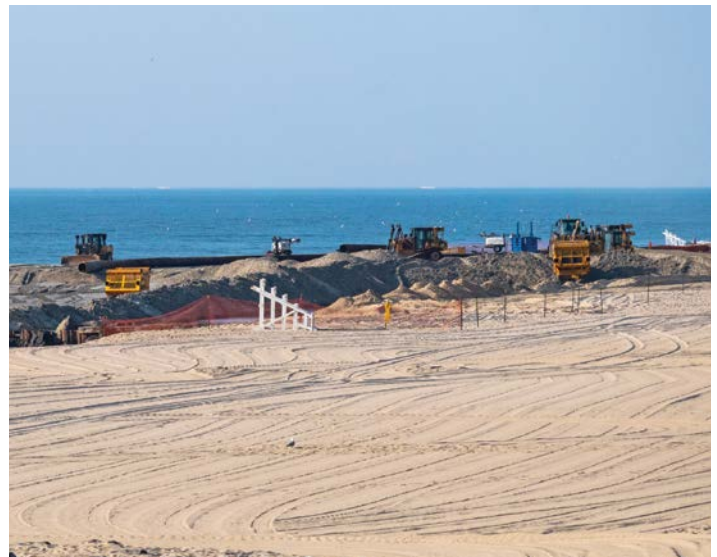
government and the state, with local towns contributing about 12.5% to the state's share.

Work is done in 1,000-foot stages (about two blocks) at a time, so as not to interfere with summer beachgoers.

In **Ocean City**, about 2.1 miles of beaches are being restored, mostly on the northern end of the island, along the boardwalk's commercial district. The sand is pumped from a dredge in the Great Egg Harbor inlet through an under-



**Long Branch Beach**



**Long Branch Beach**



**Long Branch Beach**



**Ocean City**



water pipe, then washed onto shore where it is moved and graded back into beaches.

In **Sea Isle**, the project is primarily beach widening and dune restoration, restoring two major sections of storm-eroded shoreline with more than 750,000 cubic yards of sand.

In all, 510,000 cubic yards of sand were pumped onto the beaches from 74th Street to 93rd Street in Townsends Inlet. Another 250,000 cubic yards of sand fortified beach-

es from 28th to 52nd streets.

Work in these three towns is expected to be completed by the beginning of September.

Farther north, in **Long Branch, Sea Bright** and **Monmouth Beach**, Local 825 members working for Weeks Marine are restoring what nature washed away, returning 1.6 million cubic yards of sand from blocks and blocks of beach-front. Options for an additional 1.1 million cubic yards were added to the contract this year 2020

and the expanded projects now will continue into the fall of 2020 through spring 2021.

The overall project, from Monmouth County down to Cape May County, is overseen by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

It used to be that beach replenishment work was done in the off-season, Business Manager Greg Lavee said. But, the COVID-19 pandemic presented an opportunity to make progress during earlier closures and general slowdowns.



**Ocean City**



# Apprentices learn through summer's heat

**S**ustained high temperatures through July and August did little to interfere with apprentice training. Apprentices remained on the job, Monday through Friday, despite the ups and downs of the thermometer.

Classes included robotics equipment, milling and dozers, paving forklift and backhoe. Saturday CCO and Hazmat classes were added, along with various scheduled practical training.

There are 30 apprentices, of which 15 are working and 15 are training.

Journeymen testing and training are arranged



by appointment, Mondays through Saturdays.

At the New York Training Center there are five apprentices, three are working and two are training. Journeymen testing and training are arranged by appointment.

Along with our apprentices are our trainers, who keep them motivated while sharing operating skills honed over decades. Local 825 salutes both the apprentices and their instructors who share a team spirit and are focused on being the best operating engineers they can be.



**NEW TRAILERS ALLOW EXPANSION --** The newest addition to the Dayton training center includes four new trailers to accommodate the need for program expansion and also social distancing for health and safety. The trailers will become the new instructor room, extra classroom and a kitchen area. The current instructor room will be converted into a new simulator room. The current simulator room will house a new welding simulator.



## From sandhogs to modern day: four generations of NY operating engineers



Peter Donohue

The history of Local 825 is a history of its families. The Donohue/Flanagan family of Delaware County, NY, dates back four generations, to the time when family patriarch

Peter J. Donohue helped rid the "sandhogs" out of the upstate New York aqueduct tunnels.

"Sandhogs" was the name given to tunnel workers from the New York City area. Since they had worked on the New York City tunnel system, they assumed the right to work on



Edward Flanagan Sr.

the upstate tunnels, taking jobs from residents of the five-county region of Local 825.

That didn't sit well with Peter Donohue and his union brothers. Together, they asserted their territorial rights and preserved jobs for the local during the 1940s, when feeding a family was a daily challenge.



Edward Flanagan Jr.

Peter Donohue's son-in-law, Edward Flanagan Sr., worked as shop steward for Dutchess Quarry, in Goshen, NY. His son, Edward

Flanagan Jr., now happily retired, worked as an operator for 55 years.

Edward Flanagan III has logged thirty years with Local 825 and is still going strong. And just like his great-grandfather, he is working underground, on the Ashokan Aqueduct in the Catskills.



Edward Flanagan III

The Flanagan family is grateful to Local 825 and its strong leadership, which has kept his family, and all Local 825 members, financially secure through retirement.



# ELEC at work for members, contractors

**A**s the New Jersey begins its partial reopening, ELEC continues to work behind the scenes to secure work for members and our union contractors, advocating for infrastructure investments and work while much of the state works from home and roads are less busy.

Throughout the state, large stretches of roads are being repaved and the recently approved New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA) and South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA) capital programs ensure that work and economic development will continue for years to come. ELEC lobbied to make sure that construction was deemed essential work and supported coronavirus safety protocols at job sites.

The Market Recovery Program, established in the wake of the Great Recession of 2007-2009, will be critical in coming months, as we compete with non-union labor for work. We remain committed to helping our union contractors and members through these extraordinary times.

ELEC tirelessly advocates for improved energy infrastructure projects.

"While the world is in short-term disarray, we must continue to look and plan towards the future," said ELEC Director Mark Longo. That includes pipelines to meet growing energy demand safely and efficiently, maintain-



ing a strong and safe nuclear portfolio, and integrating alternative fuels and renewable energy into the mix.

ELEC also has launched a new print and on-line ad campaign, introducing a new set of "heroic" ads that emphasize union labor's role in building the way out of the coronavirus crisis.

Two of the ads are shown here.



## Women's group marks first year

**L**abor Day 2020 marks the first anniversary of the Local 825 women's committee.

The group includes twelve members and aims to establish an open forum for female operators to find support and answers to questions regarding their trade.

"Our goal is to promote education, training and knowledge of procedures, contracts and bylaws," said Tammy Good, the group's leader.

With the support and encouragement of Business Manager Greg Lavee, the women staged a successful breast cancer awareness fundraiser last October. The Susan G. Komen Foundation ranked the group as one of its highest fundraisers. This year's awareness

campaign began in August and will again run through October.

"Our focus is not limited to women's issues," Tammy said. "We want to support the entire local, not just women. Currently, we are planning a scholarship fundraiser that will take place next year."

Last year, IUOE General President James Callahan asked Linda Hamilton of Local 132, West Virginia, to lead an international women's committee. This led to the first international women's committee, held in the international's training center in Crosby, TX. Tammy was there to represent Local 825.

A diverse group of women attended the

conference: business agents, dispatchers, training center instructors and directors, as well as a vice president from Locals throughout the United States and Canada. All of the workshops were intended to educate attendees, so that they would return to their locals to start women's committees everywhere.

In addition to Tammy, the new group's members are: Bernadette Baldwin, Christine Carmen, Heather Coles, Christy Dittman, Ivette Ellis, Diana Goffredo, Desiree LaLuz, Diane Papa, Kelly Raeuber, Nina Verissimo and Amber Weaver.

Follow the Local 825 Women's Committee on Facebook page.



## International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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

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## BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

# Training Center, apprentices assist food center

**F**ulfill, the Food Distribution Center in Neptune, cut the ribbon on its expanded parking area in July as it adapts to a growing need for food and assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fulfill CEO and President Kim Guadagno, the former Lieutenant Governor of New Jersey,



**Fulfill CEO & President Kim Guadagno cuts the ribbon and is joined by Business Manager Greg Laveeve and other benefactors of the Fulfill facility.**

thanked several groups – including Local 825 Operating Engineers – who provided materials and services to construct the parking area.

The Operating Engineers provided equipment and members to the project and other companies donated tons of asphalt.

Local 825 Business Manager Greg Laveeve also thanked his members who volunteered their time and work. “Our members are proud to help Fulfill in its drive to end hunger. Our members play an active part in the communities where we live and work.”

Fulfill has been providing food for families in Monmouth and Ocean Counties for more than thirty years. It has earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for more than ten consecutive years. Ninety-five cents of every dollar donated to Fulfill goes directly to feeding the hungry.

Fulfill feeds children, seniors, veterans, and the working poor. It serves pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens and provides



**Training Director Willie Vaccaro, left; Greg Laveeve, center; and Kim Guadagno, right.**

hot meals for children. Fulfill assists with tax preparation, connecting people to SNAP (food stamps) benefits, and with job training in its culinary program.

Guadagno said that Fulfill has provided an additional 1.6 million meals to area residents since the pandemic hit.