On the Cover: Members of Iron Workers Local 33 continue their work on the expansion project at Golisano Children’s Hospital in Rochester, NY.

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"Representing Members of the Rochester Building Trades Since 1968"
In the wake of the government shutdown, estimated to cost our economy $24 billion - not to mention the threat of a default on the full faith and credit of America - it was mildly surprising to see the Senate pass ENDA. ENDA would prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. It is currently legal in over thirty states to discriminate, including firing a person, solely based on their sexual orientation. Of course there is not much chance the Speaker of the House will allow a vote for equality in the House of Representatives.

Our own local Congressman, Chris Collins, spoke for the radical minority, saying he feared such legislation could lead to workplace "lawsuits". Does this mean that Congressman Collins does not believe in the rule of law? That he will only vote for laws that are not enforced? There was a time when being against equal rights was not part of the philosophy of conservatives that believe in limited government or liberals that believe in larger government to protect us from the excesses of the rich and powerful. Whether in the 1860's, 1960's or the 21st century standing against equal rights for all, whether due to sexual orientation, immigration status, job status, such as farm workers, is just wrong.

It must not be forgotten in the 2014 mid-term elections that in the final vote Congressmen Collins and feed both voted against re-opening our government and for the default of the full faith and credit of our country. They are part of a lunatic cabal that exalts idiots like Sarah Palin and Michelle Bachman. They hide behind the "Conservative" label, but I doubt most of this lunatic fringe has any idea who Edmund Burke was or are the least bit familiar with his scholarship - or even that of William F. Buckley. Our Congressional "rebels without a clue", and their indifference and/or ignorance of where the American conservative agenda has run aground, and where it is going, are mind boggling.

A current example of this is the minimum wage. In July, a poll by Hart Research Associates showed 80% of Americans support hiking the federal minimum wage to $10.10 an hour and adjusting it for the cost of living in future years. Not surprising was the support of 92% of Democrats. What is surprising is that this increase in the minimum wage was supported by 80% of Independents, 62% of Republicans, 75% of Southern whites and 79% of people with incomes over $100,000. Regardless, the chances of a $10.10 minimum wage indexed for inflation in today's "Peoples House", are slim.

Further evidence is found in Republican leaders threatening another government shutdown and possible default on the full faith and credit of the United States within two months, in spite of the outcry of the public over their most recent antics. Continued attacks on the deficit, with no new revenues, and leading us to similar numbers as countries in recession in the Euro zone. According to Gallup's Center for Economy and Policy Research, only 63% of our population is working, about the same as the Euro zone. Only 44% of family and consumer spending remains below levels seen just before the collapse of Lehman Brothers. We will not have a real recovery in an economy dependent on consumer spending when so few are getting paychecks and incomes in state taxes than are paid by the wealthy, according to the Fiscal Policy Institute. Wealth index in New York is the worst in the Nation. Short sighted budget cuts undermine our services, our education system, our infrastructure and the privatization and/or downsizing of public employees has our economy with dubious tax savings, if any.

The Governor's plan, "Centers of Excellence", to reduce the number of state psychiatric centers and shift treatment to community based programs is an example that is harmful to patients, caregivers, and communities. It may reduce short term costs, but hurts families who will have to travel long distances to only care and support working families; a key part of treatment. As NY reduces accessibility to mental health services, it has failed in its promise under the Community Reinvestment Act to ensure those who need mental health services have reliable access to quality care. We need better mental health care and services for families, but it will not happen by ending state services for short term budget gains with no investment in appropriate community programs and resources. We, the 2014 press conference, has ignored that requirement. As we have empowered psychiatric centers we have failed to insure individuals are cared for or that their families will not have to travel great distances. There are and have been individuals that need intensive services and support. What has happened in the last two decades, according to more than 60,000 state and federal psychiatric facilities in less and more than half of the inmates in county jails and prisons have some form of mental illness. The Governor's plan continues and worsens this situation while adding long term costs and short term savings to tax and families of the mentally ill or disabled.

We need a real plan, not press releases; a plan detailing care community by community. We need our experienced and dedicated mental health workforce to continue to address the needs of people with serious mental illness, and their families, until there is a better plan than just cutting costs. We also need to address our tax burden and revenue side of the equation. A good start would be the Comptroller's October report showing that 27% of the property value in our state is exempt from property taxes. This does not include those exempt from one type of local government or school district taxes. Looking very hard at these situations could reduce our tax burden and make it more just.
FROM THE BUILDING TRADES: Sheet Metal Local 73 Delivering Value at Work

The Rosemont Fashion Outlet Mall in Rosemont, Illinois opened August 1, 2013 and is scheduled to be completed in mid-2014. The mall is 550,000 square feet with over 120 stores, a food court and connected parking.

During construction, there were over 20 different contractors and subcontractors doing the work; with over 150 sheet metal workers doing the HVAC, diving, metal screens, bathroom partitions, lockers, roof flashing and skylights. Along with all the other trades, the Rosemont Fashion Mall job project was 100% Union from the beginning to the completion.

Rocco Terranova, President and Business Manager of Sheet Metal Local 73 said “This is a prime example of how organized labor can work together. We are extremely proud of our involvement.”

Non-Union Contractors Hit with $400K Fine in Deadly Philadelphia Building Collapse

Federal officials cited ahorrrent violations of safety standards for imposing roughly $400,000 in fines against two non-union contractors involved in the disastrous building demolition project in Philadelphia, PA that resulted in six deaths and more than a dozen injuries.

Because of the lack of safety procedures in place by Campbell Construction and S&G Contracting, the demolition project of a vacant four-story structure went disastrously wrong, leading to a 4-story masonry wall collapsing onto an adjacent Salvation Army store next door to the project.

The US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has concluded that the fatalities were entirely preventable and that simple, basic safety procedures been in place, no lives would have been lost.

Non-Union Contractor in Philly Building Collapse Charged with Murder

In the most dramatic and tragic example yet of the “low road” business model that permeates today’s construction industry, a non-union contractor was formally charged with murder in a fatal building collapse during a demolition project in Philadelphia earlier this year.

Griffin Campbell, a non-union contractor who was running the disastrous building demolition that killed six people in Philadelphia earlier this year, was formally charged with murder in a fatal building collapse during a demolition project in Philadelphia earlier this year.

Smith, appearing Sunday on “Political Capital: Al Hunt,” the death of a worker in a project in Miami, Florida.

“Coastal Masonry ignored its responsibility to ensure workers wearing fall protection systems were not exposed to free-fall hazards greater than 6 feet. A willful violation is one committed with intentional, knowing or voluntary disregard for the laws’ requirements, or with plain indifference to worker safety and health.”

The serious violation involves Coastal Masonry’s failure to inspect fall protection equipment worn by workers before making sure effective equipment is removed from service. A serious violation occurs when there is substantial probability of death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

Union Craft Professionals Match World’s Best Nuclear Concrete Pour

On November 21, 2013, union skilled craft professionals at the Plant Vogtle nuclear expansion project on Nov. 21 completed the placement of the basemat structural concrete for the nuclear island at Unit 4. According to the plant’s owner/operator, Georgia Power, pouring of roughly 7,000 yards of basemat structural concrete in only 41 hours was not only “a significant accomplishment in the construction of the project,” but also matched the best time ever achieved for the same work on other Westinghouse AP1000 units.

“The successful pour of the basemat concrete for Unit 4 at Plant Vogtle, said Sean McGarvey, President of North America’s Building Trades Unions, “is a consequence of the way union construction industry is comprised of the safest, most highly trained and productive craft workers anywhere in the world.” Further, it is a striking example of how the nationwide infrastructure of our unions is ideally suited to prepare and supply a new generation of skilled craft workers to meet the exacting standards of the most discriminating industries from the Gulf Coast to remote areas like Waynesboro, Georgia, which is almost 200 miles from the nearest major metropolitan area.

The Plant Vogtle expansion project is being built by Westinghouse and Chicago Bridge & Iron. In addition to Georgia Power, owners of the project include Ohiopshire Power, with 30%; Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia, with 22.7% and the Electric Authority of Dalton, Ga., with 14.6%. Unit 3 is scheduled to begin commercial operation in the fourth quarter of 2017, with Unit 4 to follow a year later.

THE WORLD OF ORGANIZED LABOR: More Player Injury Suits Likely, Says NFLPA

DeMaurice Smith, executive director of the NFL Players Association (NFLPA), says it is unlikely the National Football League really hasn’t seen the end of lawsuits by players who have suffered injuries.

For evidence that elections have impact on working family issues, look no further than New York City, where the New York City Council and its affiliates’ grassroots mobilization during the election appear to be paying off, with Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio and his future mayor and comptroller are any indication, working people will once again have a seat at the table.

For the past 12 years, New Yorkers had a mayor who opted out of involving the labor movement or working people in his plan to improve conditions in the Big Apple. Now Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio has announced that NYCCLC President Vincent Alvarez and 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East will form part of his transition team. Alvarez also was appointed to New York City Comptroller-elect Scott Stringer’s team in their roles on the transition team, Alvarez and Gresham will advise de Blasio on filling key posts in his administration. The fact that the future mayor would pick two labor leaders to help shape his administration is a good sign about the type of leadership de Blasio will choose to lead the city’s government. Alvarez and Gresham’s appointments also signal a break from outgoing mayor Mike Bloomberg, whose transition team was dominated by national figures, Big Business donors and others who weren’t from New York City.

In announcing their transition teams, Mayor-elect de Blasio and Comptroller-elect Stringer emphasized their intent to engage local leaders who have strong roots in New York’s five boroughs and a deep understanding of the city. “These leaders are volunteering their time to every issue and area of municipal affairs,” said de Blasio in a statement. “Together, they will work with me, with New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer and his deputy, Carl Weisbrod and Jennifer Jones Austin in helping me to assemble a team that’s devoted to building one great city where everyone shares in our prosperity.”

Senate Republicans Slapped Down on Filibusters

On November 21, Senate Democrats fought back against years of Republican blockades and obstruction of President Barack Obama’s executive branch and judicial nominations by voting to change Senate rules to guarantee an up or down vote on most nominees.

“Time and again, Republican senators have put political obstruction ahead of what’s best for America. Their unprecedented abuse of the Senate rules is a naked attempt to nullify the last election by denying President Obama his picks for critical judicial and executive branch posts. But the Constitution does not allow a majority of one house of Congress to hold the remaining branches of government hostage. We applaud the leadership of Senate Reid to uphold democracy by breaking this filibuster and allowing the Senate to address the pressing needs of our country,” said AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.

Filibusters will still be allowed on Supreme Court nominees and on legislation.
Consider Changes in Health Care Tax Breaks

By John N. Hamling

With the high cost of health insurance and medical care, taxpayers are often eager to cash in on health-care related tax breaks. But changes that took effect this year make that harder than before.

Before 2013, for example, patients could claim an itemized deduction for medical expenses paid for themselves, spouses and dependents to the extent those expenses exceeded 7.5% of adjusted gross income. Under the Affordable Care Act, a higher 10% threshold now applies to most people. However, the 10% threshold won’t take effect for taxpayers or their spouses who will be 65 or older as of Dec. 31 this year. For them, the lower 7.5% threshold will continue to apply until 2017.

Individuals who can elect when medical expenses are incurred may be able to concentrate them in alternating years in order to reap the highest tax benefit.

Take someone under 65, with annual adjusted gross income of $70,000, who is expected to incur $14,000 in uninsured medical expenses this year and next, perhaps because of elective surgery, a routine colonoscopy, a new pair of glasses, contact lenses and dental work.

If those costs are evenly spread over two years, the taxpayer can’t write off the expenses, because the annual cost of $7,000 doesn’t exceed 10% of adjusted gross income, which is also $7,000 in this case. But if the majority of the expenses occur in one year, whatever amount tops the threshold can be taken as a medical expense deduction.

Here are some other tax-related issues regarding health care, and what to do about them:

**Family Help**

A taxpayer who covers medical expenses for a dependent parent, grandparent or adult child can add those expenses to their own itemized deduction purposes, but only if the taxpayer provided more than half the dependent’s financial support, mainly living expenses, for the year. In some cases, for instance, that could push the taxpayer over the adjusted gross income threshold.

The tax advantage exists even if a taxpayer can’t claim a dependent exemption deduction, because the person who receives the support has too much income. (For 2013, you can’t claim a dependent exemption deduction if the person receives support over $3,900 of gross income or files a joint return.)

A new cap on flexible spending accounts

This year, the health-care overhaul imposes a $2,500 cap on annual contributions to employer-sponsored flexible spending accounts for medical expenses. In the past, there was no limit, though many plans imposed their own cap.

Employee contributions to health-care FSAs are subtracted from taxable salary, and patients can then use the funds to reimburse themselves for costs insurance doesn’t cover. Even with the new limit, that tax advantage still exists.

Long-term care

Most long-term care policies are considered health insurance under tax law, so the premiums count as medical expense and can be deducted as such. But there are deduction limits tied to a taxpayer’s age. Here is the breakdown:

**Age on 12/31/2013** | **Amount eligible**
---|---
40 or under | $360
41 to 50 | $680
51 to 60 | $1,360
61 to 70 | $3,640
Over 70 | $4,550

By being aware of these new changes, hopefully you won’t miss out on valuable healthcare tax breaks.

John N. Hamling is a Vice President at Karpus Investment Management, a local independent, registered investment advisor managing assets for individuals, corporations, nonprofits and trusts.

Offices are located at 183 Sully’s Trail, Pittsford, NY. 14534; phone (585) 586-4680.
AFL-CIO said:)

In a statement Tuesday, the Michigan reorganization plan and that he will not ing his plans to cut retirees' pensions. lowing the judge's ruling today outlin- care benefits and wasted no time fol- debt, is claiming the financial problems Snyder (R) to take the city into bank-

gency manager appointed by Gov. Rick 

in the Central Illinois region count on the union-affiliated contractors and the members of the union building trades to ensure the project will be "Better Built™

The affiliated contractors and members of the union building trades deliver professional quality results and a profit-

able level of productivity. The results ensure measurable value for develop-

ers, owners and all construction cus-

tomers. These contractors and skilled professional construction workers, who are members of the Peoria-based,

professional construction workers, 

which provide professional architec-

tural services throughout the process. 

The 130,000 square foot pad for the 

shredder, conveyor and control build-

ing, had to conform to exacting stan-

dards. "We had to use forty foot pilings," Moser says, "the pad has to support the shredder which is 500,000 pounds," adding, "and it has to be within a inch standard so the surveying for the elevation had to be exact." 

The site work by R.A Cullinan and the members of the Operating Engi-

neers exceeded expectations accord-

ing to Doolin, "The key was they were fantastic and got all the grades correct, including adding two feet of soil." He went on, "then Peoria Metro completed the entire 130,000 square feet of twelve inch thick concrete pavement for a slab the size of a Walmart, by the end of De-

cember," adding how at twelve inches thick, "is the same as pouring two floors." The estimate for materials came out just as exact, and "so we were cor-

rect on both the top and bottom end of thecrete.

Ongoing training on the latest tech-

iques, tools, materials and processes provided by both the affiliated contract-

ors and unions, proved time enhanced. The company's own engineer had started all the drawings and Behr acted as their own general contractor with a project manager.

The project had begun in early No-

vember 2011 and despite the ap-

proach of winter weather, R.A Cul-

linan, completed the site work and the project moved forward quickly. Peoria Metro performed the foundation and concrete work as well as the building. Oberlander Electric spent considerable time on the project, "there was an incredible amount of electrical work in-

cluding underground conduit to power the shredder," according to Architect 

Greg Doolin of Designs Solution Group, which provided professional architec-

tural services throughout the process. 

continuing to process the materials and sending them to a nearby location in Bartonville, Illinois played a role in the project. Keystone spins the reclaimed metal into wire, and sends it to a company in Iowa which makes welded wire mesh for paving. So the metal fabric used on the concrete for the Behr expansion had originally come from recy-

ced metal processed at the same plant.

"This is a project that comes full circle," Doolin says. 

The project included 24 support col-

umns for the downstream conveyor which carries the shredded metal to the 

containers for shipment. Not only was the concrete slab at an exact drainage 

grade, the skill of the local workforce 

provided by both the affiliated contrac-

tors and unions, provides enhanced 

workmanships. "We had to use forty foot pilings," Doolin says. 

Pre-cast concrete walls and roof 

formed the control building as they provide extra strength as it sits next to the 

shredder and though rare, pieces of 

metal do sometimes fly out of the 

machine. "The thick concrete walls will 

protect the building," Doolin says, and it was much faster. After the walls had been delivered they were able to get the building up and closed in five days so we could start finish work." 

Cooperation produces success. "The biggest thing is the working relation-

ship among the participants and on 

this project there was a team spirit born to finish," Doolin says, add-

ing, "even though we were not working for each other, we were certainly work-

ing as a team.

Moser agrees. "There were so many good people on the project I was very 

pleased with every contractor, there were no problems," adding, "it went better and faster than I thought a dif-

ficult project like this could go.

The project even required installing a new railroad spur.

A product of Behr, which sends a large amount of recycled metal to Key-

stone Steel and WireHayward. "Sends a clear signal that if you work hard and earn a fair pension, a gov-

ernor with a radical, right-wing politi-

cal agenda can use the federal bank-

ruptcy law to trump a state consti-

tution's pension protections," said 

Rhodes. The Michigan and Detroit AFL-CIOs warned that ruling also: 

"Sends a clear signal that if you work hard and earn a fair pension, a gov-

ernor with a radical, right-wing politi-

cal agenda can use the federal bank-

ruptcy court as a tool to rob you of 

everything you earn."

Rhodes did say he won't necessarily agree to pension cuts in the city's final reorganization plan unless the entire plan is fair and equitable. He said the city needed to find a way to "fairly or casually exer-

cise the power to impair pensions." 

Liz Iacobucci of the New Hampshire Labor News wrote that Rhode's ruling could not "feel more like Michigan, in other states like New Hampshire that have similar pension protections writ-

ten into their constitutions."

"Think about that, carefully—be-

cause to me, that is the single most 

frightening part of the entire regu-

lation. The judge held that federal bankruptcy law trumps a state consti-

tution. One more time, this is not acceptable. A law passed by Congress can invalidate a provi-

sion of a state constitution."
Summary Annual Report for Rochester Laborers Annuity Fund

This is a summary of the annual report for the ROCHESTER LABORERS ANNUITY FUND (Employer Identification No. 16-1253138, Plan No. 002) for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the Plan, was $49,212,073 as of June 30, 2013 compared to $48,213,573 as of June 30, 2012. The Plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of $989,492. This decrease includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the Plan’s assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the Plan year, the Plan had total income of $2,611,007 including employer contributions of $1,818,852, participant contributions of $66,109 and earnings from investments of $348,395. Plan expenses were $2,927,218. These expenses included $278,753 in administrative expenses and $2,647,465 paid to insurance carriers and participants.

Your Rights To Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. An accountant’s report;
2. Assets held for investment;
3. Transactions in excess of 5 percent of the plan assets;
4. Information regarding any common or collective trust, pooled separate accounts, master trusts or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of Shirley Duke, Managed Manager, 18 Fourth Street, Rochester, New York 14609, (585-325-3906). The charge to cover copying costs will be $0.25 per page for each copy.

You also have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report at the main office of the Plan: 280 Metro Park, Rochester, NY 14623. You also have the right to request a copy of the Plan administrator, or any part thereof, on request and at no charge, of the information listed above.

You also have the right to examine the annual report at the main office of the Plan: 280 Metro Park, Rochester, NY 14623 or at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to: U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Public Disclosure Room, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.
WHO WE ARE:

Iron Workers

Iron Workers: On The Job

In October, Iron Workers from Local 33 continued their work on the expansion project at Golisano Children’s Hospital in Rochester, NY. The addition at Strong Memorial Hospital is planned to feature private rooms, and a hospitality suite where parents of patients staying overnight can shower, do laundry and prepare meals. Planned to open in 2016 are new pediatric operating rooms, pediatric intensive care unit and a pediatric cardiac intensive care unit. A later phase calls for a move of the Ronald McDonald House to the Golisano Hospital.

Did you know that the Golden Gate Bridge was built by Iron Workers? What about the testing and building facilities for the Stealth Fighter and Space Shuttle or the famous “Gateway to the West” - the St. Louis Arch? How about the Oil Sands Plant Expansion in Alberta? That’s right – Iron Workers erected those buildings too. Think about it. Nearly every structure you can think of - schools, sports stadiums, shopping malls, hospitals, bridges, office and industrial buildings - all required the skills of trained ironworkers.

If there were no ironworkers, cities like New York, Chicago, Quebec and Los Angeles would look very different than they do today - no skyscrapers, no bridges, and no office buildings.

Transportation would be radically different too. How would the millions of commuters every day get to work without the bridges built by - you guessed it – Iron Workers. Without Iron Workers to erect the skeleton of a structure, no other trade would be able to install their work. That’s why Iron Workers are the most respected tradesperson in the construction industry.

When you’re an Iron Worker, the sky is the limit. The possibilities of training, earning, providing, advancing, building are endless. There is no limit to what Iron Workers can do!

History of the Iron Workers

In the late 1880s, steel had virtually replaced wood and stone as the primary load-carrying material in the erection of bridges and buildings. This abrupt change in structural materials brought about a demand for a new type of worker-bridgemen and architectural iron workers.

Iron Workers became known as “cowboys in the sky.” As these daring, young, independent men aged and became husbands and providers, their thoughts turned to providing for their families during sickness, injury, and death and the realization by joining together, their voices became stronger, unified, and heard. Thus, the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers of America was established on February 4, 1896, by sixteen delegates who attended our founding convention in Pittsburgh.

What else didn’t you know about the Iron Workers?

• The first shop local of the International, Local 40 (Newark, New Jersey), was chartered in 1902 and was designated as “Inside Architectural Bridge and Structural Iron Workers.”

• Close to 10,000 participants have completed approximately 400,000 hours of training during the 29 years of the Annual Ironworker Instructor Training Program.

• According to the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of Iron Workers is projected to grow 22 percent from 2010 to 2020, faster than the average for all occupations. The need to rehabilitate, maintain, and replace a growing number of older bridges is expected to drive employment growth, as will the ongoing construction of large projects, such as high-rise buildings. Job opportunities should be best in metropolitan areas, where most large construction projects take place.

• With the completion of every job, it has been a tradition of the Iron Workers to celebrate with a “Topping Out” ceremony when the last beam of the building or bridge is set in place. The tradition is usually done with a Christmas tree, a flag, and an Iron Workers banner, which are hoisted and displayed on the final beam. Traditionally, the last beam is signed by all the ironworkers who worked on that project, representing both their skills employed and their pride in the completed structure.

• In its 115 year history, the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers has been led by just twelve general presidents: Edward Ryan, John Butler, Frank Buchanan, Frank Ryan, James McClory, Paul Morrin, John Lyons Sr., John Lyons Jr., Juel Drake, Jake West, Joseph Hunt, and Walter Wise.
Walmart Workers and Supporters Stage Protests on Black Friday

Last Friday, workers from Walmart stores across the country joined with allies to call upon the company with $17 billion in annual profits to pay its full-time workers a minimum of $25,000 a year and for the company to stop punishing workers who stand up for their rights. Rallies were held at more than 1,500 Walmart locations. Working families in nine major cities planned civil disobedience as part of the protests, and arrests were made in numerous cities, including Alexandria, VA, and Dallas, TX.

Locally, The Rochester Labor Council – along with community friends and allies – distributed literature, in support of the Walmart workers, at three area locations: Chili Ave in Rochester, Empire Blvd in Webster, and Marketplace Drive in Henrietta.

50 Years After His Assassination,
JFK Quote on Unions Lives On

"Those who would destroy or further limit the rights of organized labor – those who would cripple collective bargaining or prevent organization of the unorganized – do a disservice to the cause of democracy.

Fifty years or so ago the American Labor Movement was little more than a group of dreamers, and look at it now. From coast to coast, in factories, stores, warehouse and business establishments of all kinds, industrial democracy is at work. Employees, represented by free and democratic trade unions of their own choosing, participate actively in determining their wages, hours and working conditions. Their living standards are the highest in the world. Their job rights are protected by collective bargaining agreements. They have fringe benefits that were unheard of less than a generation ago.

Our labor unions are not narrow, self-seeking groups. They have raised wages, shortened hours and provided supplemental benefits. Through collective bargaining and grievance procedures, they have brought justice and democracy to the shop floor. But their work goes beyond their own jobs, and even beyond our borders.

Our unions have fought for aid to education, for better housing, for development of our national resources and for saving the family-sized farms. They have spoken, not for narrow self-interest, but for the public interest and for the people."

-John F. Kennedy, August 30, 1960
The day was marked by prayer meetings, protest rallies and burning of effigies. Utmost blacklisting of Dursban, the cancellation of the criminal case on bribery, the conviction of the joint venture in Gujarat and the gutting of the corporate executive - 1993. Meanwhile, in a jointly released statement to the media on the 29th Anniversary, five organizations of survivors of the Bhopal Gas Disaster, the ICJB, Peedit Mahila Udhyog Sangathan, (BGP - its erstwhile chairman Warren Anderson in the town wherein toxic gas leak killed thousands) and the jointly designed was blamed for a 1907 collapse that killed 75; another 13 died in 1916 when a hoisting device failed which in its erstwhile chairman Warren Anderson in the town wherein toxic gas leak killed thousands and left nearly half a million maimed for life who still continue to suffer.

According to reports reaching here, Harvard students and community organizations in the United States launched a 365-day relay fast together in support of survivors of the Bhopal Gas Disaster. A candlelight vigil and protest attended by several dozen people was organized at Harvard Square, Cambridge on Sunday to commemorate the 29th anniversary of the disaster. The goal of the fast is to draw attention to key survivor demands: clean-up of the contaminated site, medical relief and economic rehabilitation of all survivors, and prosecution of Dow Chemical, whose subsidiary Union Carbide's snooping on Bhopal activists.

Meanwhile, in a jointly released statement to the media on the 29th Anniversary five organizations of survivors of the disaster demanded apologies from Dow Chemical's snooping on Bhopal activists. The effigy, that of a corporate executive, wearing a t-shirt with horns and a forked tail, bore marks of the blacklisting of Dursban, the cancellation of the criminal case on bribery, the conviction of the joint venture in Gujarat and the gutting of the corporate executive - 1993. Meanwhile, in a jointly released statement to the media on the 29th Anniversary five organizations of survivors of the Bhopal Gas Disaster, the ICJB, Peedit Mahila Udhyog Sangathan, (BGP - its erstwhile chairman Warren Anderson in the town wherein toxic gas leak killed thousands) and the jointly designed was blamed for a 1907 collapse that killed 75; another 13 died in 1916 when a hoisting device failed which in its erstwhile chairman Warren Anderson in the town wherein toxic gas leak killed thousands and left nearly half a million maimed for life who still continue to suffer.

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UNION:

JANUARY MEETING SCHEDULE:

Buffalo Chapter: Rochester Union Hall, 3750 Monroe Ave., Pittsford, NY

- Wednesday, January 8th @ 5:00 pm

Rochester Chapter: Rochester Union Hall, 3750 Monroe Ave., Pittsford, NY

- Wednesday, January 8th @ 5:00 pm

Ithaca Chapter: Buffalo Training Center, 1175 William St., Buffalo, NY

- Wednesday, March 12th @ 5:00 pm

- Thursday, March 13th @ 6:00 pm

BUFFALO CHAPTER:

- Wednesday, March 12th @ 5:00 pm

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS:

- January 1st - Monday, January 7th

- January 8th - Monday, January 14th

- January 15th - Monday, January 21st

- January 22nd - Monday, January 28th

- January 29th - Monday, February 4th

- February 5th - Monday, February 11th

- February 12th - Monday, February 18th

- February 19th - Monday, February 25th

- February 26th - Monday, March 4th

- March 5th - Monday, March 11th

- March 12th - Monday, March 18th

- March 19th - Monday, March 25th

- March 26th - Monday, April 1st

- April 2nd - Monday, April 8th

- April 9th - Monday, April 15th

- April 16th - Monday, April 22nd

- April 23rd - Monday, April 29th

- April 30th - Monday, May 6th

- May 7th - Friday, May 10th

- May 11th - Monday, May 14th

- May 15th - Monday, May 21st

- May 22nd - Monday, May 28th

- May 29th - Monday, June 4th

- June 5th - Monday, June 11th

- June 12th - Monday, June 18th

- June 19th - Monday, June 25th

- June 26th - Monday, July 2nd

- July 3rd - Monday, July 10th

- July 11th - Monday, July 17th

- July 18th - Monday, July 24th

- July 25th - Monday, July 31st

- August 1st - Monday, August 7th

- August 8th - Monday, August 14th

- August 15th - Monday, August 21st

- August 22nd - Monday, August 28th

- August 29th - Monday, September 4th

- September 5th - Monday, September 11th

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- October 3rd - Monday, October 9th

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**BAC 3 continued in right column...**
The Labor News

November 26, 2013

Upcoming Projects:

- Ramsey was low bidder on the Genesee Riverway Bicycle Trail Landscaping Project (Monroe County)
- Ramsey was low bidder on the NY/DOE 1-390 Railroad Reconstruction Project (Monroe County)
- Crane Hogan was low bidder on the NY/DOE 1-390 Bridge Repair Project (Seneca County)
- SRS was low bidder on the Recycling Center Floor Replacement Project (Monroe County)

Member News:

- Dues: 4th quarter suspension letters have been sent out. If you receive one of these letters you are in danger of being suspended. Please mail a check or money order to - Local 435 at 40 Fourth Street, Rochester NY 14609.
- DUES PAYMENT CHANGE — — — — Starting in 2014, our dues payments will be due monthly. This has been mandated from the International. You will have to pay monthly and you will be suspended sooner if you do not stay current. You can still pay in advance for your dues as well.

This includes retirees.

- Dues 2014: It is required by the international that the active member dues payment be increased by $1 a month yearly for active members. Starting January 2014, dues payments will be $33 MONTHLY. Retiree's dues payment amounts do not change but they will need to be made monthly.
- Christmas Food Drive: Once again we will have our annual Christmas food drive. Please bring your non-perishable food items to our regular union meeting. We will be distributing the collected food items to various food shelters. We will be collecting at the December meeting. Thank you in advance for your generosity.
- Subpay: Any unemployment information being mailed in needs to be mailed to the Fund Office 18 Fourth St. Rochester NY 14609. Call with questions: 585-235-3000.
- To Claim Unemployment: The unemployment site has changed and we are getting lots of calls. To collect benefits you need to be ready, willing and able to work. USBSI Services: https://applications.labors.org/individual or Phone Service: 1-888-209-8124 for NYS Residents or 1-877-335-3506 for out of state residents.

To file unemployment or get a sub-pay report you MUST:

- Promptly file your claim in the first week after you lose your job. You will not be eligible until after an unpaid (one week) waiting period. Note: any delay in filing may cost you benefits.

Things You Need To File Your Claim:

- Your Social Security number.
- Driver's license.
- Complete mailing address, with zip code
- Phone number
- Alien Registration Card number. (if you are not a US Citizen)
- Names and Addresses of all your employers for the last 18 months.
- Employer Registration number or Federal Employer ID of your most recent employer

You may be able to file a claim without all of these documents. However, missing information can delay your claim.

For those choosing direct deposit for your claim, you need a check that has your banking routing and checking account numbers.

If you have never filed a claim for benefit in NYS State, you must create a Personal ID number (PIN). This is a four-digit number that you must keep confidential.

Training Information:

The training season is fast approaching. Check your cards to see what updates you will need before next work season. Call the training office to sign up or get on a waiting list for a class @ 585-546-8460.

A list of classes scheduled thus far:

- OSHA-10
- Traffic Safety (Flagging)
- Asbestos Refresher
- Confined Space
- Hazardous Waste
- Lead Awareness
- Cutting & Burning
- Rigging & Signaling
- First Aid/CPR
- OSHA-10

It is extremely important to get as many classes attended as is possible because the jobs are requiring more and more certifications. The more training you have - the more valuable and desirable you become.

Reminders:

- Out of Work List: To be put on the “Out of Work” list you MUST SPECIFICALLY REQUEST THIS from either Bonnie or Cheryl when you call the office. Never assume it will automatically be done for you. Remember it is only good for 14 days. You must call back before the end of the 14th day to stay on the out of work list, holidays and weekends included.

Returning to Work: If you have returned to work please call the hall to let the office know.

Pictures: Please send us any pictures of projects you are working on. We would like to post them on our website or on our Facebook page. You can visit us on Facebook at Labors Local 435.

Contact Info: Be sure that we have your current address and phone number. This will save a lot of time, and makes it easier to find you when you get the call to go to work.

Union Meeting:

Our next regular union meeting is Wednesday, December 18, at 8 pm in the large meeting hall.

Retirees will meet an hour earlier at 7 pm in the conference room. You can also find this information posted on our website.

Bonnie Petrotta

Laborers LOCAL 435
DANIEL KUNZ, BUSINESS MANAGER

SAFETY should be your #1 priority, make sure your 10 HOUR OSHA is updated! Your OSHA card is only good for 5 years, if your card is older than 5 years you need to go in an OSHA 10 Construction class! Be sure to pay attention and WORK SAFE!

UNION DUES UPDATE

There is NO REASON NOT TO HAVE YOUR UNION DUES PAID TO DATE!

Union Dues can now be paid by credit card (ONLY BY) contacting Sheri at Painters District Council 44 at 716-565-0303 ext. 428. You must know the amount of Union Dues owed, either by the bill received or you may contact Local 6671 Union Office and Vicky will be happy to let you know your balance. There will be a change of 2.19% for each transaction.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Bob Cassella, Vicky, Wendy, and myself would like to wish you and your families the happiest of holidays. May the New Year bring you all HEALTH, HAPINESS, & WEALTH.

HOLIDAY HOURS The Union Office & Health & Welfare Office will be closed Tuesday, December 24th and Wednesday the 25th for the Christmas Holiday. And the offices will be closing at 12:30 on Tuesday, December 31st and will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2014, for the New Year Holiday.

KEEP THE UNION OFFICE UPDATED ON YOUR WORK STATUS

We are having a “GREAT OUT-OF-WORK LIST” at all times. Please call the Union Office to let us know you are out of work. We can't send you back to work if we don't know you are out! If you go back to work, let us know, so we can take you off the list. Also, if you have moved or have a new phone number, please notify the Union Office of the change, we cannot send you to work if we cannot reach you!

GET YOUR DUES PAID UP! If you are still more than three months behind you will be charged a $50.00 suspension fee. There will be no exceptions to this fee! Bob Sinopoli, Bob Cassella

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The Current

Next Union Meeting - January’s meeting will be held on Thursday January 9th.

Executive Board Meeting: The next E-Board meeting will be at 6pm on December 17th, 2013, at Boeing in Geneva.

Children’s Xmas Party - The Annual Children’s Christmas Party will be held on December 14th at 1pm. All interested should return your RSVP prior to December 6th. This party is open to children and grandchildren of retirees and members of Local 840 ages 12 and under.

United Way - Local 840 United Way Campaign will have donated approximately $6000 to our local United Ways in 2013. That coupled with other charities such as Habitat for Humanity we are making our community a better place to live.

Resign Procedure - Don’t forget the new resign procedure is in effect. Resigns are now due between the 10th and 16th of every month regardless of your original sign date. This can be accomplished by fax, mail, e-mail or in person. The e-mail address for resins is: 840resign@rochestercnr.com.

Short Call Resign - Remember to sign the book immediately upon returning from a shortcall to maintain your spot on the available list for work. This office needs your signature to verify your availability to take a call.

Local 840 HRA - Anyone currently using Local 840’s flex card. This is a friendly reminder to keep all of your healthcare receipts. As explained in you information packet these cards may be used for a variety of healthcare expenditures but some expenditures need verification. Also, this card is only active when you are covered by Local 840’s Health Plan. Save your receipts.

Instructors needed - The Geneva JACS is looking for two new instructors to start after the first of the year.

One instructor is to take over the Second Year Apprentice class starting at the beginning of the second semester. You should have solid mathematical and planning skills as well as be adept at the National Electrical Code.

The second instructor is to start our new Construction Wiremender / Construction Electrician curriculum. This individual should have the aforementioned skills as well as be well versed or plan on becoming well versed in how our local union and the IBEW work as a whole.

If you are interested in either of these positions please send your qualifications and an interest letter to the office by December 27th.

I asked a ref if he could give me a technical foul for thinking bad things about him. He said, of course not. I said, well, I think you stink. He gave me a technical. You can't trust em.

Being politically active, charitable and taking pride in our local are the keys to our survival! Attend local union business meetings, get involved and become what we all wish to be! Remember local union business is conducted at local union meetings. Please attend!
**Firepot**

**SHEET METAL WORKERS LOCAL 46**

**JOSEPH P. LEONE, JR., BUSINESS MANAGER**

**THE NEXT UNION MEETING IS FRIDAY DECEMBER 13, 2013 AT 5:00 PM**

**Paint Pot**

**PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 4/ LOCAL 150**

**MARK STEVENS, BUSINESS MGR. • TODD ROTUNNO, BUSINESS REP.**

MEETING NEWS: Local #150 next monthly meeting will be December 11th at 4:30 pm. The Executive Board will meet at 4:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the Sheet Metal Workers Hall, 244 Paul Road, Rochester, NY 14624.

CONDONENCES FOR THE FAMILY OF WILLIAM DESALVO. William lost his brother James on November 20th after a long illness at the age of 61. Our deepest sympathy goes out to you and your family.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DISTRICT COUNCIL #4 LEAGUES CHRISTMAS PARTY 12/7

Local #150 CHRISTMAS PARTY 12/12

I hope you all had a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. We look forward to those of you who can attend the Christmas Party.

REMINDEERS: We do like to announce new births into your family. So please share the good news with us so we can let our brothers and sisters know.

WORK STATUS: Work has slowed down a little, but should pick up shortly. Please keep the hall updated on your work status so we can accommodate you and our contractors. Part of my job is to put the members to work and supply them with qualified men and women. I cannot stress enough the importance of keeping us up to date with both your work status and contact info so that all our members have the opportunity to work steadily.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO NOTIFY THE FUNDS OFFICE: We Need to be notified whenever you move, change your home or cell number, change your marital status, add a dependant, etc. If you don’t keep us informed we cannot get in touch with you or keep you updated on important information. Also, beneficiary cards need to be completed and updated for your death benefit through the IUPAT. Please call the office and one or both of these forms will be mailed to you so we can update our files.

**DUES REMINDER:** It is your responsibility to pay your dues on time. Keep in mind that there will be strict enforcement of the $50.00 reinstatement fee if you are more than 90 days behind.

**TRAINING INFORMATION:** Efforts are being made to try to get some of these classes available in Rochester. Please refer to the District Council 4 website, www.dc4.org for the list of training classes that are being offered to our members. If you have any questions, please call District Council 4 Apprentice Coordinator, Kathy Vele, at (716) 565-0112.

**DISTRICT COUNCIL #4 NEWS:** If you would like to receive a text to remind you when the next Local #150 meeting is, or when the IUPAT sends out job alerts call the office so that we can place your cell phone number into this program.

***MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:** District Council #4 has just signed with a new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for any of our local members and their families. The new program has much more to offer. Besides counseling benefits they also have WorkLife Benefits, Information Resource Benefits, Lifestyle Benefits, Personal Development and Training Benefits and Wellness Benefits. These benefits are all confidential and at no cost to our membership. Please don’t ever hesitate to use any of these benefits. To contact them you can call toll free @ 1-800-252-4555 or 1-800-225-2527 or log on to www.theEPA.com. You may also stop into the hall and pick up a brochure. If you do contact them, identify yourself as a union member or the family associated with Painters Local #150.

**APPRENTICE INFORMATION:** All apprentices Blue Books must be submitted to the Apprentice Office monthly for recording purposes. If you cannot submit your Blue Book in person, you must send it by fax: (716) 626-9697.

**Todd Rotunno**  • Regional Business Representative  • District Council 4 • Painters Local #150

Phone: (585) 281-7120  • Office: (585) 279-2400 • trotunno@dc4.org

OPEN WELDING: The welding room is open and available to ALL MEMBERS on Wednesday nights. Welding is a very valuable skill and possessing a welder certification is a powerful tool in your bucket.

**WELDING CERTIFICATION:** The welder certification list can be found on our Website under “Certification Programs” at www.smw46.com.

School will be closed Thanksgiving week.

**Apprentice Obligation:** We would like to remind ALL Sheet Metal Apprentices of your Blue Book, On-the-Job Apprenticeship obligation. This is something that all apprentices need to be aware of. It is the Apprentice’s responsibility to maintain accurate records and every foreman’s responsibility to sign off in these books since they have been properly completed by the apprentice.

Upcoming Safety and Specialty Classes (Please call to reserve your spot):

- **OSHA 30 Hour** – Friday nights and Saturday Mornings:
  - January 10th 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm
  - January 11th 7:00 am – 1:00 pm
  - January 17th 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm
  - January 18th 7:00 am – 1:00 pm
  - January 24th 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm
  - January 25th 7:00 am – 1:00 pm

- **Fire Life Safety Level 1 Technician class – January 7th start date (Tuesday’s & Thursday’s)**

- **Cranes and Derrick** – February 8th 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

- **NFPA 70E electrical awareness class – Dates TBA**

**Make a Difference:**

*Be the change that you wish to see in the world.* – Mahatma Gandhi

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**LOCAL #46 RETIREE’S CLUB**

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday January 14, 2014

**THERE IS NO DECEMBER MEETING!**

We had a great time at our November meeting/Pig Roast. Thank you to everyone that attended and especially to everyone that helped with set-up and clean-up! We are already looking forward to next year’s event! Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday December 14, 2013. As a reminder, our meetings are always held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month – 10:30 AM at the Union Hall located at 244 Paul Road, Rochester, NY 14624. Having a good time is always our main order of business and we look forward to seeing you there!

**DECEMBER RETIREE’S BIRTHDAYS:**

- Thomas Bryant, Ray Burlingame, Louis Guerra, Tom Hrysa, Howard, Alvy Lucas, Handschuh, Sam Saponato, Bruce Schenkel, Antonio Tantalo, Bernard Vito and Tom Zdanowski.
  - If you see any of them in December, please wish them a Very Happy Birthday!

Fraternally,  • Al Taylor  • President

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**LOCAL #46 BENEFIT NEWS**

**EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP):** We have just enrolled in an entirely new EAP program with a company called ESI: One of the many services include – Counseling Benefits (Help with personal issues from alcohol and substance abuse to stress and relationships); Work/Life Benefits (Assistance for other personal, financial and legal issues); Information Resource Benefits (Access a vast collection of self-help tools and articles); Lifestyle Benefits (Discounts and savings plans to help with fitness, smoking cessation, and retirement and college planning); Personal Development Benefits (Help balancing your work, life and career); Wellness Benefits (Information and resources to improve your overall wellness).

Getting the help you need is simple. You can call the EAP 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to reach a professional counselor. Call 1-800-252-4555 or 1-800-225-2527 or log on to the web at www.theEAP.com to access other benefits (you will need to register and create a User Name and Password the first time you log on. Click on this Employee & Family Login button, then Register Here. It will guide you through set-up).

- **APPRENTICESHIP INFORMATION:**
  - The welding room is open and available to ALL MEMBERS on Wednesday nights. Welding is a very valuable skill and possessing a welder certification is a powerful tool in your bucket.
  - **WELDING CERTIFICATION:** The welder certification list can be found on our Website under “Certification Programs” at www.smw46.com.

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Make a Difference:

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Firepot continued in right column.
Plumbers & steamfitters local 13

Blowtorch

There is no Union Meeting this month!

The election for Officers is Saturday, December 14th from 9 am until 4 pm. Please come down and show your support for our Union brothers!

(w/ an inclement weather date of December 21st.)

Running Positions:

(1) Business Agent: Terry Moore, Joe Holderman and Tom McNicholas
(3) Finance Board: Mike Bovill, Clint Byeck Mick Gibson and Shane Davis
(4) Examining Board: Bill Blaschek, Ken Cooke, Jake Eisenhauer, Colin Herlehy, Mike Lahmanto and Todd Michael

Conference Board: Mike Bovill, Clint Byeck, Jim Catenolo, Shane Davis and Tom Landry

Wishing all of our members and their families a safe and happy Holiday Season

• WE HAVE NEW LOCAL 13 Apparel for sale at the Union Hall! Please stop down early for sizes and make sure to stop out on shopping for Christmas Presents... We have Tee shirts, crew neck sweatshirts, hooded sweatshirts, long sleeve tee’s and baseball hats. Winner hats and Cama Tee shirts and hats are in/Stop by before they sell out!

• UNION Dues Increase! There will be an increase January 1, 2014 of ONE DOLLAR for Journeyman and Apprentice monthly dues. Please make note when sending in your dues payments. They will have to be returned if the amount is incorrect.

• We are still doing ROBO Calls to those of you that are not current on your Union Dues. Please check to make sure you are up to date. There is a $55.00 reinstatement fee when you are 3 months past due... no exceptions. We also need your current phone numbers on file so that the ROBO Call gets you the information.

• We need you current information on your ADDRESS AND PHONE Numbers. In order to stay informed please make this available to the Union Hall to stay informed.

• If you are out of work and/or change employers, please inform the Union Hall. Keeping your records as accurate as possible starts with YOU!!.

• Local #13’s website is www.ualocal13.org. There is quite a bit of information to be found on the site including agendas, activities and general updates. I encourage you all to check out the site now and throughout the year.

• We have a “Job Line” that is for out of town work! If anyone is interested in out of town work, please dial 338-2360 option #4 to hear more information!

Dusty Thompson, the long-time girlfriend of fellow union member Kenny Spencer, lost her fight with Pancreatic Cancer on Friday, November 15, 2013. She had been diagnosed only two short months earlier. We take comfort knowing she is no longer in the terrible pain she was in. She was an amazing person with a heart of gold and loved to laugh. Prayers and well wishes are always welcome for her loved ones left behind.

Our condolences go out to Retiree Fred Kassel on the passing of his mother. We pleased that she was able to attend our clambake this past September and we were able to sing Happy Birthday to her for her 93rd birthday!!

DATES TO Put on your Calendar:

• Children’s Annual Christmas Party at Union Hall – Saturday, December 7th from 10 a.m. until noon

NOTICES & REMINDERS:

Call the Union Office for any announcements that you may wish to have inserted into your labor news column. We would like to be made aware of any and all family events. Please contact Janice and share your news and announcements!

BENEFITS Office

Steve Ostrander – Fund Manager

HEALTH INSURANCE: ADDING DEPENDENTS

Please be aware that if you would like to add a dependent to the health care plan, you have a 30 day window from the date of the qualifying event. For example, birth, marriage, and loss of coverage are all considered qualifying events. If you miss the 30 day period, your dependent will not be eligible to be added to the plan until Open Enrollment in May of each year.

PENSIONERS SELF PAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE

In the past, there has been some confusion with timely payments for health insurance. Please understand that Local 13 cannot offer health care unless it is completely funded. To that end, the issue of timely self-payments combined with upcoming federal mandates within the Affordable Care Act requires us to inform you that all payments for health insurance coverage must be submitted prior to coverage month. In other words, if you are to receive health care for January 2014, your payment must be received by the Fund Office by 12/15/13. If you pay quarterly, your payment must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the beginning of the coverage month. Thus, if you are paying for the February – April quarter, your payment must be in by January 15th.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THIS NEW POLICY MAY REQUIRE 2 INSURANCE PAYMENTS IN ONE MONTH IN ORDER TO AVOID PREPAYMENT STATUS.

If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Marciano at 585-338-2310 x106.

PLEASE MAKE ANY NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS BECAUSE THIS POLICY MUST BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014. IF YOU HAVE YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS DEDUCTED FROM YOUR PENSION CHECK, THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU.

ANNUITY

The Guaranteed Income Fund has a guaranteed interest rate of 1.95% effective July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. The interest rate will not fluctuate during this time.

MEMBER INFORMATION

It is VERY IMPORTANT that the Fund Office is notified if there are any changes to current information that we have on file. Any changes in address, phone, marital status, beneficiaries, etc. must be communicated to the Fund Office in a timely manner in order to ensure that proper paperwork is filed and up to date. This will help us to serve your needs better.

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING NEWS

APPRENTICES: Reminder to fill out your BLUE BOOKS on a daily basis and to have your Foreman sign them. You need a copy of your blue book on the first day of any month, Blue Books are a NYS DOL requirement and are YOUR responsibility.

WELDING: Journeyman welding will be Monday nights at 5:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 7:30 a.m. Beginning in January, February, March and April. Continuity is the WELDER’s responsibility; if you lapse, you will have to re-test. We have continuity on the odd numbered months before the Union Meeting.

MED GAS INSTALLER: Keep an eye on your Med Gas Installer/Brace dates on your wallet card. When they get within a month or two, call me. When we get 10 people to sign up for a class, the next months date will be established. You must bring a $25.00 refundable deposit, cash or check only. Please sign up at my desk or with Alana.

MED GAS RECENT: Sign up in the Training Office. When we get 10 people, we will schedule the next date. To sign up, you must bring a refundable $25 deposit cash/check.

SAFETY CLASSES: Available for sign up. These classes require a $25.00 refundable deposit in order to sign up. There will be a list of all safety classes offered here on the designated bulletin board. The next safety calendar for the 2013-2014 year is available for your review online and at the hall.

30 HOUR OSHA: The next available course begins March 4th, 2014. You are required to pay a non-refundable $300.00 book fee. You are only guaranteed a spot in the class if you PAY THE BOOK FEE!! Please see Alana in the training office for more details. A new policy started in September, if you choose to take 30 Hour OSHA Online while we are offering classes, you will have to pay for it. You will not be eligible for course reimbursement.

COUSE REIMBURSEMENT FOR OUTSIDE TRAINING: Course Applications must be submitted by member two (2) weeks prior to course date, and must be approved by the JATC Board prior to reimbursement. Applications are available on our website at www.ualoc13.org.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES:

Journeymen are always welcome to come to classes per the posted calendar; if there is room in the class. You can sign up for spring classes in the JATC office. Available classes:

• CAD I and II
• Industrial Rigging
• Plumbing Exam Review
• Foreman Training
• Orbital Welding
• Work Related Math
• Medical Gas Installer
• HVAC Star

“We also have some manufacturer reps coming in: Liberty Pump, Vitaulic, Swagelock, Charlotte Pipe, Spears Manufacturing (PV)…. Please call us if you are interested.”

R E T I R E E N E W S:

FREE LUNCH!!

We had another great Retiree lunch Tuesday. The pasta (made by Carl Coletti), bread, salad and delicious desserts were a delicious! A special thanks to Terry Moore for the donation of a “Magnificent Bottle” of champagne that was raffled off and won by Sam Tumia! Thanks to all that helped with cooking and clean up! Next Luncheon will be our Holiday lunch. We will be having Turkey and dressing! Bring a dish or a nice dessert to share. We wish a speedy recovery to all our brothers who are sick or recovering from surgery. Be sure to follow your company’s safety rules. Give them 8 for it.

Pete

Blowtorch continued in right column...

Ups and Downs

ELEVATOR Constructors LOCAL 27

ALAN ROTHFUSS, JR., BUSINESS AGENT

The December union meeting will be Thursday, December 12th at 5:30 at the Union Hall. Don’t forget your first quarter dues for 2014 are due before December 31st 2013. Late fees start accruing on January 1st.

Congratulations to Local 27’s newest mechanics, Kevin Wate and Rich May. We hope you enjoy a long and healthy career in the elevator trade.

I hope everyone is enjoying their holidays. We have five paid days off between November 11th and January 1st. Let us also remember that if you have more than five years in the trade, you must take four weeks of vacation. This is part of the standard agreement.

Have you ever thought about what you may do after you retire form the IUEC? There are many different non-qualifying employment opportunities. Disqualifying Employment is defined as employment or self-employment of any type in the elevator industry, including supervisory work in the field. Disqualifying Employment would also include any day-to-day employment, disqualifying your immediate family’s employment would greatly increase the cost of your retiree health care.

The local will be communicating with its members via cell phone/text and email. Please make sure Al has your current cell number and e-mail address. We spend $500 too much on stamps, envelopes, paper and printer ink. As a trustee, I have always thought this was excessive, and we need everyone helps reduce this expense.

Anyone who would like to submit article information to go into a future Labor News edition can e-mail local27@frontiernet.net. All get this and forward it to me.

Be sure to follow your company’s test procedures, and be sure to follow the terms negotiated in the standard agreement. The only negotiated and agreed upon procedure for one man safety requirements is the hydraulic pressure relief test. It is on page 115 of the current standard agreement.

Be a brother to a brother. Call in all job starts and unloadis. Always follow your company’s safety policies. Give them 8 for it.

Blowtorch continued...
Next Union Meeting:
PLEASE NOTE: The next Union Meeting will be a Notified meeting, Friday, December 13th, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Meeting Hall, at 2300 East River Road. The meeting is notified to discuss the upcoming 3rd-Data contract negotiations. A buffet dinner will be served after the meeting.

Upcoming Holiday dates the Union Offices will be closed:
The Union, Fund and JATC Offices will be closed the following dates:
November 28th and 29th
December 25th and January 1st

Please make sure you plan accordingly. We will be open Tuesday, December 31st so you will be able to pay your union dues.

19th Annual Kiddie Christmas Party:
Our Annual Kiddie Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 14th, at LU 86 Meeting Hall, from 10:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. We would like to invite children & grandchildren ages birth to 10 yrs. old of members and retirees only. In order to ensure that there are enough gifts purchased for each child and appropriate please make sure to RSVP no later than Monday December 9th, at (585) 235-1510 ext. #302. Make sure to leave the member or retiree name, along with each child's name and age. There will be NO reservations taken after the cut-off date!

Retirees Annual Christmas Party:
The Annual Retirees Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, December 18th, at the LU 86 Meeting Hall, starting at Noon. Please make sure to call the reservation line at (585) 235-1510 ext. #106 by Friday, December 13th. Also, those with surnames A – L are asked to bring a dessert to share!

Vacation Freeze:
The annual vacation freeze for the close-out checks will start December 16th, 2013 thru January 24th, 2014. The close-out check will include all union vacation funds received in December. The last day for vacation draws will be Friday, December 13th without exception. The close-out checks will be mailed out on or about January 13th, 2014.

As a reminder, vacation withdrawals must be requested with 24 hours notice. Your check will be available for pick up at noon of the following day. Any withdrawal requests must be made by the member and signed for by the member.

Important Notice of 2014 International Dues Increase:
The Delegates of the 38th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, during the week of September 19 through 23, 2011, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution. Accordingly, effective January 1st, 2014, there will be a per capita increase of two dollars ($2.00) per month for all members. This will increase your 2014 dues to $37.50 monthly or $112.50 quarterly.

Union Plus Scholarship Program:
Please be advised that the updated application deadline for the Union Plus Scholarship Program is January 31, 2014. The Union Plus Scholarship application can be accessed online at http://www.unionplus.org/collge-education-financing/uninon-plus-scholarship.

Unlike the IBEW Founders’ Scholarship Program, the Union Plus Scholarship Program is also available to the dependents of IBEW members and other AFL-CIO affiliated unions.

ATTENTION – Resign Information:
Web Referral – Please refresh your webpage by pressing F5.
All resigns will be once a month, from the 10th through the 16th of each calendar month. Resign can be done by email, fax, and mail or in person on those days. "You do not get a reply email back – Please print this page.

"The Web Referral" is available by going to www.ibewlu86.org, clicking on the "Web Referral" tab, and then proceed with instructions on the page. Members can bid on jobs available, update basic information, as well as resign from this link. If you have any questions please call Tame at (585) 235-1510 ext #1.

Notice:
Effective June 1, 2013 there will be a $15.00 fee for each returned (NSF) check payable to IBEW Local 86 for dues.

Job Calls – 5:00 pm to 9:00am DAILY:
Listen to the jobline at (585) 235-1510 ext. 2. If you want a job call after listening to the "job line" you MUST then leave your name, card number, phone number at which you can be contacted, and what order you want to accept the calls.

Notice – changes to Drug Testing Facility:
To all Local 86 members this is official notification that effective Tuesday, May 1, 2012 Local 86 will be using the following Drug Testing Facility: Riverfront Medical, P.C. - 1200 Erie Canal Dr, #300-Rochester, NY 14626.

NO WALK-INS – you must contact Tame Goodale (only) at (585) 235-1510 ext. #1 to schedule an appointment.

NOTE – New call phone rule:
Voted on at the September Union meeting anyone whose cell phone rings during the meeting will owe $10.00 to the Hardship Fund.

Attention ALL Journeymen Wireman:
It is important that ALL Journeymen Wireman (whether working or not) make sure that we have two (2) forms of ID on file for you. Acceptable forms are: Current Drivers License and Social Security card or Birth Certificate or Passport. We MUST also have your current OSHA Card on file. Take your ID’s with you to the jobsite when accepting a job call.

NEFB Pension:
Please call the Union Office a full six months before you reach age 62 to start processing your pension application (585) 235-1510 ext. #2.

Kodak & Xerox Training – NOTE Change:
Xerox Training – Is held at Bldg. 335, at 7:30 am on Mondays.
Kodak Training – Is only done online – link available on LU 86 website.

Note – to accept any job calls you must have your OSHA 10.

...Powerline continued

Thought for the day:
"A word to the wise ain't necessary-it's the stupid ones that need the advice." - Bill Cosby

-Ron Freida

INSURANCE

URGENT CARE is now covered at 100% under the Plan. Urgent Care facilities are more cost effective and efficient than going to the emergency room. They have shorter wait times, convenient locations, licensed professionals, extended and weekend hours. If you need general or emergency care please consider an Urgent Care facility first before going to the emergency room.

STRAONG EAP – Reminder
Strong EAP provides confidential and immediate help for a wide range of concerns including: workplace stress, marital and relationship issues, family problems, parent/child difficulties, drug and alcohol abuse, depression and anxiety, financial pressure, and many other issues. If you or a family member needs this free and confidential service please contact Strong EAP at 585-475-0432. Their office is located at 496 White Spruce Blvd.

ANNUITY

The checks for the retiree draws due December 13th will not be cut until January 2, 2014 so it will be on the next tax year.

SNOWBIRDS

If you are heading to warmer climates for the winter please contact the Fund Office to give us an address and phone number change.

The Fund Office wishes you and your family a Happy Holidays & a prosperous New Year.

Submitted by the Benefits Fund Office

MEETINGS:
The next regular Union meeting is December 11, 2013 – 5:30 PM.

HOURS/LOAFOFFS/NEW JOB STARTS:
Remember that it is your responsibility to report all hires, layoffs, new job starts and completions of projects you are working on to the union office. Also you must report all out of town work within 24 hours of said work to both this office and the Local’s office that you are working in.

PCCC:
Remember that the Professional Craftsmen Code of Conduct will be enforced on all jobs and just not the large ones. PCCC is just common sense, no personal cell calls while working, late starts and early quits, unexplained absences etc. We must conduct ourselves with Professionalism at all times on all jobs.

TRAINING:
Any training that is not offered by the hall will not be paid for by the Union unless prior approval was granted. CALL the Union Office prior to any training that you may need. Any member that has not received the 10 hr OSHA Course please call the Union Office.

BENEFIT FUNDS:
Remember that if you want to retire you need to call the funds office three months prior to your chosen retirement date. Please be sure that both the Funds and Union office has your most up to date contact info i.e. Phone, address and email so we can inform you of the latest news and events.

GOOD/WELFARE:
Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the Welch family on the passing of Howard Welch. Howie was a member for 47 years.

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ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 86 RETIREES NOTES

By now you should have gotten the flyer for the Local’s Christmas Party, December 18th. I hope you have called in (585) 235-1510, ext. 106 your reservation. The deadline is Dec. 11th.

Our members with December birthdays are: Harold Cisco, Dave Conger, Phil Smith, Ricky Allen, Bob Jeffers, George Sheffield, Carl Roberts, Tom Davis, Buddy Schwartz, Marc Wiefer, Gordy Hawke, Dave Auran, Ralph Giancunio, Jerry Carter, Gen Norton, Sue Wilson, Bill McWhorter, Gus Orlando, Rick Fioravanti, Sam Hough, Jim Burke, Terry Conheady, Mike Dwyer, John Lauster, Mike Sherman, Bill Wolick, Larry Dowdell, Dan Zann, Walt Johnson and Bob Ryan. Happy birthday to all of you!

Think about this: “Why, why we write down a phone number, do we put a hyphen between the numbers. I don’t know of any hyphen on a phone dial.”

Fraternally,
Jim Schneider

...Powerline continued

Powerline continued in right column.
WISHING ALL OF OUR FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON!

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