

Tri-Fund

SPRING 2006

Congestion Clearing
Transportation Bond Act Passes



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Tri-Fund

Spring 2006

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MESSAGE FROM

THE IUNA GENERAL PRESIDENT

Ramping up organization efforts for a brighter future



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

For many months, our Union has been going through a process of honest analysis about the state of our Union and of the labor movement as a whole. The goal of this process of gathering and sharing information – at our leadership Conference last year, at the recent Change to Win Organizing Conference, and through a variety of other discussions – is to change the status quo.

This great International Union can grow by the tens, even hundreds of thousands. We can lift standards for construction workers and help decent, union contractors compete in every region of our country. But it will not happen without understanding where we are and where we need to be.

The fact is construction trades unions have been on the wrong side of the economy for a generation. Where there has been economic growth – the South and Southwest – we have for the most part remained insignificant. And where we still have strength – the Northeast and Midwest – growth has been limited or stagnant. In residential construction – which represents 59 percent of the \$181 billion construction industry – we have virtually no market share nationally.

Even in heavy and highway work, the bedrock for many construction unions, about half the market is non-union, and in 21 states (most of them growth states), we have insignificant market share.

Overall, in just one generation, the share of all construction workers who are in a union has plummeted from 40 percent (1973) to only 13 percent (2005).

The decline isn't just bad for unions or union contractors – it's bad for the hard-working men and women who work everyday building our great nation. Real wages for construction workers have declined 16 percent since 1974. Today 56 percent of construction workers are without pensions and 46 percent have no healthcare.

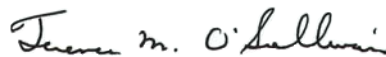
While the situation is dire, the opportunities are enormous. The 87 percent of construction workers without a union – millions of men and women – want and need unions. We can organize the residential construction industry and lift standards for millions of workers and their families. We can organize both in the South and Southwest in heavy and highway and building construction and help workers get their piece of the American Dream while helping our signatory contractors compete.

To win will take new strategies and approaches and harnessing commitment and willpower like never before. We have already taken first steps. By forming the National Construction Alliance, we are removing barriers to growth for our union and union contractors. With Change to Win, we are making available to ourselves a wealth of knowledge and experience with using new approaches. With our great leadership in the state of New York, we are moving toward significantly increasing resources for organizing.

We will have to develop national and global campaigns to bring multi-billion dollar international contractors into our fold. We will have to use comprehensive campaigning – making use of every tactic from bottom-up to top-down – to be successful. We will have to use our strength from high union density regions, as well as join with friends and allies, to build strength in low-density areas.

I believe the true test of a labor leader is to leave behind a union, an industry, families and communities that are better than when we found them. This will be the fight of our lifetime. But continuing decline is not an option. As Laborers, we will take on the challenge and we will be successful.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,



Terence M. O'Sullivan
General President
Laborers' International Union of North America

'We believe this great International Union can grow by the tens, even hundreds of thousands.'

MESSAGE FROM

THE UNION GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

Laborers instrumental in passing Transportation Bond Act



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The cover story of this issue of *Tri Fund* magazine highlights the landmark passage of the \$2.9 billion Transportation Bond Act last November. Its approval not only provides jobs for hundreds of New York State Laborers over the next five years, it demonstrates the power of our organization to work for the benefit of its members.

The bond act certainly would not have passed without the leadership and hard work of the New York State Laborers. We not only lead the organization that raised the money to fund the bond act campaign, we coordinated the effort and organized awareness activities in every region of the state.

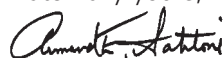
On Long Island, Local 1298 members passed out literature to commuters at rail stations every day in the weeks before the November vote. Our Hudson Valley locals (17, 60, 754, and 1000) led the same efforts in their area and organized public rallies and events to gather public support for the bond act. In New York City, members of Local 79, Local 731, Local 147 and other locals attended weekly bond act rallies and passed out literature door-to-door and at subway stops.

In the Capitol Region, Local 190 and Local 157 helped organize similar rallies and public events. In Rochester and Buffalo, Local 435 and Local 210 came through on short notice to organize bond act rallies featuring Attorney General Eliot Spitzer. Local 1358 in Elmira hosted an event with Senator Hillary Clinton.

Collectively, we made a difference. By tapping our resources and leadership in every region of the state, we helped convince voters to support the badly needed funding to maintain and build our transportation infrastructure. We should all be proud to be part of an organization that demonstrates such high levels of commitment and leadership.

Our union still faces daunting challenges, such as increasing health care costs and growing pressure from non-union contractors. But by working together and maintaining our dedication at every level, I know our union can also overcome those challenges, just as we overcame the obstacles to passing the Transportation Bond Act.

Fraternally yours,



Armand E. Sabitoni
General Secretary-Treasurer
Laborers' International Union of North America

'The bond act certainly would not have passed without the leadership and hard work of the New York State Laborers.'

LOCAL 186 WORKS ON RENOVATION AT HISTORIC FORT TICONDEROGA

DIGGING UP THE PAST



Last year, Local 186 began work on one of the most complicated construction projects it has ever participated in. At historic Fort Ticonderoga, Laborers are helping to restore and expand a 250-year-old structure to create the \$20.8 million Deborah Clarke Mars Education Center.

Because of the age and historical significance of the building, the preservation process is a delicate and unusually complex undertaking. Fort officials called it the most significant restoration project undertaken since the south barracks were restored in 1930.

To ensure the work is done meticulously and without interruption, Local 186 has worked through the spring when the fort is closed to visitors.

When finished, the Mars Education Center will include an auditorium, four classroom/education areas, a multi-purpose gallery and an exhibition gallery. This climate-controlled space will for the first time allow Fort Ticonderoga the capability to offer exciting new programs for school groups, families and adults, includ-

ing lectures and seminars, hands-on demonstrations, classes and workshops year-round.

Working in conjunction with Reale Construction Company, the Laborers have



carefully demolished 20th century reconstructed fort walls and excavated rock among other work. Though the fort is constructed on bedrock, blasting is not an option because of the potential risks to the fort's structure. Local 186 is expected to finish in time for a Fall 2007 opening for the Mars Education Center. Fort Ticonderoga will continue to open each season as it has since 1909.

Noted for its significance during

both the French and Indian War and Revolutionary War, Fort Ticonderoga is located on Lake Champlain and a portage away from Lake George. It is visited by as many as 86,000 tourists each year. Fort Ticonderoga consists of the restored 18th century fort and a museum with more than 30,000 objects and 13,000 rare books and manuscripts.

The Laborers are working closely with the archeology firm hired by



The Laborers demolished only modern, reconstructed sections of the Fort. Great care was taken to avoid harming any original 18th-century walls or artifacts.

Fort Ticonderoga. In fact, the construction timeline is determined by their work. Archaeologists have uncovered, documented, and photographed such interesting finds as the original 18th century drainage system for the Fort's Parade Ground and the remains of original walls. Once the archeologists' work is carefully documented and then protected from any potential damage, construction can move forward in these areas.

"It is quite an honor to work on a project involving a site that played such a critical role in the earliest days of American history," said Local 186 Business Manager Raymond Jessey. "Normally, we try to remove the dirt and debris as fast as possible – but the method of removal on this site calls our attention to the real history we are handling every day." 🍌

MASON TENDERS DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGER

Robert “Bobby” Bonanza entered the construction industry in 1980 when he joined Scalmandre Concrete as a Laborer. He learned the trade while pouring concrete the next two years for the company. As many Laborers do, he found the job through the local he belonged to – Local 66 on Long Island.

More than 25 years later, Bonanza has risen through the many levels and ranks in the business, from Laborer to shop steward to foreman to his current title, Business Manager of the Mason Tenders District Council.

In this role, which he has held since October 2004, Bonanza ensures that the council maintains its high safety standards, offers fair benefits and provides jobs for its members throughout the New York City metro area. The Mason Tenders District Council is comprised of local unions 66, 78, 79, 108, 279 and 1261. In total, there are about 15,000 members in the council.

Bonanza also spends a great deal of his time confronting unscrupulous contractors that undermine the locals and their workers.

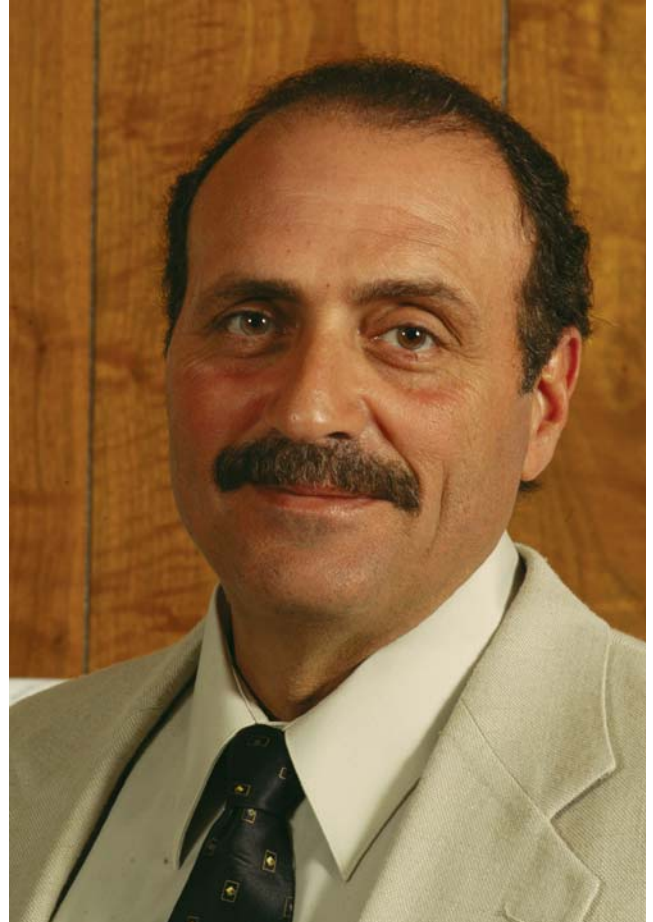
“When we all work together as a cohesive group, we can accomplish great things and create a better work environment for everyone,” Bonanza said.

With an eye on the horizon, Bonanza is anxious to get started on two upcoming large-scale redevelopment projects slated for lower Manhattan (World Trade Center) and the west side (expansion of the Javits Center). In addition, discussions expected to resume this year on proposed new stadiums for the Mets, Yankees, Nets and a NASCAR Speedway may also result in a bounty of jobs for the council’s members. An avid Yankee fan, Bonanza is pulling extra hard for a stadium for his team.

A lifelong resident of Nassau County, Bonanza has been president of Local 66 since 1996 and is one of the original members of the Mason Tenders District Council since it was reconfigured in 1997. Because of his deep local roots, he has cultivated strong political ties with a wide-spectrum of elected officials, helping the union become a major political force in the area.

Bonanza works hard to nurture his relationships with government leaders and believes every political contact he develops on behalf of the union makes a critical impact in the outcome of a variety of different projects for the district council.

“I couldn’t be happier in the position I am in,” said Bonanza. “We have made significant strides in recent years and have steady funding coming our way for special projects, which will keep our members performing the great work they do. I look forward to 2006 being a very productive year for all the unions that make up our district council.”



5

“FILL IN FIVE”

Tri-Fund magazine asked Bonanza to fill in the blanks on five questions about himself.

1. People I’ve worked with all these years would be surprised to learn that: I’m a fan of Doo-Wop music
2. My first job was: Bus boy
3. The last movie I saw was: The Wedding Crashers
4. My favorite song on the radio is: “Start me up,” by the Rolling Stones
5. My favorite saying or quote is: “If you are going through hell, keep going.”
– Winston Churchill

UPSTATE LOCALS GIVE TIME AND EXPERIENCE TO HELP COMPLETE SHRINE

FULFILLING A VISION



After sitting unfinished for more than 30 years, a religious shrine in Utica, N.Y., has finally been completed, thanks to the hard work of Local 35, instructors from the Eastern New York Laborers' Training Center and volunteer members of the Youth Construction Initiative Program.

Begun by the Christ the King Foundation in 1974, the shrine had been left unfinished due to lack of funding. The shrine commemorates Charles J. Grestl, a Roman Catholic who testified to Pope John XXXIII to have seen no less than 12 apparitions of Christ, beginning in April 1947.

"Lending a hand to complete projects for the community has always been important to us – especially when it's right here in our backyard," said Local 35 Business Manager Joe DiCesare. "Though we always take pride in the typical work we perform, constructing buildings that last for decades, donating our time to a unique project such as this gives union members of Local 35 special satisfaction and visibility in the community."

"When we were asked to participate in this project, it was an easy decision to make," said Local 190 Business Manager Anthony Fresina. "We are always looking for ways to help the community with our expertise. Working on this project was very rewarding, because we knew it probably wouldn't have been completed, otherwise."

The volunteer effort, which lasted two days, included making a walkway in the shape of a Celtic cross and final landscaping surrounding the shrine.



Members from Local 35, instructors from the Eastern New York Laborers' training center and volunteers from the Youth Construction Initiative program help complete a stalled project begun 30 years ago in Utica.

Several longtime Laborers from around the state were recently recognized for their commitment and service with 50-year pins and gold card celebrations.

Local 147, Bronx



Local 147 honored 56 members with 50 years of continuous service at a ceremony held at Marina Del Ray in the Bronx. Approximately 160 people attended the event, including several LIUNA leaders. Pictured above, back row, from left, are LIUNA Vice President Vincent R. Masino, Ed Mallon, Brian Thore, Chris Fitzsimmons, LIUNA General President Terence M. O'Sullivan, General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni, Terry O'Sullivan Sr., Richard Fitzsimmons Jr., James Ryan and Patrick Hilly. Front row, from left, are Thomas Vaughn, James McIntosh, Egon Bussman, Baruch O. Stawislaus, Theodore Leitner, Fred Ruiz, Thomas McCray, Patrick Grant, Niel Grant, Edward McGuinness, James Tucker, Joseph O'Rourke, Hugh Barr, Walter Hollaway, Henry Toney, John Kienan, Harry Mynes, Richard Fitzsimmons Sr., Michael Comerford, Guilio Gabriowe and George Gluszak.

Local 186, Plattsburgh

Pictured at right, executive board members of Plattsburgh's Local 186 pose with 50 year member Adrian F. Smart holding his 50-year pin and gold card. From left, are James Alger, Donald Anslow Jr., Local 186 Business Agent and Secretary-Treasurer John R. Donoghue Jr., 50-year member Adrian F. Smart, Local 186 Business Manager Raymond Jessey, Jeff Alexander and Stacy Spooner. Unable to attend was 50-year member pin and gold card recipient Joseph R. Muller.



Concrete Workers District Council, New York

James O'Gorman Sr. (center) shows off his 50-year plaque. Surrounding him are his sons, Dennis O'Gorman, Jimmy O'Gorman Jr. and Steven O'Gorman; his colleagues, Local 18A Business Manager Maurice Foley, Executive Board Member Eddie Purtill, Local 6A Vice President James Lilly, Executive Board Member Danny Lovett; and others. 🇺🇸

LOCAL 322 BUILDING NEARLY 200 WINDMILLS



Harnessing the Wind

an extensive wind capacity study that determined the heavily forested Tug Hill region produces an ideal tunnel of wind from Lake Ontario. The area also receives the heaviest snowfall in the eastern United States.

Local 322 became involved in the project as the result of a strategic and coordinated effort by LIUNA's construction department and several other regional union leaders. LIUNA Construction Department Director Terry Bumpers helped guide negotiations with Zilka Renewable Energy, one of the owners of the project, and LIUNA Vice President Vincent R. Masino and Upstate New York District Council Business Manager Bill Shannon also played key roles in finalizing the project agreement.

High in the North Country of Lewis County, Local 322 is playing a key role in helping the town of Lowville harvest its greatest resource: the wind.

More than 30 Local 322 Laborers are busily building approximately 195 windmills for a 350-megawatt windmill farm in the remote Tug Hill region of New York state. Located between Lake Ontario and the Adirondacks, the Flat Rock Wind Power project is the largest windmill farm east of the Mississippi River.

To put the farm's collective energy output into perspective, 350 megawatts could power the entire north country of New York.

The \$360 million project, which only began in April 2005, was expected to produce 125 completed windmills by the end of 2005. To meet that deadline, the Laborers maintained an ambitious pace throughout 2005, sometimes installing two foundations per day, requiring about 350-375 yards of concrete.

In addition to the windmill construction, Local 322 members have also been involved in civil engineering work, building between 80 and 100 miles of access roads for the project.

Generating "green" power has become a big business. Green energy is sold to a variety of utility companies, which by law must offer alternative energy sources. In some ways, windmills function much as they did in 17th century Holland: by harnessing the wind and transferring it into usable energy. Only now that energy is electricity, which is distributed to utility companies.

The Flat Rock Wind Power project was launched following

"It was extremely important for us to be involved in this landmark windmill farm and demonstrate that our skilled labor force is capable of building other farms around the state," said Rich Daddario, business manager of Local 322. "We've made substantial progress and our contractors have said they view the project as extremely successful so far. I am personally proud of the way everyone involved in this project came together in a collaborative effort for a common goal." 🍷





PHOTO BY WILLIAM STEVE

Government leaders such as NYS Attorney General and leading gubernatorial candidate Eliot Spitzer, at podium in Rochester, N.Y., above, participated in the grass roots effort.

TRANSPORTATION BOND ACT PASSES

Laborers' grass roots efforts help secure more construction jobs

This time, New Yorkers voted “yes.” The \$2.9 billion Transportation Bond Act passed with flying colors in November, signaling a seismic shift in public perception since 2000 when a similar bond act failed to pass.

As a result, many much-needed transportation construction projects around the state will finally move forward – and employ thousands of skilled construction workers.

The public’s change of heart didn’t come about by accident. The NYS Laborers, along with other construction unions and contractor associations, joined together early in 2005 to create an organization called “Vote Yes for Transportation,” which mounted a statewide public awareness campaign about the bond act. The group also recruited other supporters of improved transportation in New York, including business groups, environmental organizations, the NYS AFL-CIO and mass transit advocates.

“The primary reason the 2000 bond act failed was that very

little information was made available to the public prior to the election about how the proposal would improve highways, bridges and mass transit across the state,” said Dr. Jim Melius, New York State LECET Administrator and President of the “Vote Yes for Transportation” campaign. “We learned from that experience and took a much more proactive role this time in promoting the 2005 bond act.”

The campaign not only raised general awareness for the bond act, but also educated voters on the impact deteriorating transportation systems have on the state’s overall economy. The coordinated communication effort also helped voters gain a greater understanding of how the funding would specifically benefit their respective corner of the state.

“Vote Yes for Transportation” raised more than \$2 million (including more than \$300,000 from NYS LECET and PAC) to fund the campaign. Working with several political consultants, “Vote Yes for Transportation” delivered consistent messages about

the proposal through a variety of promotional efforts it produced, including television ads, brochures, hand outs and phone banks.

But the coalition's awareness efforts went beyond educating the general public. "Vote Yes" reached out to politicians across the state to back the campaign and jump in to help with the grass roots efforts. News conferences were held statewide and featured prominent politicians, local labor and business groups and other supporters. Sen. Thomas Libous (R-C-Binghamton) and Westchester County Assemblyman Richard Brodsky (D-Elmsford) coordinated the legislative effort.

"Our local union and district council business managers played a key role in arranging these events and getting our members to attend them," said Frank Marchese, Executive

Director of New York State LECET.

Local unions and district councils around the state all pitched in to help with activities ranging from Bond Act rallies to passing out leaflets at subway stops and rail stations. In Buffalo and Rochester, local union leaders organized rallies featuring Attorney General Eliot Spitzer. In Albany, local union leaders held a news conference near an overpass that had collapsed from years of neglect. In New York City, the campaign went door to door with literature and subway stop leafleting.

In the final days before the election, phone banks played a key role by calling tens of thousands of likely voters and playing recorded messages from prominent politicians, including Attorney General Eliot Spitzer.



“ Crowded mass transit systems in New York City will also be relieved with expanded services, such as the Second Avenue Subway and East Side Access projects. ”

– Armand E. Sabitoni, LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager

LONG ISLAND TEAM

The Long Island leg of the “Vote Yes” campaign was coordinated by Robert Carlino, Executive Director of the Long Island Contractors’ Association. Carlino had worked on previous bond act campaigns and knew which organizations on Long Island would work hard to get the word to voters to support the Bond Act.

Knowing how important passage of the Bond Act would be for his members, George Truicko, Business Manager of Laborers’ Local 1298 on Long Island, made sure his local spent the time and effort to get this Bond Act passed. Working with other Long Island unions and contractor staff, dozens of local 1298 union members spent their mornings and evenings at Long Island Railroad train stations and other places where they could find commuters who would benefit from better transportation and passed out leaflets explaining the benefits of the Bond Act. Just as importantly, they also talked to their fellow Long Island residents about the need to improve their roads, bridges, and commuter rail line.

“Our members all live on Long Island,” said Truicko. “They can relate to the frustration of traffic jams and crowded trains. They didn’t just pass out leaflets – they worked to convince each person they saw about the importance of this effort.”



The 2005 election results speak for themselves. The bond act passed 55 to 45 percent, reversing the margin on the 2000 bond act. Even upstate areas – such as Rochester and Binghamton – that had voted overwhelmingly against the Bond Act five years ago supported it this time.

With its passage, the bond act will provide critical funding to build safer roads and bridges and ease traffic congestion, which will help improve gas mileage. Expanded public transportation services will not only increase efficiency, it will also reduce pollution levels and related health problems.

The good news doesn’t end there. The Bond Act is also expected to create more than 120,000 new jobs statewide, while resulting transportation improvements will likely spur other kinds of economic growth.

According to the American Public Transportation

Association, every dollar invested in public transportation generates \$6 in local economic activity, while every \$1 billion invested in public transportation infrastructure creates 47,500 jobs.

“New York state’s aging roads, bridges and highways will benefit dramatically from this investment,” said Armand E. Sabitoni, LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager. “Crowded mass transit systems in New York City will also be relieved with expanded services, such as the Second Avenue Subway and East Side Access projects.”

But New York State LECET’s efforts with the bond act are far from finished, Dr. Melius pointed out. “We must stay active to ensure that our members and contractors are at the bargaining table when these various construction projects come to fruition.”



WESTCHESTER TEAM

Ross Pepe, president of the Construction Industry Council of Westchester and Hudson Valley, coordinated the Bond Act campaign in that area by organizing a coalition of business leaders, unions, local transportation advocates and environmental groups. All of the region’s local business managers that perform highway work joined the effort, including Todd Diorio, from Local 17 in Newburgh, Carlos Ascencao, from Local 60 in Westchester, Skip Coleman, from Local 754 in Rockland and Phil Benante, from Local 1000 in Dutchess County.

“We know this region and how to effectively impact its different parts,” said Pepe. “An important transportation problem for Westchester residents is not the same as the transportation concerns for people across the Hudson River in Rockland and Orange Counties. We had to tailor our message accordingly to reach the different groups.”

Through press conferences, media events, radio and newspaper ads and commuter leafleting, the Hudson Valley group successfully reached out and convinced local voters to support the Bond Act.



SEN. CLINTON CELEBRATES TRANSPORTATION FUNDING WITH LOCAL 1358



PHOTO BY TOM TAYLOR

During a recent trip across Upstate New York, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.) made a special visit to Local Union 1358 in Elmira Heights to celebrate the more than \$10 million she helped secure for the upgrade of Interstate 86/Route 17.

The additional highway funding, which will help convert Route 17 into I-86 in seven counties along the Southern Tier, will provide Local 1358 members with an abundance of work throughout the project.

The senator was also joined at Local 1358's union hall by several local elected officials, including Chemung County Executive Tom Santulli, Chemung County Legislator Bill O'Brien, Elmira Heights Mayor Arthur Caparula, City Councilman James Hare and I-86 Committee Chairman and Chemung County Legislator Ted Bennett.

At the event, Sen. Clinton also announced that she had helped pass legislation to rename I-86 for her predecessor, the late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan. I-86 will soon be officially designated the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Interstate Highway, a fitting tribute to his past work on the project.



Local 1358 Business Manager Tom Norconk shares a moment with Sen. Clinton during her recent visit to Elmira Heights.

"We were very honored that Senator Clinton took the time to visit our Local and answer questions from our members during her trip to the area," said Local 1358 Business Manager Tom Norconk. "Her efforts to secure funding for this project will provide a much-needed boost for both the local economy and union employment." ■



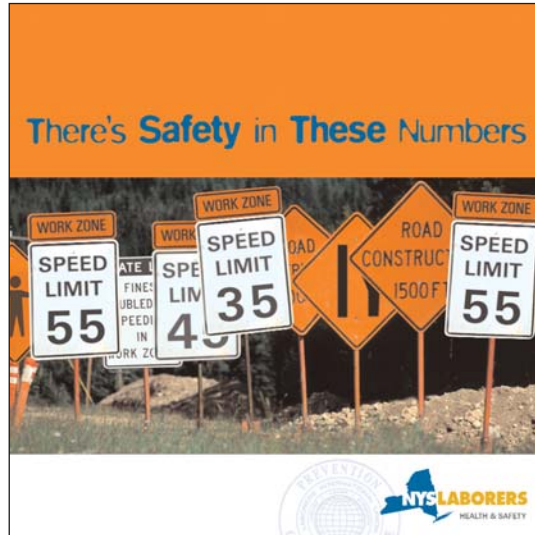
HEALTH AND SAFETY POSTER CAMPAIGN PROMOTES HIGHWAY WORK ZONE SAFETY

The New York State Laborers' Health and Safety Trust Fund has developed a new poster campaign to improve safety for Laborers across the State.

The first poster released in the series focuses on speed as the primary threat to safety in work zones. Though the poster was developed specifically with the goal of keeping union members safe, the poster also aims to promote work zone safety among the driving public as well.

Using "safety-orange" colors, the posters are designed to attract attention and also feature a variety of speed limit signs accompanied by the wording: "Safety in these numbers."

As highway work zone fatalities have shot up in recent years, both the Health and Safety Fund and law enforcement officials have sought ways to educate drivers of the dangers of aggressive driving behavior in highway work zones to help keep worksites



and workers safe.

The Federal Highway Administration reported a nearly 50 percent increase in work zone fatalities between 1997 and 2003. In 2003, there were a total of 1,028 work zone fatalities – one work zone fatality every 8.5 hours, or three per day.

Most highway and roadway work-zone related accidents can be avoided simply by following posted speed limits and obeying flaggers. Reduced speeds better enable drivers to safely navigate work zones while construction is being performed.

"History speaks for itself – this past year painfully illustrated the horrors of work zone accidents and prompted the development of this first poster in the campaign," said Health and Safety Trust Fund Executive Director Mickey Kelly. "We plan to continue developing additional posters to raise awareness for various issues facing our members." 🍎

LABORERS' GOLF TOURNAMENT MAKES SPECIAL WISH COME TRUE FOR 4-YEAR OLD



The 2005 New York State Laborers' 4th Annual Golf Classic to benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation of Northeast New York raised more than \$25,000. The funds raised were used to help a young girl named Meredith celebrate her 4th birthday at Walt Disney World® Resort with Minnie and Mickey Mouse.

The Make-a-Wish Foundation grants wishes for children with life-threatening diseases and since 2002 has been one of the primary beneficiaries of the Laborers' philanthropic efforts. The daylong Laborers' golf classic was held at Saratoga National Golf Course in August and attracts local unions from across the state, contractor partners and other invitees to help this unique non-profit organization. Participants in this year's event also included Make-a-Wish beneficiaries, LIUNA officials and members and numerous enthusiastic golfers.

Meredith's family traveled to Florida and had a birthday celebration like no other. They stayed in a villa at "Give Kids the World" village, where they were reportedly "treated like royalty." According to Meredith's mom, Sarah, the

volunteers at Give Kids the World "bent over backwards to accommodate us."

"This day is so much more than a golf tournament – these children need our help," said NYS LECET Executive Director Frank Marchese. "The money we raise from the generosity of members across the state is an important part of the Laborers' philosophy in giving back to the communities in which we live and work." 🍎



A golfer prepares to tee off at the New York State Laborers' 4th Annual Golf Classic.

MESSAGE FROM

A UNION VICE-PRESIDENT

From the old to the new



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

If ever there was a need to frame the versatility of the New York State Laborers' capabilities, this edition of *Tri-Fund* magazine has it covered. From the restoration of a Revolutionary War fort to the building of state-of-the-art windmills that will generate clean electricity, the Laborers are working to preserve the past and shape the future.

Experience has taught us that we must continually learn new ways to get work done in the construction industry. Many of the tasks we used to perform by hand are now automated. Every day, we work with newer materials in both our building and heavy and high-way work. We also have new ways of performing our work to keep us safe. A good example is the standard of wearing respirators and other protective equipment during hazardous waste clean-up or asbestos abatement, a source of jobs for many of our members.

Though progress is always a good thing, it is important that we also remember where we came from. The back cover of this magazine features photographs of the construction of the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo in 1901. An extremely high-profile project at the time, the work was done by our own members from Local 210 in Buffalo. Other pages inside also contain pictures of 50-year members from three of our upstate locals. These men have witnessed incredible changes in our industry during their long careers.

Not only has construction technology changed, our way of doing business has changed. We are much more politically involved as shown by our successful work for the Transportation Bond Act.

The new Business Manager of the Mason Tenders District Council (see Bobby Bonanza profile on page 6) is a good example of the kind of skills and commitment required of leadership to make our union successful. Bobby has been politically active on Long Island for many years and well known to local politicians for his tireless efforts in making sure his members are represented. He now brings that experience to the District Council and on the statewide political action committee.

We must continue to recognize that our industry will constantly change and that we need to accommodate it through better training and willingness to learn new techniques on the job. We must also support internal changes in our union as we mold a new structure that better represents our members and improves their lives.

Fort Ticonderoga was once called "the key to the continent" during colonial times. Now, it is a museum. Perhaps the new windmills will be outmoded in twenty years. However, if we adapt to the changes in our industry and our economy, our union will still proudly represent union construction laborers for centuries to come.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond M. Pocino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Raymond M. Pocino
Vice President
Laborers' International Union of North America

'Experience has taught us that we must continually learn new ways to get work done in the construction industry.'



Local 210 Laborers in front of their 1901 creation, the Electric Tower made for the Pan Am Exposition.



Laborers lay a waterline for the Exposition.

Time Capsule

Local 210 at Pan-Am Expo in Buffalo

In 1901, the Pan-American Exposition was held in Buffalo, N.Y. The world-class fair attracted nearly 8 million people and featured the latest technologies – including electricity, which was new at the time. An electric tower built by Local 210 Laborers was illuminated nightly by thousands of colored bulbs and floodlights.

The fair was opened in the spring by the new Vice President, Theodore Roosevelt. It was also at the Expo where President William McKinley was assassinated in September that year, making Roosevelt president. ▲



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