

CEMENT & CONCRETE NEWS

A Publication of the Cement and Concrete Workers District Council

Spring-2020

COVID-19 Resources

We are posting a list of available resources for our members and will be updating the list as more resources become available. Be vigilant in caring for your physical and mental health and seek help if you need it. Your health and safety are dependent on it—and your brothers and sisters depend on you.

COVID-19 Health & Safety Resources

- NYC Department of Health's Coronavirus Updates: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>
- US Centers for Disease Control's Coronavirus Resources: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- OSHA's COVID-19 Safety Information: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>
- World Health Organization's COVID-19 Pandemic Information: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

COVID-19 Immediate Relief Resources

Unemployment Insurance

Governor Cuomo has waived the seven-day waiting period for new unemployment claims. Eligible members can file claims at <https://applications.labor.ny.gov/IndividualReg/>. To that end, the Department of Labor is implementing a new more efficient filing system

based on the first letter of the applicant's last name (alphabetical order).

- A – F : Monday
- G – N : Tuesday
- O – Z : Wednesday
- Missed your day : Thursday and Friday

Filing later in the week will not delay payments or affect the date of an individual's claim, since all claims are effective on the Monday of the week in which they are filed.

The DOL is also extending filing hours as follows:

- Monday through Thursday: 8 am to 7:30 pm.
- Friday: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.
- Saturday: 7:30 am to 8:00 pm.

Evictions Suspension

Starting Tuesday March 17, 2020, New York officials have indefinitely suspended pending eviction proceedings and the enforcement of pending orders. Developers that are part of REBNY, which collectively own or manage more than 150,000 rental units, have pledged not to execute any warrant of eviction for the next 90 days. You can see if your landlord is included here. A tenants' rights English and Spanish hotline is also available most afternoons at 212-979-0611.

Limited State Debt-Collection Relief

NY Attorney General Letitia James and Governor Cuomo announced that from March 16, 2020 through May 17, 2020 (it was extended from April 15, and may be extended again), the Attorney General will halt the collection of medical and student debt owed to the State of New York. People who owe other types of debts to the State of New York can file an application for relief with the Attorney General's office (<https://ag.ny.gov/covid-19-debt-suspension-application>).





District Council News

Stay Safe & Healthy

First, I hope that you and your families are doing well through this pandemic. The CDC (Centers for Disease Control) set guidelines to keep working members safe while on the jobsite. It is important to follow all the guidelines to keep yourself and those around you safe and healthy.

2020 is a year to get out and vote! It is a presidential election and is very important to vote for the right candidate. If you need to register to vote, use this link (<https://www.vote.org/register-to-vote/>). You need to register no later than October 3, 2020 in order to be able to make a difference. Make sure you register to vote on time.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, New York State has canceled the state's Presidential Primary. The General Election will be held on November 3, 2020.

This is also a year for negotiating a new contract. Business Agents will be working diligently to get the best deal for the members. Work looks promising through the next few years with major projects to begin that will keep us busy.

In keeping with the guidelines of the CDC, we are unfortunately canceling this year's Retiree Party. We will resume the annual party next year, on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. Hope to see you then!

As for now, the Health Fair is still scheduled for Saturday, July 18, 2020 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. It will take place at the Coleman Country Day Camp facility in West Islip, rain or shine. It is open to all members and their immediate family.

Lastly, I hope that you and your families had a happy and blessed Easter.



Angelo Angelone,
Cement & Concrete
Workers District
Council President &
Business Manager

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Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens and Richmond Counties

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718-886-0516

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Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 7:00 am to 3:30 pm; Friday 7:00 am to 3:00 pm

Executive Board

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Robert Vetro, Executive Board Member

Brian Daluise, Executive Board Member

Mariann Mangiafreno, Administrative Assistant

COVID-19 Scam Alert

It is unfortunate at this time that we need to make you aware of scams that are circulating during this pandemic. It is important to be aware of what questions you are being asked and to not give out any important personal information.

We received the following important message from the New York State Department of Labor regarding call-backs from Unemployment Agents to complete claims.

“The **only two** pieces of information that our agents will confirm to a claimant is the date they filed their claim and the method they filed their claim (phone or web). They will **NOT** ask the claimant for their mother’s maiden name or their Social Security Number or any other personal information. If they receive a call asking for this information it is a **SCAM!**”

Dues Check-Off

These amounts are in effect for all Union members:

- Dues: \$2.00
- PAC: \$0.10
- Organizing: \$0.90
- Vacation: \$3.00

The total amount deducted from your gross salary is \$6.00 per hour worked. Unfortunately, these deductions cannot be claimed on your income tax forms.

Training Reminder

All members should stay current with their certificates. If your certificates expire, you may not be able to work.

Remember to keep track of when your certificates are going to expire and sign up to take classes at the Training Fund to renew them before they expire.

Have a Question? The District Council Staff is Here to Help!

If you have questions about anything or need help, please reach out to Dawn and Mariann. They are happy to help and proud to serve the District Council and its members.

2020 Dues

Monthly dues for all active members are \$35.00, effective January 1, 2020. Monthly dues continue to be \$8.00 for retirees. If dues are not paid for three months, you will be suspended. If dues are not paid for one year, you will be terminated. The re-admission fees are as follows:

- After 2 months: \$157.00
- After 3 months: \$218.00
- After 4 months: \$279.00
- After 5 months: \$340.00
- After 6 months: \$401.00
- After 7 months: \$462.00
- After 8 months: \$523.00
- After 9 months: \$584.00
- After 10 months: \$645.00
- After 11 months: \$706.00
- After 12 months: Terminated

Write your membership number on the check or money order and make it out to your Local Union:

- Cement & Concrete Workers Local #6A
- Cement & Concrete Workers Local #18A
- Cement & Concrete Workers Local #20

Terminated members must bring their Social Security card, photo identification and a money order in the amount of \$805.00 made out to “Concrete Workers District Council” to the District Council Office to be reinstated. Note: Fifty-year Laborers members are exempt from paying dues.



Local 6A News

Staying Strong in Tough Times

With the pandemic of COVID-19 dominating our personal and professional lives, we at Local 6A are trying our hardest to do our best by our brothers and sisters. We are working remotely and are available during our normal business hours. We urge members during this time to avoid mailing dues and to take advantage of our online system at www.concreteworkers6a.org.

The administration is in the process of making funds available from the Annuity Funds to ease some of the financial pressure you may be feeling over the coming months. We hope our government comes through with the stimulus to keep people going.

Members, keep your heads up. With our jurisdiction changed to the booming West Side, work will be there.

Till then, be safe and God bless.



Anthony Amella, Jr.,
Laborers' Local 6A
Business Manager

Report from Field Representative Alex Bruno

Every day that goes by, we are one day closer to putting this pandemic behind us. As an organization, we have adapted and become a fully remote work force without a break in our functionality. At the same time, our stewards have worked tirelessly to keep essential jobsites operating in a safe and sanitary manner. LIUNA has been on the forefront of legislative efforts to provide for both direct worker benefits and for stimulus monies that will indirectly benefit workers by protecting our members' jobs. As a New York City Union, our laborers are resilient and battle tested and always ready to build. I wish you and your loved ones health and safety.

Laborers' Local 6A Concrete Workers

30-56 Whitestone Expressway
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www.concreteworkers6a.org

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Dominique Santucci, Administrative Assistant

Local 18A News



Life Can Change in a Heartbeat

What a bad blow the early months of 2020 has thrown at us. There we were, looking forward to another year when the prospect of work looked good and life was carrying on as usual.

Then we hear snippets of news about a bad virus in China. We don't pay a lot of attention to it and then, in what seemed like the blink of an eye, it's here in New York and dealing a deadly blow to people's health and economic well-being.

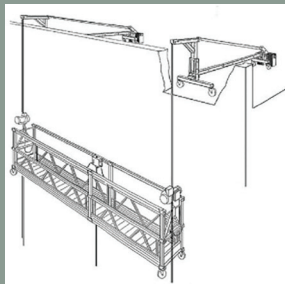
In time, we will know why our guard was down and why we were not fully prepared for something like this. But, prepared we were not and, as a result of this, we will pay a heavy price for the foreseeable future.

Hopefully, by the time you read this life will be heading back to normal and this pandemic crisis will soon pass. We hope that the lesson has been learned that we must be aware and prepared for disasters like this in the future to lessen the devastating effect they have on our lives.

To all concrete workers and their families, be safe and be well.



Kieran O'Sullivan,
Laborers' Local 18A
Business Manager



The Training Fund is offering three new classes: 6-Hour Suspended Scaffold User; Adhesive Anchor Installer; and .Electric Pallet Jack. See the story on page 11 for more information.

Laborers' Local 18A Concrete Workers

5772 Mosholu Avenue
Bronx, NY 10471
718-798-9035

<http://www.concreteworkers18a.com>

Executive Board

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Brendan O'Sullivan, Auditor

Ray Sandoval, Auditor

Breda O'Keefe, Administrative Assistant



Local 20 News

Meeting the Challenge of COVID-19

Brothers and Sisters,

For many years, the men and women of Local 20 have defined the meaning of “leadership and strength.” Together, we have fought for fair wages and safe working conditions. We have overcome challenges and faced down difficult times. We rebuilt our city in New York’s darkest days after the terrorist attacks on 9/11. We are strong, we are resilient, and we are united—never forget that.

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic is unprecedented for our entire nation. The regulations, rules and recommendations on how to respond to it change daily and will continue to change. I know these are concerning times and want to remind you that Local 20’s primary focus is you and your loved ones. Your Union’s staff is still

available to answer your phone calls. Local 20’s Business Agents are still in the field and available as long as jobsites are open.

We have made some important changes to our policies to ensure that Local 20 is addressing members’ needs in this challenging time. The physical Local 20 office is closed, but it is operating at its normal capacity. All you need to do is call the regular office number and Michele will be there to help you the way she has always been. Members working in the field can have all these questions and concerns handled by myself and Brian.

Fraternally Yours,
John Peters
Business Manager



John Peters, Laborers’
Local 20 Business
Manager

Laborers’ Local 20

36-36 33rd Street, #302
Long Island City, NY 11106
718-361-8131
www.local20.org

Executive Board

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Mike Arena, Vice President
Robert Reynolds, Recording Secretary
Brian Daluise, Secretary-Treasurer
John Peters, Business Manager
Henry Hayes, Sergeant-at-Arms

Fred Fugazzi, Auditor
Eric Bent, Auditor
Jason Justice, Auditor
Izzy Ramjohn, Executive Board Member
Paul Primiano, Executive Board Member

Michelle Krasner, Administrative Assistant

Organizing News



Organizing Roundup

The #TakeItBack campaign is in full swing and DC 16 is in the forefront. This campaign is an effort to exploit the exploiters that threaten our Union futures. We are bringing our fight to greedy developers' offices and jobsites with rallies and picket lines. We are fighting against worker exploitation, wage fraud and safety violations that have become a common way of doing business in the non-union sector. We are fighting for all construction workers and have got back money for workers who were victims to wage fraud.

Currently, a line is up at 38th Street and 11th Avenue in Manhattan where members can get a stipend for the day if they show up. This line will be up for the entirety of the job, which will be well through the spring and summer. The Organizing Department is also meeting regularly to target another job, and

we will release it once we feel we have enough information to take on a second picket line.

Your organizing team is in sync and working very hard to secure our Unions' future, but we ask members to get to rallies to support your Union. The louder we are, the more effect we will have towards winning and achieving the goals we have set out for all of us to benefit from.

Listen for robo calls about our rallies and check us out on the Facebook group #takeitback and LIUNA Local 20, 6A and 18A Cement and Concrete, as we post information on these two sites as well as Instagram (dc16organizers).

Stay safe.



Joseph Scopo, Cement & Concrete Workers District Council Organizing Director



Cement & Concrete Workers District Council Organizing Department

29-18 35th Avenue
Astoria, NY 11106
718-392-6911

Email: ccwdc16organizers@gmail.com

Facebook: LIUNA Local 20 6A 18A Cement & Concrete Instagram: DC16Organizers

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 6:00 am to 1:30 pm

Staff

Joseph Scopo, Organizing Director
Chris Maurina, Organizer
Kieran Brosnan, Organizer

Eric Bent, Organizer
Mike Arena, Organizer
Danielle Peters, Administrative Assistant



Benefit Funds News

COVID 19 Benefit Information

Resources from Empire

24/7 Nurseline. You can contact Empire's 24/7 Nurseline at 866-784-2643 to speak to a registered nurse with any questions you may have about COVID-19 (or anything else). This number is also on the back of your Empire Card.

LiveHealth Online. If you are concerned about leaving your home to receive medical care, LiveHealth Online is a safe and effective way for you to "see" a doctor to receive health guidance or to schedule a virtual visit with a therapist from your home, via a mobile device or a computer with a webcam. You can access to LiveHealth Online at <https://livehealthonline.com/> or by

downloading the free LiveHealth Online app from the App Store or Google Play. These benefits are accessible to you without any cost sharing (co-pays or co-insurance) at least through June 14, 2020.

Update from Sav-Rx

To ensure that you continue to have access to your medications during the COVID-19 crisis, Sav-Rx has a new refill policy for maintenance drugs—when 50% of your prescription has been utilized, it will be approved for refill (replacing the prior 75% utilization requirement). Your co-pay will be the same with this change. Please note: THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO OPIOIDS OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES. Also remember that Sav-Rx staff

are available 24/7 to answer any questions you have about your medications.

Distribution of June 1, 2020 Vacation Benefit Checks

With the upcoming distribution of Vacation Benefit Checks on June 1, 2020, please make sure the Fringe Benefits Office has your current address. If you need to change your address, the change must be received by the Fringe Benefits Office immediately or your check could be delayed for a minimum of 90 days.

Get the Latest Info About Your Benefits—Check Our Website

Please check our website, www.ccwbf.org, for current updates about your Welfare, Annuity and Pension benefits.

2020 Office Closing Schedule

The District Council, Training Fund, Benefit Funds and Local Unions will be closed to observe the following holidays in 2020:

- New Year's Day
- President's Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

We're Online!

Check out our Facebook page (LIUNA Local 20 6A 18A Cement & Concrete) and our Instagram feed (DC16Organizers) for updates on upcoming events and photos from past events.

Benefit Fund Contribution Rates

Contribution rates for January 1, 2020 are as follows.

The Benefit Funds contribution rates for the **A-journeymen** are:

- **Annuity:** \$7.00 per hour worked
- **Pension:** \$8.00 per hour worked
- **Welfare:** \$9.70 per hour worked

The Benefit Funds contribution rates for the **B-journeymen** are:

- **Annuity:** \$3.00 per hour worked
- **Pension:** \$4.00 per hour worked
- **Welfare:** \$9.70 per hour worked

Fringe Benefit Fund Office

35-30 Francis Lewis Boulevard, Suite 201

Flushing, NY 11358

T: 718-762-6133

F: 718-762-5144

<http://www.ccwbf.org>

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 8:00 am – 3:30 pm; Friday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Staff

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Fund Administrator | Margaret Bowen | Ext. 311 |
| Assistant Administrator | Abby Kaplan | Ext. 312 |
| Accounting Department | Alexa Angelone | Ext. 314 |
| Annuity Department | Gina Bellantuono | Ext. 313 |
| Pension Department | Jessica Schippell | Ext. 318 |
| COBRA Department | Monica Del Debbio | Ext. 323 |
| Medical/Dental | Angelica Rodriguez | Ext. 325 |
| | Monica Del Debbio | Ext. 323 |
| | Xiao Mei Qu | Ext. 322 |
| Contribution/Hours Reported | Felicia Jones | Ext. 321 |
| Shop Steward Reporting | Xiao Mei Qu | Ext. 322 |
| Workers' Compensation | Monica Del Debbio | Ext. 323 |
| Disability | Gina Bellantuono | Ext. 313 |
| Scholarship Fund | Monica Del Debbio | Ext. 323 |
| Front Desk | Melody Covati | Ext. 310 |



Apprenticeship & Training News

Apprenticeship Spotlight: Patrick Michel

Patrick Michel came into the Cement and Concrete Workers Apprenticeship program in November of 2018, but he did not get sent out to a job until January of 2019. This was a tough one to handle for him. At the time, he was working with underprivileged adults for a company called CPN of Nassau County. He helped by assisting them with everyday activities, such as helping them eat, walk and socialize with the community. He knew that coming to work for the Apprentice Program would have benefits later on.

Currently, he is a proud member of Local 18A. Patrick says "he loves working together to get the job done. It is the solidarity of the Union." He also said, "classes at the Training Center have helped me be more productive in the field. The instructors are always making sure we are working safe and are knowledgeable of the possible hazards on the site." When asked what advice he has for new apprentices, Patrick said, "Be a

sponge and absorb everything. Always ask questions and learn as much as you can." In addition, he added that apprentices should "make as many friends as you can because you never know who will be the next foreman and they can keep you working."

According to Apprentice Coordinator Frankie Sturiano, he knew "from when I first met Patrick, I knew there was something special about him. He would show up early and do whatever was asked of him no matter when I called. He comes to every class, meeting, DOL visit and rally. He never has an excuse and he is a pleasure to be around."

Currently, Patrick is working at the Pacific Park project for Cross Country Construction. The foreman at the site said, "Patrick comes to work with an amazing attitude every day. He is willing to learn new tasks when told, he has a great mindset, and he tackles anything you put in front of him. All the other apprentices should follow in his footsteps."

Patrick told us that being a Laborer has changed his life. Although he loved his previous job, he wasn't making enough money. With this job, he has been able to save money and plans to buy his first house by the end of the year. He also said he plans on becoming a foreman. He wants to teach the new apprentices all that he learned.

Patrick is a single dad, raising his daughter in Roosevelt, Long Island.



Cement & Concrete Workers District Council Training & Education

29-18 35th Avenue
Astoria, NY 11106
718-392-6070

www.dc16training.org

ccwdc16training@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 7:00 am to 3:00 pm; Friday 7:00 am to 2:30 pm

Staff

Paul Primiano, Training Director
Frank Sturiano, Apprenticeship Coordinator
Donald Walsh, Instructor
William V. Loria, Instructor

Larry Hughes, Instructor
Rafael Rodriguez, Instructor
Margaret Antonucci, Office Manager
Christina Gonzalez, Scheduling & Records



Training and COVID-19

Online Classes Available

In an effort to deliver the best possible training benefit to you, we are in the process of building a virtual classroom that will allow members to take classes online. Two online training classes are live and available now. Members may sign up for **8-Hour Fall Prevention** and **2-Hour Drug and Alcohol Awareness** classes at this time. These two classes are in the highest demand due to Local Law 196 deadline on September 1, 2020. We plan on getting other classes up and running as well, as the need arises. We will post online class availability on our website and on Facebook. Members may also call the school for details.

To sign up for classes, members should call the school at 718-392-6970.

In order to participate in a class remotely, members must have:

- Access to a laptop, desktop or a tablet computer. Whatever you use, it must have a camera. Cellular devices (i.e., mobile phones) will NOT be permitted to take the class.
- An email address

In-Person Classes Suspended

In an effort to get the COVID-19 pandemic to subside and keep our members safe, we have suspended in-person training at the Training Center. A schedule for the spring and summer months would normally be included in this newsletter and mailed to you. However, because we are unsure of when in-person training will resume, we cannot make a schedule. Instead, members should monitor our website and Facebook page to see when training will restart and for other news and updates.

New Class Announcement

We are proud to announce that new courses are available to the membership. Since its start, the Cement and Concrete Workers Training and Education Fund has always responded to the training demands of the construction industry in NYC. Recently, there have been requests for suspended scaffold training, adhesive anchor installer and electric pallet jack training. Below is a summary of each class now available.

16-Hour Suspended Scaffold User. Participants in this class will learn how to inspect a suspended rig for safety and proper installation prior to using it. Trainees will be able to identify all the parts of a suspended scaffold and the proper operation. Capacity limits, OSHA Subpart L and NYC DOB safety regulations are also reviewed. Trainees will get the opportunity to get on a suspended rig and practice use. Upon completion and after passing a written exam, participants will receive a NYC DOB certification card. This certification will need to be refreshed every four years.

Adhesive Anchor Installer. We have partnered with Hilti to offer this certification to you. Trainees will take an eight-hour course that teaches installers

how to properly reference the Manufacturers Printed Installation Instructions (MPII). Trainees will also practice installing anchors. Lastly, each trainee will have to pass a written and practical exam before receiving a certification. Please note this class is only offered during the day from 7:00 am to 3:30pm.

Electric Pallet Jack. Due to new technology in concrete forming systems and the use of platforms to send up material by crane, many contractors are using electric pallet jacks to move material. This piece of equipment while efficient, can pose dangers to users and people in the area if not operated correctly. Trainees will review all the controls of pallet jack, as well as learn safe work practices and limitations of this equipment through practical training. Written and practical exams will take place at the end of the class. Please note we are doing this class in conjunction with our Power Buggy class. Users who take the class will receive both certifications. Members who took the Power Buggy class prior to us offering the Electric Pallet Jack class may take the Pallet Jack portion of the class and receive this endorsement on their buggy card upon completion.

Apprenticeship & Training News



Apprenticeship Registration Attracts a Crowd!

We had an Apprentice Registration in January that had a huge turnout. The next generation of Concrete Workers are on this line turned out and signed up.



Visit Us On Facebook!

Please visit and like our Facebook page. You can scan the code to the right with the QR code reader on your smart phone or other mobile device. You can also go to Facebook and search for Cement and Concrete Workers Training and Education Fund.



Local Union Meetings

Local 6A

Monthly meetings are held the second Friday of every month at Knights of Columbus, 49-18 Queens Boulevard, Woodside, NY 11377. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

Local 18A

Monthly meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the VFW Hall, 3035 Corlear Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463. Please note that in November, it will be the second Wednesday due to Thanksgiving the following week. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm.

Local 20

Monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at Knights of Columbus, 49-18 Queens Boulevard, Woodside, NY 11377. Meetings begin at: 6:00 pm.

LiUNA!

Feel the Power