THE GAUGE

Local 891 AFL-CIO

International Union of Operating Engineers

Volume 74 Number 10 | June 2017

THERE WILL BE A PROPOSAL ON THE BALLOT FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2017 GENERAL ELECTION FOR A NEW YORK STATE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

VOTE NO AND TELL EVERYONE YOU KNOW TO VOTE NO ON THIS PROPOSAL

NEXT UNION MEETING

Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 7 p.m.

General Membership Meeting will be held at I.S.167;
220 East 76th Street, New York, New York 10021.

PLEASE ATTEND, LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD.

PRINCIPAL RATING

Members are reminded they only have 30 days to grieve a Principal's Rating. Any member wanting to grieve a rating should contact their Borough Chairman. Please contact your Union immediately upon receiving a Principal's Rating you wish to grieve.

CELEBRATE LOCAL 891

SCENES FROM THE 89TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

HONOR THE PAST — SHAPE OUR FUTURE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brothers and Sisters,

Local 891 members who are still owed lump sum money will be receiving 12.5% of the balance due in their paycheck on July 13th. As civil service employees, we are entitled to enroll in both the TDA Program and the City's (457) Deferred Compensation Plan. You can have the maximum amount from both programs deducted from your paycheck on a pretax basis. Each program has its own separate maximum limits which are not effected by your participation in the other program. The money you save is tax-deferred until you collect it, usually in retirement when your income and tax bracket is likely lower.

I hope you are already saving the maximum amount you can in the TDA. If you wish to shelter more of your income from taxes, you might want to join the 457 program. You can enroll quickly on-line at the NYC Office of Labor Relations website. This is the link to enroll or read about the program as well as other retirement savings options: http://www.nyc.gov/html/olr/html/deferred/dcphome.shtml If you want the deduction to be in effect for your retro payment that is coming on July 13th, YOU MUST ENROLL SOON. When you enroll, you set a specific percentage of your income to be diverted into the plan. If you cannot afford or do not want to continue contributing after the retro, or at any other time, you can easily change the percentage deducted on-line before and after any retroactive or lump sum payments. You can also stop and start deductions whenever you choose.

It's a great relief that as of January 2017 we are not financially liable for the operation of our school budgets. Unfortunately, the Custodial Net Retained Unit (CNRU) seems determined to audit everything possible that occurred before that date. Please be sure to submit your documents on time and follow up with any disallowances. If you need a grievance filed, let us know as soon as possible.

CNRU has continued to send amounts they deem payable to collection. More often than not, no money is actually owed. It is vital if you receive a collection notice from Leopold, Gross & Sommers, P.C. that you notify us immediately. In most cases we provide representation and most often our attorneys can have the collection action stopped. Additionally, if you receive a notice of any employment related legal or court proceeding, for which you may require representation, please notify us right away.

2017
NEW YORK CITY
LABOR DAY
PARADE
Saturday, September 9
NYCCLC.ORG

BE PART OF THIS YEAR'S CONTINGENT

THE 2017 KINGS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

ANNUAL FUND RAISER AND OTHER EVENTS ATTENDED BY LOCAL 891

Mayor Bill DeBlasio addresses the audience.

First Lady Chirlane McCray also addresses the audience

CSA President, Ernest Logan; CE, Willie Carroll and 891 Legislative Committee Co-Chairman, Michael Kelly.

Former District 47 City Council Member, Domenic Recchia and Local 891 Legislative Committee Co-chairman, Michael Kelly.

Local 891 Legislative Committee member, Daniel Danvers; NYC Public Advocate, Letitia James and Local 891 Legislative Committee Co-Chairman, Michael Kelly.

Local 891's Bronx Borough Chairman, Pedro Arroyo; Bronx Borough President, Rubin Diaz Jr and Bronx Executive Board Member, Sean Glendon attending a Diaz Fundraiser.

Local 891's Bronx Borough Chairman, Pedro Arroyo (3rd from left) and Local 372's President Shaun D. Francois (1st on left) attending Local 372's 15th Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance.

EDUCATION

Frank Byrne, Education & Training Fund Chairman

The Local 891 Education & Training Fund classes scheduled for the Summer and Fall of 2017.

Building Operation, Maintenance and Recordkeeping (BOMR) - Members need to complete this course in order to renew their Refrigeration Certificate of Qualification. This course will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 25th and 26th.

Certified Pool Operator (CPO) - This Certification is required for all members that operate a swimming pool. However, the class is open to ALL. The course will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 12th and 13th.

Active Shooter and Medical Emergency Preparedness (ASMEP) - This course is required for all members renewing their Fire Safety Director Certificate of Fitness. The FDNY encourages participation in this course.

200 Hour Refrigeration Machine Operator Course (RMO) - This course prepares members for the FDNY Refrigeration Machine Operator Certificate of Qualification. This course will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from September 18, 2017 to the end of June 2018. The In-Service class will be reserved for Local 891 members only. The same class will be offered in the evenings for non-members.

This Spring Local 891 introduced a **CPR/AED (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation/Automatic External Defibrillator) training**. If anyone is interested in taking this class, please contact the Education & Training Fund. We have also introduced a Defensive Driving Course. This course is free-of-charge to Local 891 members and is open to family members for a nominal fee.

Sprinkler S-12 and Standpipe S-13 Courses - Any member who desires to take a prep-class for one or both of these Certificates of Fitness, contact the Education & Training Fund.

For any course you are interested in attending, please email the Education & Training Fund at education@local891.com.

89th ANNUAL LOCA

L 891 DINNER DANCE

IN MEMORIAM

VINCENT J OLIVIERI
RETIRED CE LEVEL II

K254
Condolences:
Mary Olivieri
1 Beach Drive SE Unit # 811
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

JAMES P. KELLY
RETIRED CE LEVEL II

Norman Thomas High School
Condolences:
James M. Kelly
29-12 163 Street
Flushing, NY 11358

COMPENSATION INSURANCE

John Maderich

If any Custodian Engineer receives a letter from the **State of New York Workers' Compensation Board, Bureau of Compliance,** with a penalty for noncompliance, do not ignore. Please contact me immediately. **Do not pay this fine.** Local 891 attorneys have notified the WCB to have the fine letters stopped.

Statement of accounts were mailed in mid - April. NYCSIF was asked to cover the dates from October 1, 2014 March 1, 2017. CE's can use this document to cover all compensation claims on PO2's for your 2015 and 2016 Office of the Auditor General Audits. Please keep this document in a safe place and include it in your audit file when you are audited.

LOCAL 891 GRIEVANCES

This is a reminder that the Spring 2017 Principals Ratings will be coming out the first week of June. You have 30 days to grieve a Principals Rating.

PENSION

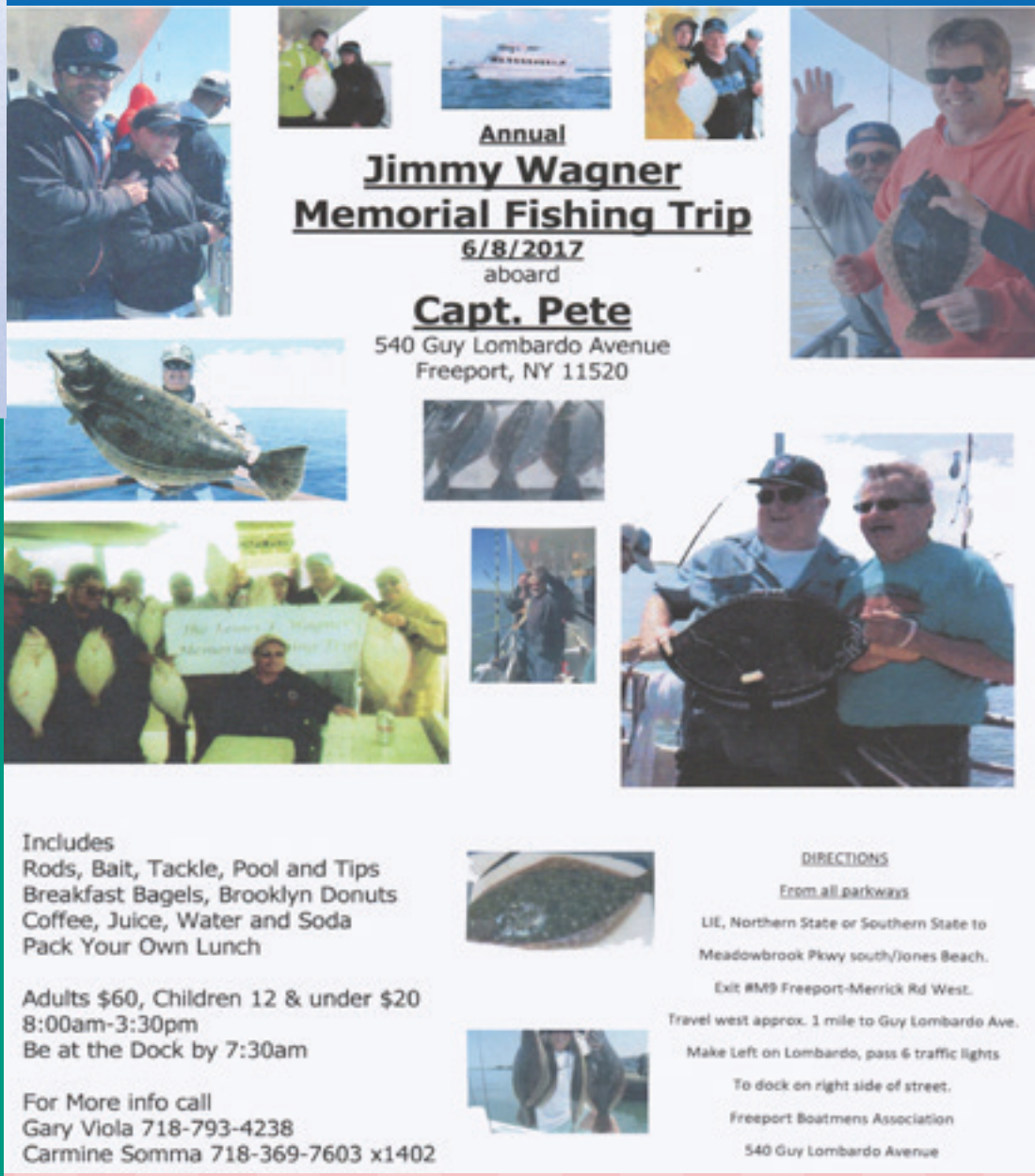
Christopher Attianese

The unit value for May is $98.616

BERS will start processing member loans again on the 26th of May for disbursement in June.

July 13th will be the date Lump sum is received by members.

The lump sum TDA sign up sheets for increasing your percentage rate will continue to be available thru June 1st for members wishing to take advantage of the tax deferred savings program.



Q122 CE Donald Dinger
introduces his new granddaughter

Lilah King
Born on 4/28/2017
7lbs.8ozs, 21".

ANOTHER SERVICE THROUGH LOCAL 891 WELFARE FUND'S LEGAL SERVICES PLAN *By: Mirkin & Gordon, P.C.*

Disposition of personal property and financial accounts via a trust can protect assets from taxes and creditors while providing income to beneficiaries for years. However, they should be prepared by lawyers specializing in the same so as to properly address the myriad of complex rules and regulations affecting the content and funding thereof.

At first blush, a trust is generally an appealing alternative to the conventional use of Wills and Powers of Attorney. However, the majority of people choose to forgo a Trust due to the significant additional cost and the inapplicability of the same to their personal circumstances. To aid one's consideration, the following is a brief outline of some common Trust devices:

Irrevocable Living Trust: Until recently, this Trust was used primarily to protect assets from the imposition of estate taxes. Although still a viable option for high wealth estates, recent increases in the New York State estate tax exemptions have limited its use for that purpose. Nevertheless, this Trust is still a valuable asset for Medicare planning purposes. Assets transferred into the Trust will be protected from Medicare payment exclusions and forfeiture after the five-year look back period has expired. Strategic planning and timing are critical.

Irrevocable Life Insurance Trust: Such Trust is used to distribute life insurance proceeds to multiple beneficiaries while simultaneously avoiding the obligation to pay estate tax on the value of the policy. Typical use - a young individual would purchase a sizable life insurance policy, at an affordable rate, which is held in the name of the trust.

Premiums are paid by the trust and the life insurance proceeds are payable to the trust upon the individual's death. Since the policy is owned by the trust (as opposed to the individual insured), its value is not used in computing the value of the decedent's estate for purposes of calculating estate taxes. This can result in significant estate tax savings since the life insurance can easily cause the estate to exceed the estate tax exemption limits. Careful drafting and funding is critical to obtain the anticipated benefits.

Supplemental Needs Trust: This Trust is used to help people retain income and assets while continuing to receive public benefits. It is often used by parents to provide future income for developmentally disabled children without losing their eligibility to receive, for example, Social Security Income. It can also be used to help a Medicaid recipient keep excess income that would otherwise have to be used to pay for the cost of their care or to shelter a lump sum settlement/award that would make them ineligible for benefits.

A properly drafted and funded trust can offer significant benefits. However, understanding the complexities of the same is a daunting task. Under the Fund's Legal Plan a covered member may schedule an appointment with an attorney to discuss the availability and applicability of trusts in the context of their specific facts and concerns.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 891 WELFARE FUND

All active members of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 891 Welfare Fund ("Fund") are eligible for the following benefits from the Fund's comprehensive legal services plan (please refer to your Benefits Booklet for detailed description of each):*

- General Consultation
- Document Review
- Uncontested Divorce
- Uncontested Legal Separation
- Uncontested Annulment
- Adoption
- Personal Bankruptcy
- Change of Name
- Legal Defense
- Homeowner's Rights
- Arraignment Assistance/Telephone Consultation
- Consumer Protection
- Identify Theft
- Simple Will (spouse, parents and parents-in-law also eligible
- Health Care Proxy/Living Will (spouse, parents and parents-in-law also eligible)
- Durable Power of Attorney (spouse, parents and parents-in-law also eligible)
- Agent to Control Disposition of Decedent's Remains
- Designation of Person in Parental Relation
- Counseling of Unemancipated Children
- Planning for the Elderly (spouse, parents and parents-in-law also eligible)
- Estate Administration
- Estate Planning

If you wish to make an appointment to consult a lawyer, call your Local Organization or the Fund's panel law firm directly at (718) 895-7160 and identify yourself as a Fund member.

*Retired members, who have not elected the "Stipend Plan" for legal services, are also eligible for the comprehensive legal benefits described above. Please contact the Fund office if you have any questions pertaining to retiree eligibility for legal benefits.

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LOCAL 891 IUOE
International Union of Operating Engineers
Brooklyn Navy Yard • 63 Flushing Avenue
Building 292 • Suite 401 (Unit 358)
Brooklyn, NY 11205
Ph: (718) 455-9731 • Fx: (718) 455-9733
www.Local891.com
1-888-891-2226 (Outside NY area only)

To Reach Anyone Listed Below, Dial the Main Union Phone Number and then the Extension

BUSINESS MANAGER/PRESIDENT	**ROBERT J. TROELLER**
Vice President	**Jeffrey J. Bilek**
Recording-Corresponding Secretary	**Francis J. Byrne**
Financial Secretary	**Kevin J. Gallagher**
Treasurer	**Richard A. Gorgoglione**

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Bronx	220	Pedro Arroyo
Brooklyn	221	Rocco Marano
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Blood Bank	250	Evan Manca
Compensation Insurance	251	John Maderich
E.P.E.C.	252	Gregory Sutton
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Legislative Co-Chairman		Michael Kelly
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Watchdog Committee	273	Christopher J. Attianese
Web Master	274	Dan Morgan
NYC Central Labor Council Delegate	275	Anthony DelRosso
NYC Central Labor Council Delegate	276	Richard Gorgoglione

Welfare & Annuity Funds

Kevin J. Gallagher, Chairman of Trustees
63 Flushing Ave. • Unit 358 • Brooklyn, NY 11205
Ph: (718) 455-9731 Ext. 301 • Fx: (718) 488-7122
welfarefund@local891.com
Dental Forms (718) 822-2098
Legal Services (718) 895-7160
Daniel H. Cook Associates
welfare forms • eye care vouchers • claims information
253 W. 35th St., 12th Floor • New York, N.Y. 10001
(212) 505-5050 ext. 229

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PAYROLL AND PERMITS

Andrew Foti

UNPAID PERMITS

I've been receiving calls regarding unpaid permits. After doing some research, I'm finding that the permits aren't being approved. Listed below, are the steps to follow to see if a permit is approved or not.

1. Log into CPS
2. Extended use Advanced Search
3. Permit Browse
4. Click Retrieve
5. If there is a blank(No#) in the district column, then the permit is not approved. If you click inquire, this will explain the reason.

OVERLAPPING ACTIVITY

If a school building has overlapping activity where two separate groups are simultaneously using the school in two separate areas, the CE will be paid for labor only once.

F.I.C.A.

The annual earnings limit (Social Security tax) has increased in 2017 to $127,200. There is no limit and no change in the Medicare portion of FICA.

Payroll and Permits Committee
Chairman

330 59th Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11220
(718)290-2340 phone
(718)290-2341 fax
(718)455-9731 phone ext.267

MERGED BUILDINGS

It is important that all Custodian Engineers treat their merged buildings as they treat their main buildings. Please meet with your Principals and crew to show that you are present and accessible. Keep your principals informed of the new operating guidelines and changes if they apply to your application of service. If you need assistance in dealing with difficult situations, please contact your Borough Chairman or Local 891.