January 2021

THE GAUGE

I.U.O.E LOCAL 891 AFL-CIO

Happy New Year!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

VARIABLE RATE

Unit Value for November 2020
$129.351

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COVID VACCINE FAQ

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S PARTY

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 Chairperson.

RENEWALS

Please be aware of your licenses and permits renewal dates. Apply and renew on time to avoid fees and disciplinary actions.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL RENEWALS MUST BE DONE ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

DESIGNED BY: TAYVIA DELPECHE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you enjoyed some time with those you care about during the holiday season. Despite the many COVID-19 restrictions that prevented us from having our typical Children's Holiday Party this year, we were able to bring joy to children in need. The Borough Chairs deserve credit for their creative ideas and the work they put in to make it happen.

Members have asked if we will be given the option of receiving the vaccine before the general public. The State and City Governments are still working out the vaccine distribution details. Obviously, many groups are vying for position in the distribution order. Some schools, mostly High Schools, will be used as vaccination sites. Local 891 is advocating for our members to be offered the vaccine as soon as feasible.

I have stated this before. You are under no obligation to check or reply to work related emails when you are not on duty. You are under NO OBLIGATION to submit payroll, nor call or email NYCSSS if their payroll submission date occurs while you are out on vacation or sick. NYCSSS will pay your staff, their employees for the default schedule you have entered for your staff. You can make any necessary adjustments when you return to work. We all know what a mess the rollout of EPAY has been. Scheduling the first pay period using their new vendor in the middle of a long holiday was beyond poor planning

Regards, Robert.

IN MEMORIAM

FRED W. ARNEBOLD
RETIRED CE, M477
CONDOLENCES TO:
SCOTT ARNEBOLD
2202 PAUL QUINN STREET
HOUSTON, TX 77091

JOHN PATRICK REILLY
RETIRED CE, K650
NO CONDOLENCES

“I want to thank Local 891 members for their generous donations to the Unions Beneficiaries Fund in the name of Kevin Waters. Local 891 has always been supportive to Kevin and myself. He was so proud to be a member and it was his life, he loved his brothers. Thank you all again so very much.”

- Barbara Waters

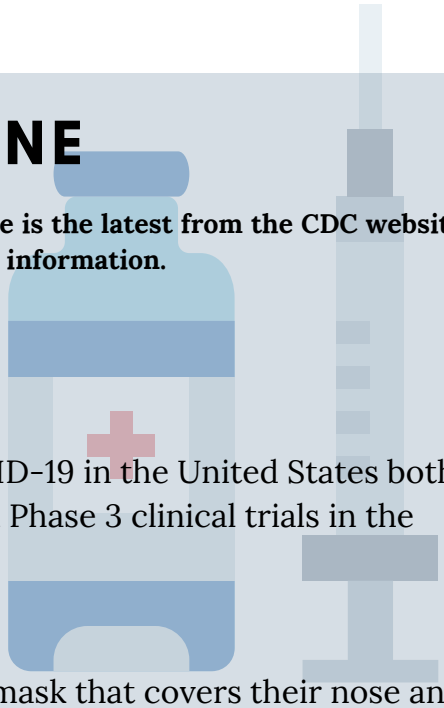
COMMITTEE REPORTS

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH/SAFETY

Joanne O'Neill - Occup. Health/Safety Committee Chairperson

COVID-19 VACCINE

This information of frequently asked questions about the new corona vaccine is the latest from the CDC website. You can visit the site for up to date information regarding covid vaccines and other information.



How many shots of COVID-19 vaccine will be needed?
The two authorized and recommended vaccines to prevent COVID-19 in the United States both need two shots to be effective. There is one COVID-19 vaccine in Phase 3 clinical trials in the United States that uses one shot.

Do I need to wear a mask when I receive a COVID-19 vaccine?
Yes. CDC recommends that during the pandemic people wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth when in contact with others outside your household, when in healthcare facilities, and when receiving any vaccine, including a COVID-19 vaccine. Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unable to remove a mask without assistance should not wear a mask. For more information, visit considerations for wearing masks.

Who is paying for COVID-19 vaccine?
Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost. However, vaccination providers will be able to charge an administration fee for giving the shot to someone. Vaccine providers can get this fee reimbursed by the patient's public or private insurance company or, for uninsured patients, by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief Fund.

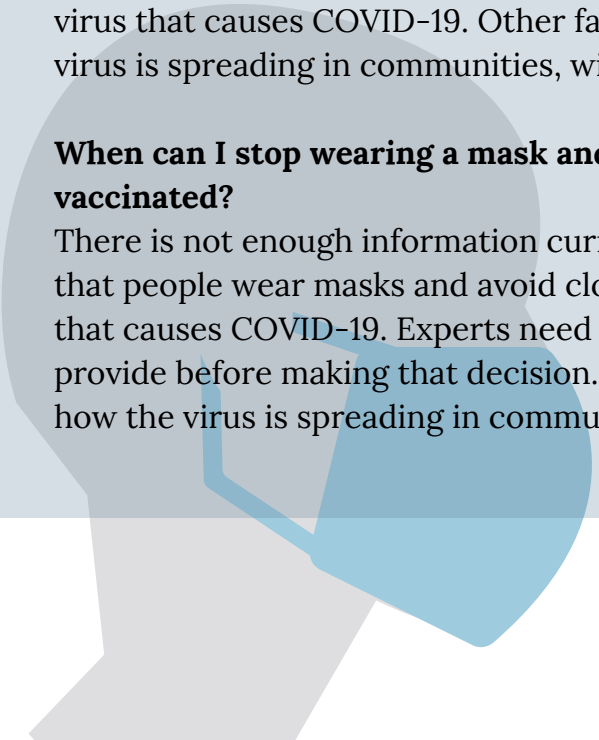
Are there special considerations on who should get the COVID-19 vaccine first?
CDC is making recommendations for who should be offered COVID-19 vaccine first when supplies are limited. To help guide decisions about how to distribute limited initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine, CDC and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices have published recommendations for which groups should be vaccinated first. The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as large quantities of vaccine are available. While CDC makes recommendations for who should be offered COVID-19 vaccine first, each state has its own plan for vaccine prioritization, distribution and allocation. Please contact your state health department for more information on their planning for COVID-19 vaccines. Learn how CDC is making COVID-19 vaccine recommendations, including recommendations if there is a limited supply, based on input from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine when it's available?
COVID-19 vaccination should be offered to you regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 infection. You should not be required to have an antibody test before you are vaccinated. However, anyone currently infected with COVID-19 should wait to get vaccinated until after their illness has resolved and after they have met the criteria to discontinue isolation. Additionally, current evidence suggests that reinfection with the virus that causes COVID-19 is uncommon in the 90 days after initial infection. Therefore, people with a recent infection may delay vaccination until the end of that 90-day period if desired.

Why would a vaccine be needed if we can do other things, like social distancing and wearing masks, to prevent the virus that causes COVID-19 from spreading?
Stopping a pandemic requires using all the tools available. Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. Other steps, like covering your mouth and nose with a mask and staying at least 6 feet away from others, help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others. Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC's recommendations to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from COVID-19.

Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others if I have received 2 doses of the vaccine?
Yes. While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to us to help stop this pandemic, like covering your mouth and nose with a mask, washing hands often, and staying at least 6 feet away from others. Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC's recommendations for how to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19. Experts need to understand more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide before deciding to change recommendations on steps everyone should take to slow the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Other factors, including how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect this decision.

When can I stop wearing a mask and avoiding close contact with others after I have been vaccinated?
There is not enough information currently available to say if or when CDC will stop recommending that people wear masks and avoid close contact with others to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Experts need to understand more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide before making that decision. Other factors, including how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect this decision.



ANNUAL CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY

Peter Maddaloni, Annual Children's Party committee Chairperson

To All Active and Retired Custodian Engineers who participated in this year's Holiday Party,

Thank You, Thank You and Thank You!

This was our 24th Annual Toy Drive, in spite of the 2020 pandemic. The party was once again a great success.

All of the Borough Chairpersons reached out to shelters and school sites across the city and presented the children with gifts. It turned out to be a wonderful success. One of the shelters included the "Floating Hospital" of Long Island City, which treats children from multiple shelters.

Borough Chairperson Peter Maddaloni from Queens and
Borough Chairperson Stephen Ready from Staten Island partnered together to provide more than 160 gifts which included toys, winter clothing, pajamas, and other important needs for the children of the “Floating Hospital”. Borough Chairpersons Rocco Marano from Brooklyn, John Brennan from Manhattan and Michael King from the Bronx all participated at other individual sites to make this year a success. Please see inside for pictures and letters of gratitude from the recipients of your generosity.

Yours truly,
Peter J. Maddaloni

Local 891's Bronx Custodians held the Annual Children's Holiday Party on December 22nd, giving out gifts to five Rose Hill Pre-K sites. Staff and children were appreciative and overjoyed.

“

Hi John,
I hope you are doing well and are able to relax during the rest of the holiday season! I just want to take this time to thank you again for your generosity and heart! We are overjoyed with gratitude and are so grateful for all of the gifts we received. Attached is a thank you letter that you can send around to the other Custodian Engineers who donated to this wonderful initiative! I have also attached some photos of our program participants receiving their amazing gifts! Henry Street also gave Local 891 a personal shoutout on Facebook too! The shoutout is attached, but here is the link to the actual post.
Wishing you and your loved ones a safe and peaceful holiday!

Warmly,
Deanna Sorge
she/her/hers
Volunteer Coordinator, Henry Street Settlement
265 Henry Street | New York, NY 10002
Office: 212-766-9200 x2230

”

This certainly made spirits bright this holiday season! NYC Custodian Engineers (Local 891) came together this year and purchased 100 gifts for the youth participants at Jacob Riis Cornerstone. Many of the custodian engineers came to drop off their gifts in person (pictured here, with Henry Street team members), making Cornerstone look a bit like Santa's workshop, don't you think? Thank you so much to the many generous New York Custodian Engineers from local 891 for making it a happy holiday for so many!

Dear President Troeller,

When I was approached a month or so ago by your Brooklyn Borough Chairman Rocco Marano about this extraordinary service you and the members of Local 891 provide, I was a bit skeptical but then a few days ago a truck pulls up with boxes of toys. I, along with my staff and families, want to thank you and your members for bringing Christmas to our home. We can't wait for Christmas morning to see the smiles on the children's faces. Thank you all for simply caring enough!

Grateful,
Latisha Sampson

REMINDER

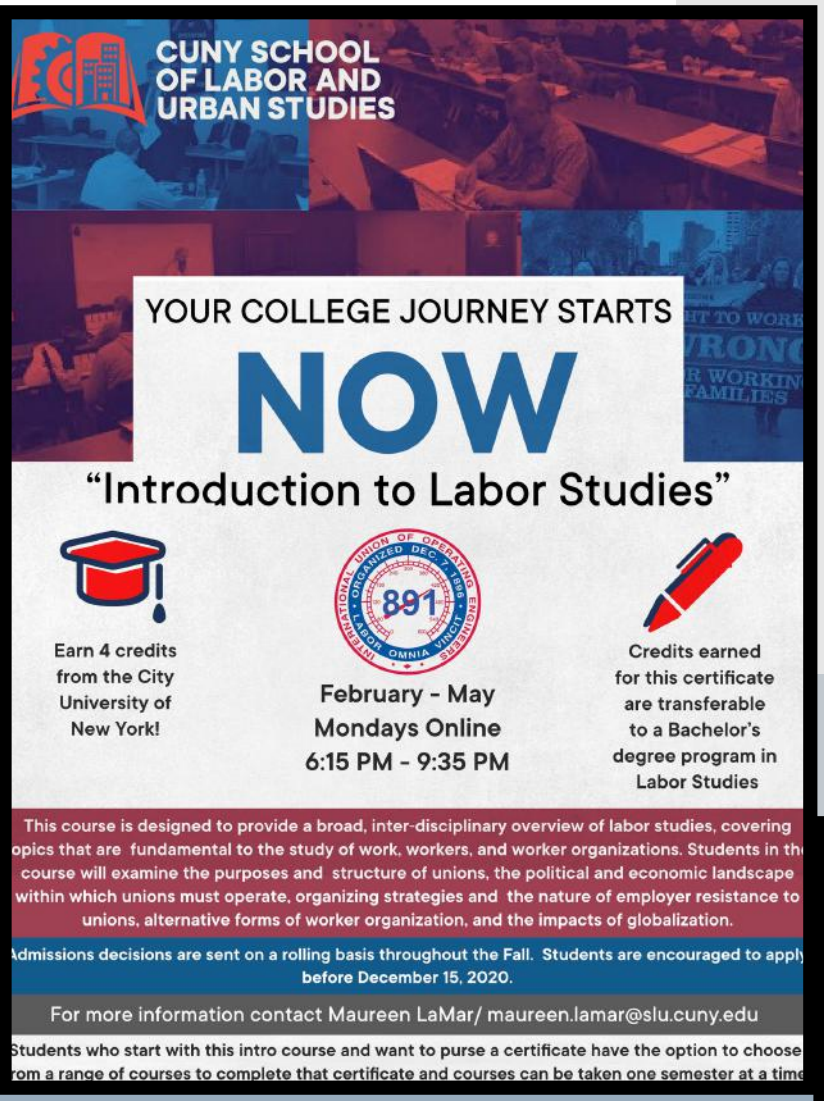
Please be mindful, the things you do outside of working hours, including social media can have a direct effect on your employment!

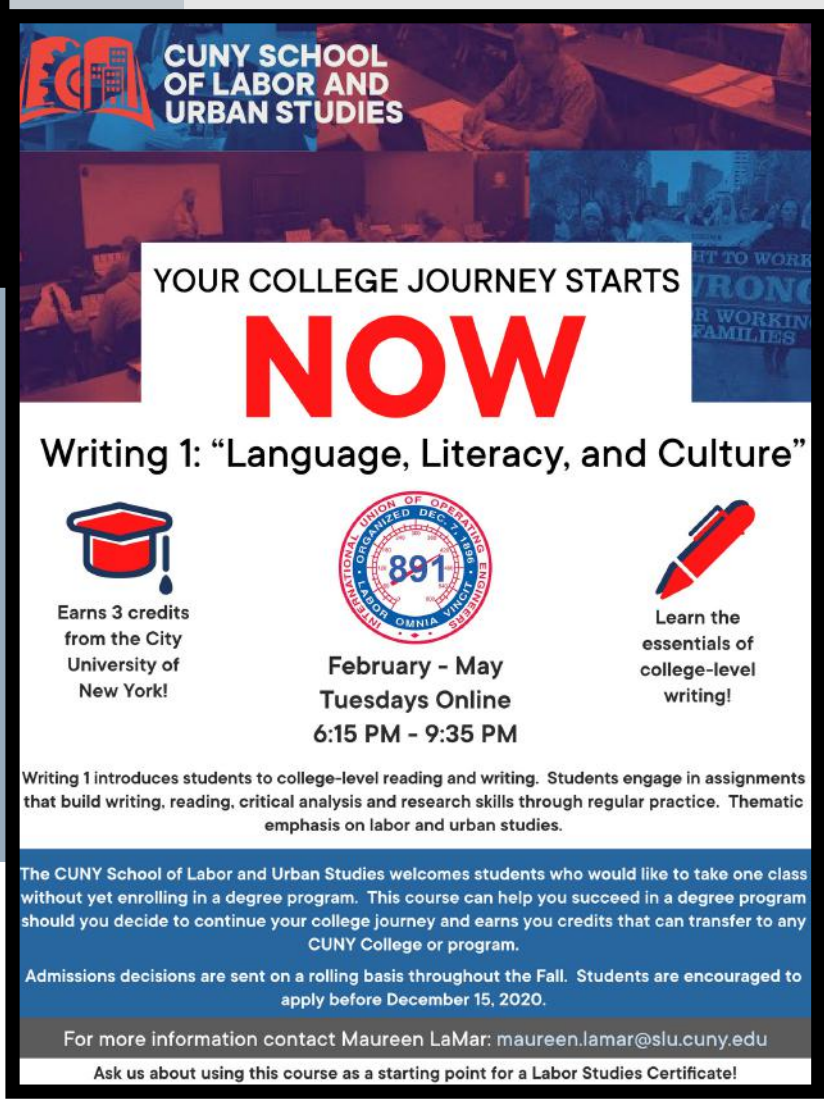
Hello Peter and Joe,
I would like to thank you again. Your toys and clothing were terrific and brought so many smiles to the children's faces. Thank you.

Ann-Louise Lipman,
Event & Special Projects Manager
Thefloatinghospital.org

EDUCATION

Frank Byrne - Education Committee Chairperson





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AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
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Chairman of Trustees

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Brooklyn	Rocco Marano	**ext. 221**
Manhattan	John Brennan	**ext. 222**
Queens	Peter Maddaloni	**ext. 223**
Staten Island	Steve Ready	**ext. 224**

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E.P.E.C	Gregory Sutton	**ext. 252**
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Engineers Protective	Frank Felix	**ext. 255**
Entertainment	Kieran McKivergan	**ext. 256**
Exceptions	Dan Morgan	**ext. 274**
Good and Welfare	Theresa DiCristi	**ext. 258**
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Grievances 891	John Maderich	**ext. 260**
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Pension	Christopher Attianese	**ext. 268**
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