

THE INSIDE TRACK

A Quarterly Newsletter
for Members of Local 478

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 2 SPRING 2026



LOCAL 478
Operating Engineers



Working Together for a Safer Tomorrow

Local 478 pre-apprentices at the National Work Zone Awareness Week kickoff event.

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Business Manager's Report

By Business Manager Nate Brown

2026 National Work Zone Awareness Week April 20-24

On Tuesday April 21, I joined Governor Lamont, Commissioner Eucalitto, and Federal Highway Administrator McMaster at the Connecticut Department of Transportation's (CT DOT) National Work Zone Safety Kickoff Event.

This event served as a vital reminder of our collective responsibility to promote strong work zone safety laws and regulations to ensure the safety of our Local 478 members, DOT workers, and all travelers on our roads.

Currently, Local 478 members are working on major infrastructure projects across the state, along with milling and paving projects scheduled for this spring and summer. While these projects are essential for Connecticut's transportation system, they also carry inherent risks.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries for 2024, "transportation incidents continue to be the most frequent type of fatal event, accounting for 38.2 percent of all occupational fatalities in 2024."

Our members face dangerous conditions every day and the risks are heightened by the rise in distracted driving, especially due to cell phone use. We have all seen how distracted drivers can dangerously veer into work zones, creating perilous situations for everyone.

It's crucial that we continue to promote vigilance among drivers and emphasize the importance of safe driving behavior in and around work zones. I am encouraged by the attention this issue is receiving and look forward to working with our partners to achieve a goal of zero fatalities in work zones.



Local 478 pre-apprentices joined us at the National Work Zone Safety Week kickoff event.

Business Manager's Report

Continued

NEW FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT RATIFIED

On Sunday February 3, 2026, members of Local 478 gathered at Berlin High School to vote on a new, four-year collective bargaining agreement. I am proud to share the agreement was unanimously ratified, reflecting the unity and shared commitment of our membership. This is a significant milestone for our Local 478 community and a testament to our collective strength.

This new contract represents a significant victory for Local 478, delivering substantial wage increases of 4.25% each year for the next four years, totaling 17% total increase over the life of the agreement. It is a direct result of your unity, solidarity, and willingness to stand together for what we are worth. By standing firm, we have secured a contract that provides long-term financial security, protects our benefits, and recognizes the vital role our members play in Connecticut's Construction Industry.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to our entire negotiating team for their work and dedication, as well as to the Local 478 Executive Board for their continued support through the process.

Full copies of the ratified agreement are now available. Please contact Local 478 Contract Administrator Ashley Dwyer at adwyer@local478.org if you would like a copy.

PENSION FUND PLAN IMPROVEMENTS:

In February, the Board of Trustees of the Fund convened to discuss several important issues, including a potential benefit rate increase. The Trustees are pleased with the financial status of the Fund, especially in light of the uncertainty and volatility in the financial markets, allowing for a benefit increase. Effective October 1, 2026, the Pension credit accrual rate will increase from \$94 to \$100 for vested participants who retire on or after October 1, 2026, provided they have worked at least 140 hours in covered employment in a benefit year beginning on or after October 1, 2025. Please remember that the Fund's "Benefit Year" runs from October 1st to September 30th.

If you are planning on retiring, please ensure your retirement application is submitted at least 60 days before your intended retirement date so your pension can be processed in a timely manner.

Cost of Living Increases: For Pensioners who initially began receiving monthly pension benefits from the Fund prior to October 1, 1998 – the monthly benefit you receive from the Pension Fund will increase by \$100 per month, and this increase will be added to the benefit amount you normally receive from the Fund effective October 1, 2026.

For Pensioners who initially began receiving monthly pension benefits from the Fund on and after October 1, 1998, but prior to October 1, 2024 – the monthly benefit you receive from the Pension Fund will increase by \$50 per month and this increase will be added to the benefit amount you normally receive from the Fund effective October 1, 2026.

RETIREE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE:

Effective July 1, 2026, Retiree health coverage is expanding to include spouses under certain conditions:

- Active participant must be at least 62 years old
- Active participant must currently have coverage with Local 478's Health plan
- Active participant must be vested in Local 478's Pension plan

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

All active members who are enrolled in the Local 478 health care plan **MUST** complete and return the required Coordination of Benefits (COB) form. Please be advised that your health care benefits will be placed on hold until the completed form is received. If you have any questions, please contact the Claims Department at (203)-288-9261 ext 260.

**STARTING IN SEPTEMBER
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
WILL BEGIN AT 7:00PM**

Field Report

By Business Agent Chris Cozzi

Yale's Big Build: What It Means for Our Trades

Yale Facilities hosted the March New Haven Building Trades meeting. They walked us through the 5-year massive \$4.7 billion construction program — and massive is no understatement. Over the next five years, Yale will be running six major construction programs alongside more than 500 active projects a year, with anywhere from 2,000 to 3,000 workers expected on campus daily at peak. This work spans major facilities like the Dramatic Arts Building, 101 College Street, Upper Science Hill, Osborn Memorial Laboratories, Lower Hillhouse, and College Place — real work, right here in New Haven.

One of the biggest issues we dug into was parking, and Yale knows it's a challenge they need to get right. They've put together a long-term contractor parking plan that breaks the campus into four zones, each with dedicated spots for trade workers, construction management staff, and material storage. For example, Zone 1 at Science Hill will use Science Park Garage, while Zone 4 down at YSM/YPH will have workers parking at the Temple Street Garage and IKEA, with shuttles running directly to job sites. At peak, they're planning to accommodate over 2,500 workers and more than 1,200 vehicles — so this is a plan worth paying attention to.

On the labor side, Yale has launched their Strategic Preferred Partnership Program (SPPP), bringing together firms like Dimeo, DPR, Gilbane, Suffolk, Turner, and Whiting-Turner to focus on supplier diversity, New Haven hiring, and developing the next generation of tradespeople. As the New Haven Building Trades President, I am pushing hard to make sure every major project on this program is covered under a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). This is a tremendous opportunity for our members and our community, and we intend to make the most of it.



Field Report

By Business Agent Michael Gates

Tilcon Acquires American Industries Protecting Our Work. Strengthening Our Future.

The recent acquisition of American Industries by Tilcon Connecticut marked an important moment for the workers at American Industries. On Saturday October 4, 2025, a meeting was held in Preston, Connecticut, giving the employees the opportunity to be introduced to their new employer and to meet the staff and representatives from Local 478. This meeting marked the beginning of the process for employees to sign up and become Union members. This opportunity was something most of them had thought about for many years. As this transition moves forward, our priority remains clear: protecting union jobs, upholding our contract, and ensuring every member continues to work under safe and fair conditions.

YOUR CONTRACT. YOUR PROTECTION.

During any ownership change, uncertainty can arise—but union members have safeguards in place. We want to be clear:

- Your contract remains in full effect
- Wages, benefits, and working conditions are protected and collectively bargained
- Any proposed changes must go through the proper union process
- Members retain full access to the grievance and Arbitration Procedure

SAFETY IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

Our work comes with real risks. That is why the union enforcement of safety standards—including those set by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)—remains a top priority.

Every member has the right to:

- A safe working environment
- Properly maintained and functioning equipment
- Training for all job duties

If you see something unsafe, report it immediately. Your safety, and the safety of your union brothers and sisters safety always comes first.

WHAT THIS MEANS ON THE GROUND

Quarry Workers:

You will operate under strict safety standards, with protections around site conditions. Quarry rules remain in place for any workforce adjustments.

Plant Operators:

Job classifications remain clearly defined and enforced. Overtime, scheduling, and workload expectations will continue to follow guidelines outlined in the contract.

Equipment Operators:

Your skill level and experience remain recognized through negotiated wage scales. You retain the right to safe, properly functioning equipment and fair access to job assignments.

STRENGTH IN SOLIDARITY

This acquisition brings change but it does not change who we are. Union members are the backbone of these operations, and our strength comes from standing together.

We are actively engaged with management throughout this transition to ensure:

- Full compliance with union agreements
- Clear communication to members
- Protection of jobs and working conditions

STAY INFORMED. STAY INVOLVED.

We encourage all members to stay engaged:

- Attend union meetings (second Friday of the month)
- Reach out to your Steward or Business Agent with any questions or concerns
- Report any contract or safety violations immediately

MOVING FORWARD—TOGETHER

As Tilcon Connecticut moves forward with American Industries, one thing remains unchanged: our commitment to each other.

We will protect our work. We will enforce our contract. And we will stand united.

Field Report

By Business Agent Joseph Campoli

Eversource Underground Electrification Work is Keeping Members Busy Across Connecticut

Eversource has major underground electrification projects underway across southwestern Connecticut, and our members are right in the middle of it. In Danbury, Eversource is executing a multi-year Underground Cable Modernization Program to replace aging 115-kilovolt underground transmission lines originally installed in 1974. Approved by the Connecticut Siting Council in March 2025, the project involves installing approximately 3.6 miles of new cable along roadways between the Middle River and Triangle Street Substations, with the full project expected to be completed by late 2027. Also in Danbury, Grace Industries is on the ground doing the civil and excavation work, putting our trades to work on one of the most significant underground infrastructure upgrades the Danbury area has seen in decades.



Down in Stamford, United Civil is leading the underground electrification effort as part of Eversource's ongoing push to modernize the grid across Fairfield County. The Stamford project involves replacing underground transmission lines running between the Glenbrook and Cedar Heights substations, following the same or similar route whenever possible beneath local roadways. The work spans a densely populated and highly urban area, including residential neighborhoods and businesses, making coordination and skilled execution absolutely critical to keeping the project on track and the community safe. United Civil's crews are doing the hard work of getting this infrastructure in the ground while minimizing disruption to the surrounding community.



Both of these projects are a great example of the kind of large-scale, skilled trade work that provide opportunities for employment and our communities powered. It's very important to Local 478 that our skilled operators are willing to make the commute to Fairfield County as well as Danbury to staff these projects. Underground electrification is increasingly where the industry is headed as utilities modernize aging systems and prepare for growing energy demands. Local 478 will continue to push to make sure these projects are staffed with 478 members who have the training and expertise to get the job done right.

Field Report

By Business Agent Tyler Gyenizs

Offshore Wind at the New London State Pier

As we enter the 2026 construction season, one location has continued to progress since April 2021, when Operating Engineers broke ground at the New London State Pier. The offshore wind assembly at the New London State Pier has now officially begun their third phase of offshore windmills with Sunrise Wind. With the completion of South Fork Wind and the upcoming completion of Revolution Wind, IUOE Local 478 Operators have assembled and shipped out a total of 77 Windmills. Components for the new Sunrise Wind Project continue to arrive weekly, and Local 478 Operators are ready to assemble a further 84 turbines, building on this momentum.

This past year has been a turbulent year for offshore wind, especially at the New London State Pier. The Trump Administration launched multiple efforts to halt offshore wind projects nationwide. However, every temporary shutdown in Connecticut has been fought in court and ultimately overturned. This clean energy source is a vital investment for Connecticut and New England as a whole. “If it had been prevented from coming online, we know that energy costs from New England would be higher by about half a billion dollars annually,” said Katie Dykes, commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Revolution Wind is nearing the end of its construction and is already beginning to deliver power back to Southern New England. When completed, It will generate up to 704 megawatts of electricity — enough to power approximately 350,000 homes. The newest project, Sunrise Wind, will provide 924 MW of clean, sustainable energy, capable of powering nearly 600,000 homes. This is a much-needed source of energy. “The price of gas, the price of oil, probably five or six times what we are paying for this wind power,” Lamont said. “People say, ‘Oh boy, wind is expensive.’ You ought to see what it costs without wind power.” Together, these projects highlight the critical role of offshore wind in securing Connecticut’s energy future and reducing costs for residents.



Field Report

By Business Agent Kevin Hartshorn

NPL Update:

As I transition into my role as Business Agent for Hartford and Tolland Counties, the decertification process with NPL remains active and ongoing. Recently, Local 478 hosted a roundtable discussion at the Hall, inviting all NPL employees to answer questions and dispel the false information that was given to them by Local 609 representatives. The entire Local 478 team was there along with the Northeast Regional Director John Stevens, Northeast Field Representatives Albert Schault and Local 542 Representative John Epperson, Director of Field Organizing Rich Bonzani, IUOE Local 98 Business Manager Dave Kazimierzak and Business Representatives Darin Auger and Dan Prats, Local 15g Business Agent Patrick Callahan, and gas industry expert Carl Frattini. Collectively we explained what the IUOE has to offer and answered all questions.

Approximately 90 employees from NPL attended, including Local 609 representatives who had been spreading the misinformation about the IUOE. During our presentation, we took the time to review a letter the Local 609 president sent to the employees and debunk the false facts while he was present in the crowd. As he sat there in silence, his members learned the truth about our organization. All in all, it was a successful and impactful meeting, allowing us to properly educate the workers of NPL about what the IUOE has to offer.

Hartford and Tolland Counties Update:

While it has been a slow start for work orders, as the season progresses, I'm sure they will pick up. All ongoing projects in Hartford and Tolland counties are running smoothly.

- BOND Civil & Utility is making progress in Hartford on the underground transmission line modernization project. Construction began in April 2025, with completion expected by late 2026 and full commissioning by late 2027. This work is part of Eversource's larger Underground Cable Modernization Program (UCMP) throughout their service territory in Connecticut and Massachusetts.



- O&G Industries was awarded Phase 3 of the I-91/I-691/Route 15 interchange project in Meriden. This phase focuses on expanding southward, including new two-lane ramps for Route 15 SB to I-91 SB at Exit 67 and Exit 17, widening ramps at I-691 EB/Route 15 SB and I-91 SB/I-691 WB.
- Stamford Wrecking Company has begun demolition of the former Bank of America building and parking garage at East Hartford's Founders Plaza office park. This will clear way for the first phase of an \$840 million initiative aimed at transforming the underutilized 30-acre riverfront commercial park into mixed-use district.



- Walsh Construction Company is making headway on the Windsor Locks rail project which includes construction of a new station to replace the existing station at the south end of town. The new station will be located just north of the historic station building on Main Street. The new station is expected to open in September 2026 but with only a portion of the platform available for boarding.
- The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is currently constructing a new 135,000-square-foot District 1 Headquarters and multi-purpose facility in Rocky Hill. The project is being constructed on the site of CTDOT's existing Materials Testing Laboratory and Signal Laboratory. Manafort Brothers is currently on site.



- The Hartford school projects including Betances Elementary School, Bulkeley High School and E. B. Kennelly School are winding down while Wish School is starting steel erection this month.

Organizing Report

By Organizer Robert Ragauskas

This past winter was one of the harshest ones in recent memory. On Monday February 23rd, in the midst of a blizzard, I received a phone call from Riverview Landscapes, (who is not a signatory contractor) asking if I can provide an operator or two for snow removal operations in the southeast area of the state. At this point we were just getting into the peak of the storm, and I told them I would see what I could do. Local 478 member Colby Robinson, who is a fourth-year apprentice, answered the call. Colby was able to get to the job within a few hours, and a one-day job turned into a multi-day job. I appreciate Colby taking the work order and representing the local with professionalism. We signed a job-only agreement with Riverview with the intention of sitting down with them for further discussion on joining.

The local gained another crane rental company “Wdov-co Crane and Rigging LLC”. The company is based out of Lebanon, Connecticut to better serve the eastern part of the state. We also signed another company by the name of “A&J Generator and Equipment LLC”, based out of Prospect, CT. A&J sells, services, installs and rents generators ranging from residential to industrial applications. A&J currently employs seven Operating Engineers. So, if you or someone you know are in the market for a standby generator, please consider supporting one of our signatory contractors.

2026 has already proven to be a busy one, if you know a talented non-union operator who is looking to become a member of the local, please have him or her reach out to me at (203) 815-8311.



IUOE LOCAL 478 2026 HEALTH FAIR

Join us for this FREE family friendly event featuring our providers, a crane simulator experience, raffles, and complimentary food.

RAIN OR SHINE

WHEN:
Sunday, May 31st

TIME:
10 am to 2 pm

WHERE:
1965 Dixwell Ave, Hamden

RSVP BY MAY 8:
Please scan the QR Code
or call Nadine at
203-288-9261 ext 250.



Legislative Report

By Director of Compliance & Government Affairs Kimberly Glassman

Connecticut House Bill 5405

Local 478's legislative priority is HB 5405, "An Act Concerning Crane Owners, Crane Operators, and Hoisting Equipment Operators." This bill would create more enforcement of our crane license and crane registration by allowing state crane inspectors to issue stop work orders for unsafe working conditions, including negligence or operating without a valid license. HB 5405 would also increase the penalties for these violations. This is a bill that would ensure safer work sites while also holding bad players accountable, particularly out-of-state companies who look to flout our laws and undermine good workplace protections. No longer should our contractors have to compete against a race to the bottom. No longer should the state reward companies who don't value their employees, and who don't invest in robust apprenticeship and training programs.

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS), the agency that administers our crane license, has been a staunch supporter of this initiative. We started working with them on this proposal at the beginning of the year and they've proven to be reliable partners. In fact, the DAS Commissioner, Michelle Gilman, spoke in favor of HB 5405 at the Public Safety & Security Committee's public hearing on March 5th. Our Business Manager & President, Nate Brown, also spoke at the public hearing, as did our Training Director, Gregg Strede, our Crane License Examining Board Chairman, Ketih Murphy, our former Business Agent, Kyle Zimmer, and one of our signatory contractors, Martin Clark, owner of King Clark Crane, Inc. There was no opposition to our bill.

HB 5405 was voted out of the Public Safety & Security Committee on March 17th on consent, meaning that every

member of the committee voted in favor. The bill was then referred to the Judiciary Committee; the reason being that we made the penalties for violations more prescriptive. It was voted out of the Judiciary Committee on April 10th, again on consent. By all accounts, this is a popular bill, widely supported by both sides of the aisle. Our single biggest obstacle is the clock.

We are in a short legislative session, which means the legislature gavels out for the year at midnight on Wednesday, May 6th. We have less than two weeks to go. So, in an effort to make sure HB 5405 is signed into law this year, it has been included in a different, larger bill. Our language from HB 5405 is now included with HB 5003, "An Act Concerning Workforce Development and Working Conditions in the State," which is a priority for the Democratic caucus. HB 5003, with our crane enforcement language included, is scheduled to be heard on the floor of the House of Representatives on Monday, April 27th. Should it pass the House, it will go on to the Senate, and then to the Governor's desk for signature.

If you're wondering who your state representative or state senator is, you can check online here: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp>. And if you're so willing, it would be helpful if you could contact your legislators by phone or email and ask them to vote in favor of HB 5003. Make sure to provide your name, address, and bill number, and let them know you're a member of Local 478. If you have any questions about this critical piece of legislation, or if you have any questions about the process and how to reach your legislators, please feel free to contact me at kim.glassman@local478.org.



Business Manager and President Nate Brown, along with Training Director Gregg Strede, testifying at the public hearing.

Referral Report

By Referral Manager Tiana Ocasio

Spring Update

Currently we have less than 400 members out of work. I want to emphasize the importance of keeping your contact information up to date with the Referral Office (phone number and mailing address) so we can notify you immediately for a job. Please remember to check in with me and your Business Agent at least once a week for work opportunities.

“The Importance of Integrity and Available Support”

Many contractors are using pre-hired drug testing procedures that are becoming more and more sophisticated and nearly impossible to fool. To maintain your reputation and uphold the integrity of the union, please do not try to cheat these tests. If you are struggling with a drug, alcohol, or family-related issue that may be affecting you at home or work, please contact our Members Assistance Program Director Ashley (203) 833-0194. This service is included in your health coverage and is completely confidential.

“Keeping your Certifications Up to Date”

It is very important that you stay current with your certifications and licenses, especially your OSHA, CDL, Hazmat, Forklift, Crane and Hoisting. There have been instances where we have had opportunities to send people to work, but we could not because their certifications lapsed. Please make every effort to keep your certifications up to date. If you do not have these certificates or feel your skills need improvement, contact the training school as soon as possible and register for classes (203) 237-3962 ext. 410. Remember, these requirements are set by the State and Federal governments, not Local 478.

“Why Being Skilled in Multiple Pieces of Equipment Matters”

We cannot overlook how important it is to be skilled with a wide range of equipment. Just like anything else, contractors are trying their best to run a productive and cost-effective business. They are always looking for operators who are well versed. They surely are not going to take someone from the hall to run only one piece of equipment. There are not a lot of site jobs around where you show up and only get on one piece of equipment in the morning and stay on it all day. The more equipment you can operate confidently and with a positive attitude, the more valuable you become to contractors.

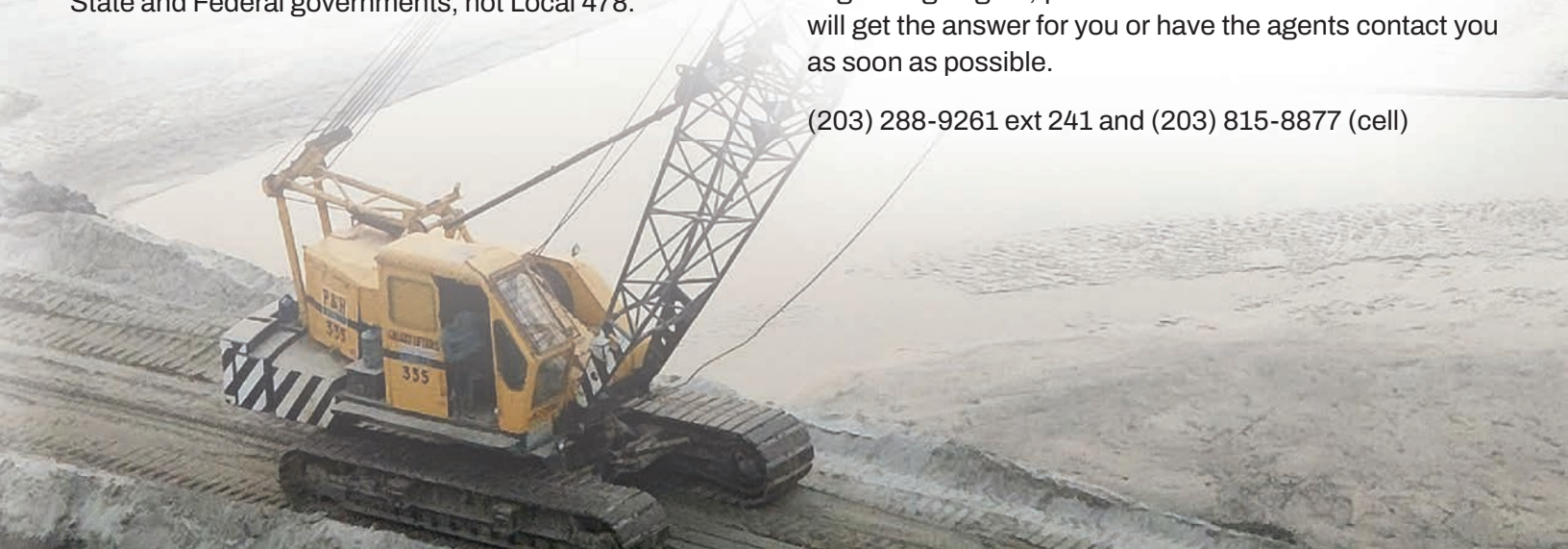
“Contact Your Agent When Needed”

Take a moment to read the Bylaws book – if you need a copy reach out to me. If any issues arise on the job, contact your steward and/or business agent immediately. The contractor can fire you but not your agent. Never walk off a job or quit! That decision can haunt you for over a year with unemployment.

Additionally, if you see a fellow IUOE member struggling, please offer to help them instead of shaming them. A little camaraderie goes a long way... I wish you all an amazing season and please remember to call in all of your work dates and obtain necessary clearances if you are traveling out of state for work.

If you have any questions about work or anything that might be going on, please do not hesitate to call me. We will get the answer for you or have the agents contact you as soon as possible.

(203) 288-9261 ext 241 and (203) 815-8877 (cell)



Training Report

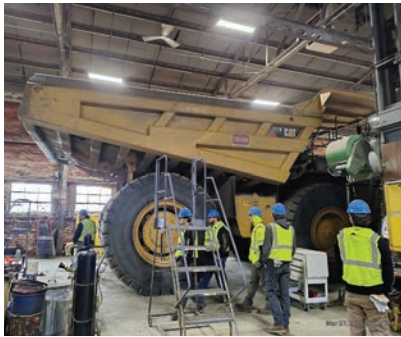
By Training Director Gregg Strede

After starting this year with some interesting weather, including a couple good snow events—the six-week pre-apprentice program is now well underway.

To provide a general overview of what participants experience, the program begins with a full week of safety training. This training includes OSHA 10 certification, requirements to get them out on the jobsite, as well as MSHA New Miner training so we can fill positions in a mining atmosphere.



Program Director. They receive an overview of union health benefits, learn about the dynamics of union culture, and attend a Membership Meeting to gain a deeper understanding of union operations and expectations.



The second week focuses on an introduction to earthmoving equipment, and the third week is forklift training.



We extend our sincere thanks to Tilcon Connecticut for completing the MSHA training requirements providing guided tours of their mining operations.

During this same timeframe, participants are introduced to the staff including the Business Manager, Agents, Organizers, Referral Manager and Members Assistance

At this point they have already fulfilled the classroom requirements of the entry level driver training put forth by The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), so they transition into a week of Class B, CDL pre-trip, conquering driving and backing through the range portion of test preparation. Once instructors are confident

Training Report

Continued

in each participant's skills and safety awareness, they head out on the open road.



Rowland Hoerle, Adonis Smith, Gerald Frisbie, Donald Grocki, Win Cheske and Jasen Clark

Both Operators and Mechanics receive all this training. In addition, they are introduced to all aspects of what is expected of them in the field from preventive maintenance and how to make repairs to the equipment to keep our contractors' fleets running strong. We also utilize our part-time instructors to ensure participants get the most out of their six-week pre-apprenticeship and feel confident and well-prepared as they transition to their first job.

The Saturday skill-improvement classes are well underway as well as the introduction to Bulldozers and excavators. They will spend time learning the basic operation on different job site techniques.



Special thanks to Adonis Smith and Win Cheske for selecting an amazing group of candidates. We also rely on our part time instructors to support the six-week pre-apprentice program. Don Grocki and Jerry Frisbie have taken time away from their careers in the field to mentor and guide our new apprentices down a pathway of success. Their dedication and commitment to the program is what keeps this training machine firing on all cylinders.

In closing, please make sure your state and federal licenses are current, and OSHA and Hazmat certifications are up to date, so you are ready to go to work when the call comes in. Pay close attention to the location of training classes as we will be holding classes and training activities at our new location 600 South Mountain Road in Meriden. We are excited to expand our footprint to provide better training opportunities.

Be safe out there and contact the training center with any questions! (203) 237-3962

Members Assistance Program

By MAP Director Ashley Dwyer

Summer Safety Starts With You: Hydration, Heat & Jobsite Awareness

As we head into the warmer months, it's important to recognize that summer conditions can bring serious risks, especially in the heavy equipment and construction trades. Long hours, direct sun exposure, hot machinery, and physically demanding work can quickly lead to dehydration and heat-related illness if proper precautions aren't taken. Staying hydrated is critical during this time of year. Your body loses fluids continuously in the heat, even if you don't feel thirsty, and by the time thirst sets in, dehydration may already be occurring. Drinking water consistently throughout your shift, limiting caffeine and energy drinks, and keeping water accessible on the jobsite are simple but essential habits that can make a significant difference.

It's also important to understand the signs of heat-related illness, including dizziness, confusion, headaches, nausea, muscle cramps, and heavy sweating, or in more severe cases, a lack of sweating. If you or a coworker begin to experience these symptoms, it's crucial to stop work immediately, move to a shaded or cool area, hydrate, and report the situation. Trying to push through these warning signs can lead to serious health consequences. Looking out for one another on the jobsite is not just encouraged, it's a responsibility that helps keep everyone safe.

In addition to hydration, jobsite awareness plays a major role in summer safety. High temperatures can affect not only your body but also your surroundings. Taking scheduled breaks in shaded or cooled areas, wearing lightweight and breathable clothing when possible, and using sunscreen and protective gear can help prevent heat stress and sun-related injuries. It's also important to remain mindful of hot equipment and surfaces, which can cause burns, and to stay alert, as fatigue from heat can increase the risk of accidents. Supervisors and foremen play a key role in setting the tone by encouraging breaks, monitoring crews, and reinforcing safe practices throughout the workday.

As temperatures begin to rise, it's equally important to pace yourself. The first hot days of the season can be especially challenging, as your body needs time to adjust. Gradually building tolerance to the heat, scheduling more strenuous tasks earlier in the day when possible, and taking breaks as needed can help reduce the risk of overexertion. Heat-related illness can affect anyone, regardless of experience level, so it's important to stay mindful and take preventative steps.

Finally, remember that your Member Assistance Program is here to support you beyond physical safety. The demands of the job, combined with long hours and extreme weather, can take a toll mentally as well. We also offer a Thursday night support group from 6-7 p.m. for members who may benefit from connecting with others in a confidential and supportive environment. If you or a family member need assistance, have questions, or would like more information about available resources, please don't hesitate to reach out directly at (203) 833-0194.

A safe and healthy summer starts with simple but consistent actions, stay hydrated, take breaks, remain aware of your surroundings, and look out for one another. By working together and prioritizing safety, we can ensure a strong and safe season for everyone.



In Memoriam

We pause to honor and reflect on the members of the Local whose names appear here. Each individual made a meaningful impact—through their work, their character, and the connections they built with those around them. Their contributions helped shape not only our organization, but also the lives of many who had the privilege to know them.

While words cannot fully capture the depth of their absence, we hope this moment of recognition serves as a small tribute to lives that mattered deeply. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families, friends, and all who are grieving.

They will be remembered with respect, gratitude, and enduring appreciation.

Shane Albert

Stephen C. Palinkas

Robert Sparaco

Brian P. Embleton

Michael S. Papa

Robert Voccola

Robert W. Fielding

Joseph H. Romick

Darrin Woodmancy

Robert B. Fitch, Jr.

John D. Sorel

William Wyslick

*Congratulations, **Active Retirees***

Retirement is just the beginning. Our active retirees continue to support the Local, share their knowledge, and stay connected, helping strengthen the brotherhood and sisterhood they helped build. We are proud to recognize the individuals listed here as they mark the milestone of retirement. May this next chapter bring fulfillment, good health, and the freedom to enjoy all that matters most.

With sincere thanks and warmest wishes, we congratulate you on a well-earned retirement.

Arthur R. Ball, Jr.

Carl Holznagel

Ronald D. Ross, Jr.

Todd Bodo

Edward W. Hoxie, Jr.

Michael Sirois

Frank P. Bonzani, Jr.

Robert E. Levesque

William D. Tweed

Joseph C. Digiovanni,

Daniel Mallozzi

Thomas M. Wall, Jr.

Peter M. Doheny

William L. Montesi

David Harris

Kevin Phelps





LOCAL 478
Operating Engineers

1965 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, CT 06514-2400

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Address Line 2
City, ST 12345-6789



Local 478 Calendar 2026

The following events will take place at the Local Union Hall, unless otherwise noted.

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| Wednesday, May 6 (5:30 PM) | – New Member Orientation/Examining Committee |
| Friday, May 8 (7:30 PM) | – Local 478 Membership meeting |
| Wednesday, May 13 (10:00AM) | – Active Retiree Spring Meeting |
| Monday, May 25 | – MEMORIAL DAY - HALL CLOSED |
| Sunday, May 31 (10:00 AM) | – Local 478 Health Fair |
| Wednesday, June 3 (5:30 PM) | – New Member Orientation/Examining Committee |
| Friday, June 12 (10:00AM) | – Active Retirees Summer Picnic at Anthonys Ocean view |
| Wednesday, July 1 (5:30 PM) | – New Member Orientation/Examining Committee |
| Friday, July 3 | – INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED – HALL CLOSED |
| Wednesday, August 5 (5:30 PM) | – New Member Orientation/Examining Committee |
| Sunday, August 23 | – Local 478 Members’ Annual Outing at Holiday Hill |

Reminder: No membership meetings in June, July and August.

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER, MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS WILL BEGIN AT 7:00PM