



Celebrating Success: Apprenticeship Graduation and Summer Highlights

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Business Manager's Report

By Business Manager Nate Brown

Brothers and Sisters,

As we move into the summer season, I want to extend a thank you to every member of Local 478 for the skill, professionalism, and pride you bring to our jobsites across Connecticut. Summer is always one of the busiest times in our industry, and it serves as a reminder of what makes our union strong: hard work, solidarity, and an unwavering commitment to one another. Whether you are working on a highway project, performing utility work, handling site development, working on bridge construction, or in the shop keeping equipment moving, your efforts play a vital role in building and maintaining the foundation of our state.

Construction activity across Connecticut continues to present significant opportunities for our members. State transportation investment remains a major driver of this work, with significant funding planned for roads, bridges, rail, and paving infrastructure over the coming years. Major projects tied to highway and interchange improvements, bridge rehabilitation, and transit modernization are helping sustain strong demand for operating engineers throughout the state. School construction, municipal upgrades, and public infrastructure work also continue to create opportunities in communities across the state.

At the same time, our industry still faces real challenges. Contractors are dealing with cost pressures, supply uncertainty, and an ongoing shortage of skilled workers. That makes our training, experience, and professionalism even more valuable. As more complex public and private projects move forward, union labor remains the best path to delivering safe, productive, and high-quality work on schedule.

Recently, I had the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC to participate in a panel at the IUOE Legislative Conference titled "Moving the IUOE Agenda, Working Both Sides of the Aisle." The discussion focused on how locals like ours actively engage in the legislative process to protect and advance the interests of our members. I was proud to share how Local 478 works with both state and federal representatives, builds relationships across party lines, and advocates for policies that support infrastructure investment, fair labor standards, and workforce development. Our involvement in the legislative arena is critical to ensuring that the voices of operating engineers are heard and that our industry continues to move forward in a way that benefits our members and their families.

The strength of Local 478 has always come from our members. Our union is strongest when members stay involved, support one another, attend meetings, participate in training, and stand together on the issues that affect our livelihoods. Strong contracts, fair wages, quality benefits, and safe working conditions do not happen by accident—they are won and protected through unity and engagement.

Just as important is our investment in the next generation. Through Local 478's apprenticeship and skill improvement time when the construction industry needs skilled workers more than ever, our commitment to training is one of the greatest strengths we have. It protects our standards, supports our signatory contractors, and ensures that union labor continues to lead this industry in Connecticut. I want to take a moment to congratulate the most recent graduates of our apprenticeship program. Completing this program is no small accomplishment. It represents years of hard work, dedication, and a commitment to mastering the skills of our trade. You are entering the field at an important time for our industry, and you carry forward the traditions and standards that define Local 478. We are proud of your achievement and look forward to seeing your continued success as you build your careers as operating engineers.

As summer moves forward, let us continue to look out for one another, work safely, and take pride in the work we do every day. The jobs ahead will require skill, determination, and unity—and I have no doubt that the members of Local 478 will continue to meet that challenge. Thank you for everything you do for this union, for our contractors, and for the communities we serve across Connecticut.

In solidarity,

Nate Brown
Business Manager & President

Field Report

By Business Agent Chris Cozzi

Building Futures, Supporting Each Other

This spring, I had the privilege of taking part in two milestones, each rooted in a shared purpose: caring for the people who build and sustain our state.

OPENING DOORS: A \$750K GRANT FOR WOMEN IN THE TRADES

The U.S. Department of Labor awarded Workforce Alliance a \$750,000 federal grant to launch an Apprenticeship Accelerator. An initiative designed to help women enter paid apprenticeships in the trades by addressing real barriers like tools, transportation, and childcare for roughly 40 women. As a Workforce Alliance board member and president of the New Haven Building Trades, I was proud to write letters of support backing the application.

But, the true impact is best told by our members. Local 478 member, Jasmine Villanueva. Jasmine shared how entering a registered apprenticeship provided not only a steady income, but stability, purpose, and a future she's proud of. Where she once juggled multiple jobs just to get by, she now earns a living she can comfortably live on with retirement and health care. That is what this work is really about.



Jasmine shares how the trades changed her life.

LOOKING OUT FOR OUR OWN: THE FOUNDATION FOR WELLNESS MOU

On Friday, May 8th, leaders from across Connecticut's construction industry gathered at the Yale New Haven Hospital Adams Neurosciences Center construction site to sign a first-of-its-kind Memorandum of Understanding: Foundation for Wellness — Guiding Principles for Mental Health, Suicide Prevention, and Substance Use in the Connecticut Construction Industry.

Held during National Construction Safety Week and Mental Health Awareness Month, the event highlighted a shared goal: creating a culture where seeking help is encouraged and supported. With an estimated 83% of construction workers facing some behavioral health challenges, and more than 6,000 suicide deaths annually in the industry, the need for action is clear.

I had the honor of speaking about the importance of worksite mental health. We often spend more time with our coworkers than we do with our own families. Sometimes, something as simple as just asking someone "How are you?" can open the door to a conversation that changes or even saves a life. I encouraged everyone to look out for one another, and to notify their Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or business agent if they think a brother or sister may need support.

WHAT THE MOU COMMITS TO

The Foundation for Wellness MOU is not a binding contract, but a public commitment to excellence in occupational safety and health. By signing, organizations pledge to: provide safe stigma-free workplaces, expand mental health and Naloxone training, promoting available resources such as EAPs and the 988 Crisis Lifeline, strengthening peer support programs, and regularly evaluating progress and identifying opportunities for growth.

Years in the making, the initiative was developed through collaboration among industry and labor leaders and is supported by the Connecticut AEC Partnership and regional workforce organizations. Retired brother, Kyle Zimmer, helped lay the groundwork for this effort and reinforced a simple truth: the strongest safety culture starts with a conversation between coworkers. Whether we are opening the door for the next generation of tradespeople or looking out for the person working beside us, on each job we take care of our own.

If you or someone you work with needs support, contact Local 478 EAP Ashley Dwyer at 203-833-0194, your business agent, or the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. On this job, we look out for our own.

Field Report

By Business Agent Michael Gates

Building Strength Through Solid Contracts: A Productive Start to 2026 at the Bargaining Table

This calendar year to date has been one of the most active and productive bargaining periods in recent memory for Plants and Shops. Through the hard work of our negotiating committees, stewards, and members, we successfully completed contract negotiations with multiple employers across our jurisdiction, securing fair wages, improved benefits, and stronger workplace protections for our members working under our specialty agreements.

Agreements were reached with United Rentals Aerial, United Rentals Power Division, Sunbelt Rentals, Herc Rentals, Equipment Share, H.O. Penn, C.N. Wood Co., C.N. Wood Enviro, Sprague Resources, Santa Fuel, and Buchanan Marine. Each negotiation presented its own unique challenges, but the common goal remained the same: protecting and improving the livelihoods of our members and their families.

The bargaining process is never easy. Employers continue to navigate shifting market conditions, labor shortages, and economic uncertainty, while workers feel the ongoing impact of rising costs for housing, healthcare, food, and transportation. In every round of negotiations, our committees remained focused on one objective: securing contracts that recognize the skill, dedication, and vital contributions our members bring to their employers' success.

The successful completion of agreements with United Rentals Aerial and United Rentals Power Division further strengthened our long-standing relationships with the industry's leading equipment providers. Negotiations with Sunbelt Rentals, Herc Rentals, and Equipment Share addressed the rapidly evolving rental sector while ensuring that our members share in the success they help create every day.

Likewise, specialty agreements with H.O. Penn, C.N. Wood, and Buchanan Marine recognized the highly skilled work performed by technicians, welders, and support personnel who keep critical equipment operating safely and efficiently. Contracts reached with Sprague Resources and Santa Fuel further strengthened protections for members working in the fuel and energy sectors, whose work remain essential to our communities and regional economy.

While each agreement differs in its specific terms, they all share a common theme: progress. These contracts represent meaningful investments in our workforce and reaffirm the value that skilled union labor brings to every employer and every customer we serve.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we also recognize that collective bargaining is an ongoing effort. The gains we achieve are made possible through unity, engagement, and solidarity. Together, we will continue building on these successes and fighting for the wages, benefits, and working conditions our members deserve.

As we move into the second half of 2026, we will be negotiating with Buckeye Partners, United Rentals (Stamford & Danbury locations) and Alta Equipment.

Thank you to all who contributed to another successful round of contract negotiations. When we stand together, we continue to prove that strong unions build strong contracts, strong workplaces, and stronger communities.



Field Report

By Business Agent Joseph Campoli

Brunswick School Indoor Athletic Training Facility

Brunswick School in Greenwich, Connecticut, is moving forward with a major campus athletics project on the 43-acre property acquired in 2017. Local 478-member, Griffin Izzo leads the charge for Giordano Construction, which includes a 74,000-square-foot partially enclosed recreational practice facility at their middle school campus.



Local 478 Member Griffin Izzo

To meet the town's Floor Area Ratio (FAR) requirements, the practice facility will be primarily indoors, with a portion left unenclosed, similar to a covered porch on a home. The facility will support year-round athletic training and feature a regulation size field for football, lacrosse, and soccer.

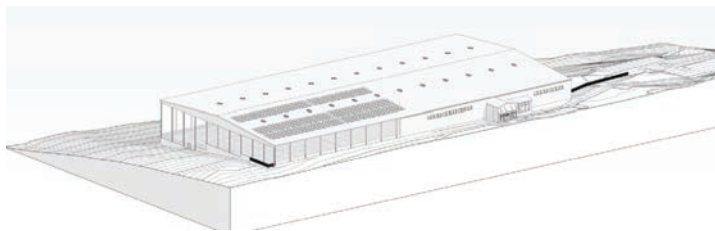


Photo by: Greenwich Time

Additionally, the space will include restroom facilities for students, coaches, and staff. The building will not be air conditioned but will be equipped with heating and ventilation systems. The restrooms will connect to the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant, which will be reviewed by the state DEEP.

Giordano Construction began the project by relocating existing utilities to prepare the site for excavation. To

date, approximately 40,000 yards of material have been moved and placed in preparation for a proposed baseball field. This excavation marks a critical phase of the project, establishing the proper site grades, creating the foundation for footing placement of the new facility.

The first concrete pour is scheduled for early July of 2026, marking an important transition from site excavation into foundation work. Additional excavation activities include the installation of approximately 2,000 feet of sewer and storm drainage infrastructure. This work includes 30 manholes and catch basins, which will support the long-term performance and resiliency of the campus improvements.

The Brunswick School project has already provided employment opportunities for several operating engineers, including apprentices who are gaining valuable field experience on a large-scale site development and building project. Their work has been essential to utility relocation, excavation, material handling, grading, and overall site preparation as the project advances into the next phases of construction.

With completion anticipated in spring 2027, the new indoor practice facility represents a significant investment in Brunswick School's athletic campus and student-athlete development. As construction progresses, the project will move from underground utility work and foundation installation to vertical construction, bringing the school closer to a modern training facility designed to support multiple sports and provide year-round practice opportunities.

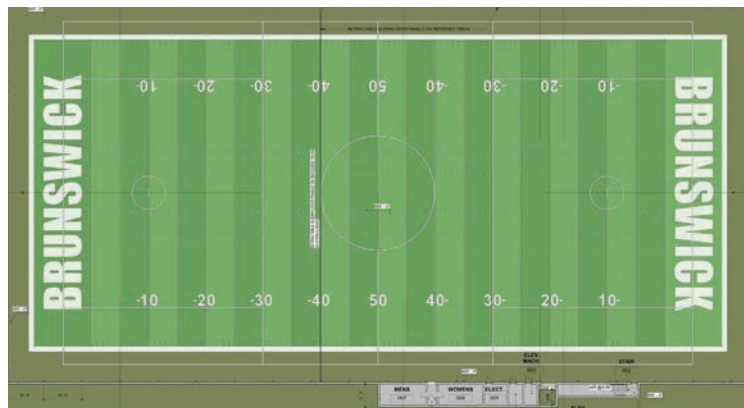


Photo by: Greenwich Time

Field Report

By Business Agent Tyler Gyenizs

Norwich Public Schools Revamp

For the past year, Local 478 members working for Loureiro Contractors have been hard at work in Norwich on a \$350+ million overhaul of the city's public school system. This initiative will consolidate the city's seven elementary schools into four brand new schools. Three of the new schools will be built on the current sites of John B. Stanton, Moriarty, and Uncas elementary schools. Designed to better serve both students and the community, these modern facilities represent a significant investment in Norwich's future. The multi-year project is expected to be completed in 2028.

Loureiro is currently working on the new John B. Stanton Elementary, an 80,000 square foot school designed for 597 students. Construction is taking place alongside the existing, fully operational school. This school is scheduled to open for the 2026-2027 school year. The existing building will be demolished to make way for new parking areas, sidewalks, and outdoor play spaces.



Work is also progressing at Greenville Elementary, which is being constructed on the site of the original Greenville School that was demolished in 2011. The new 86,760 square foot facility will serve 597 students. This was a difficult undertaking with extensive rock removal and rock crushing over the past year. To date, three large retaining walls have been completed, with a fourth currently underway and structural steel has been erected on the lower level. Greenville Elementary is expected to welcome students in August of 2027.



Meanwhile, two other schools, Uncus Elementary and John M Moriarty Elementary, have broken ground with CJ Fucci leading the way on the site work.

At Uncus Elementary, construction is ongoing while the existing school also remains in operation. The current facility will be demolished upon completion of the new 85,000 square foot building, which is scheduled to open in August 2027 and will serve 548 students. Local 478 members are currently working on the building foundations, with structural steel installation scheduled for early fall.



John M Moriarty Elementary is also an active school that will be demolished once the new 80,000 square foot building is complete. This school is also scheduled to open in August of 2027 and will serve 548 students. The site has been mobilized, and tree clearing has been completed. Foundation and general site work will begin shortly. Structural steel is expected to be erected by the end of the summer.

All four new schools are being designed with enhanced security systems, advanced heating and cooling systems, and sound dampening properties. They will also include updated libraries with maker spaces and reading nooks, as well as gymnasium and cafeteria layouts that are fully separated from academic areas. This will allow the district to safely host community and neighborhood events on

Field Report

By Business Agent Kevin Hartshorn

Solidarity in Action: IUOE Members Stand Strong

We were recently made aware by employees at Bluroc that benefit payments owed to Local 478 were still delinquent. This was a growing concern as benefits are part of what we earn, and when they're not being paid, it hits every one of us and our families. After bringing this issue to Business Manager Nate Brown, it became clear that this was not an isolated situation. Similar situations were happening at Local 4, Local 57 and Local 98.

Recognizing the seriousness of the situation, in a joint effort between all locals involved, a companywide stand down was issued on all jobs where Bluroc was operating.

From Thursday, June 11, through Saturday, June 13, IUOE brothers and sisters stood down. Sometimes you have to draw a line. And when that line gets crossed, you hold it. Members showed unwavering commitment, discipline, and solidarity throughout the stand-down, sending a clear message that failure to meet contractual obligations would not be tolerated. On Sunday June 14, an agreement was made with all locals affected and by Monday morning, members were back on the job. All benefits were brought current, ensuring that members and their families would not experience any lapse in coverage. In addition, a plan was put in place requiring any outstanding back contributions to be paid monthly until Bluroc was caught up.

This situation serves as a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when we stand together. Audits alone did not phase Blue Roc and legal pressure did not produce results. It was the collective strength, unity, and determination of the membership that ultimately drove this resolution. When we stand together, we create real leverage and meaningful change. The actions taken over these few days reflect the core values of the IUOE: brotherhood, sisterhood, and an unwavering commitment to fairness and dignity for all members. Every individual who participated in the stand-down played a role in achieving this outcome, reinforcing that each member's voice matters and contributes to the larger strength of our union.

The message is this: our unity is our greatest asset. When we stand together there is no challenge we cannot overcome. Not one local wins alone but together, we don't lose.

United we stand, divided we fall.

UPDATE OF THE WINDSOR LOCKS RAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

The Hartford Line Rail Program is a multi-phase effort to modernize and expand passenger service along the 62-mile corridor between New Haven, CT, and Springfield, MA. In Windsor Locks, the project is approaching its final stages, the Connecticut Department of Transportation is investing \$160 million in Phase 3B, which will deliver additional double-tracking and key infrastructure upgrades between Windsor and Windsor Locks. The project remains on schedule and continues to make steady progress.



Organizing Report

By Organizer Robert Ragauskas

It's hard to believe that summer is here already. Spring has been a busy and productive season.

I have had the opportunity for some of the more specialized open shop operators to get out to work as they participate in the Local's new permit program. The program is proving to be a valuable pathway for non-union operators to become members.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Ian Sweeney, our newest Organizer. I am looking forward to working with him on issues that impact our signatory contractors. Ian brings a strong background in demolition and will be a great addition to our Local's staff.

Additionally, I had the privilege of speaking to the Local 478 graduating class of 2026. As a graduate of the apprenticeship program myself, the experience brought back many great memories. An apprenticeship is more than technical instruction, it is a discipline of character. It teaches responsibility, how to master difficult work with humility, and how to perform with care when the stakes are high. The work of an operating engineer requires judgment, patience, precision, and pride. It demands forward thinking, constant vigilance, and an understanding that every decision on a jobsite carries consequences. I emphasized the importance of mentoring the next generation of Operating Engineers. Those who have completed the program are uniquely positioned to guide others, as no one understands its challenges better than those who have experienced them firsthand. Graduates, you have chosen a demanding path, but it is an honorable one. You have entered a trade that builds communities, strengthens families, and keeps this country moving.



As always, we are constantly looking to add great talent to our organization. If you know any skilled non-union operators interested in joining, please pass my number on (203) 815-8311.

By Organizer Ian Sweeney

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. I have proudly been a member of Local 478 for the past 12 years, beginning my career through the apprenticeship program.

Throughout my time in the field, I have built my experience starting with building demolition before transitioning into bridge demolition. For the past eight years, I have focused on bridge demolition, working for Sessler Wrecking on projects ranging from Washington, D.C. to the Canadian border. Some of the notable projects I have worked on include the RFK Bridge in New York City, the Castleton-on-Hudson Bridge, the Commonwealth Avenue Bridge in Boston, the I-691/I-91/Route 15 interchange in Connecticut, and Brayton Point Power Station in Fall River, Massachusetts.

Throughout my 12 years with the Local, I have also proudly volunteered with our Volunteer Action Committee whenever possible. I have participated in labor walks, phone banking, town hall meetings, picket lines, and various community service events. I have also been a part of the Examining Board Committee, helping with the new member orientations, explaining our processes, union bylaws, and member rights. I firmly believe it is important to do my part to help move our mission forward, and I strongly encourage each of you to get involved whenever you can. These efforts play a critical role in ensuring the continued strength and success of our Local for years to come.

Over the past month, I have hit the ground running. I have been actively visiting non-union contractor offices and job sites to introduce myself and begin building positive working relationships. Some of the contractors and jobsites I have visited include Ferguson Electric, B&W Paving & Landscaping, LLC, Sunset Valley Construction, LLC, Trademark Construction, Suchocki & Son, Inc., Barber Utilities, Richards Corporation and more. Through these efforts, I aim to develop lasting partnerships that help us expand our presence and grow the market share we strive to achieve.

I am extremely humbled and honored to represent Local 478. I look forward to introducing myself in person at the September membership meeting.

To the 2026 apprenticeship graduates, attending your graduation ceremony was an honor and a full circle experience. I'm excited for your future.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you know of anyone interested in joining or if you come across any non-union contractors working in our area. I can be reached at 203-464-0221.

Legislative Report

By Director of Compliance & Government Affairs Kimberly Glassman

It is my pleasure to report that our legislative priority, “An Act Concerning Crane Owners, Crane Operators, and Hoisting Equipment Operators,” was adopted into a larger bill, HB 5003, “An Act Concerning Workforce Development and Working Conditions in the State,” passed both chambers of the General Assembly. HB 5003 was signed into law by Governor Lamont as Public Act 26-12 on May 11, 2026. This law will 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.

Also included in Public Act 26-12 is language we worked on that will require all contractors and subcontractors on prevailing wage projects to maintain a daily log. While the vast majority of contractors already utilize sign-in sheets, this law will ensure safer working conditions by reporting every worker who is entering and leaving the job site each day.

I am also proud to report that another one of our legislative priorities, “An Act Authorizing the Comptroller to Withhold Payment for Violations of the Prevailing Wage Statutes” passed both chambers and was signed into law by Governor Lamont as Public Act 16-17 on May 14, 2026. This new law allows the Labor Commissioner to notify the Comptroller when a stop work order is issued against a contractor or subcontractor for prevailing wage violations. The Comptroller is then authorized to stop payment to a contractor in order to force them to pay restitution to their workers.

On June 30, we held a ceremonial bill signing of Public Act 26-17 with Governor Ned Lamont at the Greenville Elementary School job site in Norwich. Joining the Governor for this important event was Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, Comptroller Sean Scanlon, Norwich Mayor Swarnjit Singh, State Representative and Vice-Chair of the Labor Committee Derell Wilson, State Senator Cathy Osten, State Senator Jorge Cabrera, numerous local Norwich officials, and, most importantly, the workers on the project, including many of our members. Also representing Local 478 at the signing was Business Agent Tyler Gyenizs and Organizers Rob Ragauskas and Ian Sweeney.

The event drew coverage from several media outlets,



including the *Norwich Bulletin*, which highlighted the significance of Public Act 26-17 and its role in combating wage theft. The article quoted me, emphasizing the broad impact of the issue, “It matters because wage theft can take many forms, from money taken from base pay, to money not given in benefits.” The article also noted Local 478’s strong presence on the Norwich school construction project, where approximately 10 to 20 union members work on-site each day.

With our successful legislative session behind us, we now shift our attention to the upcoming electoral cycle. This year is a midterm election year, which means all constitutional officers are up for election, including Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller, and Treasurer. In addition, our state legislature is also up for election, as are our Congressional Representatives. We are currently conducting candidate interviews to better understand where those seeking our endorsement stand on the issues that most affect the unionized construction industry. Once the interview process is complete, we will let you know which candidates we intend to endorse.

If you’re unsure which congressional district you reside in, or who represents you in the State House or State Senate, you can find that information online here:

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp>

Outside of the legislative and political work, I continue to support our organizing team as they monitor non-union contractors to ensure compliance with state and federal wage laws. This also includes prevailing wage standards, workers’ compensation coverage, and our licensing regulations.

If you have any questions about this past legislative session or the upcoming election cycle, please do not hesitate to contact me at kim.glassman@local478.org.



Referral Report

By Referral Manager Tiana Ocasio

Summer Update

Summer is finally here!! I am happy to report we currently have less than 100 members that are out of work.

As a reminder, your skill level, certifications, and licenses all play an important role when it comes to returning to work. Please make sure:

- Your phone number is up to date so we can reach you when an opportunity arises.
- Your skills, licenses, and certifications are current and accurate.
- You can go online and check what we have on file.

If you have any questions regarding work or anything else that might be going on, please do not hesitate to reach out. I will get the answer for you or have the agents contact you as soon as possible.

- Office (203) 288-9261 ext. 241
- Cell (203) 815-8877

Apprenticeship applications will be accepted:

- October 6th | 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- October 7th | 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: 153 Evansville Ave Meriden, CT

THE VOLUNTEER ACTION COMMITTEE (VAC)

We will be participating in this year's LIVER walk!

(more info to follow)

- We will be joining Team Super Sawyer:
 - September 19th
 - 9:00 AM
 - Hubbard Park, Meriden
- If you come across any events in your

community that we can be apart of, please reach out to me!

Stay Safe

Cheers to a busy season ahead!

Stay hydrated and stay safe, Sisters & Brothers!



LOCAL 478

Operating Engineers

Volunteer Action Committee

SIGN UP • PARTICIPATE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



- You will receive a t-shirt for volunteering at the first event.
- Volunteer for three or more events to qualify for a Local 478 sweatshirt or jacket.
- You will receive a raffle ticket at every event.
- Raffle tickets will be drawn at Local 478's Annual Christmas Party in December. You do not need to be present to win.
- Prizes will include gas powered equipment and battery powered hand tools.
- Program follows a calendar year: January–December.

To sign up contact
Tiana Ocasio at (203) 815-8877



Join our Facebook page for updates

NEED TO PAY YOUR DUES?

Scan the QR Code to go directly
to the payment page



Apprenticeship Graduates

Congratulations to the 2026 Apprenticeship Graduates!

DANNY ALONSO

AUSTIN HOLLAND

AARON O'BRIEN

JALEEL ALRIDGE

LUKAS JONES

ZACHARY POULIN

HAILEY BOND

DAVID KILMARTIN

COLBY ROBINSON

KYLE BURT

ADRIAN KURZATKOWSKI

DYLAN ROLFE

NICHOLAS DAMIANA

PHILLIP MIKLOVICH

ZACKORY TROMMER

SEAN FLAKER

JOSEPH MONACO

CASEY WOLF

DILLON HIBBERT

CHRISTOPHER MOSCATO



2026 Scholarship Winners

International Union of Operating Engineers Local 478 2026 Education Trust Recipients

The Local 478 Education Trust was established 25 years ago to help support higher education opportunities for the families of our members. Through this commitment, the Trust has helped countless students pursue their academic goals and build brighter futures. The IUOE Local 478 Scholarship Program is offered annually to members, their spouses, and their children and grandchildren who are graduating from high school in the year they apply.

Among these awards is the Jack Horn Memorial Scholarship, to honor a Local 478 brother and friend who lost his life in an industrial accident. In the wake of his tragedy, the Horn Family decided that their personal tragedy would give rise to hope and opportunity for the families of Local 478 members through this scholarship in Jack's memory.

Applicants were asked to reflect on the future of the construction industry with the following question: "The construction industry depends on skilled workers, strong training programs, and a commitment to safety and professionalism. At the same time, fewer young people are choosing careers in the skilled trades, even as demand for infrastructure and development continues to grow.

Why do you think many young workers overlook careers in construction and the union trades? Describe at least three steps Local 478 and the construction industry could take to better attract, educate, and retain the next generation of operating engineers. Explain how your ideas would benefit workers, employers, and the communities they serve."

Local 478 also proudly awards the Norman Zolot Memorial

Scholarship in honor of Norman Zolot, one of the union's most dedicated labor advocates. The Norman Zolot Economics, Labor Studies, and Public Policy Memorial Scholarship recognize students who embody the principles of organized labor. Zolot, who served as the Local's attorney for half a century, was a tireless champion for working families and a driving force in shaping labor policy across Connecticut. His impact on organized labor is immeasurable, improving the lives of countless workers and strengthening unions throughout the state.

This year, students were asked, "In recent years, many states have struggled to balance economic growth with rising housing costs, workforce shortages, and increased infrastructure demands. Connecticut, in particular, faces the challenge of attracting young workers while maintaining strong public services and a stable tax base.

What role should state and federal government play in encouraging young people to remain in or move to Connecticut for work and family life? Should government policies focus more on education, job training, housing, tax incentives, or other areas? Explain your position, provide specific examples of policies you would support or oppose, and describe how your approach would impact working families and the long-term economy of Connecticut."

The winners of our 2026 scholarships are listed below. All submissions were thoughtful and well-crafted. Congratulations to each recipient, and best wishes for a wonderful, successful and rewarding college experience.

IUOE Local 478 Scholarship



Alexandra Findeis

College attending:
Swarthmore College
Major: Astrophysics



Mya Anna Plonski

College attending: UConn
Major: Biology



Angelo Deleonardis

College attending: Sacred
Heart University
Major: Sports
Communications



James Bender

College attending in the fall:
Western Connecticut State
University
Major: Art



Grace Faria

College attending in the fall:
Southern Connecticut State
University
Major: Nursing

Scholarship Sponsors

Thank you to our sponsors:

On behalf of Local 478, the Education Trust Committee, Officers, Executive Board, and our 2026 scholarship recipients, we thank our sponsors for their generous support of the IUOE Local 478 Education Trust Scholarship Program. It is through the benevolence and generosity of the unions and companies listed on the following pages that we can fund these annual Education Trust grants. We are truly grateful for the support of these outstanding organizations!

GOLD

Bloomfield Transport and Sweeping
Dalling Construction, Inc.
IUOE Local 68
IUOE Local 98
L. Suzio Concrete Company, Inc.
O&G Industries, Inc.
Segal Marco Advisors
Teamsters Local 1150
Teamsters Local 443
Teamsters Local 671
The Quaker Corporation
Tilcon Connecticut

PLATINUM

A&A Crane & Rigging, LLC.
A-Quick Pick Crane Services
Baltazar Contractors, Inc.
Building and Construction Trades Council of New Haven
Coastline Construction Corp
Elevance Health, Inc.
FGB Construction Company
Fuiman Mogila
Giordano Construction Co, INC
H.O. Penn Machinery Company Inc.
Iron Workers Local 15
IUOE Local 12
IUOE Local 137
IUOE Local 138
IUOE Local 14-14B
IUOE Local 15
IUOE Local 158
IUOE Local 18
IUOE Local 30
IUOE Local 39
IUOE Local 4
IUOE Local 542
IUOE Local 57
IUOE Local 66
IUOE Local 825
IUOE Local 891
IUOE Local 94
Labor First
Laborers Local 455
Liberty Landscapes, LLC

PLATINUM

Manafort Brothers Incorporated
MCAC
Mesirow
Petillo Companies
Reid and Riege, P.C.
Robert M. Cheverie & Associates, P.C.
Rotha Contracting Company
Schultheis & Panettieri, LLP
Scott & Scott Attorneys at Law LLP
The Segal Company
UA Local 777
Union Printing

SILVER

A & J Construction
Boilermakers Local 237
Charter Oak Utility Constructors
Connecticut Coalition of Taft-Hartley Health Funds
Cristiano & Son Painting & Construction
CRS Contractors INC.
Fairfield County Building & Construction Trades
G.B. Hastie Fence Co., Inc
Greater Hartford - New Britain Building and Construction
Trades Council
Heat and Frost Insulators Local 33
IBEW Local 90
Iron Workers Local 424
IUEC Local 91
IUOE Local 147
IUOE Local 37
John Paul Garcia & Associates P.C
K.T.M. Electrical Construction, LLC
Northeast Contractors, Inc.
Norwalk Marine Contractors Inc.
Phoenix Foundation Company, Inc.
Project Courage
S&F Concrete Contractors
Sheet Metal Workers' Local 38
Tamburro Excavating Consulting LLC
Waterbury Building Trades

FRIEND

Haven Steel Erectors, Inc.
Roofers Local 12

Annual Retirees Summer Picnic

By Michael Briggs, Active Retirees President

On June 12, more than 100 retirees and their guests gathered at Anthony's Ocean View for our Annual Summer Picnic. It was a wonderful day filled with camaraderie, great food, and plenty of conversation among friends and fellow retirees.

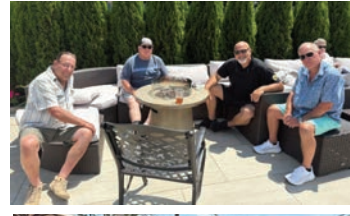
Despite the summer heat, everyone enjoyed an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Activities included bingo, horse races, and our popular 50/50 raffle. Congratulations to all of our winners!

A special thank you to Ashley, Gianna, Christine, Cheryl, and Mike for their hard work and dedication in organizing this event. Your efforts helped make the day a tremendous success.

Our next retiree meeting will be held on October 7 at 10:00 a.m. at the IUOE Local 478 Union Hall in Hamden. Flu shots will be available, and notices will be mailed later this summer.

If you are considering retirement, we encourage you to become an active retiree and join us for our events throughout the year. It's a great way to stay connected, have fun, and continue building friendships within our union family. For more information, please contact Ashley Dwyer at 203-288-9261 ext. 249.

We hope everyone enjoys a safe, healthy, and relaxing summer. We look forward to seeing you in the fall!



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.

Richard J Bonzani

Eleuterio A Corsetti

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.

Ronald L Badeau

Roy F Kempf

John M Melfi

Joseph D Rusin

2026 LOCAL 478 MEMBERS' ANNUAL OUTING

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Holiday Hill - 43 Candee Road Prospect, CT

10:00 AM - 4:30 PM



THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO MEMBERS & THEIR GUESTS

■ Adults (13+) \$40 ■ Children (4-12) \$20 ■ Under 3 Free

*****NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR*****

Pets and coolers are not allowed on the premises.

Remember to bring your bathing suit!

Mail-in ticket requests and in-person ticket purchases must be received by **August 14th.**

If you have any questions please contact: Kasey at (203) 836-0769 or Jessica at (475) 301-7474

PLEASE DETACH AND MAIL BACK FORM WITH CHECK TO:

Local 478 - 1965 Dixwell Avenue - Hamden, CT 06514

Tickets will be mailed out starting in late July



Please indicate quantity for the Local 478 Outing on August 23rd

_____ Adult Tickets (\$40 each) _____ Child Tickets (\$20 each) Total \$_____

Please make check payable to Local 478 and in the memo line note: Outing

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Street: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Please list all members you bought tickets for: _____



LOCAL 478
Operating Engineers

1965 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, CT 06514-2400

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Local 478 Calendar 2026

All events listed below will take place at the Local's Union Hall, unless otherwise noted.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, August 5 (5:30 PM) | – Examining Committee |
| Sunday, August 23 (10:00 AM -4:30 PM) | – Annual Outing - Holiday Hill |
| Wednesday, September 2 (5:30 PM) | – Examining Committee |
| Monday, September 7 | – LABOR DAY - HALL CLOSED |
| Friday, September 11 (7:00 PM) | – Membership Meeting |
| Wednesday, October 7 (5:30 PM) | – Examining Committee |
| Wednesday, October 7 | – Active Retiree Fall Meeting |
| Friday, October 9 (7:00 PM) | – Membership Meeting |
| Tuesday, November 3 | – ELECTION DAY |
| Wednesday, November 4 (5:30 PM) | – Examining Committee |
| Friday, November 13 | – Membership Meeting & Pin Ceremony |

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