IN THIS ISSUE:

PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS • COMBATING TAX FRAUD • RIGHT TO WORK INVADES DELAWARE
IN THIS ISSUE

Clocking In 4
Leadership Messages 5–9
Unions Under Attack 10
Government At Work 15–20
ALDI 21
Peter McGuire’s Tools 22
New Training Centers 23
Sisters in the Brotherhood Conference 25
NRCC Carpenters Give Back 26
Flooring Seminar 28
National Apprenticeship Week 29
Inside the Council 30
New Website 31
In Remembrance 33
Project Spotlights 35–41
Retired Carpenters 45
Clocking Out 47
Welcome back to a brand-new edition of The Digital Carpenter.

Since this magazine started in mid-2017, we’ve made every effort to share with you all of the news that’s fit to print about our carpenters, projects and issues throughout our five-state region.

In the third issue of The Digital Carpenter, you’ll learn more about our efforts to make the communities we live and work in a better place to live; training opportunities and facilities we are investing in; and our work on the State level to support officials and laws that benefit the hardworking men and women of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

In this edition of The Digital Carpenter, you’ll see website links scattered throughout most articles that will take you to different websites, so you can view videos/photos of our work or increase your knowledge on certain issues. If you’re reading the print version of this edition and would like to view these links, please visit our website at: www.northeastcarpenters.org/digitalcarpenter3

We hope you enjoy The Digital Carpenter.

Fraternally,

John Ballantyne
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

We're interested in your feedback.
To share your comments visit: northeastcarpenters.org/nlfeedback
Although Andrew Epifane (32) and Michael Roviezzo (25) have just started their careers as Union carpenters, both young men have already made an impact on the job site and realized the tremendous benefits and pay that they can earn as a Union carpenter.

Epifane decided to pursue carpentry after volunteering to build homes with AmeriCorps in Southern California. Epifane, an upbeat second-year Apprentice from Local 254, ‘hit the ground running’ after starting his career with the Carpenters Union and has quickly become a leader on the job site due to his optimism and productivity. When Andrew first began, he started working on residential work in basements, kitchens, bathrooms as well as doing flooring. Currently, he is continuing to expand on his knowledge, working on drywall, metal framing and installing acoustical ceilings on a variety of commercial projects.

“I was named after my grandfather, who was also a union carpenter in Long Island,” said Epifane. “I am proud to be part of the same organization as he was and use my skills to help others like he did. I wanted to be a carpenter because I wanted a fulfilling career to set me up for success, not just a job. This career teaches me to live and work the ‘right way,’ and I have never found that outside of the Brotherhood.”

Epifane recently attended three Local 254 Apprentice Workshops, which are designed to educate Union apprentices about the Union, volunteering opportunities and political action. Since joining the Union, Epifane has paid it forward and used his skills to build a foundation for a U.S. Veteran’s home in Washington Township, NJ through Habitat for Humanity. He also consistently participates in Council-organized political events to support candidates that believe in protecting strong workers’ rights.

Michael Roviezzo, a 25-year-old Local 279 apprentice, is another millennial carpenter that believes a career in carpentry was the right choice for him.

Michael started out in the food industry as a pizza cook and worked as a stone mason in the summers. He learned about the great opportunity that the Union provides to individuals after landing his first job doing carpentry work on the Highland Public Library in his hometown of Highland, NY. Since he started as a carpenter apprentice, he has been praised by his peers for his ‘can-do’ attitude, work ethic and willingness to learn on a daily basis.

“I feel very lucky because I’m working in a career where I have room to grow,” said Roviezzo. “I have learned so much about the trade and am extremely optimistic about the future. My advice to others thinking about getting into carpentry is for them to experience the work and benefits of the trade for themselves. Get in, meet people and get your hands dirty. You truly get out of it what you put into it.”
Brothers and Sisters,

It continues to be my honor to serve you as your Executive Secretary-Treasurer (EST). As your EST, I’ve had the pleasure to lead you during a period of tremendous amount of growth and positive changes.

Since our merger with the former Metropolitan Regional Council in February 2016, we have made a number of strides to reassure our new members that their vested rights, services, benefits and livelihoods wouldn’t be impacted. The merger was successful and former MRC representatives are now integrated at all levels of our executive board, delegates, funds office and staff.

Although there may still be some member trepidation about the merger, I can assure you that our strong five-state Council is working tirelessly each day to ensure that your interests are represented and you get the pay and benefits that you so rightly deserve.

This past year, we continued to: strengthen our organization from a financial perspective; make our Council the model of how a Regional Council of Carpenters should work; offer new value and benefits to our membership; and work tirelessly to secure good pay and health/retirement benefits for our members.

It was a banner year for our Council in some very big areas:

**NRCC IS A MAJOR POLITICAL PLAYER**

This was a great election year for not only our organization, but all hardworking American men and women in every State that we represent.

In New Jersey, Ambassador Phil Murphy was elected as the next Governor. We were the first Union to support Governor Murphy and he has frequently acknowledged our support. Three members of our team were on his transition team. I was honored to be named co-chair to the Stronger and Fairer Economy Committee. Our political director, Lizette Delgado-Polanco, was the co-chair of the Labor and Workforce Committee and NRCC President and New Jersey Regional Manager Bill Sproule was on the Labor and Workforce Committee.

In New York, various pro-Union candidates were elected and our efforts helped to overwhelmingly defeat the Constitutional Convention question. Every 20 years, New Yorkers have the opportunity to vote on the opening of the State Constitution. It safeguards fundamental workers’ right to organize, bargain collectively and REQUIRES that prevailing wages are paid on public works projects. If the convention was approved, we believe that it would have had serious ramifications for all workers.
In Pennsylvania, our carpenters’ Get Out The Vote efforts helped to elect a number of pro-Union judges, including Carolyn Nichols – the first African American woman elected to the Superior Court – and Larry Krasner, a strong progressive who is the new City of Philadelphia District Attorney.

In Delaware, we are continuing our work in 2018 to defeat Sussex County’s efforts to pass a Right To Work ordinance.

Council-wide, I’m pleased that a number of our carpenter candidates were elected to serve in public office, including: State Senator Troy Singleton and Camden County Freeholder Jonathan Young in New Jersey. In New York, council representatives Chris Austin, Fred Swayne Jr. and Robert Wilmott were elected to serve respectively on the Hume, Van Etten and Oswego Councils. In Pennsylvania, Allentown Team Lead Dave Gannon was elected to the Plymouth Council and Council Representative Kevin Lott was elected to the Hellertown Council.

NRCC IS GOING DIGITAL

Last year, we took steps to make our organization a fully digital one and reach our 2018 goal of communicating electronically with 70 percent of our membership. We are now communicating consistently with our members by email, text message, our website and social media platforms, like Facebook and Twitter; not to mention right here in The Digital Carpenter.

DIVERSIFYING OUR COUNCIL

This past year, we took a number of important steps to diversify our membership. We are one union with many faces, so in Fall 2017, we formed the “Shades of the Trades” committee. This group meets regularly to discuss strategies to increase the recruitment and retention of people of color and women. This committee: develops solutions to increase our minority demographics; engages in community involvement/coalition building; and showcases our commitment to all working people. During Black History Month, we profiled African American men and women carpenters on the job site and also held a reception on February 24th to recognize African American members for their service and community work.

Our Sisters in the Brotherhood (SIB) program also continually educates women in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware about careers in carpentry. I’m proud to say that we are well on our way to reaching the goal of 10 percent of registered women apprentice carpenters. We are celebrating the five-year anniversary of our SIB pilot program and holding the inaugural Sisters in the Brotherhood 2018 Leadership Conference on April 13-15. The event will take place in our new 100,000 S.F. state-of-the-art training facility in Edison, NJ. It will be the largest women’s conference in the labor movement and we expect to have in attendance nearly 300 women carpenters, local organizations and local and State elected officials, including New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver and various women in government like Nilsa Cruz-Perez, Teresa Ruiz, Sandra Cunningham and Roberta Reardon.

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters had a very strong 2017 and we are excited about the year ahead as we continue to work each and every day to protect and enhance the rights of Union Carpenters and all hardworking American men and women.

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters had a very strong 2017 and we are excited about the year ahead as we continue to work each and every day to protect and enhance the rights of Union Carpenters and all hardworking American men and women.
Each day, our Council is working with our State governments to strengthen payroll fraud laws and shine a light on unscrupulous contractors that are defrauding the local, state and federal governments out of tax dollars and exploiting workers.

Companies that commit this fraud hurt the construction industry. They swindle middle-class men and women out of their hard-earned wages. They cheat the government out of hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax revenue. They hurt communities as less tax dollars mean less money to go toward important programs like education, public works and social services.

In 2013, economist Edgar Fiege estimated that $2 trillion — 65 percent of which is attributed to the construction industry — is underreported annually in the underground economy. Although, our Union currently has a good market share in our region, payroll fraud and the underground economy pose the single biggest threat to unionized construction ever. Just look at what has happened in States like Florida and Colorado, where union market share is less than 10 percent due to the underground, off-the-books economy.

Now is the time to fight payroll fraud anywhere it happens. After eight years of little to no enforcement of existing labor laws under Governor Chris Christie, we’ll now be able to go on the offensive against these unscrupulous contractors due to the election of new Governor Phil Murphy. Governor Murphy is a strong proponent for our Union and has pledged to us that he will strengthen workers’ rights and enforce existing labor laws against companies that are defrauding the State out of much-needed tax dollars.

Both myself and our Political Director Lizette Delgado-Polanco were named to the Governor’s Transition’s Labor & Workforce Development Committee. The group, consisted of various union groups like Communications Workers of America and SEIU, and discussed recommendations for the Governor’s new Administration to consider as a part of their agenda. Priorities for each labor group varied from equal pay for women to increasing the minimum wage to $15/hour. Our main priority — we told the committee — was enforcement of existing labor laws (like payroll fraud) for prevailing wage and private sector construction projects.

Our Union is in a good place to influence this kind of change in New Jersey because of our support for Governor Murphy during his campaign, our role on his transition team and our relationships with the people he’s named to the State Department of Labor and Workforce Development, like new Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo.

It was a very strong year for the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters in 2017 and I’m pleased with how smoothly the merger with Metropolitan Regional Council (MRC) went.

In the year plus since the merger, our Council took strides to reassure our new members that their vested rights would be protected and that their services, benefits and livelihoods wouldn’t be impacted. Since then — thanks to the efforts of EST Ballantyne – former MRC representatives have been integrated at all levels of our executive board, delegates, funds offices; and our members, staff and contractors are more comfortable with the new Council.

It was a good year politically for our Council, as we had several members and staff in the Tri-State area – like Dave Gannon, Kevin Lott and Jim Edinger – elected to government positions and committees. Our involvement in government will ensure future work in Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania is constructed by good, law-abiding contractors that care about their workers.

Our Tri-State members are also getting used to how MUP credits work and are getting more involved in political and charitable efforts. These efforts are leading to positive outcomes for our organization like securing job turnarounds, supporting the right political candidates and showing the public that the Carpenters are good community partners.

One great example is our volunteer work at Headstrong Foundation’s Nick’s House in Swarthmore, PA. Throughout 2017, NRCC Locals 173 and 164 helped to construct Nick’s House, a place of comfort for families who have a child battling cancer and undergoing out-of-town treatment. To date, the Foundation has helped nearly 14,750 patients and their families. During the project, 50 Union Carpenters volunteered their time to renovate a 120-year-old building, including: framing; drywall; door installation; and ceiling grid installation.

This past year, we successfully negotiated in the Tri-State region a number of contracts with: the MD Chapter of the AGC (Baltimore); the Philadelphia Area Window Treatment Association (Draperies); and the Contractors Association of Eastern Pennsylvania (Heavy Highway).

In 2018, we plan to negotiate new contracts with: General Building Contractors Association; Interior Finish Contractors Association; Furniture Handlers Association; Mid Atlantic Association of Sub-Contractors & Contractors; The Construction Contractors Council; The Keystone Contractors Association; and various construction contractors.
As you may have read in the last edition of The Digital Carpenter, the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters is working on the creation of one corporate entity to cost effectively manage all benefit funds under the jurisdiction of the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters.

Our goal is to bring the administration of the Northeast Carpenters Funds, the Carpenters Funds of Philadelphia, the Mid-Atlantic Carpenters Funds and the Local 491 Carpenters Funds together.

We are pleased to report that as of January 1, 2018, the corporate entity, Carpenters Benefit Services, Inc (CBSi), has been established and a Board of Directors has been elected. Since the start of the year, the CBSi Board of Directors have met and begun the process of structuring the organization and approving the bylaws.

The mission statement of the new Carpenters Benefit Services, Inc (CBSi) is to: identify and implement world-class fund administration processes in order to provide participants, their family members and beneficiaries with outstanding benefits and service in the most cost-effective manner possible. We will strive to accomplish this mission by committing to the ongoing development of all of our employees in order to provide prompt, courteous and accurate service. We will incorporate leading-edge technology through the use of state-of-the-art computing and record-keeping systems. We commit to always act in a manner which puts our participants first and at the same time ensure that the assets of the Funds are protected.

CBSi has already started seeing savings and increased services with lower administration charges in healthcare with Independent Blue Cross, lower investment fees and lower costs for computer services. The projected cost savings for the Funds – and participants – are projected to be about $5 million annually. We expect that over the next few years – as CBSi becomes more established and efficient – that the savings should increase.

One of the first courses of business for the new entity was the implementation of new Health Reimbursement Account debit cards for New York and Philadelphia participants. New Jersey participants will receive a debit card later this year. If and when an HRA contribution is set up for the Mid-Atlantic Carpenters Funds/Local 491, they will be afforded a debit card as well. This is an exciting program that will give our participants an easy way to use their health reimbursement accounts.

We’ll keep you updated on new programs that we roll out to participants in the future.

In New York, Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters is fighting hard on various legislative bills that will help to expand work for our members in the State and help to protect and preserve the paycheck/benefits of all workers in New York.

One bill that we are working on now with New York State Building Trades is the “Public Work Definition” bill (S2975/A5498).

The New York State Constitution safeguards fundamental workers’ rights to organize, bargain collectively and requires that prevailing wages are paid on public works projects. The problem is that there is no exact definition of what constitutes “public work” and it is unclear when and where prevailing wages must be paid to construction workers.

The “Public Works Definition” bill states that “public work” will be defined as any project where:

- Construction is paid for in whole or in part out of public funds (i.e. state grants, bonds, tax credits)
- Property is privately owned, but will be used after construction by the State or a public entity
- Construction of improvements to meet government regulations

The legislation passed the Assembly in 2017 with a great deal of support and it will likely pass again in 2018. Both the Senate and Governor need to support this critical legislation in order for it to happen. We will be working with the New York State Building Trades in the coming months to push this bill forward.

We believe this bill will go a long way toward preventing businesses from paying construction workers low wages on state projects that are taking public funds and taxpayer subsidies.

In an expensive state like New York, it is so important for workers to be paid the prevailing wage to ensure they make a good paycheck and benefits and can adequately take care of their families, help boost the economy by spending their hard-earned money in their local communities and secure their future by preparing for retirement.
It is time to denounce hate and negative political rhetoric in the United States.

It is time to stop dividing Americans based on race, class and how much money they have in their stock market account.

It is time to come together as Americans for the common good of improving our country and its people because when one of us succeeds, we all succeed.

At the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters, we are making a daily effort in every State that we represent to ensure that our Union brings together people for a common good, instead of focusing on what divides us.

So, we're making every effort we can on a daily basis to be more diverse and inclusive in every State that we represent. We believe local, diverse people should work on local projects because this puts money in their pockets and boosts the local economy. It puts money in local and State tax coffers for vital services like education, public works and social services. It brings people pride to see what they built in their community and gives them a desire to give back.

When we are together – no matter our race, class or culture – everyone wins...

This year, the NRCC started the Shades of the Trade Committee to increase the recruitment of people of color and women in our Union. This committee: develops solutions to increase our minority demographics; engages in community involvement/coalition building; and showcases our commitment to all working people. Members of this committee conduct frequent outreach with minority organizations in urban cities like Philadelphia, Baltimore, Buffalo and Jersey City to educate organizations/individuals about: the good things our Union is doing in communities throughout the Northeast; the skilled, no-debt training we provide to all workers; and the good career, pay and benefits that a career in carpentry provides.

You'll read examples of our work throughout this edition of The Digital Carpenter, but in this message, I really wanted to discuss how we have completely refreshed our political strategy to ensure not only that elected official candidates we support hold the same values that we do, but also to take a bottom-up approach to get the community behind the projects and issues we are fighting for.

One example of this is our recent work with New Jersey Working Families Alliance (NJWFA) in Jersey City, NJ. On January 18th, the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters (NRCC) joined New Jersey organizations, elected officials, Jersey City religious leaders, small businesses and members of the general public at the New Jersey Working Families Community Forum in Jersey City.

The event brought together City leaders to discuss the need for building developers and their contractors to employ Jersey City workers on existing/future development and infrastructure projects in the City. Since July, our Council has worked with NJWFA on a community relations outreach program to help educate Jersey City residents about the business and employment practices of the companies developing the new Park and Shore residential/retail development at 75 Park Lane in Jersey City. Structure Tech, the subcontractor responsible for construction of the concrete super structure at Park and Shore, is employing approximately 100 workers from outside of New Jersey and is failing to pay the area wage standards, health and retirement benefits to its workers.

Our coordinated campaign with NJWFA helped us to directly reach and solicit the involvement of various Jersey City citizens, officials and organizations to raise greater awareness for this exploitation of workers.

This type of grassroots outreach in Jersey City is just the beginning for the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters and it's one way that we are working to bring people together to fight for a common cause and make a difference. Join our cause today by visiting our website or Facebook page to educate yourself on the issues and get involved.
Make no mistake about it Brothers and Sisters, all Unions – from carpenters to electricians to teachers – are today under attack in the United States of America. Whether you’re a Union worker or not, you should be concerned about the threat to your rights from: President Donald J. Trump; the U.S. Supreme Court; multi-national global corporations; the billionaire Koch Brothers; and well-funded conservative think tanks (National Right to Work Foundation or the Caesar Rodney Institute or Americans for Prosperity).

While President Trump’s latest Tweet usually leads the daily news, it’s the assault on the common man’s working rights – not to mention our environmental, safety protections and civil liberties – that is largely going unnoticed.

In The Digital Carpenter’s cover story, we highlight court cases, government legislation and attempts by both white and blue collar workers to unionize over the course of the last year.

**UNIONS UNDER ATTACK**

**JANUS V. AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES**

This Spring, the U.S. Supreme Court is set to hear the Janus V. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). In the case, Mark Janus, an Illinois State employee, is questioning the constitutionality of paying “fair-share fees” and says that it violates his first amendment rights of free speech to use union dues to support political candidates that he doesn’t support.

In a brief submitted in Janus v. AFSCME, the Plaintiff Mark Janus, a child-support specialist for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services is challenging the constitutionality of “fair-share fees” from non-union members.

The Court previously ruled on “fair share fees” in **Abood vs. Detroit** (431 U.S. 209) in 1977 and said that it was reasonable to require all employees – not just Union members – to support the cost of collective bargaining because all workers benefitted from it. In the case, public school teachers in Detroit were opposed to paying union dues on the grounds that they objected to the political
activities of the Union and opposed collective bargaining. The court found that non-union members benefitted from collective bargaining, contract administration and grievance purposes and should cover the costs of these activities through union dues.

There’s the strong likelihood that with the appointment of conservative Supreme Court judge Neil Gorsuch in 2017 that the Court will rule – this time – in favor of Janus’ argument regarding “fair share fees” and deal a significant strike to public unions in America. While this case will only have a direct impact on Union membership for public worker Unions, it’s highly likely that private Unions will be the next target of well-funded organizations willing to support plaintiff’s like Janus.

This case and the others that have come before it are simply being brought before the Supreme Court and supported by shadowy conservative think tanks – like the National Right to Work Foundation – as a way to enact a national Right To Work law and starve Unions out of supporting both Republican and Democratic candidates that typically support the same values that we do of protecting and preserving strong workers’ rights.

**ROLLBACK OF WORKER SAFETY**

A September article in TheNation.com detailed the current Administration’s rollback of worker rights and workplace safety protection:

“The White House announced it had put a stop to... the Obama era Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces order. That 2014 executive order required prospective federal contractors to disclose workplace safety and discrimination violations. It also mandated pay transparency and forbade mandatory workplace arbitration in cases of discrimination and harassment at the covered businesses. Supporters proclaimed it a major advance in civil-rights regulation.”

Regulations to ensure breathable, clean air for workers at construction sites, shipping ports and chemical plants have also been delayed or re-written to favor companies over workers.

“In April, [the Trump Administration] delayed a rule that would limit construction workers’ exposure to crystalline silica, a workplace carcinogen that causes a potentially fatal lung condition. The next month, it delayed a rule to increase mine safety that required inspections before workers start their shifts.”
“Occupational Safety and Health Administration is reworking a last-minute Obama administration regulation meant to protect workers in construction and shipping from exposure to toxic beryllium, a cause of lung disease. The new idea: Keep the new standard in place, but eliminate the parts of the rule that require such things as exposure assessment. Then there is the Chemical Safety Board, a little-known governmental outfit that, as George Zornick reported for The Nation earlier this year, investigates chemical accidents such as the death of four workers at a Texas DuPont facility after they were poisoned by the accidental release of a compound used to manufacture insecticides. Trump’s proposed 2018 budget would eliminate it.”

ATTACKS ON DAVIS-BACON

The Davis-Bacon Act, signed into law in 1931, requires that contractors must pay workers no less than the prevailing wage on publicly funded construction projects. Nearly 90 years later after this successful Act was implemented, more than ¾ of Republicans in Congress are supporting the repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act.

On July 13, Congress voted on an amendment proposed by Congressman Paul Gosar (R-AZ) to the National Defense Authorization Act that would have reduced prevailing wages on federally-funded construction projects. That vote failed 242 to 183, with 183 Republicans and ZERO Democrats voting in favor of it.

During discussion on the amendment, Congressman Donald Norcross, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, a former Building Trades Council president in southern New Jersey and co-chairman of the Congressional Building Trades Caucus said:

“...The prevailing wage is based on surveys of local wages and benefits, not whether there is a union or not. This (amendment) is about cutting wages in your local community.” He asked colleagues: “Why would you ever want to go back and say, ‘I want to hurt the people I represent?’”

We thank the 51 Republican Congressmen who sided with Democrats in voting against repeal of this anti-Davis-Bacon amendment. Republican Congressmen in our region like Leonard Lance (NJ-7th District) Lee Zeldin (NY-2nd), Daniel Donovan Jr. (NY-11th), John Faso (NY-19th), Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-8th) and Bill Schuster (PA-9th) were right to vote against this amendment and we appreciate their support for Davis-Bacon protections. Both the NRCC and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (UBCJA) will continue to support elected officials – whether they are Republican or Democrat – who hold the same values as we do of protecting and preserving workers’ rights. We support candidates who support Davis-Bacon protections, encourage the use of Project Labor Agreements, fight 1099 Worker Misclassification and support fair wages and benefits for working people.

RIGHT TO WORK COMES TO DELAWARE

Simply put, Right To Work is an anti-union campaign to strip unions of their ability to collectively bargain for workers. It is not a right for a worker to work for anyone he/she wants.

In late 2017 in Delaware, Sussex County Republican Councilman Rob Arlett introduced a Right To Work ordinance for workers in the County. Arlett claimed at the time that the ordinance was introduced to grow economic opportunity for Sussex County residents. Backed by conservative think tanks like the Caesar Rodney Institute and the National Right to Work Foundation, the ordinance was first heard at the January 2nd Council meeting and faced a significant amount of opposition from residents and Delaware trade unions, including the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters. Due to the significant amount of public comment in opposition to the ordinance, the County Council tabled the vote until its next meeting. On January 9th, the Council voted 4-1 – with Arlett being the only yes – against the Right To Work ordinance.

After the ordinance was discussed, the Delaware Attorney General under Democratic Governor Carney said that the County had no legal authority to enact the ordinance.

The conservative, billionaire-funded think tanks weren’t done there though and moved onto the City of Seaford, where on December 12, the City Council passed its own version of a Right To Work ordinance. Union Carpenters from Local 173 and other trade organizations expressed their opposition to the ordinance at the Council meeting and to the Seaford Star.

Nationwide, the National Right To Work Act (H.R. 785), introduced by Republican Congressman Steve King from Iowa, continues to gain support in Congress with 102 Republican co-sponsors, as of the end of January. The legislation would prohibit union security clauses in
collective bargaining agreements, which require non-union members who are covered by the agreements to pay representation fees.

Union collective bargaining benefits ALL workers, local economies and provides the necessary benefits for hardworking American men and women to live sustainable lives. The NRCC and our carpenters will continue to raise awareness for why Right To Work is wrong for workers in Delaware and in the United States.

**DISMANTLING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL ON FEDERAL LABOR-MANAGEMENT**

On September 29, 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order that terminated the National Council on Federal Labor-Management. The Council was initially created to cultivate relationships and improve communications between labor unions and the Government.

Established in 2009, under President Obama’s Executive Order 13522, the Council was composed of various government officials from the Federal agencies, representatives from the National Federation of Federal Employees, National Treasury Employees Union, American Federation of Government Employees, International Federal of Professional & Technical Engineers.

According to an October 2nd Federal News Radio article: “Unions say the administration’s decision cuts off a valuable and productive place, where agencies and employees had discussed specific challenges, reviewed organizational initiatives and solved workplace issues.” ... “The National Federation of Federal Employees wasn’t shocked by the administration’s decision. ‘The Trump administration never displayed any interest in continuing the Labor-Management Council and it remains ignorant of the benefits and successes of its past engagements,’ said NFFE National President Randy Erwin. “However,
the products of the council will continue through new and existing relationships sought by both management and labor as we share the common goals of an efficient, effective and innovative government.”

It’s troubling to the NRCC too that the Trump Administration did not extend the Obama-era Executive Order that established the beneficial Council on Federal Labor Management.

ORGANIZING ATTEMPTS BY WORKERS IN 2017 AND 2018

There have been both positive gains and setbacks in 2017-2018 in the organizing of workers.

In late January 2018, employees at Slate.com joined thousands of other digital writers in agreeing to be represented by the Writers Guild of America East. Just prior to that, newsroom employees at the Los Angeles Times voted overwhelming 248-44 to be represented by the NewsGuild-Communications Workers of America and Vox Media recognized the Writers Guild of America as its collective bargaining representative for its 400 employees.

In August 2017, 60 percent of the 3,500 employees at Nissan’s Canton, Mississippi voted against joining the United Automobile Workers (UAW). Prior to the vote, plant managers held “roundtable” talks with the predominately African American employee base and told employees if they joined the UAW – and walked out during a strike – they would not be guaranteed their jobs. As a result of the employee intimidation, a regional director of the National Labor Relations Board issued a complaint that accused the company of illegally threatening employees if they chose to unionize and threatening to fire workers involved in the organizing effort.

This type of employee intimidation is not new throughout the history of Unions.

At the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters, we are dedicated to standing together hand-in-hand with our Union Brothers and Sisters in their respective battles against well-funded individuals and organizations that want to take away their rights, their good pay and health/retirement benefits that the collective bargaining of Unions has won for all American workers during the last 150 years.

We urge you to join us in this fight.

“THE PREVAILING WAGE IS BASED ON SURVEYS OF LOCAL WAGES AND BENEFITS, NOT WHETHER THERE IS A UNION OR NOT. THIS (AMENDMENT) IS ABOUT CUTTING WAGES IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.” HE ASKED COLLEAGUES: “WHY WOULD YOU EVER WANT TO GO BACK AND SAY, ‘I WANT TO HURT THE PEOPLE I REPRESENT?’”

—NEW JERSEY CONGRESSMAN DONALD NORCROSS
COMBATING PAYROLL TAX FRAUD IN THE NORTHEAST

The crime of payroll tax fraud is the single biggest threat that our Union and law-abiding construction companies face today. Companies that commit this crime are exploiting their workforce, cheating our carpenters out of an honest day’s pay and willfully cheating all taxpayers and the government out of taxes that could be used on education, public works and social services.

In the last edition of The Digital Carpenter, we shared with you news from August 2017 when the Burlington County, NJ Prosecutors Office announced that three men in connection with a $100 million money laundering scheme had been arrested. Authorities said that companies along the East Coast had used MAIA Consulting in an illegal check cashing operation in Cinnaminson, NJ to: hide money paid to undocumented construction workers; violate existing labor laws; and evade state and federal taxes.

Companies like these are effectively swindling hardworking middle class men and women out of their hard-earned wages. These companies cheat taxpayers and the government out of hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax revenue when they fail to pay taxes on their payrolls.

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters continues to be a vocal voice of opposition against fraudulent companies committing payroll tax fraud in our region.

In November, NRCC President and New Jersey Regional Manager William Sproule spoke at the UBCIA Eastern District’s Payroll Fraud Conference on the Council’s assessment of how New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland are currently enforcing existing payroll fraud violations. During his presentation, Sproule educated event attendees about what the Council is doing to shine a light on unscrupulous contractors that are defrauding the local, state and federal governments out of tax dollars and exploiting workers.

Hosted by Vice President Michael Capelli, the conference saw a cross section of representatives and members throughout the Eastern District’s jurisdiction, including the New York City District Council of Carpenters, Keystone + Mountain + Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters, New England Regional Council of Carpenters and Eastern Millwright Regional Council.

Attendees of the event also included various city district attorneys, state attorney generals, state elected officials, representatives from State Department of Labor, the Construction Fraud Task Force from New York City County District Attorney’s Office. This task force investigates companies that are accused of committing payroll fraud on construction projects in the City.

During the presentation, Sproule highlighted the Stockton University study The Underground Construction Economy in New Jersey. The study concluded that some construction companies in New Jersey are misclassifying construction workers, paying them cash under the table and not paying Social Security, Medicare, unemployment insurance or workers compensation. These companies are also not paying worker benefits and cheating the Federal and State government out of millions of dollars in tax revenue per year.

Stockton found that New Jersey’s underground construction economy is estimated to range between $528 billion and $1.2 billion and involves 23,000 construction workers who operate off-the-books as misclassified independent contractors. Stockton believes that between $284 million and $528 million are paid each year in underground wages. Lost state income taxes not being paid to the state are estimated to be nearly $11 million in off-the-books employment and nearly $9 million from employment of misclassified workers. An estimated $3.1 million to $6.7 million in unemployment insurance also goes unpaid by unscrupulous construction contractors.

“The presentation provided attendees with an assessment of what the Northeast States are doing now to enforce payroll fraud violations and best practices on how we can better enforce and strengthen these laws,” said Sproule. “Along with our fellow Brothers and Sisters, there were some of the best minds from the legal and political world at the conference. We look forward to taking this to the next step and working closely with our State governments and legal authorities to penalize unscrupulous contractors for not paying taxes and exploiting their workforce.”
GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY

In November, Murphy announced his full list of Transition 2018 leadership, Committee members and co-chairs. Among them included the appointments of: Executive Secretary-Treasurer John Ballantyne as co-chair of the Stronger & Fairer Economy Committee; Political Director Lizette Delgado-Polanco as co-chair of the Labor & Workforce Development Committee; and President & New Jersey Regional Manager Bill Sproule as a member and proxy co-chair of the Labor & Workforce Development Committee.

Murphy told Insider NJ during the transition: “I pledged to build my administration to mirror the diversity, talent and potential of New Jersey, and my transition will be no different. Our co-chairs boast a rich diversity of both background and experiences, of valuable government experience and unique outside perspectives. To a person, this transition is full of incredible talent and experience and I’m thrilled to see them serve. Together, we’ll start the difficult job of building a stronger, fairer economy that works for all nine million New Jerseyans.”

Murphy’s transition committee was comprised of multiple policy experts and leaders in their respective fields and each committee had the legal counsel to reinforce their strategies. The committees met after Election Day and submitted reports to the Governor-elect and his leadership team prior to his inauguration. These reports helped to inform the Governor of issues important to industry leaders and helped to set the new administration’s legislative and regulatory agendas.

PHILADELPHIA D.A. LARRY KRASNER

After Election Day, NRCC Executive Secretary-Treasurer John Ballantyne was appointed to Philadelphia District Attorney-Elect Larry Krasner’s Transition Committee.

Prior to Election Day 2017, Krasner visited our City of Philadelphia offices and spoke about his belief that existing labor laws and payroll fraud/worker misclassification need to be better enforced. We welcome that sentiment as there are various contractors throughout the City that exploit their workforce by paying workers under the table, not paying healthcare or retirement benefits, while shirking the City and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania out of local and State tax revenue.

While Krasner put together a group of diverse endorsements – including Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity and various City Council people – no other building trade organizations in the City of Philadelphia supported his candidacy during the DA primary election.

“During the election, District Attorney Krasner talked during his primary speech of seeking justice,” said Ballantyne. “We want justice too on the job site and for the people of Philadelphia and we think Larry Krasner will deliver that as the City’s next District Attorney. We are so pleased to be involved in these transition teams as we can ensure that an elected officials’ agendas support policies that promote strong construction wages and benefits, fair contracting and safe working conditions.”

CARPENTERS INVOLVED IN TRANSITION EFFORTS IN NEW JERSEY AND PHILADELPHIA

The 2017 Election season saw the successful elections of a number of pro-labor, pro-strong worker right candidates, including New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy and City of Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner. As a result of the Council’s support for these pro-labor candidates, our executive staff was selected to serve on both transition teams to help both administrations getting off the ground running.
On December 18, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo signed into law new reciprocal debarment legislation A8514/S6790 to amend labor and general municipal law, relating to reciprocity of debarments imposed under the federal Davis-Bacon Act. The bill states that any contractor debarred by the U.S. Department of Labor for violations of the Davis-Bacon Act cannot work on New York State public works projects. The statute will take effect in March 2018.

“This is an important new State law that ensures that contractors barred on the federal level from public works projects won’t have the ability to win new projects in the State of New York,” said John Ballantyne, NRCC’s Executive Secretary-Treasurer. “We’re pleased to support a law that ensures that hardworking men and women carpenters receive good pay and benefits from reputable, law-abiding companies in the State.”

The legislation was drafted by Assemblymember Harry Bronson (D-138th District). Bronson’s Legislative District includes parts of the City of Rochester and the towns of Chili and Henrietta.

“Unscrupulous contractors that violate workers’ rights don’t deserve to be rewarded with contracts paid for by hardworking taxpayers,” said Bronson. “This law is a step in the right direction to help ensure that workers are protected from dishonest employers and our communities’ projects are completed by upstanding businesses that pay and treat their employees properly.”

Bronson continued: “Federal law, under the Davis-Bacon Act, dictates that contractors are prohibited from obtaining federal contracts if they’ve been debarred by the U.S. Department of Labor for wage payment violations. My legislation corrects a loophole in New York State law that allowed federally debarred contractors to still obtain state public works contracts. As a member of the Assembly Committee on Labor, I will continue to be an outspoken advocate for workers’ rights and continue to stand up for fair wages and vital protections.”

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

"Unscrupulous contractors that violate workers' rights don't deserve to be rewarded with contracts paid for by hardworking taxpayers. This law is a step in the right direction to help ensure that workers are protected from dishonest employers and our communities' projects are completed by upstanding businesses that pay and treat their employees properly.”

—Assemblymember Harry Bronson (D-138th District)
According to a 2015 report by the Economic Policy Institute: “Right To Work laws seek to hamstring unions’ ability to help employees bargain with their employers for better wages, benefits, and working conditions. Given that unionization raises wages both for individual union members as well as for non-union workers in unionized sectors, it is not surprising that research shows that both union and non-union workers in Right To Work states have lower wages and fewer benefits, on average, than comparable workers in other states.”

EPI further stated that: “Wages in Right To Work states are 3.1 percent lower than those in non-Right To Work states, after controlling for a full complement of individual demographic and socioeconomic factors as well as state macroeconomic indicators. This translates into Right To Work being associated with $1,558 lower annual wages for a typical full-time, full-year worker.”

Billionaire-funded groups like conservative think tank Caesar Rodney Institute and the National Right to Work Foundation don’t share those statistics though; and these well-funded organizations are now bringing new Right To Work battles to our five-state Council.

In late 2017 in Delaware, Sussex County Councilman Rob Arlett introduced a Right To Work ordinance for workers in the County. Arlett claimed at the time that the ordinance was introduced to grow economic opportunity for Sussex County residents.

After the ordinance was discussed, the Delaware Attorney General said that the County had no legal authority to enact the ordinance in the County. Backed by conservative think tank Caesar Rodney Institute and the National Right to Work Foundation, the ordinance was first heard at the January 2nd Council meeting and faced a significant amount of opposition from residents and Delaware trade unions, including the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters. Due to the significant amount of public comment in opposition to the ordinance, the County Council tabled the vote until its next meeting. On January 9th, the Council voted 4-1 – with Arlett being the only yes – against the Right To Work ordinance.

The conservative, billion-funded think tanks weren’t done there though and moved onto the City of Seaford, where on December 12th, the City Council passed its own version of a Right To Work ordinance. Union Carpenters from Local 173 and other trade organizations expressed their opposition to the ordinance at the Council meeting and to the Seaford Star.

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters will continue to track this issue in the Commonwealth of Delaware and will continue to fight for the rights of all hardworking American men and women in municipalities, counties, state legislatures and school board rooms across our five-state Council.
Pretend for a minute that you wake up in the morning not knowing where you’ll be going to work that day. All that you do know is that you’ll start your day with a walk to the local 7-11 in your hometown of Baltimore and wait to get picked up by a labor broker. From there, you might be driven with other men to the construction site of the tallest building in the City, or a new medical facility or maybe an elementary school.

Reputable construction contractors are at a steep disadvantage to win work in states like Maryland and Delaware, not because of illegal immigrants crossing the border to take jobs from hardworking middle-class Americans, but due to unscrupulous contractors that use labor brokers. These labor brokers bring low income workers to the job site each day from the local 7-11, Home Depot or many other community meeting spots.

These labor brokers and the companies that employ them are not just preying on and cheating these workers. They are cheating YOU, the American taxpayer who pays more than your fair share of taxes because these companies are not paying their fair share.

According to a Denver Post study: “Companies that provide mostly illegal immigrant laborers to commercial building sites nationwide are thriving even as they flout the country’s most basic labor laws. Many brokers...they don't employ the workers at all. ... Men are required to sign a form that designates them as independent contractors, making them ineligible for overtime and requiring them to pay their own taxes. But labor experts and federal investigators say that workers don't meet legal criteria for defining workers as independent contractors.”

These exploited workers are paid as independent contractors with an envelope full of cash or a personal check. Sometimes, the worker is paid less than he was promised. Where the missing cash goes isn’t into the tax coffers of Uncle Sam to pay for important education, social services and public works programs; instead, it goes to a labor broker who gets $20 per man/per hour, pockets $6 and leaves the rest to the exploited worker. Sounds like a human trafficker to us.

This type of trafficking is happening right now on many major medical institutions, corporate headquarters, residential high-rise projects; all while these unscrupulous contractors do not pay local, state, federal taxes, workers compensation or unemployment insurance.

Stockton University’s Underground Construction Economy in New Jersey study found that a State like New Jersey is missing out on a significant amount of collected taxes. The study found that: “some lost state income taxes not being paid to the state are estimated to be nearly $11 million in off-the-books employment and nearly $9 million from employment of misclassified workers. An estimated $3.1 million to $6.7 million in unemployment insurance also goes unpaid by unscrupulous construction contractors.”

Massachusetts is one example of a place that is prosecuting companies that are misclassifying their workers. Due to the work of The Council on the Underground Economy, investigations of unscrupulous companies in the Commonwealth has helped to return millions of dollars to Massachusetts’ tax coffers.

This is not a union vs. non-union contractor issue, but a human exploitation and tax evasion one. It is an issue faced by the entire construction industry, as contractors legally paying their fair share of taxes, workers compensation and unemployment insurance are being underbid by companies that employ labor brokers and engage in payroll fraud.

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters is dedicated to shining a light on the issue of 1099 misclassification and combating payroll fraud wherever it occurs. On a daily basis, we seek to educate Departments of Labor, attorney general, district attorneys and our elected officials in state and local government about the injustices of labor brokers and rampant rise of payroll fraud.
In December, various elected officials toured NRCC’s Training Centers in Pennsylvania and Maryland to learn about the state-of-the-art training provided to our Union Carpenters.

On December 6th, 2017, Maryland Gubernatorial Candidate Ben Jealous received a tour of the Baltimore Training Center, located at 1407 Rome Road.

On December 7th, Pennsylvania State Senator Vincent Hughes (District-7) received an in-depth tour of the Northeast Philadelphia Training Center, located at 10401 Decatur Road in Philadelphia.

Then on December 14th, Pennsylvania State Assemblywoman Morgan Cephas (District-192) and Assemblyman Jason Dawkins (District-179) received a tour of the Northeast Philadelphia Training Center.

On January 16th, U.S. Senator Bob Casey visited the Philadelphia Training Center for a tour the facility. During his visit, Senator Casey spoke to members about the importance of training skilled Carpenters throughout the state: “The work you do is critical to our economy and our country,” he said. “We can’t have a strong country without a strong economy.”

During the tours, NRCC staff talked to officials about the good paying jobs and benefits provided to Union carpenters, highlighted key workers’ rights issues in Maryland and Pennsylvania and educated officials about the significant amount of charitable activities our carpenters are involved in throughout the Northeast.

“These tours are a great way to educate elected officials about our Union,” said Mungu Sanchez, NRCC Deputy Political Director. “Each official was very impressed with the amount of state-of-the-art training that we provide to our apprentices and how they can earn on the job while they learn their new trade.”
Since its founding more than 130 years ago, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America has worked tirelessly for the advancement and protection of worker rights of all hardworking American men and women. This fight continues to this day at the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters where we work to protect and advance worker rights in America's corporate boardrooms, state legislative halls and streets.

You may have seen us recently on the streets of your local community holding up banners or pickets or distributing handbills to raise public awareness for a project. We aren't doing this because a project is being built by a union company. We aren't doing this because we have nothing better to do. We are doing it to raise awareness to the fact that the general contractor or subcontractor working on a project is exploiting its workers and paying them substandard area wages/salaries and not paying them retirement or healthcare benefits that every American deserves.

For instance, in towns throughout the Northeast, ALDI Corporation has hired a number of contractors to develop and redevelop its stores. These contractors hire carpentry subcontractors who pay their construction workers less than area standard wages. In addition, very few of these contractors supply health insurance or retirement plans to their employees.

This is an issue that everyone should care about, as ALL Americans suffer when middle-class workers are exploited. On many of these construction projects, these contractors:

- Don't contribute to the communities they work in.
- Don't spend their money in these communities.
- Don't pay their workers good healthcare and retirement benefits, which places a tremendous strain on healthcare/senior services in these communities.

So, there's that... but there's also this:

- In 2017, it was revealed that ALDI is selling salmon, snow crab and other seafood processed in China by North Korean slave labor.
- Also in 2017, ALDI recalled its house brand of Fit & Active ground turkey after metal shavings were found in it.
- Not to mention that in 2013, ALDI admitted that some of its ground meat products contained 100% horsemeat.

Prior to Thanksgiving, the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters distributed an estimated 450 fresh turkeys and vouchers at 13 ALDI stores throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and Delaware. During the giveaways, our members educated individuals about the poor business practices of ALDI contractors and encouraged participants to call ALDI’s corporate office to express their opposition.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

It's not just about the rights and benefits of our carpenters. It's about YOUR rights too.

Please join us in the quest to fight for the rights of hardworking American men and women by engaging with us in these campaigns.

We urge you to call, post, tweet or share with Aldi at:

- **Aldi Corporate Social Responsibility Department Phone:** 630-879-8100
- **Call or write Aldi District Offices at:**
  - **Northern & Central New York**
    300 State Route 281, Tully, NY 13159
    Phone: (315) 696-8313
  - **Southeast New York**
    295 Rye Street, South Windsor, CT 06074
    Phone: (860) 290-2900
  - **New Jersey & Pennsylvania**
    2700 Saucon Valley Road, #1, Center Valley, PA 18034
    Phone: (610) 798-9200
  - **Delaware & Maryland**
    8751 Gas House Pike, Frederick, MD 21701
    Phone: (301) 360-9915
- **Website:** aldi.us/contact
- **Facebook:** facebook.com/ALDI.USA
- **Twitter:** @AldiUSA. Use #AldiDoesntCare
- **Instagram:** @aldiusa

Tell ALDI that you oppose its hiring of construction contractors and subcontractors that are not complying with the company's Social Standards in Production policy that states that: “as a minimum, our suppliers and business partners shall comply with the wages mandated by the government’s minimum wage legislation, or industry standards approved on the basis of collective bargaining, whichever is higher.”
On January 9th, Kathleen Rossell, great-granddaughter of Peter J. McGuire, the founder and first general secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America (UBCJA), visited the Carpenters Tool & History Museum in Philadelphia.

Prior to the visit, Rossell donated to the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters several of McGuire's original tools, documents and photographs, including:

- Two wooden jack planes
- Molding Plane
- Two Bevel squares
- Butt square
- Hand saw (Manufactured by Wm McNiece-Phila,PA)
- 27-Inch Stanley Level (Circa 1860's)
- McGuire's original tool trunk
- A gold cane given to him by the American Federation of Labor in 1887
- Numerous unpublished photos of McGuire and his family
- His U.S. passport
- His personal journal that detailed the start of the UBCJA
- A book given to McGuire in the 1890s by the European Labor Council
- McGuire's Union badges and pins, including a membership pin, that he wore in the early days of the Brotherhood

“Peter J. McGuire is recognized as the founder of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and is one of the most remarkable figures in the history of the American labor movement,” said Michael Tapken, Tri-State Assistant to the Regional Manager and curator of the Museum. “We are extremely thankful for Kathleen's generous donation of these items and are excited to showcase them.”

All of the historic documentation was submitted to the University of Maryland for scanning into the University's extensive archives of carpenter history. The documents will be returned to NRCC after scanning is completed.

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters is dedicated to preserving our history and honoring the memory of our brother Peter J. McGuire. We are ecstatic to have the opportunity to display some of McGuire's personal belongings at the Museum.

We encourage you to visit the Museum, located at 1811 Spring Garden Street in Philadelphia, later in 2018 to see items from throughout carpenters' history, including these priceless McGuire artifacts.
NEW TRAINING CENTERS IN NORTHEAST

Syracuse, NY

On October 11th, NRCC representatives, Local 277 staff, community organizations and elected/appointed officials from the City of Syracuse and surrounding areas gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking of the new NRCC Carpenters Training Center in Syracuse, NY. During the groundbreaking ceremony, the following individuals/officials spoke of the importance of training highly skilled workers in the Syracuse area:

• David Haines, Assistant Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters
• Earl Hall, Executive Director, Construction Employers Association of CNY
• Roberta Reardon, New York State Commissioner of Labor
• New York State Senator David Valesky
• New York State Assembly Member Pamela Hunter
• New York State Assembly Member William Magnarelli

Other attendees at the event included: Auburn Mayor Michael Quill; Oswego Mayor Billy Barlow; Town of Salina Supervisor Mark Nicotra; Onondaga County Facilities Commissioner Archie Wixson; and CenterState Corporation for Economic Development President & CEO Rob Simpson.

When it’s completed in Summer 2018, the new 17,000 square foot, two-story facility, located at 6920 Princeton Court, will feature three state-of-the art classrooms equipped with the latest technologies, A/V equipment and skilled instructors. It will have 12,000 square feet of workshop area training space to give apprentice and journey-level carpenters hands-on training in scaffolding, welding and other carpentry specialties. In addition, 5,000 square feet of space will house Local 277, Council and research department staff.

Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters’ Local 277 currently has more than 2,600 members, with approximately 10 percent of them being apprentices that will benefit from this new facility.

“This training center – that we envisioned in partnership with the Construction Employers Association of Central New York – will help us to fit the needs of our members and contractors ensuring that area carpenters are building Central New York for the next generation,” said Haines. “The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters Training Fund is investing $5 million for the construction of this new facility, so that we can continue to provide highly skilled and quality carpenters to our signatory contractors in Northern and Central New York.”
Edison, NJ

Work is coming to a conclusion on the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters’ (NRCC) state-of-the-art training facility in Edison, NJ. When it is opened this Spring, the new 100,000-square-foot, two-story complex will serve as New Jersey’s hub for education and training for more than 1,000 carpenter apprentices.

Along with providing carpenter apprentices’ with core curriculum, NRCC will offer a range of new technologies, including Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology – used by architects and engineers – and a new “Total Station” program – which is the latest in building layout technology.

Additional features of the building include:

- 13 classrooms retrofitted with state-of-the-art Audio/Visual technology.
- Spacious hands-on training for all the skillsets in carpentry, flooring, mill-cabinet, millwright and pile driving trades.
- 14 welding booths.
- A fully equipped cabinet shop to support training for our mill-cabinet program.
- An overhead bridge crane for rigging steel concrete forms, pile driving materials and millwright equipment.
- A 300-seat auditorium with theater seating for NRCC meetings & conferences, professional presentations and apprentice orientations & graduations. The new Training Center will host the Sisters in the Brotherhood Leading the Way Conference from April 13-15th.

To accommodate the anticipated increase in traffic at our complex in Raritan Center, we have also added a five-level 325 car parking garage, which is adjacent to the training center. The Council has also re-paved the surface parking lot, on the opposite side of the property, to enable the parking of an additional 118 cars.

Union contractors working on the project in Edison include: Fitzpatrick & Associates as the General Contractor; Epic Construction as the Construction Manager; and DePalma Contracting as the Carpentry Contractor.

“Our new state-of-the-art training center in Edison is just one of the many new and refurbished training center that we are building in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland,” said John Ballantyne, Executive Secretary-Treasurer. “All of our training facilities are second to none in training the future carpenters of tomorrow and will look forward to opening the new Edison facility this Spring.”
On April 13-15, 2018, the NRCC will hold its first Sisters in the Brotherhood (SIB) Leading the Way Conference in Edison, NJ. At the conference, hundreds of women carpenters will gather for a weekend of education, recognition and fellowship. Along with women carpenters, attendees will include NRCC executive board members/staff, local organizations and local/State elected officials.

During the conference, attendees will have the opportunity to attend workshops covering a range of topics including: Organizing 101; Union Activism; Social Media Training; Becoming a Union Leader and more. The event will also feature vendors displaying their construction-related equipment/items.

Susan Schultz, NRCC SIB Chair and Conference organizer, said the event is a way for Sisters throughout the Northeast to meet with and learn from their fellow Sisters:

“This conference is a five-year celebration of our Council’s successful implementation of the Sisters in the Brotherhood program,” said Schultz. “We are really looking forward to the conference and believe it will be a good opportunity for women carpenters to hear from their fellow Sisters and educate themselves about topics that are important to women in the construction industry.”

On April 14th, NRCC will hold a reception to recognize women who were selected by their Local as a “Pioneer Sister” for their dedication to the Carpenters Union. A Pioneer Sister is a woman who has: belonged to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters for 25 years or more; dedicated their time to mentoring fellow Sisters; been active in her Local; and is in good standing.

“The Leading the Way Conference will be the largest women’s conference in the labor movement and we are looking forward to recognizing women carpenters for their decades of dedication to our trade,” said John Ballantyne, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the NRCC. “These women are proof that jobs don’t have a gender and women can succeed in a career in carpentry.”
The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters is dedicated to making an impact in the communities we live and work in. We believe in encouraging our leaders, members, contractors and partners to contribute to their communities to drive positive change where it is needed the most. Our carpenters are extremely active in our communities and utilize their skillset to not only better their own lives, but to better the lives of others in their communities.

Here’s a few recent examples of charitable/volunteer activities that our carpenters are undertaking in their communities throughout the Northeast.

**HEADSTRONG FOUNDATION**

Throughout 2017, NRCC Locals 173 and 164 helped to construct Headstrong Foundation’s Nick’s House, a place of comfort for families who have a child battling cancer and undergoing out-of-town treatment. To date, the Foundation has helped nearly 14,750 patients and their families. During the project, 50 Union Carpenters volunteered their time to renovate a 120-year-old building, including: framing; sheet rocking; drywall; door installation; and ceiling grid installation.

**CHURCH ON THE MALL**

Approximately 20 Northeastern Regional Council of Carpenter apprentices along with several volunteers devoted their time and expertise to install new carpeting and ceiling tiles at the Church On The Mall in Plymouth, Pennsylvania. Located at the Plymouth Meeting Mall, the Presbyterian church is more than 50 years old and serves as a popular congregation area for many of the community’s residents. The building also houses “The Rachel Way,” a fully functioning, dedicated gluten and dairy free food pantry, which distributes approximately 1,500 pounds of food and serves an estimated 300 hungry families on a monthly basis. Anyone can utilize this service, including members.
PUERTO RICO RELIEF EFFORT

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters partnered with the New York City District Council of Carpenters and the New England Regional Council of Carpenters to send volunteers to Puerto Rico to help repair roofs and rebuild its damaged infrastructure. Our volunteers coordinated with H.E.A.R.T. 9/11, an organization committed to responding effectively to natural and man-made disasters, on the disaster relief efforts.

PHILADELPHIA VETERANS MULTI-SERVICE CENTER

Sixteen floor layers and carpenters from Locals 251 and 158 teamed with the District Council 21 Painters Union to refurbish the Veterans Multi-Service Center located at 213 N. 4th Street in Philadelphia. The facility, which assists struggling veterans with employment and provides transitional housing for the homeless, serves more than 3,500 veterans and families annually. In addition to installing new vinyl based carpet tiling in the building’s common area, the workers also enhanced the room with a fresh coat of paint. Both the new flooring materials and paint were donated for the project by Findlay Installation Services and Sherwin Williams respectively. In addition to the updated interior, the NRCC has adopted the Veterans Multi-Service Center to provide maintenance when needed in the future at no cost.

9/11 MEMORIAL IN BEACON, NY

Thirteen carpenters from Local 279 and one ironworker from Local 46 volunteered their time and expertise to construct a new concrete Pentagon memorial in Beacon, NY to honor those who lost their lives on 9/11. Steel from the World Trade Center was built into the new concrete Pentagon memorial.

MEDFORD, NY VFW POST

In November, 24 volunteers from NRCC’s Local 290, the Sisters in the Brotherhood and the Veteran’s Committee provided much-needed renovations for the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Post in Medford, New York.

11TH ANNUAL HIGH TIDES STRIPER TOURNAMENT

The 11th annual High Tides Striper Tournament, sponsored by Local 255, helped to raise money for the Brendan Borek High Tides Memorial Fund. The fund supports Cape May and Atlantic County families who have a child or young adult battling cancer.
On December 19-20th, Union members from the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters (NRCC) received classroom instruction and hands-on training with new concrete polishing equipment.

The two-day session, held at the NRCC Training Facility in Hammonton, New Jersey, helped to educate approximately 30 NRCC members on concrete polishing skills/operations. During the seminar, workers received classroom instruction – from instructors Andy Bowman and David Gross – and hands-on experience in the basics of polishing. During the seminar, participants learned about: theory and methods; procedure; and finished products.

“It’s important that we continually improve and enhance our training opportunities for our members to ensure they are up-to-date with the latest tools and technologies in the marketplace today,” said NRCC Local 251 President Frank Koch. “Because our workers received this highly specialized training, our contractors will be able to set themselves apart and offer this service on projects.”

NRCC Local 253 Member Susan Espinoza enjoyed the hands-on aspect of the training, which added another skill to her toolbelt.

“It was a great training as it gave me information on a specific part of our trade that I didn’t know before,” said NRCC member Susan Espinoza. “I’m from Union in Northern New Jersey and it was well worth the time to travel almost a hundred miles to attend this important seminar in Hammonton.”
During the week of November 13-19, the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters recognized National Apprenticeship Week (NAW).

NAW was created by the United States Department of Labor to give organizations the opportunity to showcase their apprenticeship programs and facilities. During National Apprenticeship Week, the NRCC hosted and attended various apprenticeship events to educate young adults about careers in carpentry.

In New Jersey on November 16th, NRCC hosted a NAW event at its Kenilworth Training Center. The event provided young adults, enrolled in high school and vocational/technical schools, with detail on the benefits of becoming a Union Carpenter, including the ability to earn on the job while learning in the classroom.

Ridgeley Hutchinson, Executive Director of the New Jersey Carpenters Apprentice Training and Educational Fund, played a key role in organizing the National Apprenticeship Week event.

“A career as a carpenter is a good one and provides individuals with good pay and great benefits with no college-related debt,” said Hutchinson. “We thought the event was a great success and hope that the attendees become our future carpenters.”

In Maryland, the NRCC also attended a career fair at Calvert Academy in Prince Frederick. During the fair, Mid-Atlantic Carpenters Training Director Timothy Miller made a presentation and provided attendees with detail on the benefits of becoming a Union carpenter.

While NAW is over, the NRCC is working each and every day at career fairs, school presentations and one-stop career centers to educate young adults about the good things our Union carpenters are doing in their communities and why a career as a carpenter might be the right fit for them.
HUMAN RESOURCES

In our continuing effort to provide comprehensive and high-quality fringe benefits to our members the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters’ Member Assistance Program, has implemented a $2,500 Met Life Basic Term Life insurance policy, at no cost to active members and with no medical questions asked.

The lump sum payment to members’ designated beneficiary provides temporary assistance in their time of need. All active members in good standing are automatically enrolled in this policy, which became effective October 1, 2017.

Please visit our website to download and complete your beneficiary form and return it by mail to: 91 Fieldcrest Avenue, 2nd Floor, Edison, NJ 08837 or by email to HR@northeastcarpenters.org. For questions about your MetLife Basic Term Life coverage, please call the NRCC: 732-417-9229 EXT 1534

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Remember when “You Got Mail” that a Nigerian prince was offering to share part of his inheritance if you just gave him your bank account number?

Well, hackers are more sophisticated since the days of AOL.

In the 21st century, hackers are more savvy in trying to separate you from your personal, confidential information and are impersonating your trusted banks and stores and hacking into your email.

WHAT'S PHISHING?

A phishing e-mail is a fake email that comes disguised as a regular email from a vendor that you might use like eBay or Amazon or Bank of America. Many times, these emails ask you to log onto the site to confirm your identity or confirm that you want to continue one of your trusted subscriptions.

DO NOT CLICK on any link in any email sent to you by a trusted vendor; that goes too far for opening up attachments from unsolicited vendors. If it is a message important enough – like your bank account may close – you are more than likely to receive a phone call or letter in the mail from your bank before that happens. If you decide to click that link or open an attachment, it’s likely that a malicious software program will be executed on your computer and possibly across your network.

WHAT ABOUT HER EMAILS????

Did you know that your email is not secure and anybody could be reading it right about now?

We use email every day in life to communicate with our friends, family members and business colleagues. Have you thought twice though if your personal communications were broadcast to the general public? ..Just ask John Podesta.

There are a few key ways you can safeguard yourself from having your personal information stolen:

1. On your smart device, you must have a strong password that is just not 1-2-3-4.
2. When you are connecting to a wireless network, don’t trust that it’s secure. We’re sure that you’ve visited a coffee shop and connected to their WiFi network in the past. In the future, you should think twice before connecting to an unsecured wireless network that any hacker could tap into.
3. On your personal/work computer, you should use strong passwords and change them every 60-90 days. Passwords should be at least eight characters and include a mix of capital and lowercase letters, a number and a symbol. Please do not share your password with anyone and at the end of the day, log off your computer.
Coming Soon:

The New Northeast Carpenters Website

www.northeastcarpenters.org
STAY UP TO DATE
IN THE MODERN WORLD

facebook.com/NortheastRegionalCouncilofCarpenters
@NRCCarpenters
linkedin.com/company/northeastcarpenters
@nrccarpenters

Our website provides resources, contact information, current news items and the ability to provide feedback.
www.northeastcarpenters.org

CCT APP NOW AVAILABLE
FREE DOWNLOAD
VIDEO - NEWS - PROJECTS - EVENTS

Android App on Google Play
Download on the App Store

Carpenter Contractor Trust
The Construction Network
Skillset • Flexibility • Equity • Productivity
getconnected
IN REMEMBRANCE

Rest in peace to our Brothers and Sisters that we lost since September 2017.
These pages are dedicated to the memory and impact that they had as Union Carpenters.

LOCAL 158
BELL, ROBERT - 09/26/2017
CZEPULKOWSKI, W - 01/21/2018
DOUGHERTY, FRANCIS - 10/26/2017
KELLER, JAMES - 10/08/2017
KULKO, MICHAEL - 11/10/2017
MCKELVEY, ROBERT - 11/03/2017
MEEINK, PATRICK - 09/01/2017
ONORATO, JOSEPH - 09/10/2017
RAIMONDO, N - 10/20/2017
RICCARDO, EUGENE - 01/06/2018
SZYMANSKI, STANLEY - 01/18/2018
TIERNO, JOS - 11/10/2017
VACCA, ALBERT - 09/25/2017
YORKS, RAYMOND - 10/10/2017

LOCAL 164
BOYLAN, LEO - 09/11/2017

LOCAL 167
HADER, STEVEN - 11/19/2017
HUNTER, TRAVIS - 10/20/2017
MARTINI, TERENCE - 09/21/2017

LOCAL 173
COLE, HERBERT - 10/14/2017
CONROY, FRANCIS - 10/22/2017
LAUTER, JOHN - 09/09/2017
LAWLER, JOHN - 11/23/2017
MCKINNEY, PAUL - 11/27/2017
MESSICK, MILFORD - 01/20/2018
ONEILL, DAVID - 01/22/2018
QUANDT, MICHAEL - 01/10/2018

LOCAL 177
BUDZYNUSKI, EDWARD - 12/04/2017
HASH, WILLIAM - 09/28/2017
MARSCH, DONALD - 12/24/2017
SHEETS, JOHN - 10/23/2017

LOCAL 179
BEY, DAVID - 09/14/2017
COLLINS, OSCAR - 11/05/2017
DUNCAN, HARRY - 10/30/2017
SMITH, HAROLD - 10/04/2017
WHITSEL, GERALD - 10/02/2017

LOCAL 251
EASTERLY, WALLACE - 11/02/2017
JANOWSKI, DAVID - 09/11/2017
MARSHALL, DONALD - 10/16/2017
REAMER, ZACHARIAH - 09/19/2017
REVOIR, DEAN - 01/17/2018

LOCAL 252
DEVINE, JASON - 10/26/2017
JAECCKLE, CHRISTIAN - 11/10/2017
MANTOVANI, A - 01/14/2018
MCMANUS, SCOTT - 10/02/2017
POMPILIO, LUIGI - 11/03/2017
RUBINIC, ANTON - 11/18/2017
ZIOLKOWSKI, MARK - 01/28/2018

LOCAL 253
BENENATI, ANGELO - 09/04/2017
FERNANDEZ, ALBERTO - 11/26/2017
FIORNASCENTE, ANTONIO - 09/19/2017
HAYES, FRANCIS - 10/14/2017
KUPREL, JOSEPH - 09/10/2017

LOCAL 254
BURKE, CHARLES - 10/06/2017
HEINDEL, EDWARD - 09/03/2017
MARTORANA, PETER - 10/17/2017

LOCAL 255
ALVINO, WILLIAM - 01/26/2018
BEST, ALVIN - 10/31/2017
FARRUGIA, SAVIOUR - 01/09/2018
GRASSO, FRANK - 10/09/2017
HORT, GARY - 12/29/2017
KOZIO, KEN - 10/21/2017
LOPEZ, DEVON - 10/22/2017
MALONE, BART - 12/03/2017
MCDONALD, FRANK - 10/17/2017
MCGOLDRICK, WILLIAM - 01/01/2018
SNEBBAKER, DALE - 10/22/2017
THOMAS, JAMES - 01/07/2018
WAREHIME, WILLIAM - 12/30/2017

LOCAL 276
ALLEN, KENNETH - 11/20/2017
AROIX, JON - 09/28/2017
BUCHHOLZ, WALTER - 09/03/2017
CAUDILL, JESSE - 10/22/2017
EDIE, ROBERT - 01/11/2018
GAWNE, HOWARD - 01/16/2018
GORDON, JAMES - 01/07/2018
LEONARD, HERMAN - 11/13/2017
LOSITO, MARK - 10/05/2017
NOBLES, AUSTIN - 12/09/2017

LOCAL 277
BENESH, RICHARD - 11/28/2017
BOGART, JACK - 09/27/2017
CAVELLIER, JOHN - 09/16/2017
FRITZ, ARTHUR - 01/10/2018
GLICK, JOHN - 09/08/2017
KRESS, PATRICK - 10/13/2017
KUBIS, JOHN - 09/11/2017
LINDBLAD, JERRY - 10/24/2017
LORENZONI, RUDOLPH - 10/20/2017
MAKI, FRED - 01/29/2018
MCGINLEY, LEO - 01/12/2018
PFEFFER, FRED - 12/24/2017
RUGGLES, LLOYD, JR. - 10/14/2017
RUGGLES, LLOYD, SR. - 10/28/2017
## LOCAL 279
- BENNETT, DAVID - 01/06/2018
- DELRIO, MANUEL - 01/22/2018
- DEWITT, ROBERT - 01/11/2018
- EHNES, PETER - 10/24/2017
- FANELLI, DOMINICK - 09/02/2017
- GIORGIO, JOSEPH - 01/08/2018
- GIUSTINO, JOSEPH - 09/24/2017
- GRIFFIN, JOHN - 10/19/2017
- OSBORNE, GEORGE - 01/19/2018
- ROMANELLI, VINCENT - 01/06/2018
- SIGLIANO, MICHAEL - 11/19/2017
- SLESINSKI, EDMUND - 01/08/2018
- YOUNGSTROM, ROY - 10/03/2017

## LOCAL 290
- CANTWELL, JOHN - 11/23/2017
- CESTRA, DOMINIC - 11/12/2017
- KOPPMANN, RAYMOND - 01/21/2018
- LESSARD, EUGENE - 10/25/2017
- MICHALEK, RUDOLPH - 11/30/2017
- NERVIK, ROY - 10/25/2017
- SCHIMMRICH, HEINZ - 10/17/2017
- SPACCAROTELLA, F - 10/10/2017
- ZELTINS, VALDIS - 11/30/2017

## LOCAL 291
- CASABONNE, KENNETH - 10/06/2017
- COWLES, EMERSON - 11/15/2017
- MCHALE, JAMES - 11/01/2017
- MIRABILE, ANTHONY - 12/14/2017
- MORRISON, DAVID - 10/13/2017
- MYERS, MICHAEL - 10/22/2017
- PERKINS, HAROLD - 09/04/2017
- ROBBINS, LUCKY - 09/27/2017
- SATTERLEE, WILLIAM - 10/08/2017

## LOCAL 491
- ODOM, KYA - 10/09/2017
- WELLMAN, JAMES - 09/01/2017

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**IN REMEMBRANCE (CONTINUED)**
The first building of the new Journal Square Towers was recently completed on Pavonia Avenue in Jersey City as a result of the skilled work of more than 500 Union Carpenters. The $204 million tower was completed in July 2017 after nearly two years of labor from Union workers. The finished residential tower, located above the PATH trainline is 54 floors and houses 538 apartments. It also contains a sky lounge, outdoor pool, gym, library and screening room. Plans are also in place for the construction of six additional residential towers in the vicinity, including two-tower developments south of the PATH hub and another on the site of the old Jersey Journal building. Construction on the second tower, which will cost an estimated $250 million, is expected to start in early 2018.
PARK AVENUE FOUNDATION

LOCAL 254 • FLORHAM PARK, NJ

Twenty NRCC carpenters began a $8.5 million renovation of the Park Avenue Foundation building in October 2017. The Park Avenue Foundation supports many local non-profit organizations around the state. The relationship between the Park Avenue Foundation and the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters dates back to 1994, when our carpenters and pile drivers volunteered to construct the original structure. Renovations are expected to be completed in September 2018.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY ATLANTIC CITY CAMPUS

LOCAL 255 • ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

More than 200 carpenters and 10 dock builders have continued building the new apartment and classroom buildings for the new Stockton University campus. The new campus is located in the City at the intersection of Atlantic, Albany and Pacific avenues. The project includes the construction of apartments – overlooking the beach and boardwalk – that can accommodate approximately 1,800 students. The expansion will also include a $33.2 million Unified Science Center and a $15.2 million Health Sciences Center, near the existing Unified Science Center and Campus Center. The new campus is set to be opened to students in 2018.
CRICKET VALLEY ENERGY CENTER

LOCAL 279 • DOVER PLAINS, NY

Since July 2017, approximately 60 carpenters have worked on the construction of the Cricket Valley Energy Center, a new $1.5 billion 1,100-megawatt, natural-gas-fired power plant located in Dover Plains, New York. The energy center will provide power to approximately one million homes and at the peak of construction will employ approximately 900 tradespeople – including a total of 150-160 carpenters. The project is slated to provide hundreds of tradespeople with good wages and fair benefits. The Cricket Valley Energy Center is expected to be completed by the end of 2020.

PHOTO COURTESY OF: JIM MALCOLM

THE BRISTAL AT JERICHO

LOCAL 290 • OYSTER BAY, NY

The new Bristal at Jericho assisted living facility is currently under construction by NRCC carpenters. The structure is fitted with a 300,000 square-foot wood frame, has 280 units of assisted living housing and is built next to 50 acres of preserved land. Union carpenters are constructing the facility with materials that meet “green building” standards, including high-end insulation, windows with strong UV protection and environmentally friendly roofing materials. Construction of Bristal at Jericho is expected to be completed in mid-2019.
In early January, eight Union carpenters working for Brunswick Bowling – began construction of a new temporary bowling venue at the Nicholas J. Pirro Convention Center in Syracuse, NY for the upcoming U.S. Bowling Congress. When it is completed, the bowling facility will have 48 lanes – enough wood to build five three-bedroom homes – and will require nearly six miles of electrical wiring to power bowling equipment. For the project, carpenters constructed the bowling area's framing trusses and maple wood bowling lanes. The event is expected to bring an estimated 80,000 visitors and $70 million in revenue to the City, while creating about 200 temporary jobs.

Approximately 50 to 75 Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters from Local 291 continue construction on Union College's expansion/renovation of its Science and Engineering Center. Construction on the $100 million building began in Spring 2017 and will offer new age, high-tech learning environments for students. Contracted by Turner Construction, the project is one of the largest in the school's history. When it is completed in 2019, it will be one of the most advanced science and engineering learning facilities in the country.

More than 400 NRCC carpenters and pile drivers helped to construct the new University of Buffalo Medical Center, formally known as the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical. The new 628,000 square-foot medical facility, which cost $375 million, began in 2016. Despite the building's position atop the water table of Lake Erie, NRCC pile drivers completed the concrete pour for the basement walls that exceed 50 feet in height. The project took just over two years to complete and had its grand opening in December 2017.
PENN FIRST HOSPITAL

LOCAL 158 • PHILADELPHIA, PA

More than 400 NRCC carpenters and pile drivers are constructing a new $1.5 billion hospital on the University of Pennsylvania’s West Campus. The state-of-the-art medical facility, located near the banks of the Schuylkill River, started construction in September 2016. The new medical facility will be the largest capital project in Penn’s history and Philadelphia’s most sophisticated and ambitious healthcare building project. Construction is expected to be completed in the 2021.

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY EXPANSION

LOCAL 164 • VILLANOVA, PA

Approximately 80 NRCC carpenters are working on a $250 million expansion project at Villanova University. The University’s extensive renovations include modifications to existing student halls, educational structures, along with the addition of a new 6-story parking garage that was completed earlier this year. Once completed, the project will include new residence dorms, retail and eatery spaces. Additionally, a pedestrian bridge is also being created that will span Lancaster Ave., connecting the new dormitories with the main campus. In Spring 2018, phase 4 plans include the construction of a new $71 million performing arts center. The expansion is projected to be completed in August 2019.

EAST COVENTRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LOCAL 167 • POTTSTOWN, PA

Six NRCC carpenters are working on the $28 million construction on East Coventry Elementary School. The project will accommodate enrollment growth in the northern Chester County school district. The school is expected to be completed in time for the 2018-19 school year.
Approximately 90 carpenters began work on the Liberty Harbor East apartment building located in the heart of Harbor East, Maryland. The $125 million development – previously a surface parking lot – will include a 50,000 square-foot Whole Foods market on the ground floor and will be equipped with approximately 280 apartments and 35 condominiums. NRCC carpenters are currently working on the 22-story construction project, as well as fitting the building with framing and drywall through a $9 million package. The project will be completed in 2019.
The Christiana Hospital Women and Children’s Building is a $250 million medical pavilion construction project being built by 50 Union Carpenters. Healy Long & Jevin Concrete, North East Contractors Exterior and Mason Building Group Interior are the contractors on the project. Artisan Display has also employed NRCC to execute the Millwork for the project. The project is expected to be completed in Summer 2020.
Did you know that many of our Locals have websites and social media pages to help them communicate the good things that they are doing for members and their communities?

We encourage you to visit and follow these sites to keep up to date on the latest with the Council and our Locals.
NRCC
IN THE NEWS

CNY CENTRAL.com

CNY CARPENTERS CRAFTING LANES FOR NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT IN SYRACUSE

POLITICO Pro

Q&A WITH JOHN BALLANTYNE

For more news from the Council, please visit our website: northeastcarpenters.org & like us on social:
Facebook: www.facebook.com/NortheastRegionalCouncilofCarpenters; Twitter: @nrccarpenters;
Instagram: @northeastcarpenters; LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/northeastcarpenters; and
Snapchat: @nrccarpenters. We also encourage you to download the new CCT app for the latest news/
videos on our carpenters: www.cctnetwork.org
PHOTO GALLERY

NRCC ANNUAL DELEGATE MEETING 2017

BANNER AT THE WOMEN’S MARCH ON NEW JERSEY

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: NRCC’S EST JOHN BALLANTYNE, POLITICAL DIRECTOR LIZETTE DELGADO-POLANCO, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN JOHN CURRIE AND GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY POSE AT THE DEMOCRATIC REORGANIZATION MEETING AT NRCC HEADQUARTERS IN EDISON, NJ.

RECIPIENTS OF THE 2017 NRCC SCHOLARSHIP FUND
RETIRING CARPENTERS

The Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters congratulates our members on their retirement. Those that have worked with our Council through the years will forever be a part of the long standing traditions, values and pride! Thank you for your years of hard work and dedication. The NRCC is only as strong as its membership and you have made us great!

LOCAL 158
ARUFFO, FRANK - 01/01/2018
BARBIERI, MICHAEL - 01/01/2018
BOGDANOFF, HAROLD - 10/01/2017
BRENNAN, WILLIAM - 11/01/2017
BROLIS, VIESTURS - 01/01/2018
CERRONE, ANTHONY - 10/01/2017
CIANDRA, MICHAEL - 09/01/2017
CIFONE, FRANCIS - 02/01/2018
CONNELLY, JAMES - 01/01/2018
ECKERT, RICHARD - 01/01/2018
FANEAN, JEFFREY - 10/01/2017
GALDO, RICHARD - 10/01/2017
GOLLATZ, FRED - 02/01/2018
GRILLO, JOHN - 11/01/2017
KANE, JOHN - 10/01/2017
MAHONEY, MICHAEL - 02/01/2018
MAURER, RAYMOND - 09/01/2017
MCCAFFREY, JOHN - 01/01/2018
MCCARTY, DWIGHT - 11/01/2017
MEHRER, RICHARD - 12/01/2017
MIGALEDDI, JOHN - 01/01/2018
MILLER, JAMES - 10/01/2017
MORATH, CHRISTOPHER - 11/01/2017
MORGAN, CHARLES - 10/01/2017
O’BOYLE, WILLIAM - 11/01/2017
OBOYLE, JOHN - 09/01/2017
PIPERNO, DOMINIC - 10/01/2017
PLOUCHER, JAMES - 09/01/2017
POFF, LAWRENCE - 02/01/2018
POLILLO, STEVE - 10/01/2017
PRUTZER, RICHARD - 10/01/2017
REGALBUTO, RODNEY - 09/01/2017
REYNOLDS, EDWARD - 02/01/2018
SCHREIDL, JOSEPH - 01/01/2018
SLADEK, DAVID - 01/01/2018

LOCAL 164
ATKINSON, DOUGLAS - 12/04/2017
CAMERON, JOHN - 01/09/2018
COLLISON, BRENT - 10/26/2017
COSTELLO, THOMAS - 10/26/2017
DOLAN, JOHN - 11/01/2017
DOMBACH, HARVEY - 10/26/2017
GARLICH, WILLIAM - 01/09/2018
GEORGE, DONALD - 11/01/2017
HAASZ, DAVID - 12/04/2017
HAYES, IAN - 01/08/2018
MAYES, GREGORY - 10/26/2017
MURPHY, SEAN - 01/09/2018
NEWSUM, JEFF - 01/09/2018
SCHMIDT, ROBERT - 10/26/2017
SOCHA, JOSEPH - 11/01/2017
SOMMERS, TIMOTHY - 11/01/2017

LOCAL 167
ACE, JOHN - 02/06/2018
BECHTEL, STEPHEN - 11/15/2017
BOUMAL, DANIEL - 12/05/2017
CHRISTIAN, MATTHEW - 09/12/2017
DALTON, FREDERICK - 02/06/2018
DESANTIS, NICK - 12/20/2017
DUNLEAVY, PATRICK - 09/20/2017
ELISIO, DANIEL - 11/15/2017
FERGUSON, KENNETH - 09/20/2017
HOPKINS, GERALD - 09/20/2017
JAKEL, ANTHONY - 11/15/2017
KABBEKO, MICHAEL - 01/17/2018
KEEFE, DAVID - 12/20/2017
KIRKLAND, JOHN - 02/06/2018
LEWIS, CRAIG - 11/15/2017
LONG, HENRY - 01/17/2018
MCDONALD, RAFAEL - 02/06/2018
MARTIN, FRANK - 11/15/2017
RADE, SCOTT - 11/01/2017
ROBERTS, GEORGE - 12/20/2017
RODAK, JOHN - 11/15/2017
SCHMELL, TODD - 10/02/2017
SLADE, FREDERICK - 10/26/2017
STALNECKER, SAMUEL - 10/02/2017

LOCAL 173
BYRNE, RICHARD - 09/07/2017
CARROLL, DEAN - 12/05/2017
CARSON, WM - 02/05/2018
CLARKE, RAYMOND - 01/05/2018
CONWAY, EDWARD - 12/05/2017
DAVIS, MICHAEL - 02/05/2018
DUPHILY, STEPHEN - 02/05/2018
EDWARDS, RICHARD - 12/05/2017
FOSCO, EDWARD - 11/07/2017
GLENN, GERRY - 02/05/2018
HINDERER, DOMINICK - 09/07/2017
HRUSKA, PHILIP - 09/07/2017
KINSLER, THOMAS - 10/02/2017
KLINE, MARC - 12/05/2017
KOELMER, MATTHEW - 12/05/2017
KONCIR, MICHAEL - 02/05/2018
KORWEK, EDWARD - 01/05/2018
MCKALE, GEORGE - 11/07/2017
MCLAUGHLIN, FRANCIS - 01/05/2018
MOORE, RICHARD - 01/05/2018
PIATT, JAMES - 11/07/2017
ROBERTS, JAMES - 11/07/2017
ROSARIO, JOSEPH - 01/05/2018
STEWART, JOSEPH - 09/19/2017
WALLS, CHARLES - 02/05/2018

LOCAL 177
HARRIS, RAYMOND - 01/23/2018
KIMMEL, WILLIAM - 01/01/2018
MCCULLY, JAMES - 02/08/2018
PRICE, GARY - 09/01/2017

LOCAL 179
BOUGHER, MARK - 01/24/2018
COSTELLO, ROBERT - 09/01/2017
GOLDSBOROUGH, CRAIG - 09/01/2017
GORDON, ANTHONY - 12/01/2017
MCMONAGLE, JOE - 11/01/2017
NORIEGA, MICHAEL - 12/01/2017
LOCAL 251
BUTRICA, LAWRENCE - 09/01/2017
CZARNIK, WALTER - 01/10/2018
DRINHOUSER, JOSEPH - 09/25/2017
DULL, DANIEL - 09/01/2017
FOX, FLOYD - 01/10/2018
JAMESON, MICHAEL - 11/01/2017
KENDRICK, ROBERT - 01/30/2018
OLIVEIRA, ANTONIO - 10/18/2017

LOCAL 252
CALDERONE, CHARLES - 01/01/2018
HOGELAND, FRANK - 01/30/2018
MAPP, JAMES - 09/01/2017
MORRISSEY, EDWARD - 11/01/2017
PETIT, MATTHEW - 10/01/2017

LOCAL 253
ARMSTRONG, GEORGE - 09/01/2017
CAMPOS, ARMINDO - 09/27/2017
MORANDO, JAMES - 11/01/2017
NOVAK, JEFFREY - 10/01/2017
PARISEN, DAVID - 10/01/2017
ROBINSON, ADAM - 09/01/2017
STOPSKY, KENNETH - 10/01/2017
TVERSLAND, STEIN - 12/31/2017

LOCAL 254
GELLES, KERRY - 01/01/2018
REGILUS, CRESCENT - 01/01/2018
SMELTZER, CHRISTOPHER - 01/16/2018
MURRAY, WILLIAM - 01/31/2018
BIANCA, AGASTINO - 10/01/2017
SOLT, BRIAN - 12/31/2017
REGILUS, CRESCENT - 01/01/2018
PETTY, DAVID - 10/01/2017
WITWRIEN, HARRY - 10/06/2017
YOSON, JOHN - 09/01/2017
GRECO, JOSEPH - 10/31/2017
TEDDER, MARK - 10/01/2017
CUPO, MICHAEL - 11/30/2017
GRATACOS, RICHARD - 12/12/2017
NORIEG, TOM - 11/01/2017
SANDOVAL, WILLIAM - 10/01/2017

LOCAL 255
DUENAS, ALEJANDRO - 11/01/2017
GASKILL, RALPH - 10/01/2017
MATULEVICH, ROBERT - 11/14/2017
MILHAN, LAWRENCE - 12/13/2017
POLEY, JOSEPH - 10/01/2017
RANEY, ROBERT - 09/01/2017
RATTIGAN, MICHAEL - 12/13/2017
SIEDECKI, ALBERT - 02/01/2018
TAYLOR, LEROY - 11/01/2017

LOCAL 256
FORSKINSKI, JACK - 01/01/2018
FOX, ROBERT - 09/01/2017
JAMISON, HOWARD - 09/01/2017
KOH, JOHN - 09/01/2017
MCAFFERY, JEFFERY - 10/01/2017
SCHNARS, CHARLES - 09/01/2017
STCHERBAK, VIKTOR - 10/01/2017
VALADE, PAUL - 09/01/2017

LOCAL 257
COOPER, GREGORY - 01/01/2018
KUHN, MARK - 01/01/2018
MCCARTHY, JOSEPH - 01/01/2018
WIDOMSKI, HENRY - 01/01/2018
MUNGER, RANDY - 02/01/2018
WILCOX, ROBERT - 01/01/2018
BROCKWAY, JAMES - 01/01/2018
SIMPSON, ROSEANN - 01/01/2018
COLEGROVE, ALFRED - 10/01/2017
MCCA, GARY - 11/01/2017
RUBADO, HOLLIE - 11/01/2017
FOSTER, JOHN - 09/01/2017
HOLLENBECK, KEVIN - 09/01/2017
DINIGRO, STEPHEN - 09/01/2017
FINTON, WAYNE - 09/01/2017

LOCAL 259
ABRAHAMSON, JOHN - 02/01/2018
BLOMQQUIST, STEVE - 02/01/2018
CRAFT, MICHAEL - 02/01/2018
FOUNTAIN, CLIFTON - 11/01/2017
HAND, RAYMOND - 02/01/2018
HEADY, ROBERT - 01/01/2018
KNAPP, EUGENE - 10/01/2017
LINGARDO, FRANK - 12/01/2017
MEHOEFER, RICHARD - 02/01/2018
MULDOON, JOHN - 12/01/2017
NARDONE, RICHARD - 01/01/2018
PLACKIS, JOHN - 01/01/2018
SULLIVAN, GLENN - 01/01/2018
TAYLOR, STEVE - 01/01/2018

LOCAL 270
BARRAVECCHIO, CARL - 10/01/2017
CASIERO, ANTHONY - 09/01/2017
CORNELL, DONALD - 01/01/2018
DERIDDER, THOMAS - 10/01/2017
GALASSO, MARK - 12/01/2017
HAMEL, GARY - 09/01/2017
KOSKE, WILLIAM - 10/01/2017
LARSEN, KEITH - 01/01/2018
MALE, JAMES - 01/01/2018
MEYER, JOHN - 09/01/2017
NASH, JAMES - 10/01/2017
REGAN, THOMAS - 09/01/2017
REILLY, NANCY - 09/01/2017
SANTORO, ALBERT - 01/01/2018
SIERZANT, STEVEN - 01/01/2018
VALZOVANO, MARCO - 01/01/2018
WADE, SCOTT - 12/01/2017

LOCAL 291
ALLEN, DAVID - 11/01/2017
CASALE, VANCE - 02/01/2018
DEMARSH, ROGER - 09/01/2017
FITZGIBBON, JAMES - 10/01/2017
FORTUNE, JOHN - 01/01/2018
GORDON, GUY - 01/01/2018
JULIEN, REAL - 01/01/2018
MCVKEY, ROBERT - 10/01/2017
MEYER, RICHARD - 01/01/2018
SIGTERMAANS, RAY - 11/01/2017

RETIRED CARPENTERS (CONTINUED)
Kurt Rotan and William Cassidy know a thing or two about what it takes to have a successful career as a Union Carpenter.

Rotan, a Local 252 Council Representative and 34-year member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (UBCJA), began his career in carpentry in his early 20s after attending college for architecture.

Throughout his career, Rotan said that he believes the key to his success was staying involved in his Union and his community as often as he could.

“I've been a Council Delegate since 1995,” said Rotan. “Staying involved in your Local is essential to your career, as it helps to keep you informed about what’s going on in your Union and the ways that we are helping to secure good paying wages and benefits for our members. Staying involved also helps our members to find out what's happening on their job sites, on other area job sites and events that are occurring in their community.”

William Cassidy, Local 164 President and Council Representative, is a 36-year member of the UBCJA and agrees with Rotan about getting involved in your Local and community.

Cassidy, who started his career in carpentry in the 1980s on a number of home building projects in Chester County, said that listening to older carpenters on the job site can help to set up younger carpenters starting their career.

“I've always been a carpenter,” said Cassidy. “From the time that I was in high school, I knew that this is what I wanted to do with my life. Once I started a job in the Union, I listened to older carpenters on the site and learned how to do my job. I started at the young age of 18, so there was plenty to learn.”

During his years in the Carpenters Union, Cassidy said that being a part of the Brotherhood taught him a number of life skills, including teamwork, how to work hard and how to raise a family.

“I'd tell young people just starting out in the trade to always be ready and get there early every day,” said Cassidy. “It's important to have a positive attitude, work as hard as you can and at the end of the day you'll be able to make a lasting income and benefits that will provide for you and your family for years to come.”