MESSAGE FROM
LIUNA GENERAL PRESIDENT TERRY O’SULLIVAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As a proud member of the Laborers’ International Union of North America (LiUNA), you are an important part of an organization whose history stretches back more than a century, whose members live and work throughout two great nations, and whose mission is to help you and your fellow Laborers build better lives. When you participate in a phone bank, attend a rally, walk a picket line, learn a new skill, or help out in your community, you are demonstrating, and increasing, the power of LiUNA. Thanks to this power, when you take a stand for workplace justice, you never stand alone: more than half a million of your LiUNA brothers and sisters stand with you.

In the months and years ahead, we must make sure that friend and foe alike feel the power of LiUNA. Congress has once again kicked the can down the road when it comes to funding a long-term, multi-year highway bill. Environmental extremists are fighting the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline and many other jobs-generating energy projects. Anti-union forces continue to attack the prevailing wage laws and fair contracting regulations that create a level playing field for our members and contractors. And supporters of so-called “Right to Work” laws continue to mislead working people into supporting legislation that would lower wages and weaken benefits.

In all my travels across the United States and Canada, I hear one thing over and over again: that LiUNA members are making a difference and making their power felt. Wherever crowds of LiUNA members wearing orange shirts appear, people take notice. That “orange crush” is a welcome sight to our friends and a daunting one to our foes. Behind the scenes, anyone who has ever been involved in a LiUNA phone bank knows how quickly we can tie up phone lines, turn out voters, and mobilize an army of volunteers.

None of this could happen without you, and your willingness to take an active role in the issues that affect your family’s bottom line. I commend your Business Manager Mike Prohaska, your Secretary-Treasurer Victor Rizzo, and your entire Executive Board for their hard work, dedication, and continued commitment to educating and mobilizing the members of Local 79. Most of all, I thank all of you who have devoted so much of your free time to the activities of your local and to supporting your brothers and sisters in LiUNA and the entire trade union movement.

With kind regards, I am
Fraternally Yours

Terry O’Sullivan

“GETTING SCHOOLED IN INFRASTRUCTURE” BUS COMES TO NYC

Over 100 LiUNA members were present to greet LiUNA’s “Getting Schooled in Infrastructure” bus when it stopped on 41st St. and 6th Avenue in Manhattan on July 23. The bus, which features a piece of a collapsed bridge on its roof, was on a nationwide tour to illustrate the dire state of the nation’s infrastructure and to encourage Congress to pass a long-term, full investment Highway Bill to carry out needed repairs on bridges and highways.
MESSAGE FROM BUSINESS MANAGER MIKE PROHASKA

Like many of you, I often find myself asking the question, “Where does the time go?”

We are now three quarters of the way through 2014 and the holidays will soon be upon us. When I look back on the first nine months of the year, I am incredibly proud of what we as a union have accomplished. When I say “we” I mean all of us united as one proud union: Members, staff, retirees and allies.

I want to express my gratitude to you, the members of Local 79, for your commitment and dedication to this union. Look at a few examples of what we have accomplished in the first nine months of the year:

• Dozens of members continually showed up at rallies and hearings that were held by elected officials reviewing the Astoria Cove project. The current developer for the project has not agreed to a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) and Local 79 will fight to see that this project is not approved by the New York City Council unless it is built union.

• Members proudly walked side by side in the Ecuadorian, African American, and Labor Day parades. It was clear to everyone that Local 79’s membership is united in its diversity and symbolizes all that is great about New York City.

• On Sunday June 22nd, which is NYC’s “It’s My Park Day,” dozens of members showed their New York City pride and volunteered to refurbish several parks, including Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.

• On September 9th, New York State and City Primary Day, over 400 members volunteered to help politicians who support Local 79 and our efforts to make sure that all New York State and City construction is built better, safer, and union!

There is so much more, but the point is thank you so much for the days, nights, weekends and long hours you volunteer to help build a strong Local 79 and better New York.

The work we do together as a union is often done in concert with other organizations that share Local 79’s goals and principles. For example, Local 79 has teamed with Community Voices Heard (CVH), a housing advocacy organization, to help bring qualified New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) residents into the union, as per the Section 3 requirements of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (see page 4 article). Together with CVH, Local 79 is making sure these residents are qualified to do the work and also become active, educated Local 79 members.

Our growing alliance with Make the Road New York has provided Local 79 with access to their first-rate staff. Make the Road staff is experienced in dealing with immigration matters, fighting theft of wages by non-union contractors, and helping organize workers. In fact, as of October 1st, they have joined our Legal Plan as an additional provider of immigration services to our members (see page 4 article). They have excellent lawyers that, when called upon, will work very hard to help the members of Local 79.

So, as you can see, it has been a busy year and we still have three months to go. One thing I know is that over the next three months, and the years to come, Local 79 staff and members will continue to answer the call and continue to show our Union pride and make Local 79 the best union in New York City.

Fraternally yours,

Mike Prohaska

DUES NEWS

Monthly dues are $33 as per the LiUNA Constitution. Retiree dues are $8 per month. Dues payments must not go over two months without being paid or the member will be suspended. The readmission fee is $56 for every month that the dues payments are behind, plus $33 for the current month.

REMEMBER: Members’ Union Book numbers must be written on their checks or money orders when paying dues by mail. Members may also call the Dues Department, provide their book number, and pay by credit card.

OUT-OF-WORK LIST RE-REGISTRATION NOTICE

All persons on Local 79’s Job Referral List must re-register for the list during the first five business days of each quarter to maintain their position on the list. The next re-registration period will be: January 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, 2015.

Local 79 News is published regularly by:
Construction and General Building Laborers’ Local ’79
520 Eighth Avenue, Suite 679, New York, NY 10018
212-465-7900

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Para leer la información traducida al español, ir a las páginas 6 y 7
MESSAGE FROM LIUNA VICE PRESIDENT AND EASTERN REGIONAL MANAGER RAYMOND M. POCINO

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Everyday throughout the five boroughs of New York City, thousands of Local 79 members go to work on construction projects both large and small. If providing the industry’s most dependable and versatile workforce was all we did, we’d have a lot to be proud of. But of course our members do so much more than show up on jobsites. Our members are also on the front lines of organizing, political action, training, apprenticeship, and community and government relations. Local 79 does more than build buildings. It builds a stronger construction industry and it builds better communities for everybody.

Throughout the summer, Local 79 members could be found all around the region—at protests and rallies, parades and community meetings, cleaning parks and communicating the importance of unionism to public officials. It is because of YOUR efforts that we are strong. Your Union is fortunate to have a dedicated and hard-working executive board under the leadership of Business Manager Mike Prohaska, but the real power of our Union comes from an active and engaged membership, which Local 79 certainly has.

As a Union, our work is never done. There will always be new projects, new non-union contractors, new issues to be dealt with, and new opportunities to explore. Your Union works because you make it work. Keep up the great work, brothers and sisters. We are better when we stick together.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Raymond M. Pocino

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: BUILD IT UNION!

Over one thousand members of “Real Affordability for All,” a coalition of labor, faith, and social justice groups came together on Wednesday, August 20, 2014 to listen to speakers at the First Corinthian Baptist Church in in Harlem. One of the central purposes of the rally was to let Mayor de Blasio know that affordable housing must be built with union labor, which will ensure that construction is first-rate, workers are treated safely, and good wages are paid.

Among the speakers were First Corinthian Baptist Church Pastor Michael A. Walrond, Jr., The Black Institute’s Director Bertha Lewis, New York City Public Advocate Letitia James, Gary LaBarbera, president of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York, and Local 79 member and first-year apprentice Rasul Heatley. Heatley spoke of his experience in the non-union sector and how his life had changed after becoming a member of Local 79. LaBarbera spoke to the importance of bringing together different groups to pressure the Mayor to ensure that good jobs accompany the Mayor’s promise to create or maintain 200,000 units of affordable housing. Public Advocate Letitia James gave an impassioned speech, in which she summed up the thoughts of all of those present at the historic gathering by saying, “I dismiss the argument that you can’t build affordable housing with union labor.”

After the speeches were concluded, all assembled took to the streets and made a spirited march down Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard to the State Office Building Plaza on 125th Street.

IMPORTANT NEW POLICY REGARDING MANDATORY PARTICIPATION DAY

Beginning January 1, 2015, a new policy will go into effect regarding members’ mandatory participation day. Instead of completing the minimum of one mandatory participation day during the calendar year, a member’s day will be tracked on a rolling basis: members will have to complete their next mandatory participation day within one year of the day they completed their last one.
Do you have a secondary school senior who intends to go to college next year? If so, be sure to read the mailing that you have received or will receive shortly from the Mason Tenders’ District Council Trust Funds regarding the 2015 scholarship program, which awards winners $3,000 per year for up to four years at an accredited four-year college or university in the United States. Applicants must take the ACT or SAT in the fall in order to be considered for the scholarships. Details regarding where ACT/SAT scores need to be sent for consideration by the scholarship committee and the deadline for the scholarship application can be found in the mailing.

Local 79 members can now apply to open up accounts at Actors Federal Credit Union (ActorsFCU).

ActorsFCU, a not-for-profit financial institution, offers a full range of financial services, including checking and savings accounts, loans and mortgages, and credit cards. It has two offices with teller services in and near Times Square that are open Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, phone hours that extend from 9:00 am-8:00 pm, and online/smartphone banking services. ActorsFCU owns nearly 300 ATMs throughout the five boroughs (this is second in NYC only to Chase), primarily in McDonalds, and belongs to Coop Network, which provides 30,000 fee-free ATMs around the country. (Note that many of the ATMs dispense cash but do not accept deposits.) It has a relationship with numerous check cashing stores in New York City, which offer the ability to deposit checks for free and to cash all or part of a check for a discounted rate.

ActorsFCU is offering Local 79 members a special promotion through December 31, 2014. During this time, new Local 79 members who join the credit union will receive free banking services if they open an account and make a $10.00 deposit into savings. As of January 1, 2015, members must maintain a $100 balance in savings to continue enjoy free banking services.

There are a number of ways Local 79 members can open up an account at ActorsFCU. Local 79 will be offering members the chance to sign up for accounts on a number of late afternoons at the Local 79 offices. If you are interested in signing up in this manner, please contact Thom Thacker at 212-465-7928. Members can also go to one of the two ActorsFCU offices near Times Square during business hours or submit their application online or through the mail. Members will need the following documents in order to open an account: A current U.S. Government-issued photo identification (passport, driver’s license, etc.), a valid Social Security number, their union book, and proof of address (utility bill, lease etc.)

More information about ActorsFCU can be found on Local 79’s website (local79.org/financial services) or at the ActorsFCU website (actorsfcu.com).

Local 79 is happy to announce that as of October 1, 2014 members and their eligible dependents who meet the eligibility standards* for no-cost legal services can receive up to eight (8) hours of immigration- and naturalization-related legal services from Make the Road New York. Make the Road New York offers appointments at three locations: Local 79’s offices at 520 8th Avenue; Make the Road New York’s offices at 301 Grove Street in Brooklyn and at 92-10 Roosevelt Avenue in Queens. To make an appointment for any of these three locations, please call: 718-565-8500, ext. 4493.

Members should note that, instead of using the legal services of Make the Road New York, they can continue to use the immigration- and naturalization-related legal services provided by Gorlick, Kravitz & Listhaus P.C. To make an appointment, please call: 212-269-2500

*Eligibility for the legal services plan can be found at www.local79.org by clicking on the “Member Services” button, clicking on “Legal Services,” and then clicking on the “Summary Plan Description” and reading the applicable sections of pages 3-5.

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John Wund, a member of Local 79 since 1998, has been appointed to the position of Special Assistant to the President at the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York. The Council, whose membership consists of the majority of the building and construction trade unions of New York City, plays a key advocacy role in assuring that developers and government officials understand the value of utilizing unionized labor on projects throughout the five boroughs.

Mr. Wund worked as a Laborer in the field, worked as an organizer for Local 79, and has been involved in different capacities with the Building and Construction Trades Council and with Build Up New York City for a number of years. According to Mr. Wund, being asked to play a key role in such an important organization “is an honor and a privilege.” He says the first thing he will put in his office is his shovel. This part of his office décor will constantly remind him of where he came from and the cause that he is furthering.

“John’s many years of experience working in a number of different capacities with the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York ensures that he will seamlessly transition into his new role with us,” said the Council’s President Gary LaBarbera. “He is a first-rate organizer, administrator, and trade unionist, and I am thrilled that he is coming on board.”

Local 79 is proud to see one of our own selected for this position at the Building and Construction Trades Council and wishes John all the best in this new and exciting chapter in his career.

As recently as eight years ago, 98% of New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) construction was built by non-union labor. After partnering with NYCHA residents and community groups, Local 79 successfully organized the vast majority of NYCHA construction projects. An understanding was reached that Local 79 would bring a number of qualified NYCHA residents into the union, as per the regulations set out in Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Act of 1968. Section 3 helps foster local economic development and individual self-sufficiency by requiring that, to the greatest extent possible, projects receiving HUD financial assistance provide job training, employment, and contracting opportunities for low- or very-low income residents in their neighborhoods.

Local 79 and Community Voices Heard (CVH) recently formed a partnership to ensure that NYCHA residents who come into the union through Section 3 are good construction workers and active community members. CVH was chosen to partner with Local 79 because it is an organization with a strong track record in carrying out advocacy work with low-income people and NYCHA residents. Among CVH’s many accomplishments was its campaign to stop NYCHA from obtaining a Federal Moving to Work Waiver which potentially would have allowed NYCHA to privatize its buildings, and/or demolish public housing.

“This partnership with CVH is hugely important,” said Local 79 Director of Organizing Chaz Rynkiewicz. “When community groups and labor stand together, we send the message that we are united in the cause of creating good middle-class jobs for residents of all of New York City’s communities.”
MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE GENERAL DE LIUNA, TERRY O’SULLIVAN

Queridos hermanos y hermanas:

Como miembros que se enorgullecen de pertenecer al Sindicato Internacional de los Trabajadores de Norteamérica/Laborers’ International Union of North America (LIUNA), ustedes son una parte importante de una organización cuya historia ya tiene más de un siglo, cuyos miembros viven y trabajan en dos grandes naciones, y cuya misión es ayudarlos a ustedes y a sus compañeros trabajadores a edificar vidas mejores. Cuando ustedes participan en un banco de teléfonos, asisten a un mitín, caminan en una línea de piquete, aprenden una nueva destreza o ayudan a su comunidad, están demostrando y aumentando el poder de LIUNA. Gracias a este poder, cuando ustedes adoptan una posición en favor de la justicia en el lugar de trabajo, nunca están solos: más de medio millón de sus hermanos y hermanas de LIUNA están con ustedes.

En los meses y años por venir, debemos asegurarnos de que tanto nuestros amigos como nuestros enemigos sientan el poder de LIUNA. El Congreso ha pateado una vez más la lata para adelante cuando se trata de financiar a largo plazo una ley de autopistas que representa varios años de trabajo. Los ambientalistas extremistas combaten la propuesta del Oleoducto Keystone XL y muchos otros proyectos de generación de energía. Las fuerzas antisindicalistas siguen atacando las leyes de salarios prevalecientes y los reglamentos de contrataciones justas que crean igualdad de condiciones para nuestros miembros y contratistas. Y los seguidores de las leyes conocidas como "Derecho de trabajar"/"Right to Work" continúan engañando a la gente para que apoyen una legislación que bajaría los salarios y debilitaría los beneficios.

En todos mis viajes por los Estados Unidos y Canadá escucho una y otra vez que los miembros de LIUNA crean una diferencia y hacen sentir su poder. Doquiera que se presenten los militantes de LIUNA con sus camisetas naranja, el público presta atención. Esa irrupción de una multitud naranja es un espectáculo de bienvenida para nuestros amigos y una visión desalentadora para nuestros enemigos. Entre bastidores, todo el que haya participado alguna vez en un banco de teléfonos de LIUNA sabe cuán rápido podemos apoderarnos de las líneas telefónicas, conseguir votantes y movilizar un ejército de voluntarios.

Nada de esto podría ocurrir sin cada uno de ustedes y su voluntad de tomar un papel activo en los asuntos que afectan a la capacidad financiera de su familia. Felicito a su Gerente Comercial Mike Prohaska, su Secretario-Tesorero Victor Rizzo, y toda su Junta Ejecutiva por su esforzada labor, dedicación y sostenido compromiso de educar y movilizar a los miembros del Local 79. Pero por sobre todas las cosas, les agradezco a todos aquellos de ustedes que han dedicado tanto de su tiempo libre para las actividades de su local y para apoyar a sus hermanos y hermanas de LIUNA y a todo el movimiento sindical de los trabajadores.

Los saludo sincera y fraternalmente

Terry O’Sullivan

MAKE THE ROAD NEW YORK/SE HACE CAMINO FORMA EQUIPO CON EL LOCAL 79 PARA BRINDAR SERVICIOS LEGALES

El Local 79 se complace en anunciar que a partir del 1 de octubre de 2014, los miembros y sus dependientes elegibles que cumplan con las normas de elegibilidad* para obtener servicios legales sin costo pueden recibir hasta ocho (8) horas de servicios legales relacionados con inmigración y naturalización por parte de Make the Road New York/Se Hace Camino Nueva York. Make the Road New York/Se Hace Camino Nueva York ofrece citas en tres lugares: Las oficinas del Local 79 en 520 8th Avenue; las oficinas de Make the Road New York en 301 Grove Street en Brooklyn y en 92-10 Roosevelt Avenue en Queens. Para coordinar una cita en cualquiera de estos tres lugares, llame al: 718-565-8500, extensión 4493.

Los miembros deben tener en cuenta que, en lugar de usar los servicios legales de Make the Road New York/Se Hace Camino Nueva York, pueden seguir usando los servicios legales relacionados con inmigración y naturalización provistos por Gorlick, Kravitz & Listhaus P.C. Para coordinar una cita con esta firma, llame al: 212-269-2500

*Si quiere conocer la elegibilidad para el plan de servicios legales, visite www.local79.org, haga clic en el botón "Member Services" (Servicios para miembros), haga clic en "Legal Services" (Servicios legales) y, a continuación, en "Summary Plan Description" (Resumen de la descripción del plan) y lea las secciones correspondientes de las páginas 3-5.
Al igual que muchos de ustedes, a menudo me pregunto “¿adónde va el tiempo?”.

Ya hemos recorrido tres cuartos del año 2014, y pronto llegarán las fiestas. Al observar los primeros nueve meses del año, me siento extraordinariamente orgulloso de lo que hemos logrado hasta ahora. Cuando me refiero a nosotros, quiero decir todos unidos como un sindicato orgulloso de sí mismo: Miembros, personal, jubilados y aliados.

Deseo expresar mi gratitud a todos ustedes, los miembros del Local 79, por su compromiso y dedicación ofrecidos a este sindicato. Veamos algunos ejemplos de lo que hemos logrado en los primeros nueve meses del año:

- Docenas de miembros asistieron constantemente a las reuniones y las audiencias celebradas por los funcionarios electos que revisaban el proyecto Astoria Cove. El promotor actual del proyecto no ha aceptado un Convenio Laboral de Proyecto (Project Labor Agreement, PLA), y el Local 79 luchará para asegurarse de que este proyecto no sea aprobado por el Concejo de la Ciudad de Nueva York a menos que su construcción esté a cargo de los miembros de nuestro sindicato.
- Los miembros caminaron con mucho orgullo en las paradas ecuatoriana y afroamericana, y en la del Día del Trabajo. Fue muy claro para todos que la membresía del Local 79 está unida en su diversidad y simboliza todo lo que enaltece a la Ciudad de Nueva York.

Entonces, como pueden ver, ha sido un año muy productivo, y todavía nos quedan tres meses por delante. Lo que sí sé es que durante los próximos tres meses, y los años por venir, el personal y los miembros del Local 79 seguiremos cumpliendo con nuestro deber, seguiremos demostrando nuestro orgullo sindical y haciendo que el Local 79 sea el mejor sindicato de la Ciudad de Nueva York.

Mike Prohaska

Queridos hermanos y hermanas:

Cada día en los cinco condados de la Ciudad de Nueva York, miles de miembros del Local 79 salen a trabajar en proyectos de construcción grandes y pequeños. Si lo único que hicimos fue proveer la fuerza laboral más fiable y versátil de toda la industria, tendríamos mucho de qué enorgullecernos. Pero, por supuesto, nuestros miembros hacen mucho más que presentarse en las obras para trabajar. Nuestros miembros también forman parte de las primeras líneas en la organización, la acción política, la capacitación, la formación de nuevos colegas y las relaciones comunitarias y gubernamentales. El Local 79 hace mucho más que construir edificios. Edifica una industria de la construcción más fuerte y construye mejores comunidades para todos.

Durante el verano, los miembros del Local 79 estuvieron presentes en toda la región; participaron en protestas y mitines, paradas y asambleas comunitarias, actividades de limpieza de parques y de comunicación de la importancia del sindicalismo a los funcionarios públicos. Es solamente gracias a SUS esfuerzos que somos fuertes. Su sindicato tiene la fortuna de contar con una junta ejecutiva dedicada y trabajadora bajo el liderazgo de su gerente comercial, Mike Prohaska, pero el verdadero poder de nuestro sindicato viene de una membresía activa y comprometida, que, sin lugar a dudas, el Local 79 la tiene.


Los saluda sincera y fraternalmente,

Raymond M. Pocino
UPCOMING EVENTS 2014

Call Melissa Siciliano at 212-465-7976 for more information.

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<tr>
<th>NOVEMBER 19</th>
<th>DECEMBER 3</th>
<th>DECEMBER 17</th>
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| General Membership Meeting  
- 5:00 PM  
St. Vartan Church  
630 2nd Avenue | Retiree Holiday Party  
- 5:00 PM  
Russo’s on the Bay  
62-45 Crossbay Boulevard,  
Howard Beach, Queens | General Membership Meeting & Holiday Party  
- 5:00 PM  
Terrace on the Park  
52-11 11th Street,  
Flushing Meadows Park, Queens |

LOCAL 79 VOLUNTEERISM IN ACTION!

Dozens of Local 79 members and their families showed their volunteer spirit by helping clean up Wingate Park in Brooklyn and Flushing Meadows Corona Park in Queens on June 21 and June 22, 2014. Projects included scraping and painting, debris removal, and trail maintenance. “We were thrilled to see such a large turnout of volunteers on the weekend. This is just one of many examples of our members’ dedication to their communities,” said Local 79 Business Agent Luis Montalvo.