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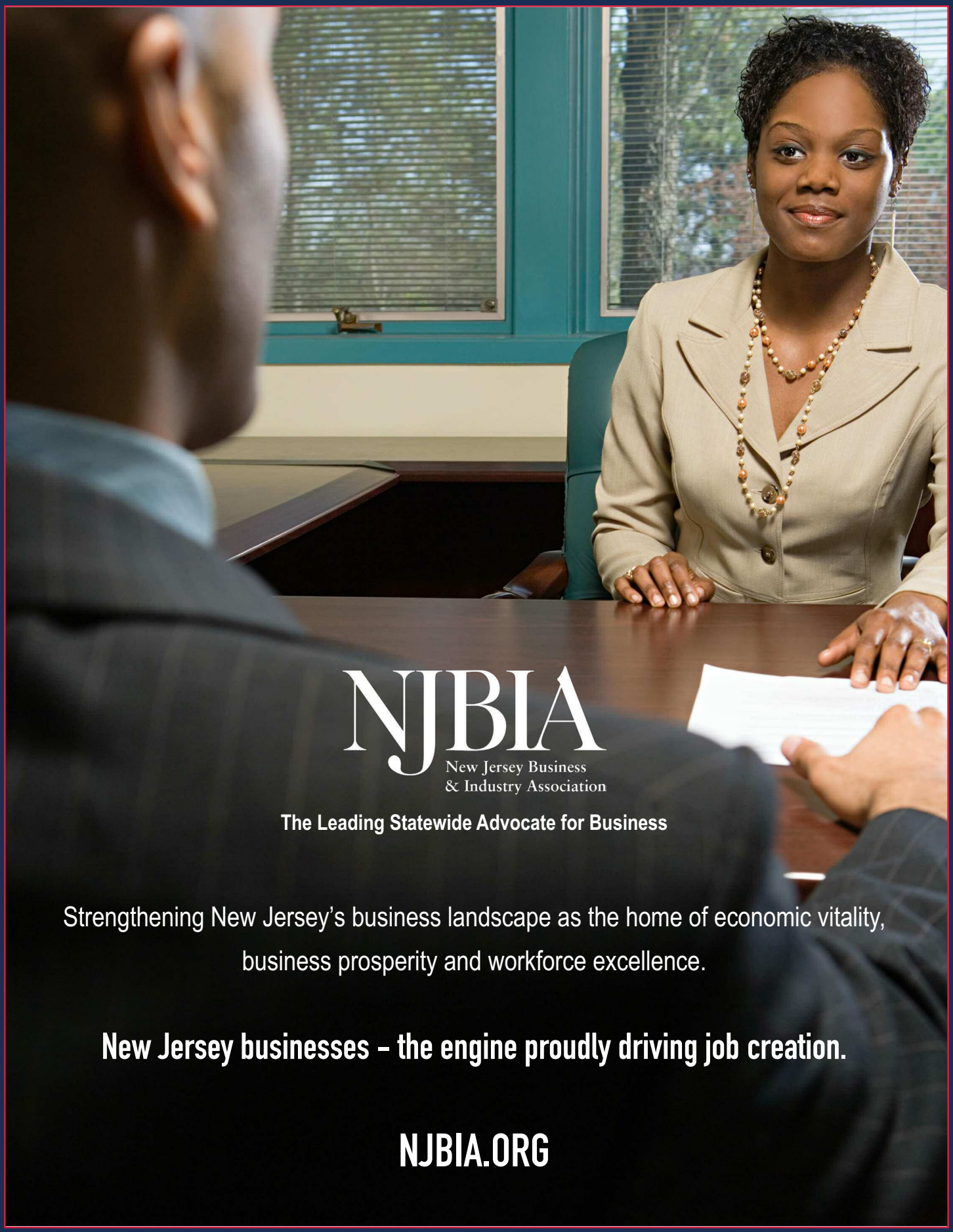
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SPECIAL EDITION



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SPECIAL EDITION
LABOR 2022

WELCOME TO THE INSIDERNJ SPECIAL EDITION IN HONOR OF LABOR DAY!



Happy Labor Day, where the movement has particular pointed value, as many working class people struggle in a system of socialism for the rich and capitalism for everyone else, in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This annual edition features an accounting of numerous going story lines in the New Jersey labor movement, including union efforts to secure better conditions for Starbucks workers, legislative action to protect warehouse workers, and temp workers, a strike backed by 32BJ SEIU for service employees in residential facilities, and, critically, how the state is handling a teacher shortage as students head back to school.

Last year's issue focused in large part on the continuing membership gulf in Building Trades labor between the largely corporate work done and urban communities actually served, and the dearth of Building Trades membership among Blacks and Latinos. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Blacks make up 6% of union construction jobs. Consider too this nugget from a Philadelphia Inquirer story earlier this month:

In Philadelphia: "The local building trades have refused to share demographic data on the workers they represent. But the most recent available data from 2012 show that the industry's union workforce was 99% male and 76% white in a city that is nearly 44% Black, and where other major labor unions are predominantly African American."

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★★★★★★★



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Against that backdrop, we are encouraged to see stepped-up efforts by regional Laborers out of Newark, which this year implemented a Pathways to Apprenticeship program to train area workers for union jobs – and long-term union membership.

You'll find that story herein, along with many others you will hopefully find helpful as New Jersey workers battle for justice. I would like to offer a special word of thanks to Rob Asaro-Angelo, commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Labor, for his InsiderNJ interview, also included below. Heading into next year, we will focus our coverage on how the state intends to replenish the Transportation Trust Fund for the coming eight years, on climate change regs and how they will impact construction trades, and how New Jersey will continue to implement federal funds for critical infrastructure projects.

For the time being, and finally, I would like to dedicate this year's Labor Day issue to Janet Caicedo, sister of the late Edilberto Caicedo, and to her efforts with Make the Road New Jersey and the State Legislature, on behalf of her late brother, killed in 2019 in a forklift accident in a Kearny warehouse.

If you don't know the story, please read on, and take a moment to appreciate the brave efforts of a loving and devoted sister – who – in true Jersey fashion – refused to back down.

Happy Labor Day, New Jersey!

from

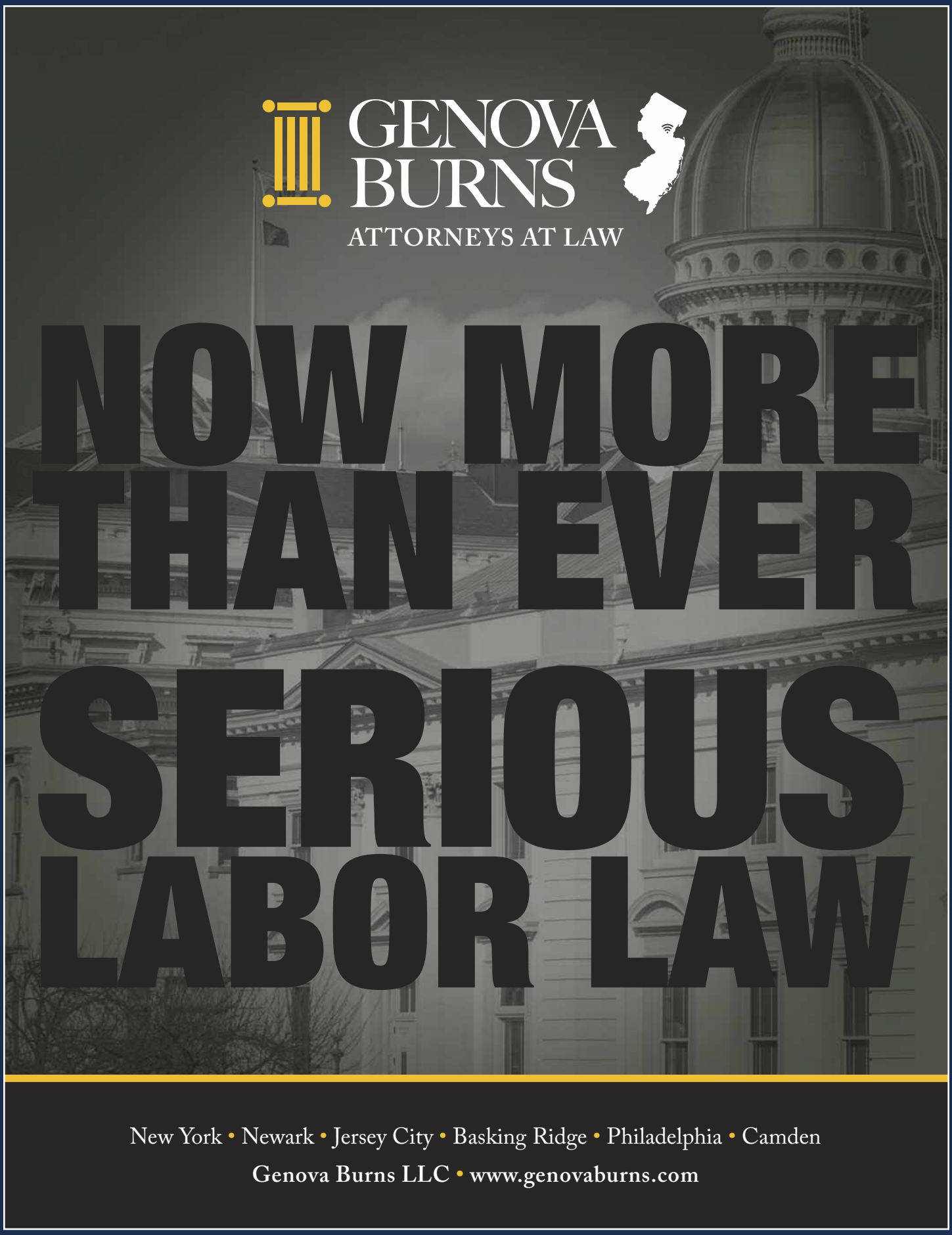
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Max Pizarro

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A SON OF LABOR: COMMISSIONER ROB ASARO-ANGELO ASSESSES – WHAT ELSE? – THE JOB



Labor conferences doubled as family vacations in the Rob Asaro-Angelo household when the New Jersey Department of Labor (NJDOL) Commissioner came of age as the grandson of a postal worker and a Rosie the Riveter factory worker. Now chair of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), a national organization delivering training and employment services and administering unemployment insurance, Asaro-Angelo wants to use his influence – and experience gained during the teeth of the COVID crisis – to streamline arcane federal bureaucracies to make it easier for workers to qualify for claims.

According to the NJDOL, the state agency paid nearly $35 billion in Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to 1.6 million claimants from March 2020 through week ending September 4, 2021, with the aid of recently expired, emergency unemployment programs established under the federal CARES Act in March 2020, and renewed by the Continued Assistance Act in Dec. 2020 and again by the American Rescue Plan in March.

Regular state UI and extended benefits provided nearly $9 billion to New Jersey workers and families, while the temporary emergency programs – Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Com-

pensation (FPUC) – contributed almost $25 billion, including to hundreds and thousands of New Jerseyans who would have otherwise been ineligible for regular unemployment. In addition, claimants received more than $1 billion under the Lost Wages Assistance program, which provided a $300 weekly supplemental benefit on top of regular UI for a maximum of six weeks through FEMA funds in fall of 2020.

While current unemployment claims are back to pre-COVID levels, time lags caused mostly by outdated federal laws caused harm to workers, Asaro-Angelo said, and in his role as chair of NASWA he wants to expedite new national standards. In the meantime, unemployment is at 3.7%, and earlier this year, the NJDOL began in-person appointments for unemployment claimants, which Asaro-Angelo says are working well.

In an Interview with InsiderNJ for our special Labor Day Edition, the commissioner spoke via Zoom from the NJDOL's Pleasantville office, where the state's wind energy industry will have a huge economic impact. Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson described the Atlantic County wind farm as the first of its kind in the country. When he first okayed it, he thought if it didn't work, at least they had a conversation piece and tourist attraction. "But we have shown that it is an effective source of energy," Levinson told InsiderNJ.

"I think it is a very positive sign for our economy," Asaro-Angelo said. "Public sector jobs need to get up as well, particularly given competition from the private sector.

Offshore wind is a new industry, and I see the reality of what that means from workforce development partners to high schools and colleges. When we first started, concepts like offshore wind and the green economy made me excited, but they seemed somewhat pie in the sky. Not anymore. This is reality."

He credited the BPU for developing NJ's green energy master plan, which sets goals for achieving a growing percentage of our energy from wind, and credited the EDA for financing and building the wind port in Hope Creek.

The co-chair of Governor Murphy's green economy council, Asaro-Angelo said his work includes coordination of pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship training for workers in the green economy, from solar installation to wind power.

As the country grapples with 8.5% inflation, Asaro-Angelo notes New Jersey's efforts to get ahead of the crisis with Governor Phil Murphy's ratification of a law increasing the minimum wage.

Currently at $13 per-hour, the wage is set to rise to $14 per-hour in January of next year.

"No doubt this will have a positive impact," the commissioner told InsiderNJ. "The timing with COVID made the minimum wage raise that much more significant. I don't want to downplay the impact on employers, but the next increase to $14 will impact an additional 400,000 workers. When you're making minimum wage, that extra dollar means a lot. I think, too, it helps businesses find workers and identify workers not just as some commodity investment, but people integral to the success of business. The idea is, 'What can I do to help this worker who is an integral part of my business?'"

But inflation continues to dog the

country – and press on those upcoming battleground federal elections in New Jersey.

"Increasing costs are hard on every family and Governor Murphy is focused like a laser beam on affordability. But when inflation is being caused by runaway train corporate profits, that is more worrisome to me than inflation caused by wage increases for workers. I have way less of a problem with that, because workers well paid spend more money on products." That said, the high cost of bread, gas and milk "hurts workers most who are on the edge."

"That is why the minimum wage increase is so important," said Asaro-Angelo.

So too is accessibility to workforce development, another priority for Murphy and the NJDOL.
Going forward, Asaro-Angelo argues that COVID gave his agency a sense of urgency and a new style of working as he examines how to break down the silos of worker protection and workforce development.

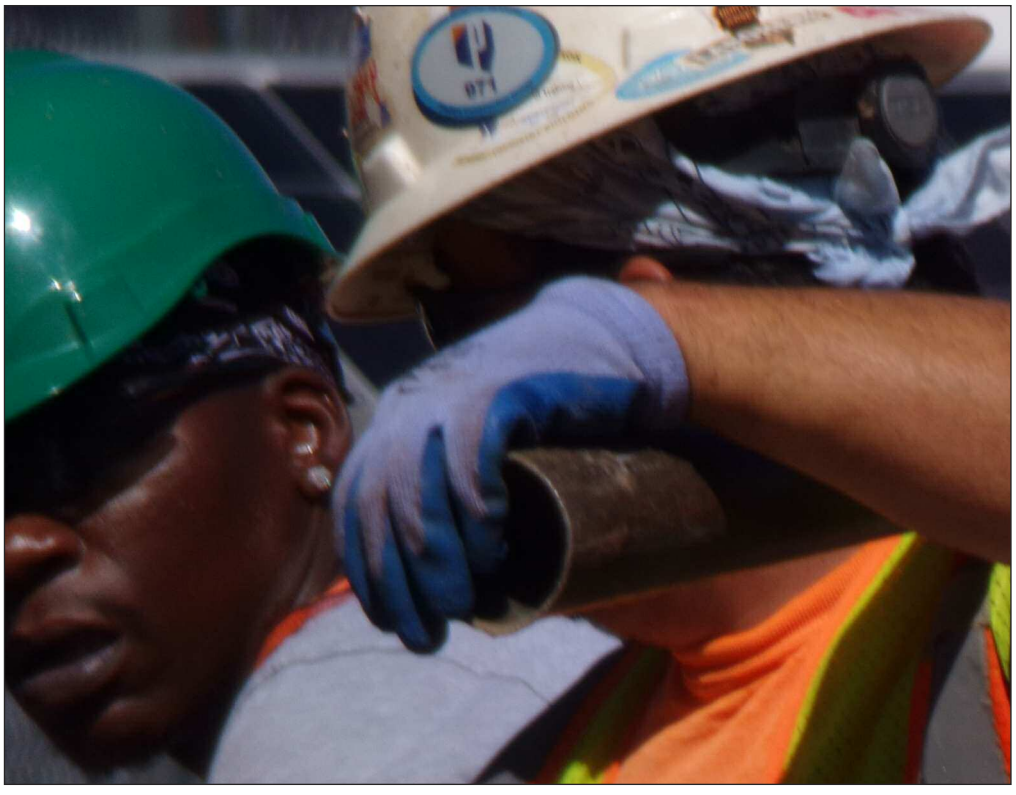
"Most departments of labor, ours included, are funded by the federal government, broken into workforce development – apprenticeships and workforce training; and minimum wage, overtime and other areas that fall under worker protection. These areas almost never talk to each other. I don't see how it's protecting the work force if we're not developing works, or how it's developing if we're not protecting. We need to bring these into alignment."

Heading into another school year, Asaro-Angelo said he fears the diminishment of the state's public sector workforce.

Over 56%??

"It's not just a lack of teachers, it's everything, and it's nationwide," he said. "The stress teachers went through is unmeasurable. There are way more opportunities for people in the private sector. The private sector can pivot better with tele-work. But I fear the unmitigated attacks on public sector workers throughout COVID, some of those attacks coming from the highest levels of government. Attacks on health workers. Attacks on unemployment claims adjustors and elections workers. It's not for the faint of heart. We're in it for public service.

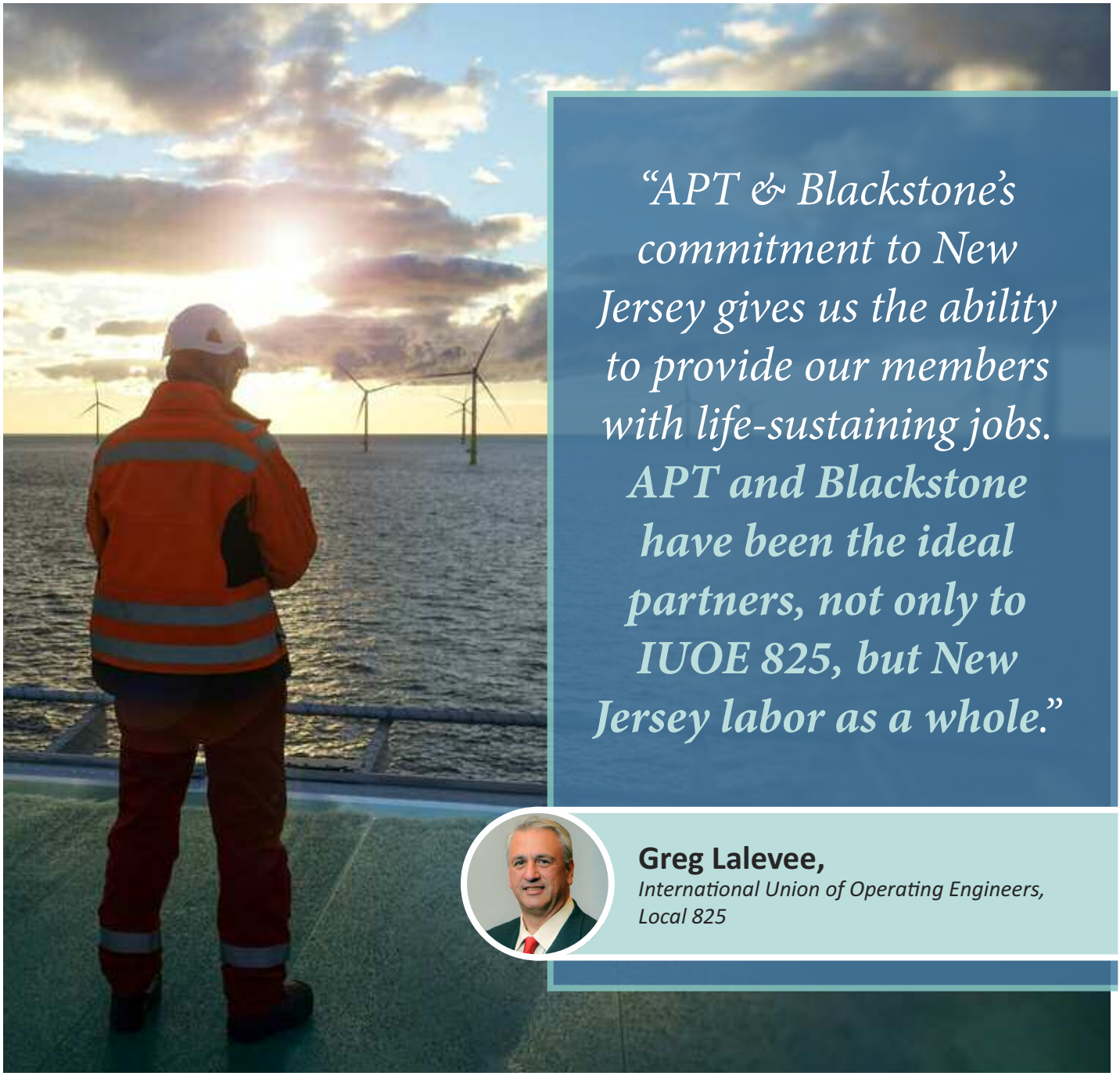
"This is work to help other," Asaro-Angelo said.



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Does Anyone out there know Algebra? New Jersey – with the Country – Mulls Classrooms with no Teachers in front of them

The national teacher shortage: it's a nightmare, it's real, and children shoulder the worst of it. One in four teachers have left the profession, staggering in search of something better, heads ringing with the 24-7 atmospherics of a profession in crisis since the era of COVID-19. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are at least 280,000 fewer public school teachers nationwide than before the pandemic, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.



"It's all hands on-deck right now," said New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) President Sean Spiller. "The pandemic didn't cause this problem but put a bigger light on it. We've got to do more."

A bill on the governor's desk vaporizes certain testing requirements, in a measure designed to make it easier for teachers to get into depleted classrooms. But the state Board of Education – and the State Legislature - have a raft of other considerations, too, including the elimination of residency requirements and debt forgiveness for those called to the education profession.

But there's so much more.

"We are late in addressing it [the teacher shortage]," said state Senator Shirley Turner (D-15), former chair of the Senate Education Committee, now a ranking member on the committee. "It's something coming for a number of years. Our teachers have been stressed out. They suffered during that [COVID] time. A lot didn't really recover. They were asked to do so much of things they haven't done before, akin to building a plane while you're flying it. Students are also stressed."

It all adds up to teachers in the midstream of their careers looking for jobs that pay more than what school districts pay teachers.

"People had the attitude that they [teachers] only teach 180 days out of the year, but they have to eat 365 days out of the year," said Turner. "They're not being paid as professionals. So much has happened in terms of devaluing teachers. Their morale has been impacted. At one time we valued teachers. During the pandemic, when parents saw their kids at home, they got a better appreciation for teachers. Lifting residency requirements is not going to solve the problem."

We have to pay teachers more, said Turner. The average teacher's salary in New Jersey stands at $46K, with a range between $38K to $57K. "We're going to have to increase that," she said.

We must remove barriers preventing students in college from undertaking careers in education, the senator added.



Turner authored the bill (S-896) now on Governor Phil Murphy's desk, which eliminates the edTPA test as a requirement. "I've written to the governor and impressed upon him the need for him to sign that bill. Everybody knows we have a severe teacher shortage."

But still, these don't get to the heart of the matter right NOW.

"We have a crisis," Turner said. "My district is going to back to school next week and we're still talking about how they are going to fill the vacancies. In every one of them [schools] there are vacancies."

Despite the lessons of COVID noted by Turner, Spiller, who leads the NJEA, said much of society continues to devalue and disrespect the education profession.
"Respect is a huge part of the job, and some of that respect is in decline," said the labor leader. "You see, for example, the impact of someone like our previous governor [Chris Christie] bashing the profession from the pulpit of his public office, talking so negatively about the job."

New Jersey turned around with Murphy, Spiller said, who respects teachers, in his judgment.

But another crisis in the world of education has accelerated distrust among many parents.

Many do not believe their children will be safe in their schools, frequently the target nationwide by rampaging gunmen. In the last days of August, Murphy unveiled his school safety agenda.

Longer term, "We need to eliminate the semi-automatic weapons," said Tuner. "We also haven't done enough in terms of mental health. All of these people [gunmen who enter schools and kill children] have a mental illness. The answer is not to arm teachers or to put a police force in the buildings."

As for the school districts lumbering out of summer into another year of shabby sustained preparedness on all fronts, starting with a teacher force at less than full strength, Spiller said, "We are always fighting for our members to do their jobs. Our job is to amplify their voices and make sure we fight for that back-to-school advocate and to ensure that our communities are properly resourced."

Critically, Spiller said teachers are stronger when represented by a union.

"We represent a number of charter schools as well, but there are many out there who use any opportunity to attack unions. They say, 'We're not attacking the people who make up unions.' I don't know how that works when you're maximizing profit at the expense of the workforce. When they do that, when they minimize the compensation of the people doing the work, they

end up with a workforce not as skilled and resentful."

The late Speaker Alan Karcher's diagnosis of "New Jersey's Municipal Madness" makes a uniform maneuver difficult. "I don't know if we can expedite 600 some school districts," said Turner. "I do I think we're playing catchup now. This problem is not going to be resolved overnight but in talking to some of the administrators, some of them have no recourse. They don't have the teachers to put in the classrooms. They will have to enlarge the class sizes. That's not good at a time when we've had so much loss of learning. That's the last thing we want to do. They're also using more substitutes to fill the vacancies."

Spiller agreed with Turner that one critical measure the legislature can do is to get rid of the residency requirement, and to expedite a loan forgiveness program and teacher bonuses.

An all-Democratic Party-controlled legislature doesn't have Christie around anymore to be bullied. It also has Senate President Nick Scutari, not Steve Sweeney, whose own Building Trades background (and coziness with Christie) often put him on a collision course with the NJEA.

"The governor now has two willing partners and there's really an opportunity to do some important things to combat the shortages," Spiller said. "This is a school staffing shortage at all levels, not just teachers. We must look at a comprehensive plan. There are so many pieces to come together. We're here to say we need all of these tools now because this is a crisis."



Ray Greaves of the Amalgamated Transit Union, which represents some New Jersey school bus drivers, said an unaddressed problem crept up on the ranks. "They didn't want to pay decent wages; a lot of those jobs were part-time jobs," Greaves told InsiderNJ. "They didn't put the money into those jobs. Wages were low and benefits not there."

So, they went elsewhere.

Bus drivers went and got their CDL licenses or took other driver jobs. Uber eats.

The result?

A school bus driver shortage.

"The infrastructure bill from the feds has helped in a lot of authorities," said Greaves, "but the school bus industry is still suffering. Stop paying poverty wages. Pay livable wages."

Caught in the crossfire, crossing guards are looking at salaries too and finding themselves, frankly, at a career crossroads.



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Caldwell-Wilson:
Labor Braveheart



After 12 years in elected office as the Trenton North Ward Councilwoman, labor leader and public sector worker champion Marge Caldwell-Wilson this year decided not to pursue reelection.

Devoted to her constituents and to what she describes as the larger family she has in New Jersey's capital city, she nonetheless soured on the atmosphere of rudeness, self-centeredness and stupidity that pervades much of local politics, not to mention politics generally.

She needed to get her life back, away from the grating, debilitating black hole that is the Trenton public square of "discourse."

Her departure come January 1st will mean the absence on the governing body of a veteran labor voice. A native of Scotland, Caldwell-Wilson spearheaded the creation of CWA Local 1087 in Monmouth County, which unionized the welfare office and part of the courts, producing a negotiating arm for workers resulting in a sustained living wage.

She led the local for over two decades before transitioning into elected politics in her home city.

"We need to have labor folks in office to address the issues of working families," Caldwell-Wilson told InsiderNJ. "This council and previous councils have not been supportive. They talked a lot but when I tried to put a responsible contractors ordinance out, they wouldn't vote for it."

Corrupt?

Caldwell-Wilson said she didn't think so.

Just tremendously ignorant.

"They didn't understand what it was about," she said. "Labor leaders Wayne DeAngelo and Mike Maloney were there to support it, and the council didn't back it. I think they were confusing it with the Building Trades' prevailing wage."

The fog of bore concerning public sector labor doesn't end at the border of Trenton, of course, amid an ongoing blizzard of anti-government worker sentiment.

"I think social media – responding to labor leaders - gives misinformation and rank and file workers bear the brunt," said the outgoing councilwoman. "When boards of educations have discussions with union folks, it gets pretty nasty. I know in Trenton, the Board of Ed and the teachers' union are really truly trying to work with the superintendent for the first time in a long time. But then we have certain members of the council refusing to give money to the Board of Ed. These are council people who are supposed to be pro child and pro-labor who are just more concerned with making the mayor look bad. It got to be a little much for me."

After 12 years of toiling on the Trenton City Council, Caldwell-Wilson described her coming retirement as bittersweet.

"I'm going to let somebody else take up the banner," said the Scottish warrior, whose native land always calls to her, especially as she considers another upcoming referendum for full independence, which she supports.

"I'm torn," she said.

She'll make a decision about that at some point.

For now, just getting of the council suffices as an important and decisive next step.

"There were people who tried to convince me to run again, but I just can't do it," Caldwell-Wilson said. "I need to take my life back. The past four years have been awful. Everybody is fighting. Elected officials are rude to the public. There are fights between the mayor and council people. It's a nasty environment."

She will miss serving people, she said.

Other battles await maybe here, maybe in Scotland. Maybe on two fronts.

Her priorities, she said, remain the same.

"I got my political education in labor, because of the issues of working families," Caldwell-Wilson said. "[The late] Alan Karcher was my mentor in politics. He was speaker of the House. I didn't know who he was when I was introduced to him as we undertook to organize. I got involved with the central labor council in Monmouth County and then the central labor council in Mercer. Mercer awarded me a knight of labor. And I'm proud of that."





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If you're illegal in this country, you can't get an organ if you need one, but they will take your organ if you die, said Janet Caicedo in a parking lot outside the warehouse where her brother died. "He told me, 'If something happens to me, I want to be a donor,'" said Caicedo.

A permanent temp forklift operator who worked for an unlicensed temp agency, Edilberto Caicedo died on the job on August 22nd, 2019. "Today, I received a letter saying four more lives were saved because of his organs," said Janet Caicedo.

Later this month, thanks to Ms. Caciedo's work with Make the Road New Jersey, sparked too by the untimely deaths of Amazon warehouse workers, Governor Phil Murphy is expected to sign S-511, sponsored in the state senate by Senator Joe Cryan (D-20), which provides certain protections to temporary laborers and imposes requirements on temporary help service firms and third-party clients of those entities.

"I want them to know what happened with my brother and the conditions under which he worked," Janet Caicedo told InsiderNJ. "I want to talk to the hearts of those who don't support the bill."

It barely passed both houses of the legislature in August. After a fight with the Business and Industry Association, the bill passed both houses, the senate went from 21 ayes to 23.

"As a permanent temp, my brother never had the right to have a vacation," Edilberto Caicedo's sister said. "He wanted to take three days' vacation, but he couldn't, unless he took them without pay. The training he received was not adequate. He had to complain with every paycheck because they did not pay him justly. He received angry answers in return. With each paycheck, he was losing one or two hours. One day he had an accident and I asked him if he would go to the doctor. He said, 'If I go to the doctor, I will lose my money.' Those are not fair conditions. We need the people to take care of the people."

Four-hundred workers went to the Statehouse this year to prevail on lawmakers to get the votes for Cryan's (and Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez's) bill.

"I'm wondering how you can you go to bed and not feel you have blood on your hands," Janet Caicedo asked those who stood in the way of S-511's passage. "They shouldn't postpone this."

Mostly targeting warehouse workers, the so-called temp worker bill of rights will provide protections

for temp workers, fair pay, and prevents charging for transportation to work.

In addition to leading the charge on the legislative front, Make the Road New Jersey facilitated InsiderNJ interviews with Janet Caicedo and "Steven," a temp warehouse worker desperate to see the state implement worker reforms.

"I've been two years on the job and I am paid less than everyone else as a temp worker, with no assurance and no security," said Steven, who drives a forklift. "My responsibility is to take care of the merchandise. Nothing has happened to me, thank God, but I don't have any support from the company for healthcare as I oversee the same responsibilities as workers who do have healthcare. I want to see this bill create dignity for temp workers. Many people are in the same situation as I am. We are workers who have responsibilities, who have to pay the rent, food and gas. I hope for a little more justice for the workers who work temp jobs. That is what I ask. Trying to make a living as I do is really complicated, practically impossible."



Building service residential workers have been the unsung heroes of the pandemic



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32BJ SEIU TAKES THEIR WAR TO THE COAST, WHICH ISN'T GOLD FOR EVERYONE



Another year, another barroom brawl for 32BJ SEIU. The 175K-strong labor union that won one of the most significant labor battles in New Jersey this millennium when it secured $19-an-hour wages for airport workers in 2019, finds itself in the middle of one more fracas, amid many.

This one unfolds at Horizon House in Fort Lee, where an estimated 82 essential building service workers, with the support of several union members from New Jersey and New York, earlier this month launched a strike in response to the Horizon House Board of Directors latest contract proposal. According to Maria Lanao of 32BJ SEIU, the new contract for all porters, doorpersons, superintendents, and handypersons should include fair wage increases, full employer-paid health care for families, and no givebacks after 32BJ members demonstrated their commitment and service throughout the two-year pandemic.

"Since May 2022, the union and the bargaining committee have held seven bargaining sessions, where the Horizon House Executive Board offered wage increases of 70 cents per hour over the course of four years. Additionally, they are demanding the that workers pay thousands into their healthcare. Lastly, they… refuse to pay the new hires more than minimum wage, and will not increase the 401k contributions, despite ripping away the pension last time around."

Kevin Brown, NJ Area Director of 32BJ said the condo board declared war on the workers.

"They took away our pensions benefits and now they're going after our healthcare," Brown told InsiderNJ. "The members have had it. They worked through the pandemic, working for the public day in and day out. They have gone above and beyond. Then the owners turn around and say, 'We want more from you.' It's really disrespectful."

For Brown, the fight symbolizes the core of this particular post-crippling COVID time, in which corporate bosses try to shuffle the cost burden onto workers.

"The entire residential construction industry has disrespected its workforce," said Brown. "Commercial industry hasn't recovered completely, while the residential industry is booming. Commercial workers do okay. But residential workers do not. Look at all the construction from Fort Lee to Jersey City. In terms of the number of units still being created, the industry is extremely profitable. But they can't do anything to pay workers a decent living."

In January, the state's minimum wage will jump a buck, from $13 to $14 per hour.

Brown wants the workers at $18-an-hour. But "I don't have a lot of hope they are going to change their viewpoint," said the labor leader, referring to the suits at Horizon House. "All the language emailed around about the workers from them shows they don't like their employees."

The worker battle for more pay and benefits spilled into the last condo board election, in which 40% of the building's residents expressed support.

In addition to organizing specific battlefronts like Horizon House, and Hartz Mountain in Weehawken, Hoboken Terminal and Bears Stadium, Brown said he wants to continue to try to get the New Jersey State Legislature to pass worker hazard pay. A 2022 budget drive by labor to get lawmakers to allocate to workers a remaining $3 billion in federal aid funds and a $10.7 billion surplus failed, but Brown said he intends to make another attack on Trenton next year.

He has friends in that fight.

"We have all seen the billboards and thank yous from corporations to their essential employees," said Nicole Rodriguez, President of New Jersey Policy Perspective (NJPP). "We have all heard the accolades describing essential workers as 'heroes.' Yes, this is nice and true, but these kind words do not pay the bills or reduce the risks. Essential workers risked their lives so the rest of us could social distance and stay safe at home. They showed up for New Jersey. Now, New Jersey must show up for them. Hazard pay for essential workers is the least we can do."



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LABORERS TRAIN THE NEXT GENERATION OF WORKERS



Taking aim at intergenerational poverty, New Jersey-based Laborers, as part of the Laborers' Eastern Organizing Fund this summer graduated its first class of Pathway to Apprenticeship workers, who went on to the next stage of their fledgling careers in labor at a Monroe-based apprenticeship course.

Seventeen graduates wore caps and gowns at TREC (Training, Education, Recreation Center) in the South Ward after the five-week construction trade career pathway workshop.

A dozen subsequently gritted through formal apprenticeship training in Middlesex County. They are ready to go back to Essex County, back to Newark, to join the workforce as skilled laborers.

"There is $5-7 billion dollars' worth of work in the city of Newark in residential and commercial jobs going on right now," labor leader Wayne Richardson told InsiderNJ. "Developers are always saying they can't find people with skills. We're taking that argument away from them."
Laborers Local 55 members work on residential projects. But the influx of federal dollars as a consequence of President Joe Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Act will create more opportunities for trained labor, Richardson noted.

"With the Infrastructure bill projects coming, we need a lot of workers trained up to fulfill those jobs," he said. "The idea is to be qualified and to be ready. That's the reason for the pre-apprenticeship program."

The labor leader – who doubles as President of the Essex County Board of Commissioners – said the Laborers are eying a second class of workers in the fall, and that he is going after a state grant to help pay for the program this time.



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LABOR SOLDIERS ON IN THE LEGISLATURE WITH DEANGELO



The throne of the senate presidency ensured a priority for Building Trades labor in New Jersey, a 12-year guarantee during the leadership tenure of Steve Sweeney. But a nonunion truck driver ran over Sweeney's 2021 reelection aspirations, leaving new torchbearers in place with the ascent of Sweeney's successor, Nick Scutari, an attorney who never wielded ironworker tools, let alone relied on the Building Trades as the base of his political operations.

The departure of Sweeney has required other Building Trades legislators to step up, among them Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo (D-14) of Hamilton, an electrical worker by trade.

The 56-year-old DeAngelo's been doing this for a while.

But when people ask him, "How long are you going to be doing the labor stuff, Wayne?" he has a single recurring answer.

"When I'm dead."

DeAngelo found his life's purpose in the labor movement.

He laments not having Sweeney over on the senate side of the equation anymore.

"It was like having a captain steering the ship with Steve," DeAngelo told InsiderNJ. "He was conscious of where the impediments were out there; when we might run aground. He really kept watch."

Other Building Trades reps who double as elected state leaders have had to sharpen their senses

in Sweeney's wake – especially now.

Even without his old ironworker South Jersey pal around, DeAngelo feels very much in a groove right now.

The fight's too important, the stakes' too high, and the overreach by corporate greed too flagrant, said the Democratic lawmaker.

"The kinds of conversations I'm having with my daughters [both in their twenties and in the workforce], I never had with my dad," DeAngelo said. "We're talking about rents – $3K in Jersey City, and $4.5K in New York. My daughters are looking at this and saying, 'Shouldn't that be illegal?' We've had enough."

A year ago, DeAngelo and his labor brothers convened in Atlantic City for the annual Building Trades Conference (this year, it's scheduled for Sept. 20-21 at the Hard Rock). They tried to refine a message of maintaining focus around one simple proposition: "All we do is build."



But Building Trades guys find themselves in the tough spot of repeatedly building corporate structures disconnected from the communities where they stand, many of them gated and coldly at odds with working people.

DeAngelo said elected officials need to get tough.

"Corporations have benefited from too many tax loopholes," he said. "Why are they buying and building these monstrosities? They wouldn't do it without tax incentives, tax rebates. We have to stop payment in lieu of taxes and pilot programs. Why are we giving them incentives to press down on real people?

The feds will have to play a bigger, more punishing role, the Hamilton lawmaker and labor leader said.

But he wants to be there for that fight.

As he said, DeAngelo's in the movement for life.

Labor Day is a holiday which recognizes the many contributions workers have made to America's strength, prosperity, and well-being.

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A pragmatic, infrastructure-centric congressman, a former Republican who shakes his head at what he sees on the extremes in both parties, U.S. Rep. Albio Sires (D-8) said he feels good about retiring at this juncture of his career.

Sure, he's tired of the vitriol, the inanity, the partisanship, the cowardice on all sides in the face of zealotry. But he honestly feels gratified by the passage of President Joe Biden's infrastructure act and statewide leadership and what the combination means for his Hudson-based district.

"I'm very happy after 16 years [in Congress]," said Sires. "Finally in this last term everything came together the infrastructure bill, which I worked on. Money is there for all those other things so important to New Jersey" – primarily the Gateway Tunnel – a massive, multi-billion dollar, long-delayed project.

In addition, Governor Phil Murphy took the lead in allocating funds for the Portal Bridge project.

"It's a good time to leave; I feel like I'm leaving on a high," the congressman added. "Remember, with the [111-year-old] Portal Bridge, they had to use a sledgehammer to get the trains back on the rails, and all the traffic that caused. That's underway now. The governor pushed a lot of it. I have to give him some credit."

That project – along with Gateway – will create thousands of good paying union jobs, for several years.

"We see the cooperation from the federal and state sides," said Ray

Greaves of the Amalgamated Transit Union. "It looks like things are finally starting to move in the right direction. The funding [$12 billion] is there for it."

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg helped break ground in August on Gateway, a project initially killed back in the administration of Governor Chris Christie. "What people have to remember is the existing tunnels are 100 years old,' said Sires. "If one of those tunnels were to go down, that impacts 20% of the GDP of this country. That's how important this is. After [Hurricane] Sandy, saltwater got into the tunnels and began weakening the cement. I encouraged [House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman U.S. Rep. Pete] DeFazio to come to New Jersey. I wanted him to see the falling cement. Every morning, workers had to shake the track out because pieces of cement were falling."

Annoyed by the delay, Sires said had Christie not killed the access to the region's core project, it would be done by now.

But Christie wasn't the only impediment.



"I think there was a group within our side holding on [to more progressive priorities] which slowed the process," Sires said. "We could have had this done sooner. Build Back Better was hurting the infrastructure bill. Finally, they came to their senses and realized Build Back Better was putting the infrastructure bill in jeopardy. Through the president's perseverance, we finally got it done. I think Biden relied on his experience in the senate to get this bill passed. Although Republicans criticized it, they were the first to hold press conferences with shovels in their districts."

Ever the pragmatist, the former West New York mayor said the Gateway Tunnel project in particular will impact the entire country in a positive way. "We spend money on the ports and everything else, and it benefits everyone else to get in and out easier,' said the congressman.

"Without government," Sires added, "you cannot do these projects."


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"MAY I HELP THE NEXT GUEST?" LABOR ORGANIZERS SHOW UP ON LINE AT STARBUCKS



Against the backdrop of baristas organizing everywhere from out of the bowels of the Seattle-based coffee house behemoth, Starbucks workers in in August made the Montclair-Church Street location the fourth store in New Jersey to vote in favor of representation by Workers United.

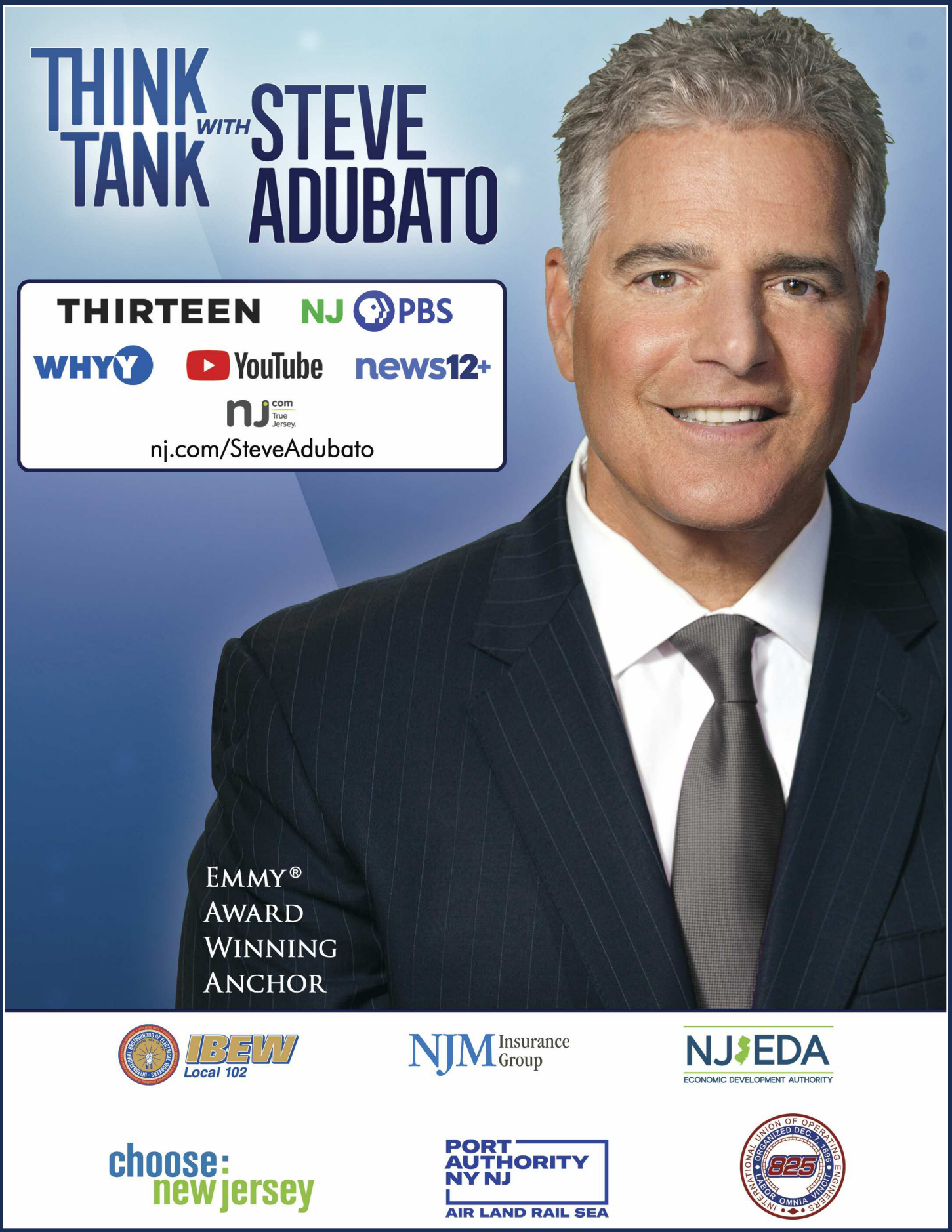
In a key moment of the ongoing unionization campaign, workers cast a unanimous vote.

The union said, "We are incredibly proud to continue our support of Starbucks workers in this historic, worker-led campaign. Their strength, strategy and solidarity serve as an inspiration to us all. As the drive to unionize more Starbucks locations moves on, we look forward to more successful elections.

"Unions help level the playing field between employees and employers. Starbucks workers nationally want more say in their wages, hours, and working conditions. Instead of treating them with respect, the company under CEO Howard Schultz has engaged in a union-busting campaign and retaliation against workers. Starbucks has been conducting captive audience meetings, spreading anti-union lies and propaganda, and cutting hours to deprive employees of healthcare benefits. Despite Starbucks union-busting, the workers at the Montclair-Church Street location and nationally have continued to file for and win union elections."

Nationally, over 260 Starbucks retail locations have filed paperwork with the NLRB to begin the union election process since the organizing campaign began in August 2021. More than 140 Starbucks locations have voted for unionization throughout the country.

Under the leadership of Charles Wowkanech, the New Jersey State AFL-CIO stands with the Starbucks workers and their ongoing efforts to organize and negotiate fair contracts.


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"A BELT BUCKLE FROM THE AMAZON" CONGRESSMAN NORCROSS' QUEST DOWN THE (SLIGHTLY) LESS THAN LAZY RIVER

In June, U.S. Congressman Donald Norcross (NJ-01) held a press conference in front of Amazon's TEB3 fulfillment center in Logan Township, where he stood with former Amazon warehouse workers and called on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to thoroughly investigate troubling reports of injury rates at the multi-billion-dollar company that far exceed the national industry average.

According to an analysis of injury data Amazon provided to OSHA, the overall injury rate at Amazon's warehouses in New Jersey increased by 54% from 2020 to 2021, and Amazon workers' serious injuries comprise 55% of all serious warehouse injuries in New Jersey.

"I'm asking OSHA to ensure the safety of working men and women in New Jersey and across the country," said Norcross. "Behind these troubling statistics are working people who depend on their jobs to put food on the table and a roof over their head. Getting hurt on the job puts their health, livelihood, and families at risk. Amazon is a multi-billion-dollar company that claims to be 'Earth's Safest Place to Work.' OSHA needs to investigate the workplace safety issues at Amazon to see what is driving these injury rates."



"Every worker deserves to be safe on the job, and that is often not the case at Amazon warehouses," said Nicole Rodriguez, president of New Jersey Policy Perspective. "As Amazon expands its footprint in New Jersey, its warehouses are becoming an increasingly dangerous place to work. It is now up to lawmakers at the state and national levels to keep workers safe by reining in dangerous productivity quotas, allowing workers to form health and safety committees, and creating stronger penalties for businesses that create dangerous work environments. We thank Congressman Norcross for his leadership in promoting worker safety and holding big corporations like Amazon accountable."

The press conference followed a hearing in front of the House Education and Labor Committee's Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, where Congressman Norcross questioned the Assistant Secretary of Labor Douglas Parker about the department's approach to investigating companies with injury rates similar to Amazon's. Last week, he also led eight other members of New Jersey's congressional delegation in a letter to Assistant Secretary Parker asking OSHA to investigate Amazon's warehouse injury rates. Amazon is New Jersey's second-largest employer.

At the press conference, speakers in addition to the congressman included: Nicole Rodriguez, the president of New Jersey Policy

Perspective; Nayeli Sulca, a former Amazon warehouse worker from Elizabeth, NJ, who, along with her mother, were both injured while working at an Amazon warehouse but were denied health care coverage by the company; and Professor Carmen Martino, the co-director of the Rutgers Occupational Training and Education Consortium at the Rutgers School of Management and Labor Relations.

Below is a timeline of Rep. Norcross's activities surrounding Amazon.

The congressman's office told InsiderNJ that they did receive a response on August 25, 2022 from Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Douglas L. Parker stating in part: "I am equally concerned about the issues you raise" and "injury rates in the warehouse industry are far too high and underreporting of injuries is far too common."

He also confirmed ongoing investigations into numerous Amazon facilities, including the three warehouses in New Jersey where workers suffered fatalities.

From the District 1 office: "Congressman Norcross is committed to promoting workplace safety for every New Jerseyan and is closely following the developments around the safety of Amazon warehouses in New Jersey."

Timeline of Congressman Donald Norcross's Advocacy on Behalf of Amazon warehouse workers:

- **April 29, 2022:** He called for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to investigate the serious injury rates at Amazon's warehouses, which far exceed the industrial average.

- **May 25, 2022:** He questioned the Assistant Secretary of Labor at a Workforce Protections Subcommittee hearing over the agency's approach to investigations due to workplace injuries and alluded to Amazon as worthy of investigation.

- **May 25, 2022:** He led members of the New Jersey congressional delegation in a letter to the Department of Labor, asking OSHA to investigate Amazon warehouse injury rates.

- **June 1, 2022:** He held a press conference in front of an Amazon facility in Logan Township, New Jersey, with labor advocates and former Amazon workers who had been injured on the job, demanding the company do right on behalf of its workers and improve workplace safety.

- **July 20, 2022:** He reacts to Carteret worker's death.

- **July 26, 2022:** He calls for expanded OSHA investigation and draws attention to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York's investigation (a highly unusual move, since the U.S. Attorney's Office does not usually get involved in workplace safety issues – that's firmly OSHA's jurisdiction).

- **July 27, 2022:** Sent a letter with Congressman Frank Pallone (who represents Carteret) to OSHA asking them to look into fraudulent reporting of injury rates (in addition to the concerns raised in the May 25 letter).

- **August 9, 2022:** Commented on two newly reported New Jersey Amazon warehouse deaths. He called for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to investigate the serious injury rates at Amazon's warehouses, which far exceed the industrial average.



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A HEAVY HIGH IS NOT WHAT GREG LALEVEE HAS IN MIND: EXTRACTING A STRATEGY FROM CANNABIS LEGALIZATION

When lawmakers legalized cannabis in New Jersey, state Senator Paul Sarlo (D-36) expressed misgivings. Specifically, he worried about how marijuana would impact the workplace, including those who operate heavy machinery.

Greg Lalevee, business manager of Operating Engineers, Local 825, continues to have those concerns. He notes that the State of New Jersey's web page expressly warns against the operation of heavy machinery under the influence of controlled substances.

The question, he notes, is when do we know a person is indeed truly impaired.

"I just talked to an MD about this, someone in the drug testing business, and he told me we're at least six months out from having reliable testing on cannabis," Lalevee told InsiderNJ.

That precision-tested measurement – "He said, 'We just don't have that right now'. It's still developing. So obviously, not just in my world of heavy machinery but a doctor, for example, administering anesthesia, we would be more comfortable when we have reliable testing to establish last usage or level of impairment. It's close, apparently, but not within six months."

Marijuana gets stored in fat cells and impacts different physiques in different ways.

For the moment, adequate measurement remains in a region best described as "unsettled and uncertain."

In addition, Lalevee pointed out that a good deal of his members' work falls under federal auspices, much of it federally funded and subject to federal strictures.

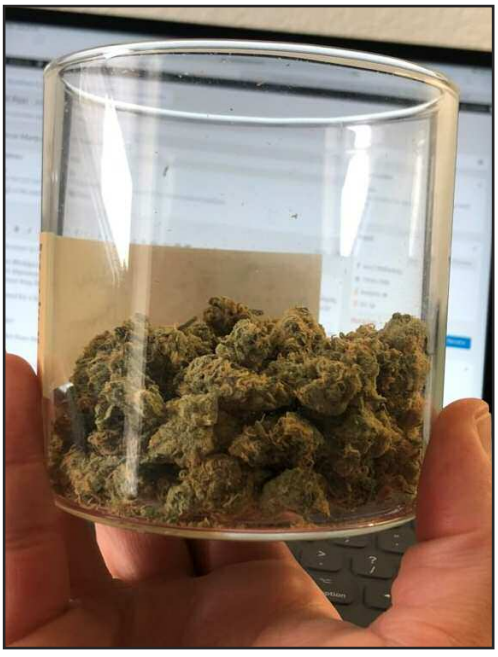
"The matter is not settled federally so how does that impact places of work where we get federal funding?" Lalevee wanted to know.

Shipping and road work, for example, refineries.

"The feds might not lean in under the current administration, but others may," said the labor leader. "The law is unclear and unwritten. For now, we prefer to proceed on the side of caution and safety instead of letting it all go."

That means case by case.

When a member with a medical marijuana card tried to work with his employer, questions of liability arose. "It came down to him having a doc write a release, along the lines of 'this dose of medicine is ok for you to operate heavy equipment.'"



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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

1. SEAN SPILLER



President, New Jersey Education Association

Former Captain of the two-time championship Rutgers Hockey Team, by trade a high school science teacher in the Wayne Public Schools, Spiller became vice president of the NJEA in 2017, and president last week on Sept. 1st. In 2020, Spiller became Mayor of Montclair.

2. WILLIAM T. MULLEN



President of the New Jersey Building Trades

Joined the Ironworkers Union in 1968. Since 1990, spokesman and director of the activities of the statewide trades, comprised of 15 international building unions and 13 county councils, representing some 150,000 members.

3. ROB ASARO-ANGELO



Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Labor

Son of an Atlantic City labor organizer and himself formerly an organizer with the Laborers International Union, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the Service Employees International Union Local 111 and formerly executive director with the Democratic State Committee, Asaro-Angelo from 2010 to 2017 served as Eastern Regional Representative for the U.S. Department of Labor under the Obama Administration. Chair of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies.



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Pictured above:
Sean M. Spiller, President (center)
Steve Beatty, Vice President (right)
Petal Robertson, Secretary-Treasurer (left)

INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

4. CHARLES WOWKANECH

President of the New Jersey AFL-CIO



A second-generation member of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 68, Wowkanech worked on a tart-up crew at Newark Airport. Elected AFL-CIO President in 1997, he leads an organization that serves one million members.

5. RAY POCINO

Vice President and Eastern Regional Manager, LIUNA



Starting his career in 1956 as a general laborer, he became vice president of the union's eastern region in 1998. He oversees activities impacting 40,000 laborers in New Jersey, Delaware, New York City, Long Island and Puerto Rico.

6. GREG LALEVEE

Business Manager, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825



Started working as a crane operator in 1984, elected business manager of the 7K-strong union in 2010. Maintains strong political ties around the state of New Jersey; prevailed on Governor Murphy to include roads and bridges in PLA agreements totaling over $5 million, a boon to his union.
Members stand to gain from large-scale infrastructure projects underway, including Gateway and Portal Bridge.

INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

7. RAY GREAVES



Chairman of the New Jersey Amalgamated Transit Union, Vice President of the ATU International

Greaves joined ATU Local 819-Newark, NJ in 1985 after hired on to the NJ Transit Newark Shops Maintenance Department. Serving as Shop Steward from 1989 to 1994, he later served as Recording Secretary, Legislative Representative, and an Executive Board member. In 2011, he was elected Chair of the ATU New Jersey State Council and served until 2019, when he became International Vice President. Former Bayonne Councilman. Represents over 7500 New Jersey Transit workers, and over 30,000 between New York and New Jersey.



INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

8. FRAN EHRET



New Jersey State Director for the Communications Workers of America, District 1

Leader of one of the most powerful unions in the state, former toll collector Ehret leads an organization that represents more than 70,000 working families in the Garden State — including 40,000 state workers, 15,000 county and municipal workers, and thousands of workers in the telecommunications, airlines, health care and direct care industries.

9. KEVIN BROWN



New Jersey State Director of 32BJ Service Employees

Brown began his organizing career with SEIU in 1987, when he helped unionize cleaners in Washington, D.C. Moving to New Jersey in 2001 after a successful organizing run in Connecticut, Brown worked to organize and expand to 13,000 the ranks of unionized commercial, residential, public school contracted, and airport private sector service workers throughout New Jersey. Significantly, successfully spearheaded the moment to land a $19-per-hour by 2023 for half of all Newark International Airport workers. Now organizing security workers in Hudson County.

10. BOB MCDEVITT



Unite Here Local 54 President

As prez of Unite Here Local 54, the Atlantic County-based McDevitt oversees the activities of over 10,000 members working in the hotel, gaming, and food service industries across New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania.

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11. MILLY SILVA



President, SEIU State Council, Executive Vice President 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, New Jersey Region 1

Bronx native, Columbia University graduate Silva stepped forward in 2013 to run on the statewide Democratic ticket with Barbara Buono, largely in defiance of the public pensions and benefits overhaul ramrodded by Governor Chris Christie and Senate President Steve Sweeney.

12. WILLIAM SPROULE



Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters (EASRCC)

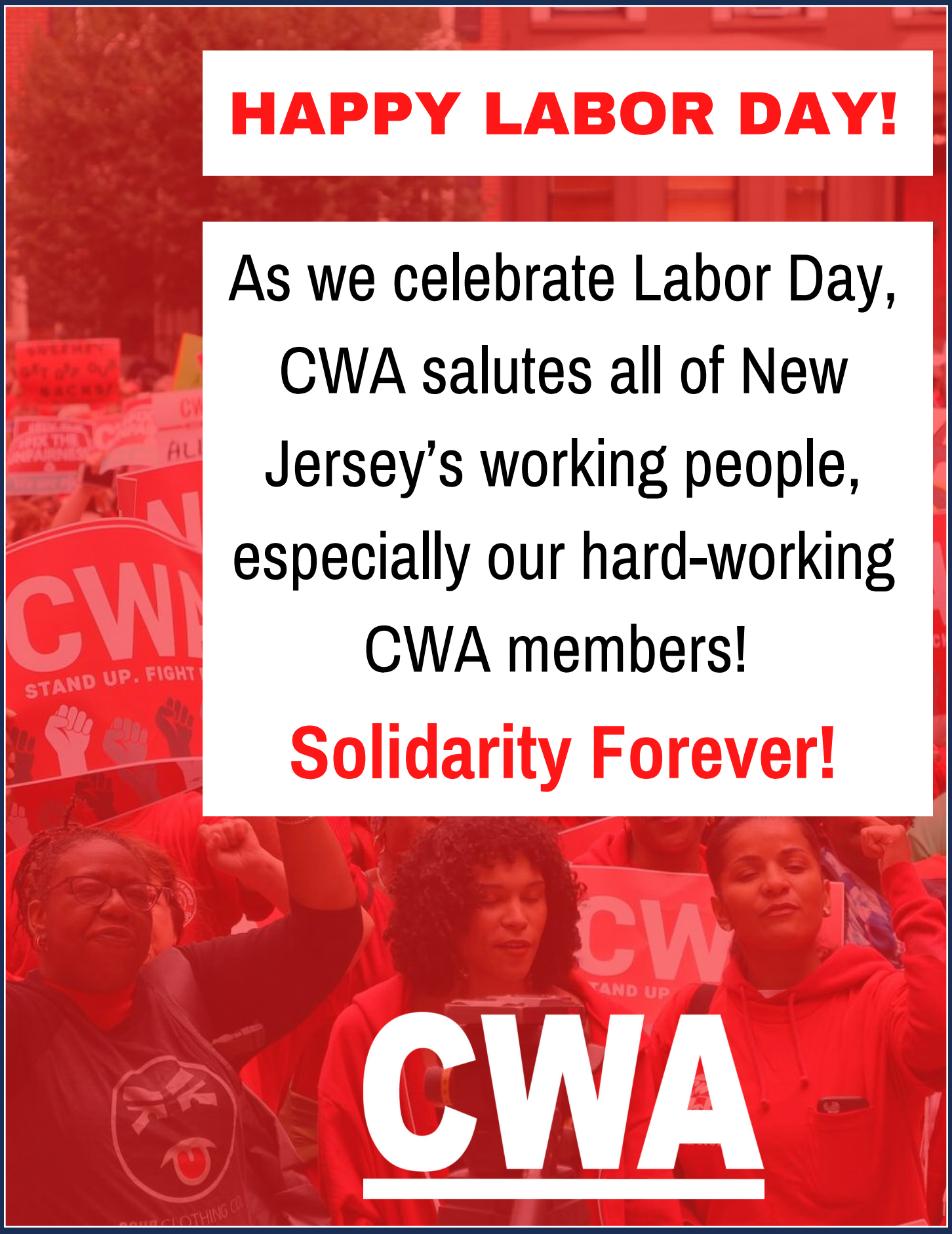
Former President and Regional Manager of the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters, dissolved and merged into Keystone/Mountain/Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters on May 30, 2018. EASRCC represents more than 41,000 members in Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the Territory of Puerto Rico.

13. PAT COLLIGAN



President, New Jersey State Police Benevolent Association (NJPBA)

A veteran of Franklin Township Local 154, the PBA Prez oversees the labor organizing activities of more 33,000 officers in the State of New Jersey.


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As we celebrate Labor Day, CWA salutes all of New Jersey's working people, especially our hard-working CWA members!
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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

14. INES GARCIA-KEIM

President of NJSCM The New Jersey State Council of Machinists



An airline worker by trade, Garcia-Keim began her career at Continental Airlines in 1988. She joined the International Association of Machinists (IAM) following the merger of Continental and United Airlines in 2011. An active member of Local 914 in Newark since 2011, Garcia-Keim is the first woman elected President of the New Jersey State Council of Machinists.

15. TOM GIBLIN

Business Manager, International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL-CIO, Local 68



Elected to the Assembly in LD-34 in 2005, Giblin is the former Essex County Democratic Chairman and the former Democratic State Committee Chairman. Chair of the Assembly Regulated Professions Committee.

16. EDDIE DONNELLY

President, New Jersey Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association



A firefighter for the Union Fire Department for 21 years, Donnelly took on the role of leading the FMBA in October of 2013. Also the chairman of the Police Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS), Donnelly briefly flirted with a 2021 run for the state senate.

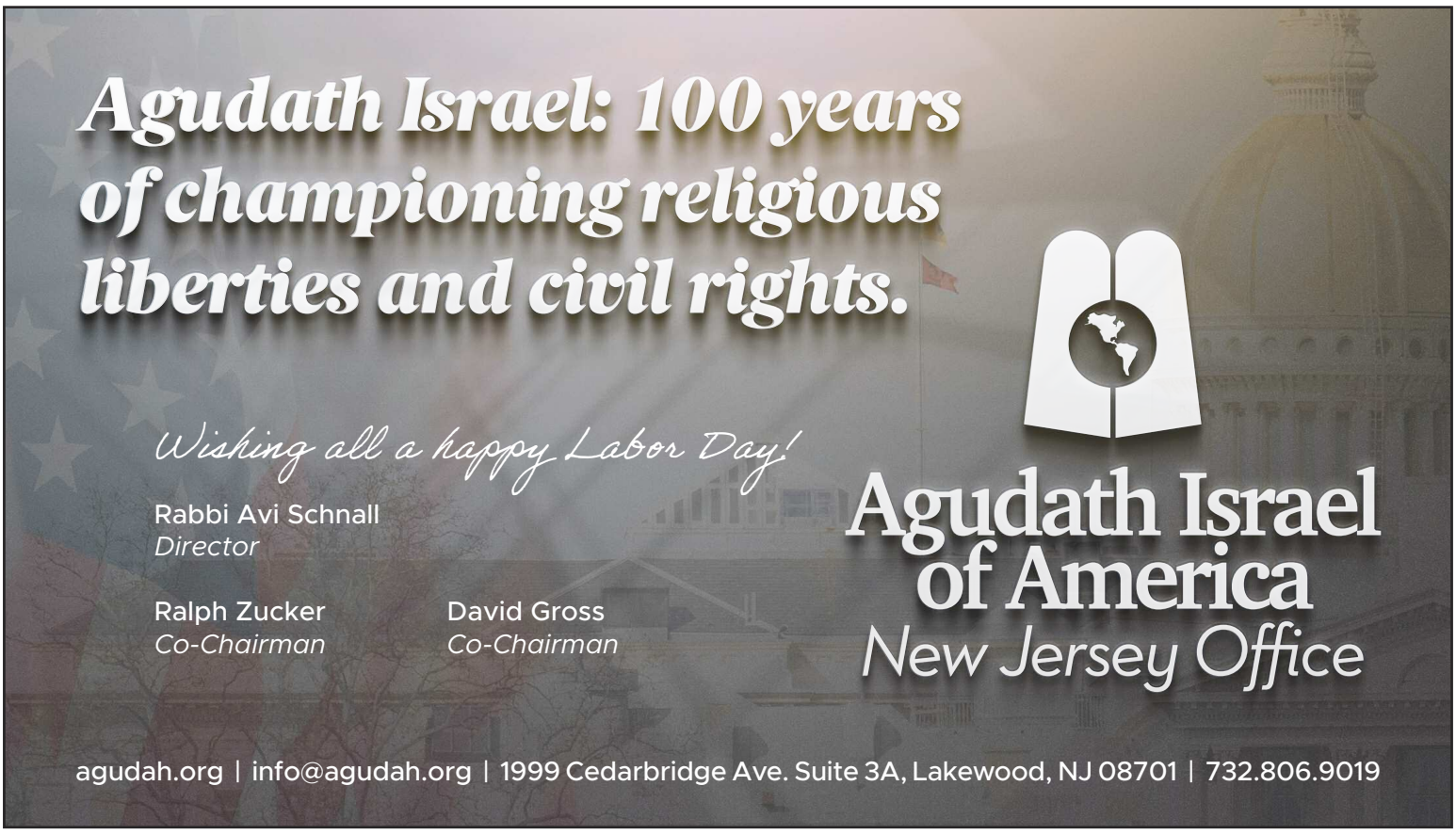
INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

17. WAYNE DEANGELO



Assistant Business Manager at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 269, Assemblyman

As assistant business manager of IBEW Local 269, DeAngelo oversees the organizing activities of 1200 members throughout Central New Jersey and Bucks County, PA. He also serves as president of the Mercer-Burlington County Building and Construction Trades. A former Hamilton Councilman, DeAngelo has served as a Democratic Assemblyman in the 14th District since 2007. Chairman of the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee.



INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

18. JOE EGAN



Business Manager, IBEA Local Union No. 456, Assemblyman

A member of the New Brunswick City Council from 1982 to 2010, Egan first became an assemblyman in 2002. Chairman of the Assembly Labor Committee.

19. RAHAMAN MUHAMMAD



Deputy Mayor for Employment, City of Newark

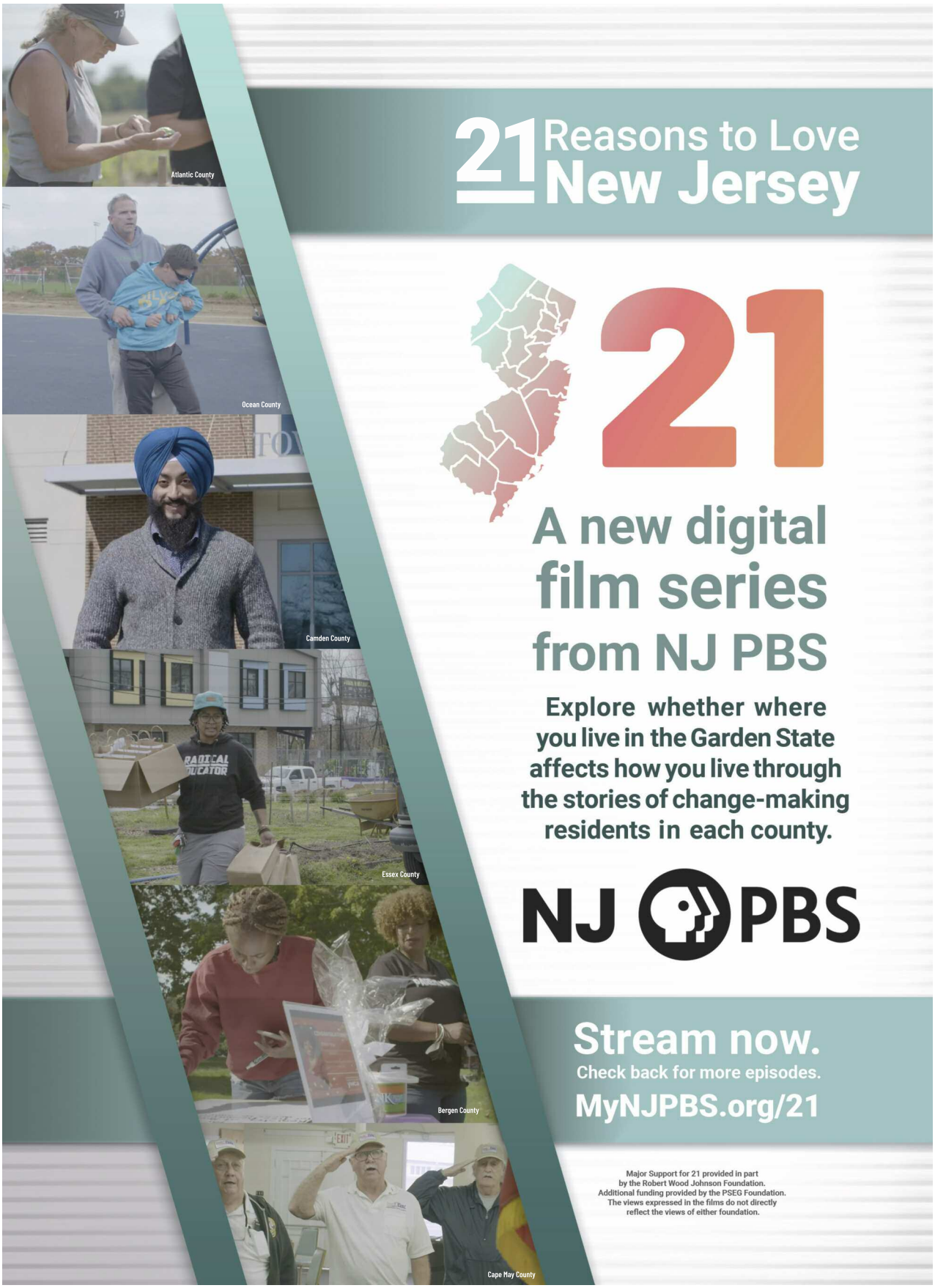
An organizer out of the South Ward for SEIU, Muhammad operated with a central principle when it came to Newark: "You need five votes on the city council, and who's the mayor." His union work led him to forge a close relationship with fellow South Warder Ras Baraka, and when Baraka became mayor in 2014, Muhammad went to the cabinet to head workforce development.

20. MICHAEL MALONEY



President, Mercer County Central Labor Council

A native of Trenton, Maloney began his work career as a steamfitter apprentice in Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union #9 September of 1977. A member of the first apprenticeship class of Local 9 in Central New Jersey, Maloney is the President of the New Jersey State Pipe trades and, as President of the Mercer County Central Labor Council, oversees the activities of 50,000 families in 49 area unions in Mercer County.


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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

21. ANTHONY ABRANTES



Organizing and Political Director for the Eastern Atlantic State Regional Council of Carpenters

Essex County native Abrantes represents 43,000 Union Carpenters from, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina & Puerto Rico. As a delegate for Carpenters Local 254, he represents nearly 4,000 men and women in NJ.

22. FRED MADDEN



Chairman, Senate Labor Committee

Close to fellow Gloucester County resident Sweeney, Madden assumed the oath of office in the state senate in 2004 after retiring from the state police force in 2002. Dean of the Gloucester County Police Academy.

23. LAUREL BRENNAN



Secretary-Treasurer of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO

In her position since 1997, Brennan was elected to her seventh term in 2020. She is the first woman to serve in this office in New Jersey and is one of only seven to do so across the nation.



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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

24. VIRGIL MALDONADO

President, International Longshoreman's Association (ILA) Local 1588



A political player. Close to Bayonne Mayor Jimmy Davis, Maldonado convinced Davis to replace Assemblyman Nick Chiaravallotti with crane operator William Sampson IV.

25. SARA CULLINANE

Make the Road Action New Jersey State Director



Under the leadership of Cullinane, MRA NJ has played a critical role in advancing the interests of workers, many of them non-citizen and non-unionized, in an effort to get them aligned with sustainable jobs with just wages and benefits.

26. ANTHONY VERRELLI

Assemblyman



A carpenter by trade and past President of Carpenters Local Union 254, Verrelli serves as the vice chairman of the Assembly Labor Committee.

INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

27. JULIE DIAZ



Chief of Staff to Labor Commissioner Asaro-Angelo

Veteran legislative operator, grassroots political organizer (Obama 2008) and labor organizer (32BJ SEIU) Diaz went to the Murphy Administration in 2017.

28. DONALD NORCROSS



Congressman, 1st District

Former assistant business manager of the IBEW Local 351, and former president of the Southern New Jersey Building Trades Council, Norcross served in the state senate with his old labor buddy Steve Sweeney prior to assuming office in Congress in 2014. Playing a critical legislative role in the fight to ensure justice for Amazon warehouse workers.

29. DEBBIE PARKS



Vice President, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

A member since 1982, former field coordinator Parks became an International Vice President in January 2018. Formerly vice president of AFSCME Council 73, Parks represents over 20,000 workers. Last month, labor leaders and rank-and file members from the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and its affiliated unions, pro-labor state legislators and AFSCME New Jersey Council 63 members staged a picket line and rally outside behavioral health provider SERV headquarters in Ewing on Thursday to protest lack of progress in contract negotiations.

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Yet we are now facing a national reproductive health care crisis. The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* in June has created chaos, confusion, and devastation across the country. Millions of people are no longer able to access abortion where they live, and disproportionately Black, Latino, Indigenous, and other people of color are being harmed by draconian abortion restrictions.

Accessible abortion care is critical to the economic health of families. When someone is unable to access a wanted abortion, even years later, she is less likely to have enough money to cover basic living expenses like food, housing, and transportation.

Now is the time to expand access to the full range of reproductive health care, including abortion. We are grateful that we live in a state that has protected the right to abortion, but we know rights alone are not enough. We must make abortion more affordable in New Jersey by mandating that insurance plans in New Jersey cover abortion, without any out of pocket costs. We also must ensure that everyone is able to access care, regardless of their insurance coverage or immigration status. And we must safeguard advance practice clinicians' ability to provide abortion care, so that services are more accessible to New Jerseyans and to those who must travel here from their home states.

The Reproductive Equity Act (S2918/A4350) would codify these policies into law, ensuring access to care for years to come – beyond this Administration. The time to act is now.



Jackie Cornell

Jackie Cornell
Executive Director
Planned Parenthood Action
Fund of New Jersey

Planned Parenthood Action Fund of New Jersey is a nonprofit, non-partisan group advocating on behalf of the tens of thousands of New Jerseyans who rely on Planned Parenthood health centers for high-quality, affordable reproductive health care.

www.PPActionNJ.org

INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

30. STEVE SWEENEY

Vice President of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers



The former Senate President remains a steadfast leader of Building Trades Labor in New Jersey and appears to still have his eyes fixed on statewide office – governor next time.

31. DEBBIE WHITE

President, Health Professional Allied Employees (HPAE)



A registered nurse at Virtua Memorial Hospital for 27 years and a long-term Med-Surg nurse, White took over from HPAE founder Ann Twomey.

32. WAYNE RICHARDSON

Prez Of Laborers Local 55



Also the President of the Essex County Commissioners, Richardson this year successfully oversaw the graduation of the laborers' first Pathways to Apprenticeship recruits, a critical program to help arm Newark residents to undertake careers in skilled labor.

INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

33. CHARLES HALL

President of Local 108



Born and raised in Newark, the labor leader who represents department store employees has a long career in labor, which includes organizing poultry workers in the south. An ally of social justice activist Larry Hamm of the People's Organization for Progress (POP) who will routinely takes to the streets come crisis time.



INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

34. MARK LONGO

Director, Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative (ELEC)



Longo has deep labor roots in government affairs and building trades public affairs. Formerly director of government affairs and political Action for IUOE Local 825.

35. ROBERT M. FOX

President, New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police



A Member of the Fraternal Order of Police since 1973, Fox served as Cherry Hill police officer for 25 years. A union diehard, he held several offices in Cherry Hill FOP Lodge #28, including: Treasurer, State Trustee, Guard and President for 14 years.

36. PATRICK KELLEHER

President, Hudson County Building & Construction Trades Council



Kelleher stands at the heart of the matter with the passage of Biden's infrastructure plan and the federal money comes through to build the long-awaited Gateway Tunnel.


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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

37. NICK JAYME

Political Director for the Teamsters



Re-politicizing the Teamsters Local 560 after a dormant period for the labor organization.

38. LINO SANTIAGO

Business Representative at International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825



The Building Trades Essex-based leader stands at the epicenter of infrastructure overhauling in North Jersey with the infusion of new federal funds. A key player for heavy equipment operators.

39. MARIA REFINSKI

President, NJ Nurses Union



The labor leader has grounded cred as a veteran of the Saint Barnabas Medical Center's Post Anesthesia Care Unit.

INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

40. WYATT EARP

President, Monmouth and Ocean Counties Central Labor Union, AFL-CIO



The veteran chairman of the Ocean County Democratic Committee initially came up short in his support for LeRoy Jones as state party chairman; but with Jones chairman now he presumably has a key ally in the north.

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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

41. JANET CAICEDO

Activist



The sister of the late Edilberto Caicedo, a forklift operator, worked with Make the Road New Jersey to put on Governor Phil Murphy's desk a bill to make more just the lives and wages of New Jersey's temp worker warehouse force.

42. WILLIAM SAMPSON

Lawmaker



The 31st District assemblyman has a dirt-under-the-fingernails labor background with the International Longshoreman's Association Local 1588 as a crane operator and the union's political point of contact.

43. MARIA FOSTER

Director of Government & Community Affairs, Painters and Allied Trades District 711 (IUPAT DC 711)



An At-Large representative of the Brick Township Public Schools, Foster was also a Democratic appointee to the Board of Commissioners of the Brick Township Municipal Utilities Authority.

"However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results."

-Winston Churchill

Warmest Congratulations to the 2022 NJ Labor Leaders!



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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

44. MARIA LANAO

Communications, 32BJ SEIU



As noted in one of the pieces above, the union undertakes a lot of meaningful fights, which means Lanao finds herself in the middle of them, but always on the side where they wear the purple shirts.

45. CURTIS JENKINS

Former Camden City Council President



A lifelong labor member, Jenkins retired from LIUNA, but has naturally in his efforts to organize people locally in the Building Trades.

1 IN 4

STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES STRUGGLES TO AFFORD MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS OR IS UNABLE TO AFFORD THEM AT ALL*

Menstrual products are a necessity, not luxury. If toilet paper, soap, and paper towels are provided free of charge in bathrooms, why aren't menstrual products?

New Jersey must pass S1221/A1349 to provide free menstrual products in public school restrooms to meet its TITLE IX obligations.

equalityperiodnj.com

*2021 State of the Period Study conducted by Thinx and PERIOD Inc.


you'd go to the ends of the earth to make sure she got the best care.
HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX
HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FOUNDATION
2022
LGBTQ+ HEALTHCARE EQUALITY
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And so do we.
We're Capital Health. A hospital made better by doctors and nurses and staff who have left other hospitals for a place where they can do better work. The work that inspired us to become doctors and nurses in the first place.
Where we collaborate across disciplines for smarter, more informed care. Where we're structured to meet with patients longer. To the care that earned us "LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leader" designations from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation for equitable treatment and inclusion of LGBTQ+ patients, visitors and employees. To working with a robust network of community partners that serve the City of Trenton through our Institute for Urban Care.
To a place where we can do whatever it takes to get her the best care.
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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

46. BOB HENNELLY

Reporter



A Paterson native, the former WBGO labor, politics and government reporter, now reporting for InsiderNJ, Hennelly authored Stuck Nation, his consideration of a dysfunctional economic and political system when it comes to working people. One of the last great, indefatigable labor reporters.



Eastern Atlantic States
REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

William C. Sproule, Executive Secretary- Treasurer

The Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters is part of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and is made up of over 41,000 highly skilled men and women living and working in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Washington DC, Virginia, West Virginia, and Puerto Rico.

Learn more at **EASCarpenters.org**

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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

47. SUSAN DECARAVA

President of The NewsGuild of New York



Gannett reporters from the Bergen Record, the Daily Record, NJ Herald, Courier News, Asbury Park Press and Home News Tribune last year announced they are unionizing. The new unit, which is called APP-MCJ Guild, is affiliated with DeCarava's NewsGuild. "These workers are fighting to safeguard the legacy of local news in northern New Jersey and justly advocating for stronger, more diverse newsrooms that can continue to be a critical lifeline, celebrated storyteller, and most importantly, a necessary watchdog for our communities," DeCarava said. "We call on Gannett for swift recognition so that we can get to the table to ensure that the collective voice of these workers, and the interest of our readers, are heard, and respected." Gannett has declined to recognize them.



~ Best Wishes ~

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INSIDER 100 POWERLIST

48. PATRICK DELLE CAVA

Business Manager, IBEW Local 102



Grandson of Pasquale Delle Cava, who ran the Laborers Union back in 1932 out of Paterson, the Parsippany-based labor leader oversees the organizing and negotiating activities of 3,100 skilled electrical workers throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

49. ANGELA DELLI-SANTI

Communications, New Jersey Department of Labor



The former Associated Press reporter cut her teeth on the other side of the communications divide with the AFL-CIO, before moving over to the NJ-DOL.

50. PAUL ROLDAN

Business Administrator, LIUNA Local 3



Based in Kearny, serves Essex and Hudson, signing contractors to CBA/Demo/Terma/ NMA/agreements; participates with local city councils implementing pre-apprentice programs for participation with Local PLAs.