Local Unions Invite Active-Duty Service Members, Veterans to Join Apprenticeship Mix

By Jessica Zimmer
Contributing Writer

Apprentices and veterans are highly valued in San Francisco’s building trades locals, and some members fall into both categories. November marked Veterans Day, which fell on the 11th, and National Apprenticeship Week, which ran the 15th through the 21st.

Two building trades unions offer particularly robust programs for apprentices and, specifically, for veteran-apprentices and active-duty U.S. military service member-apprentices. Including veterans and service members in the apprenticeship mix has yielded positive results.

Giving Veteran-Apprentices a Jump

Danny Campbell, business agent for the Sheet Metal Air, Rail, and Transportation Workers (SMART) union — also known as Sheet Metal Workers Local 104 — said his local offers eight different apprenticeship training programs. Local 104 was one of the first unions to partner with Helmets to Hardhats, a national nonprofit program that matches veterans and active-duty service members with positions in the construction industry.

“Veterans often come to Local 104 through the SMART Heroes program, a seven-week sheet metal and HVAC industry course,” Campbell said. He explained that the course, which is equivalent to the first year of an apprenticeship, helps service members transition into the civilian workforce while also giving them a jump on training.

“They complete this program before their discharge,” Campbell said. “SMART Heroes lets a participant enter our (continued on page 6)

‘A Ray of Hope’: Labor, Faith, Business Unite to Offer Gift of Music

By Jacob Bourne
Contributing Writer

San Francisco’s Third Baptist Church, in partnership with the Conservatory of Music, the SF Building Trades, Swinerton Builders, and Carpenters Local 22, have kicked off a community project to complete renovations and make improvements to the historic church’s music department at 1399 McAllister Street.

“Third Baptist Church is an official site of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music called the Charles A. Tindley Academy of Music,” said the church’s pastor, Dr. Amos C. Brown. “We’ve been in operation since the late ‘80s serving youth. These young people are engaged in an excellent mu-

Local 6 Members Keep Muni Powered and On-Track

By Jacob Bourne
Contributing Writer and Photographer

One of the U.S.’s busiest transit systems, Muni keeps San Francisco buzzing. But it comes at the cost of extensive daily maintenance of fleets of buses, light-rail vehicles, and historic cable cars — much of it handled by IBEW Local 6.

Dozens of Local 6 members regularly put time in at SFMTA’s Potrero Yard, Cameron Beach Yard, and Cable Car Barn, where they do (continued on page 16)
One of the Most Consequential Bills in Modern History Just Became Law, and We’re About to Start Transforming America for the Better

By Rudy Gonzalez, Secretary-Treasurer, San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council

O

n Monday, November 15, President Joe Biden put his signature on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, making it law.

This event was met with relatively little fanfare, taking place in the midst of a news cycle that was laser-focused on inflation, skyrocketing gas prices, and the twin spectacle of two separate murder trials, both of self-styled right-wing vigilantes. Those stories were important, too—but for all the wrong reasons. We all know bad news sells… “If it bleeds, it leads,” as the cynical old newspapermen liked to say.

But the good news of this $1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure act is infinitely more captivating than last week’s bad news. Its positive long-term potential has the power to serve as the counterweight to our declining infrastructure. And who better than us? After all, we will be the ones who will get infrastructure done right, no question.

It’s more than just dollars invested and projects completed, though. This act stands to get us back to a long-lost sense of good faith among government, unions, and the general public. We can show our country that, with an alliance forged in force for good, improving economic opportunities and quality of life for all Americans.

Credit for making the infrastructure plan a reality is owed to Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, and our hometown congresswoman, Nancy Pelosi, not to mention all the other politicians who worked their tails off, stood by their word, and always stuck to their guns.

Our rank-and-file members who volunteered are worthy of high praise. To those of you who wrote letters, made phone calls, sent texts and organized to win this bill: You were essential. You took it to the next level. You put that extra pressure on that put it over the top.

So, let’s take a moment to pat ourselves on the back for winning this one—because this is really a big, consequential win. But remember: Even though we got infrastructure passed, the fight goes on. We must realize the full Build Back Better agenda and win the PRO ACT. And you know we’ll stay at it until the job is done.

we already understand how critical it is to invest in human infrastructure over the long-term, from apprenticeship to journeyman status. Thanks to this infrastructure act, we will have long-term, well-paying jobs working good public works projects. The depth, range, and quality of our skilled-and-trained workforce will be on full display, and the built results will speak for themselves. We are the people who will get infrastructure done right, no question.

highway system that connected the country and forever revolutionized U.S. commerce and travel. Some thought this infrastructure act would never even materialize, let alone succeed. After decades of buck-passing and can-kicking from our political leaders, many Americans had simply given up on the matter. We got used to our out-of-date, neglected, and increasingly dangerous infrastructure.

We began to look at our vintage public works as crumbling monuments to a bygone era when our society took pride in its craftsmanship and commitment to the public good.

That all changes right now, with this act. For the first time in decades, essential infrastructure will be a serious priority that’s treated with the urgency and approached with the vigor it deserves and so desperately needs.

We will begin to fix our crumbling bridges and roads. We will have safe and clean municipal drinking water systems again, and that’s barely just scratching the surface.

One of the most exciting aspects of the infrastructure program is that those of us in the building trades will be key ambassadors leading this transformation. And who better than us? After all,
JERRY NEIL PAUL
An Advocate for the Building Trades
Asbestos-Related Mesothelioma, Lung Cancer and Asbestosis

The Paul Law Firm has been representing the California Building Trades for the past 35 years. We have always been a California-based law firm, specializing in asbestos-related diseases such as mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis, and representing the individual members. We are proud to say that we have had many landmark settlements and verdicts for our union brothers and their families totaling over $3 Billion. One of the highlights of my career was when I, along with our mesothelioma client, Billy Joe Speicher from U.A. Local 250 Steamfitters/Pipefitters, went before the U.S. Senate and testified in front of the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, regarding asbestos legislation.

Jerry is also a Founder of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America (www.mesorfa.org), along with his wife, Elizabeth Ann Paul, Executive Director, and Jim W. Kellogg, retired International Representative of the California Pipe Trades and past Vice President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, who have all served as Board Members since 2001. Since this time, we undertook the successful funding and opening of a mesothelioma research lab at USC/Norris Comprehensive Medical Center in Los Angeles under the direction of Lab Director Dr. Parkash Gill. Over the past 15 years novel new treatment options Veglin, which went through FDA-approved clinical trials phase 1 and 2, and now EPH B4, in FDA-approved clinical trials phase 1, have helped expand the depth of research and expand the types of treatment options. This offers greater hope to those afflicted with asbestos-caused cancer, with options not previously available. None of this could have been done without the support of the Building and Construction Trades Council of California and also Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16, the Heat & Frost Insulators 16, along with the support from the Western States Conference, and all their able leaders and supporting local unions.

As asbestos disease and mesothelioma tend to surface later in life, we recommend workers take a chest X-ray screening every three years where the results are examined by a certified B reader radiologist, a doctor who is additionally trained to know what is and is not an asbestos marker and asbestosis. Plus you will increase your chance of discovery at an early stage, should you have lung cancer, which would likely respond better to treatment options.

JERRY NEIL PAUL, ATTORNEY JNP@THEPAULLAWFIRM.COM
1.855.88LEGAL | 1.855.885.3425 | THEPAULLAWFIRM.COM
Financial Help for Renters: If You Need It, Here’s the First Step to Getting It

If you’re a tenant who’s struggling to make rent, you might qualify for a financial lifeline. Emergency rental assistance programs (ERAPs) are currently helping renters throughout the Bay Area to stay in their homes. The first step in accessing this rent money is to find out if you qualify for it. The process can differ based on where you live, with the ERAP funds being disbursed through a hodgepodge of different channels and governments. It gets confusing, but basically, it all comes down to your county of residence.

To help clear things up, we’ve assembled the below list of all ERAPs in the nine-county Bay Area and all known contact information for each. So, take a look at the list — if you know where you live, now you’ll know exactly where to go.

All information is current as of November 17.

**BAY AREA EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**LISTED BY COUNTY**

**Alameda County** has a program called Housing Secure for all county residents who don’t live within Fremont or Oakland. Alameda County Housing Secure can be accessed at ac-housingsecure.org or by calling 211 or 888-886-9660.

Fremont and Oakland residents should apply through their respective city-managed programs:
- Keep Fremont Housed: keepfremonthoused.bayareacs.org, 510-574-2028
- Keep Oakland Housed: koh.bayareacs.org or call 510-899-9289, 510-880-4985, or 510-452-4541

If you live in Contra Costa County, San Francisco County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, or Solano County, you’ll need to use the state-managed program: housing.ca.gov, call 833-430-2122, or text RENT to 211-211.

**Marin County** residents should apply through the county’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program at https://bit.ly/3cmDoQf or by calling 415-473-2223.

**Napa County** works with three local agencies, giving residents a choice of the following:
- Fair Housing Napa Valley: napafairhousing.org or call 707-224-9720
- UpValley Family Centers: upvalleyfamilycenters.org or call 707-965-5010
- On the Move: onthemovebayarea.org or call 707-251-9432

The **Sonoma County** Emergency Rental Assistance Program provides a detailed list of the county’s many partner agencies and allows residents to apply through a single portal at https://bit.ly/2YUQ279.

This month’s historic editorial cartoon comes from the front page of the March 16, 1981, edition of Organized Labor (Volume 81, No. 5). Back then, the United States was dealing with the same issue as it is today: inflation. The inflation rate had been creeping up for years, and, by March 1981, it was hovering at a painful 10.49%, driving the country into a recession.

At the time, however, corporate income was on the rise. But worker take-home pay wasn’t improving, so consumer buying power was stunted and the cost of living spiked.

In 2021, we’re facing a surge of inflation, which has skyrocketed to 6.2% as of October. It’s equally painful — if not more painful — now. That’s due to the suddenness with which it appeared, the complications of a post-pandemic job market, and the complex supply-chain problems that seem to be a prime driver of today’s inflation.

The bright side of this story is that inflation was already on the decline by the time the above cartoon appeared, and, by 1983, the inflation rate had fallen to 3.2%. Another bright side: Our current president is pro-worker, unlike the notoriously anti-labor Reagan Administration of ‘80s America, and he has already demonstrated he’s serious about investing in the working class with the recently passed infrastructure bill.

One thing, however, has not changed: We still have to fight to make this economy work for the workers, and we always will. That’s why we need strong unions.
CITY PROFILE
District 4
By Jacob Bourne
Contributing Writer

Call it San Francisco’s not-so-wild west: District 4 has a distinctively low-key atmosphere and suburban character. While the past decade has brought a development boom to the city, new construction has largely been absent from SF’s west side. But that’s about to change, with eight multifamily projects that have been proposed, approved, or built since voters elected District 4 Supervisor Gordon Mar in 2019. Of the projects in the pipeline, two will offer 100% affordable housing for the district’s many working families.

“District 4 has historically been a beacon for working-class and middle-class families,” Mar said, “and it’s just such an important part of the identity of the neighborhood. It’s one of the few districts in San Francisco that really has a middle-class feel to it.”

Born and raised in Sacramento, Mar grew up in a union household. He graduated from college and settled in SF, where his commitment to public service would lead him into a 25-year career in labor and community organizing.

Mar said that as supervisor, he has been able to draw on his history of labor advocacy in support of unions and working families during a time when corporate forces have been maneuvering to undermine the rights of both.

District 4’s blue-collar roots run deep, with many of its earliest residents being Irish and Italian building trades workers. Over the decades, Asian families have migrated to the district and shifted the demographic. Service-sector unions represent many of District 4’s hospitality and home care workers.

Mar maintains that housing affordability is the No. 1 concern for his district’s residents and that he will continue to support union-built housing starts in District 4 and that he expects to see more multifamily developments in the pipeline.

“Even for homeowners who might be housing-secure at the moment, they are concerned about their children and the ability of their children to be able to live in the neighborhood and the city,” he said.

FAST FACTS
District 4

Neighborhoods: Central Sunset, Outer Sunset, Parkside, Outer Parkside, and Pine Lake Park

Housing & Demographics: Over 70% of residential units are single-family homes, of which 60% are owner-occupied and 96% were built before 1960. The population is 53% Asian-American and comprises a greater proportion of children, seniors, and multigenerational households than SF overall.

Work: SFUSD, private schools, and the SF Public Utilities Commission are District 4’s largest employers.

Play: Ocean Beach, Sigmund Stern Grove, and Lower Great Highway Trail are just three of numerous recreational offerings.

MAJOR BUILDS IN THE WORKS
Shirley Chisholm Village Educator Housing: This affordable housing project underway on 43rd Avenue will provide 135 units to teachers and paraprofessionals.

2550 Irving: This project will bring 100% affordable housing units to the Sunset, with up to 100 apartments for low-income families and formerly unhoused individuals.

Sloat Garden Center Plan: This longtime nursery, which sits just blocks from both the beach and the zoo, could be razed to make way for District 4’s largest-ever development: nearly 300 housing units and 24,500 square feet of retail.

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Trust, efficiency and experience are essential when you choose a financial organization to service your plan. Which is why you should rely on the proven expertise of Union Bank®. Our clients in labor value our specialized collection and disbursement services, tailored to serve their specific needs — from a customized lockbox that improves the employer remittance process to state-of-the-art electronic disbursement origination and processing.

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Veterans
Continued from page 1

five-year apprenticeship program as a second-year apprentice.”
Campbell said Local 104 currently has 50 veterans in their apprenticeship programs.

“Contractors have good things to say about veterans, including that they understand teamwork and have the proven ability to learn new skills and concepts,” said Campbell.

Allelea Cabiles, a third-year apprentice with Local 104 who is not a veteran, said the apprenticeship program is valuable for all participants.

“In the initial stages of the pandemic, I went to class on Zoom,” she said. “Now we’re back in-person, following COVID-19 protocols. I found whether we’re online or in the same room, everyone is there to help each other.”

Cabiles said the apprenticeship program builds camaraderie through the bonding that takes places among all participants.

“Veterans understand the team aspect of a union: When the team succeeds, we all do.”

—Dylan Boldt, Business Agent Sprinkler Fitters Local 483

Looking Beyond the Job
Dylan Boldt, business agent for Sprinkler Fitters Local 483, said that understanding how to support veterans through apprenticeship programs takes dedication.

“I’m a veteran — a graduate of Helmets to Hardhats — and the chair for the California State Pipe Trade Veterans Association,” Boldt said. “The goal of the association is to mentor veterans who come back. We partner more veterans just exiting military service with veterans

Jamaal Johnson, a second-year sheet metal apprentice working for Southland Industries, details the HVAC system for the new UCSF Parnassus Medical Center. Johnson is using the latest state-of-the-art computer-aided drafting and building information modeling software.

PHOTO CREDIT: SHEET METAL WORKERS LOCAL 104
who were discharged years ago. That way younger vets can ask questions.”

The association and Local 483 also ensure veterans can access GI benefits and find appropriate medical care through their VA benefits. They teach members how to help out in more subtle ways, too.

“Association members take a class on post-traumatic stress disorder to read people,” Boldt said. “That way we pick up on the thousand-yard stare. We follow up on veterans through the VA on everything from gun safety to mental health services.”

Boldt said it’s proved important to teach veterans who are experiencing stress to take a deep breath.

“We help people see that this is just a job,” he said. “We have to get through today — tomorrow will be there.”

The association further aids unions by encouraging union leaders and veterans to work across political boundaries.

“Politics play a big part in a union,” Boldt said, “yet a veteran may have a ‘whole-country’ view, rather than a San Francisco Bay Area view. We explain how unions can interact well with politicians to achieve common goals.”

Boldt said that breaking down union objectives is critical to holding inclusive conversations.

“When you get people to fall in line and be that soldier again, you re-create that brotherhood and sisterhood that’s in the military,” he said. “Veterans understand the team aspect of a union. When the team succeeds, we all do.”

John Falzaro Hite, second-year building trades sheet metal apprentice working for Control Air North, is ready to install HVAC ductwork at the new UCSF Research and Academic Building at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital.

Derek Phelps, an eighth-period apprentice, U.S. Marine Corps veteran, and Local 483 member, is currently completing the union’s apprenticeship program.

Antoni Valencia, an eighth-period apprentice, U.S. Marine Corps veteran, and Local 483 member, is currently completing the union’s apprenticeship program.


Ralph Farber, an eighth-period apprentice, U.S. Air Force veteran, and Sprinkler Fitters Local 483 member, is currently completing the union’s apprenticeship program.

Allelea Cabiles, now a third-year apprentice and member of Local 104, bends metal sheets as a pre-apprentice to make storage bins for hardware for F.W. Spencer in Brisbane.

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Organized Labor

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November 2021 Organized Labor www.SFBuildingTradesCouncil.org
Ray of Hope  
Continued from page 1

sic education and cultural enrichment after-school program at a time when programs such as this one are so desperately needed.”

The interfaith, interracial, all-inclusive program includes a mentoring component that serves more than 60 youths from diverse backgrounds spanning the entire Bay Area. The program brings different people together in the kind of community that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. envisioned, Brown said.

Following decades of service, the church’s facilities have worn down, necessitating improvements. Given that some SF Building Trades members are also members of the Third Baptist congregation and care deeply about their church and neighborhood, the Building Trades’ participation was a clear outcome. A crew of about 10 carpenters from Local 22 volunteered to install hardware and 20 doors that were donated by Swinerton.

The volunteers included Northern California Carpenters Regional Council Membership Outreach Representative Rachel Leanos and Local 22 retired members, working members, workers on the bench, and one member who was locked out of work during a strike.

“We appreciate all the members who volunteered their time because it’s a phenomenal cause, and we’re just proud we had the opportunity to help out,” said Local 22 Senior Agent Sean McGarry. “The Third Baptist Church is a pillar of the community.”

SF Building Trades Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez said that tradespeople are honored to be part of an expression of love and unity, demonstrating the natural alignment between the faith and labor communities in the pursuit of economic justice.

“We’re strongest when we are aligned, arm-in-arm with our neighbors, with our communities,” Gonzalez said, “and now, in a very divisive time in our country, I think we need those institutions that are calling for justice, that are calling for unity among all people, more than ever.”

According to Swinerton Community Relations Liaison Mick Penn, the firm has a longstanding relationship with Brown and has been able to leverage its position as a large contractor to provide pro bono project support.

“It aligns with how we see ourselves as a community builder, working however we can to improve the communities that we build in,” Penn said. “It’s an honor to be able to assist Third Baptist in this way and be able to impact the youth and support the musical training that they receive.”

In addition to installing new exterior doors for the building, the carpenters put in doors customized with viewing glass well-suited for a series of musical practice rooms that also facilitate social distancing during the pandemic. With phase 1 of the project wrapping up, District Council 16 Painters and Floor Coverers are expected to finish phase 2 in January. Phase 2 will be the latest in a series of church projects by Floor Coverers Local 12 apprentices as part of a program where they regularly apply their training through volunteering.

“This is really about our kids and our future,” Gonzalez said. “Here’s a group of young people who are going to see who is taking care of their church. Maybe one of them will get to meet a carpenter who lives in their neighborhood and gives them the idea that a career in the trades could be good for them. So, as we continue this community service work, we’re connecting people to opportunity.”

“I consider the union’s work to be an engagement of the people for the advancement of the community,” Brown said. “We have too much division in this nation. It becomes a ray of hope to see people reaching out to each other, and Swinerton’s donation is the corporate world showing that it is humane and engaged. It’s a dream-team effort to make things better, not bitter.”

“ Measurements are taken by volunteer carpenters at Third Baptist Church during the community project kickoff on October 22.
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE
Tue., Dec. 7, 2021, at 7 p.m.
450 Harrison Street, San Francisco
(Located Between 1st & Fremont Streets)
Parking is available on the street and behind the building.
Please bring your current dues card for entrance into the meeting.
We will be enforcing social distancing. Members should bring face coverings and any personal protective equipment necessary.

We Regret the Loss of the Following Members

Walter K. York, 56, passed away on June 4, 2021, with 12+ years of membership. He is predeceased by his parents, Nancy and Walter. He is survived by his partner, Elizabeth, and siblings Eliza, Belinda, Rose, Teresa, and Frank. He is additionally survived by his friend Shirley Stephens, who is a member of Local 22. He resided in Discovery Bay.

John Pickard, 89, passed away on September 15, 2021, with 64 years of membership. He is predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth, and survived by sister Elizabeth, as well as many nieces and nephews. He resided in Sausalito.

John Dollar, 94, passed away on September 25, 2021, with 74+ years of membership. He is predeceased by his wife, Inell, and resided in Biggs.

Jerold Wilhite, 88, passed away on October 1, 2021, with 48+ years of membership. He is predeceased by his daughter, Lavonne, and children Jerold Wilhite Jr., Andrea Wilhite, Lecia Harris, and Cherri Carroll, as well as two grandchildren. He is predeceased by his son, Gregory. He resided in Manteca.

50-Year Honorary Members
Gabriel Guillory
Peter Shevchenko
John Wilkinson

Retired Members
David Estrada
David Holquin
Avery Mitchell

Here’s the Deal By Kenny Lukas

Now that the infrastructure bill has passed, I am attempting to find out what projects we in the Bay Area are going to see. I was hoping that we’d see another bridge across the bay to relieve some of the awful gridlock we’re experiencing while commuting in and out of town.

A bridge crossing from South San Francisco to the East Bay would relieve the always-overloaded Bay Bridge. What about Highway 37 in the North Bay? There’s an example of hell on Earth. We’re living with two bridges that were built during the 1930s.

We deserve better now that Biden’s infrastructure bill has passed. Automobiles are not going away any time soon. If you want to keep the Bay Area moving forward, you can’t do it with 1939 infrastructure.

Retirees in Action
Calling all retired carpenters: You may have retired from your job, but there is still a place for you in your union. Retirees in Action is a recently formed group whose goal is to empower retired carpenters, ensure your voices are heard, and keep you connected to your brothers and sisters. Please call Adrian Simi at 510-975-0348 or email him at adrian@ncerc.org and get involved today.

Coronavirus Pandemic and Wildfire Disaster Relief for Members
Please visit ncerc.org/relief online to see if you qualify for financial assistance should you have been affected by the coronavirus and/or recent wildfires.

Journey-Level Upgrade Courses
If you’re interested in keeping up-to-date with the journey-level upgrade courses that are being offered, or if you’re interested in being placed on a waitlist for future classes, please visit ctcnc.org online.

Email Addresses
Please update your contact information and provide us with a current email address. You may do this by stopping by the hall, emailing info@local22.org, or giving us a call.

Happy Thanksgiving.
We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Louis C. Hilbert, Inside Wireman, who passed away on October 8, 2021; and to the family and friends of Lance McDermott, Inside Wireman, who passed away on October 19, 2021; and to the family and friends of Ronald J. Wilson, Inside Wireman, who passed away on October 23, 2021.

Best Wishes to Our Recently Retired Members
Joseph A. Molinari

BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT

Annual Retirement Savings Plan Enrollment Period

It’s that time of the year when our inside wiremen choose their 401(k) contribution level for the coming year. Plan participants choose to self-direct from $1 to $8 per hour into their account.

We strongly recommend that all plan participants take advantage of the 401(k) plan. Currently, the money is deducted pre-tax, thus lowering your taxable income. In many cases, the money deferred off your check will not result in a significant drop in your take-home pay. You can use online calculators to estimate the impact on your weekly paycheck, or take the time to ask your coworkers who have chosen to increase their self-directed contributions.

EISB and Fidelity

Plan participants are encouraged to register for online access to both EISB and Fidelity websites. Doing so will provide the plan participants with access to information to help plan for retirement. By registering with EISB, participants can track the contributions made on their behalf. Participants can keep up to date on any plan announcements. They can use the retirement planning calculator.

This is a useful tool for participants of all ages. It will demonstrate the positive effect of participating in the 401(k) plan, and how it can supplement your defined benefit plan.

Similarly, the Fidelity website can provide plan participants with the most up-to-date status of their 401(k) account. It provides participants with the ability to rebalance or transfer funds from one investment option to the next. Fidelity’s website also provides educational tools that help plan participants make informed decisions.

If you prefer, you can also speak with a Fidelity Representative on the phone. You can access educational materials to review at your leisure, see how a change to your savings deductions can pay off in your retirement years, and even change your investment allocation.

Don’t wait — plan for your retirement today.

EIBEW Local 6 App

Local 6 has developed an app for iPhones and Androids. It won’t bring you coffee or get material for you, but we think it can still be a useful tool for our members. We will still have to work out some bugs, but the app will allow us the ability to provide our active members with useful information.

Currently, it is available only to active Local 6 members. Local 6 retirees can email ibew6@ibew6.org if they would like to have their name added to the list of eligible users.

The Holiday Season

The holidays are upon us now, and with them comes the hustle and bustle of the season. As you are out there this year, please take care to be safe. Too many families have had their lives forever changed due to bad judgment. Take a cab or order an Uber. Designate a driver. Take someone’s car keys if they shouldn’t be driving.

Do what you can to make a positive impact on the lives around you. The life you save might be your own.

Stay Safe, Save for a Rainy Day, and Come to a Union Meeting!
John Doherty
Business Manager
Financial Secretary
IBEW 6

FIGHT for your right
TO BE UNION
Chapter Meetings

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Wed., Dec. 1, at 5:30 p.m., San Jose — 14940 Camden Ave., San Jose (Round Table)
Thu., Dec. 2, at 6 p.m., Sacramento — 7465 Rush River Dr., Sacramento (Mountain Mike’s)
Tue., Dec. 7, at 6 p.m., Monterey — 1945 Natividad Rd., Salinas (The Pizza Factory)
Thu., Dec. 9, at 5 p.m., Oakland — 1720 Marina Blvd., San Leandro (SMW Local 104)
Tue., Dec. 14, at 5 p.m., San Francisco — 324 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno (Ramada Inn)
Thu., Dec. 16, at 6 p.m., Manteca — 1120 North Main St. (Mountain Mike’s)
Tue./even months only, Dec. 21, at 6 p.m., Fresno — 2227 Getlert Blvd., South San Francisco (Round Table)
Thu., Dec. 23, at 6 p.m., Manteca — 1120 North Main St. (Mountain Mike’s)

Meetings will be held via Zoom until social gatherings are approved.

**BAC 3 Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers**

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Troy Garland, President
Ryan Ruf, Secretary-Treasurer

Field Representatives – Colin Johnson, Lenny Paredes, Jordan Mondragon, David Calderon
Organizers – Dave Tafoya, Manny Enriquez

**FROM THE DESK OF RYAN RUF**

**Trade Spotlight**

Terrazzo, an Italian word meaning “terrace,” consists of chips of marble, quartz, granite, and glass poured with a polymeric or cementitious binder, or a combination of both. Terrazzo is a composite material, poured in place or pre-cast, which is used for stairs, floor, and wall treatments.

Like other BAC trades, terrazzo can be traced back to the ancient mosaics of Egypt. What we know as terrazzo today was created by Venetian marble workers during the 15th century. The craftsmanship of terrazzo has been passed down from generations of Italian families. The craft was introduced to the United States when Italian families immigrated during the 1890s and brought the trade with them. Terrazzo saw its breakthrough during the 1920s, with the popularity of Art Deco styles.

Terrazzo is perfect for green construction projects because of its use of recycled materials and zero volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Terrazzo is a beautiful, durable, and low-maintenance surface, with a design and performance that can’t be matched by other flooring systems.

**SERVICE AWARDS (NOV. 2021)**

25 years: Carlos Alvarado, Carlos Herrera
Congratualtions on your many years of service.

**IN MEMORIAM**

We are sorry to announce the passing of our brothers:
Donald Wax, BL, 9/16/2021, 12-CA, 50-year member
Fernando Briseno, TL, 9/25/2021, 19-CA, 5-month member

Find us on Facebook by searching BAC Local 3 CA and on Twitter at twitter.com/baclocal3ca. Follow us on Instagram: @baclocal3.
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Please take time to check out the DC16 website. Bylaws for all of our crafts have been posted, and Local 12 has made some changes. Most notably, we have added some financial assistance options paid through the member benefit fund for those of you on disability. The details regarding those options are as follows:

Any member who cannot work due to illness or disability for a period of not less than 30 days may apply for assistance of $75 per week, not to exceed 10 weeks, with proper documentation from a physician. Also, the death benefit for all members in good standing — active or retired — will be paid through this fund.

Another positive change for Local 12 members is the increase of $2.70 per hour to our annuity, effective January 1, 2022. This will bring us to $8.61. If you work 1,900 hours a year, you will accumulate more than $16,000. Multiply that by 30 years, and you’re pushing a half a million dollars. This, in addition to our pension, will allow us to retire with dignity. It’s what we all strive for. This would not be possible without the members of Local 12 thinking of their future and choosing to allocate funds accordingly.

As we move into the next year, the contract under which we currently work will expire on June 30, 2022. Attending the monthly meeting is one way to stay informed and have your voice heard on issues or possible changes that you’d like to see. As you know, the meetings take place in-person on the third Thursday of the month. When visiting any DC 16 facility, please be prepared to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within 72 hours of your visit.

As always, I invite members with a special milestone in their life such as a birth, graduation, marriage, retirement, or, sadly, a death to contact Steve Belong or myself to share a photo and a few words in a future article.

Upcoming holidays are December 24 and 31.

Respectfully,

Anthony Nuanes
Contract Time Is Coming

The one-year extension to Local 510’s Trade Show and Convention Installer Agreement ends at the end of March. Members who have suggestions for our negotiations should submit them in writing to the local by clicking on the “Contact Us” tab on the Local 510 website (local510.org). You may also submit them to mworth@local510.org or adosier@local510.org. Submissions may also be mailed to 400 Talbert Street, Daly City, CA 94014.

Please submit suggestions no later than December 31, 2020.

Meeting Location

Local 510 had its November meeting at the IBEW Local 6 hall. Local 510 wishes to express its gratitude to Local 6 for allowing us to have our meetings there. Meetings may also be mailed to 400 Talbert Street, Daly City, CA 94014.

January’s meeting will also take place at the Local 6 hall on Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022. Announcement to membership of these meetings will be sent by the Local 510 office in mid-November.

Both meetings will begin at 6 p.m.

The Office Is Open

The Local 510 office is open and staffed five days a week. Members who wish to come in and conduct business should call for an appointment. The office phone number is 650-763-5405. Annette Dosier is available at extension 1118, Morgan Worth at extension 1118, and Field Representative Peter Forni at extension 1111.

Training and apprenticeship questions may be addressed to Richard Northam, JATC coordinator, at extension 1113.

At November’s union meeting, during reports of accidents, sickness, or death, there was an announcement by a member that Pat Cohen might have passed away. We’re happy to report that Brother Cohen is alive and well, and that reports of his demise were greatly exaggerated. There’s recent precedent for such occurrences. During the pandemic, we received several reports of death that were simply rumor. In these instances, one member became worried about another because they’d lost contact with that member.

Members with a concern about another member can always report their concern to the office, which is happy to follow up on the matter.

Respectfully and in Solidarity,
Morgan Worth
Annette Dosier
Peter Forni

From the Desk of Chris Moyer

Our September work hours are up from a year ago — as one would hope, coming out of the pandemic. Hopefully, the trend will continue.

Even with things appearing to be picking up, some of our brothers and sisters are still struggling. For those who are having a hard time latching onto the economic recovery train and getting back into the swing of things, financial difficulties can contribute to emotional challenges. To make matters worse, those two things can begin build on each other until life in general can seem pretty overwhelming.

I met Bobby T. when I made the transition from Progress Glass to Mission Glass. I had been at Progress Glass for nine years, and my last six months working there were rough. I’ll tell you what’s worse than being laid off: having a job and not making any money. I worked a day here and a day there.

I was broke and my self-esteem was down. I knew I had the skills, but in the trade, it takes more than skill. You have to be a good fit for the crew.

My first interaction with Bobby T. at Mission Glass went like this: He looked me up and down and hit me up with “What shop are you coming from?”

I told him and shared what I’d been going through. Bobby T. said, “It was the same for me.” That was it — Bobby T. accepted me at this new shop as his union brother.

I worked with Bobby T. on occasion, doing hack-outs and board-ups. When we worked together, we didn’t talk about how we were going to do the job, or what the next step was. We worked in sequence and talked about motorcycles and things that had nothing to do with work. Bobby T. was funny, and bad jobs were still good days working with him.

Bobby T. is my union brother, and I will always remember him accepting me and helping me transition into a new shop.

Nick King
President, Glaziers Local 718

In Solidarity,
Bart M. Pantoja
Business Representative
From the desk of Jose Oscar Padilla
Business Manager

Happy Thanksgiving!

Local 40’s office is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., primarily addressing members’ questions and concerns regarding medical coverage, re-enrollment, vacation pay, and payment of union dues. If you wish to visit the office, please remember that you must observe COVID-19 safety protocols.

We have restarted our monthly union meetings at 150 Executive Park. They take place on the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. Masks are required for entry to the building and must be worn throughout the meeting.

Our annual Thanksgiving dinner will have to be postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Instead, we will raffle gift certificates at our November meeting.

We Regret the Loss of the Following Members

Carey Robertson, 64, passed away on October 10 at the age of 64. May he rest in peace.

In Solidarity,
Jose Oscar Padilla
Business Manager
work that’s specialized within the electrical trade and often very mechanical in nature. Many come from automotive backgrounds and now enjoy union protections and ongoing opportunities to expand their skill sets.

Since the first cable car climbed to the top of Nob Hill in 1873, the historic and iconic cars have been some of the most unique aspects of the city. They continue to draw visitors from around the world, with many enthusiasts making a pilgrimage to the Cable Car Museum on Mason Street.

After 148 years of operation, a fleet of original cable cars still transports San Francisco’s visitors and residents alike, with each car running on 12 volts of electricity and serviced at both the Cameron Beach Yard and the Cable Car Barn.

The Potrero Yard holds a sea of Muni buses that are powered by 600V running through overhead cables. The buses are now also equipped with large batteries to keep them in motion in the event of roadway construction or emergencies.

Ever-changing transit technologies means Local 6 members are constantly working to advance their knowledge and skills.

Continued from page 1

Jeff Farmer
Electrical Transit System Mechanic

I’m going on eight years as a Local 6 member and have worked at the Potrero Yard the whole time. My background is in automotive, with 12-plus years doing highly skilled work for Volvo. My dad was Local 6, too; he worked for PG&E for 35 years, so he was very excited when I joined the union and gave me some of his electrician tools. It was cool to keep that going.

It’s been fantastic to be with Local 6. It’s been great for the benefits and negotiations. The raises are coming all the time — you can’t beat that. I’ve been busy raising two young children, but as they grow up, I expect to have more time to be active in the union.

At the Potrero Yard, it’s bumper-to-bumper. One day we could be doing electrical work, and the next day we could be doing brakes. It keeps you on your toes. I really appreciate the staff and our boss, which goes a long way in terms of retention.

Nelson Doon
Electronic Maintenance Technician
Assistant Supervisor

I was working in the private electronics industry, including at HP for 13 years, and things were winding down, so I was looking for other opportunities. I found out about the job at Muni and have been a Local 6 member for over 21 years. I’m definitely glad that I became a union electrician. My life has changed because my pay increased dramatically when I joined a union shop. My quality of life and ability to provide for my family improved. My ability to do things outside of work and live in the city — those are things Local 6 has helped me with immensely.

Maintenance on the trolley buses has changed quite a bit over the years. This is the third-generation bus that I’ve worked with in my career, and new tools and new skills are needed.

There aren’t a lot of apprentices in these shops. It’s a lot of on-the-job training. The factory folks come to train briefly when the new fleet arrives, but there’s not a lot of carryover of knowledge between the generations of workers.

We need some apprentices in the shop as well as journey-level classes, to make sure the fleet continues to be well-maintained in the future.

Juan Irizarry
Electrical Transit System Mechanic

I got into the trade in 1996. I had previously been union when I worked with UPS. The big advantage of being a Local 6 member is the collective bargaining. You have a group that’s bargaining for better conditions for the workers, and that’s always something I’ve been appreciative of, as it’s helped my career by providing me with better pay and better benefits.

I recently transferred to the Cable Car Barn in 2019 from the Light Rail Vehicle Center at Metro East. This is very mechanical work. The electrical aspect is just the 12V system that the battery runs on. There’s more troubleshooting with the LRVs. Our work here is really neat — it’s the only moving national monument that we have. It’s a big icon for San Francisco. There are a lot of people who care about it, and that makes the work very meaningful for me.

My whole tenure here, I’ve been very appreciative of what Local 6 has done in representing us, and in return I try to be a model member by excelling at my job to make the union look good. It’s not just about what the union does. It’s more of a collaborative effort between the member and the union.
I’m coming up on seven years with Local 6. I was an automotive mechanic since I was about 21 years old. I worked at private shops and then worked at a dealership for 14 years before I came to Muni.

Previously, I was in the machinists union while I was at the dealership, so I was already knowledgeable about unions. For me, coming over to Muni was a change of scenery. The auto industry was also changing a lot, and I was ready to get out. When I came across the opportunity to join IBEW 6 and get a job a Muni, I immediately applied and started my career here.

Being with the union has been really positive. Over the years, I’ve had a couple things that I’ve had to call our business rep, Osha, about — minor things like assistance with home loan documentation, for example — and she has always been quick to help me.

Going through the pandemic has been a struggle for us and for the world, but it’s good to be back in the grind again, and getting back to normalcy is helping a lot of people. It’s good to be back serving the public and keeping these historic cable cars maintained.

After losing a mechanic job in Sacramento, family and friends encouraged me to apply here, and I’ve been working for Muni for eight years and have been with the union for four years. Things just fell into place. I had never belonged to a union before, but now that I’m in, I’m happy. It’s clear that they have our back and do a lot for us. I realize the advantages now that I’ve had the experience.

We fix all the historic cars at the Cable Car Barn. I love the work because I’m into classic stuff. I have old-school cars myself. When I came here, I knew I was in the right place. The work here is very different and everyone is a beginner — whether you’re a 30-year mechanic or new to the trade. You have to have the right mindset and take the time to learn. I love my work here, but I think there needs to be more thought given to how seniority is established because it takes years to learn this unique job.

I would advise someone who wants to get into this line of work to join Local 6 because there’s a lot of safety aspects you have to learn, and the union provides that. Cable cars are low-voltage, but buses and LRV’s are 600V, which is very dangerous. The union apprenticeship and journey-level classes provide that extra safety training, which helps so you won’t be caught off-guard. Working with regular cars is different from working with something that weighs over 10 tons.
Thank you to all the front-line workers going above the call of duty to keep us safe during these trying times.

Be Safe. Stay Strong. Buy Union.

www.labor411.org

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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BOARD OF BUSINESS REPS MEETING MINUTES
Oct. 12, 10 a.m.
Zoom call

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS
Vice President John Doherty and Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez present. President Larry Mazzola and Vice President are excused.

President Larry Mazzola, Vice Presidents John Doherty and Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez and Ramon Hernandez, and Secretary-Treasurer Doherty and Ramon Hernandez, and Secretary-Treasurer

REQUEST FOR FUNDS
• Matt Haney for Assembly 2022: Recommend $4,900 from Power PAC. MISC
• National Labor Leadership Initiative/Sponsorship: $12,000. MISC

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
• 9/15/21 minutes. MISC

SECRETARY-TREASURER’S REPORT
• Please note: Oct. 7 delegates meeting was cancelled due to picket at 8 Mission.
• ST thanked the body for approving National Labor Leadership Initiative and Sponsorship.
• Local 39 Stationary Engineers are still on strike. Capital improvement projects continue. Pickets are active at Kaiser’s Geary site — members are asked to avoid this active picket line location and to honor jurisdiction if required to work.
• SFUSD mediation was held on Oct. 8. A new budgeting process starts in November. Separate of potential mediator’s settlement, we achieved a 4% raise, with retro.
• City College update: Cleaning up in retroactive COVID pay.
• Public Policy Committee meeting to be held. Daniel Campbell (SMW 104) has been diligently working on this.
• ST thanked Daryl Bishop (Carpenters 22), Sandra Duarte, and Anthony Nuanes (DC 16) for all their help with the Third Baptist Church Community Project.
• ST thanked all in attendance on Saturday for Matt Haney’s campaign for CA Assembly. Over 700 people turned out in a great, diverse show of force and excitement.

PICKET SANCTIONS
• Danny Campbell (SMW 104) requested citywide strike sanction against American Mechanical. MISC

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
• COVID-19 construction update: No current updates.
• Approval of 2022 NABTU assessment $1,000 for our bonding. MISC

REPORTS OF UNIONS
• John Conso (UA38) thanked all for support during picket sanction.

ADJOURNMENT
Adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

BOARD OF BUSINESS REPS MEETING MINUTES
Oct. 26, 10 a.m.
Zoom call

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS
President Larry Mazzola, Vice Presidents Ramon Hernandez and John Doherty, and Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez present.

CORRESPONDENCE
• AFL-CIO Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Resolution
• San Mateo County Labor Council Holiday Party: Friday, Dec. 3

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
• Matt Haney for Assembly 2022: $4,900 from Power PAC approved.
• National Labor Leadership Initiative: Sponsorship for Rudy Gonzalez approved.
• Parkmerced update: Synopsis will need to be re-created.
• Union caucus meeting to be set.

REPORTS OF UNIONS
None

ADJOURNMENT
Adjourned 10:25 a.m.

DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES
Oct. 21, 5 p.m.
Zoom call

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS
President Larry Mazzola, Vice Presidents John Doherty and Ramon Hernandez, and Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez present.

TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Oct. 21, 1 p.m.
Zoom call

ROLL CALL
• John Doherty, Rudy Gonzalez, Charles Lavery, Larry Mazzola, Jr., Patrick Mulligan, Ramon Hernandez, Bart Pantoja, and Sandra Duarte present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
• 10/12/21 minutes. MISC

SECRETARY-TREASURER’S REPORT
• Mission Hing Hall event: Reminder to attend/take part at St. Regis
• ST thanked all for helping with the Third Baptist Church Community Project.
• UCSF Parnassus project update: Meeting held yesterday, design phase still ongoing.
• Chase Center ribbon-cutting this week for Uber building.
• 469 Stevenson: Board of Supervisors taking on appeal later today. ST working with supervisors.
• Centric: Consensus among all crafts to put together community-wide petition to force them to uphold labor standards. Picketing continues.

PICKET SANCTIONS
• Jose Fuentes Armanza (IBEW 6) requests citywide strike sanction against Diablo Electric. MISC

CONTACTS
None

FORECASTED BUDGET
• Third-quarter budget up to $684,000

FORECASTED BUDGET
• Third-quarter budget up to $684,000

REQUEST FOR FUNDS
None

ADJOURNMENT
Adjourned 5:31 p.m.

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We all count on our state’s workforce every day. That’s why Blue Shield of California is sincerely grateful to you every day. Thank you and have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday season.

Let us tell you more about how we support organized Labor and our family and friends. Visit blueshieldca.com/laborandtrust or contact Tera Brandon Clizbe, vice president, Labor and Trust.

Scan the QR code to view our message of thanks to the Labor and Trust community.