

INSIDE

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**LABOR
PRESS**

OUTSIDE PAGES

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**Business Manager's
Update
By Zack Culver***Brothers and Sisters of Local 737,*

We have been receiving questions about the office being closed. Our office is not “closed,” but the building is closed to foot traffic. We are open for daily business, although some operational changes have been made to help keep Local 737 staff and members safe, healthy and working, to include our staff working remotely.

The phones are up and working and we are available to help members. We continue to dispatch workers, and Field Reps are still making sure the contract is being followed and they’re working on issues our members bring forward.

Our political team is keeping in contact with elected leaders and advocating for our members.

On March 23, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown issued a “Stay at Home” order requiring “non-essential” businesses to close. Construction was exempt from the order as an “essential” industry.

At Local 737, we’ve already spoken with several members concerned about what these orders mean — and what they don’t mean.

I wanted to reach out and briefly summarize our understanding of the

stay at home order. First, the decision by the Governor to classify construction as “essential” doesn’t mean that you have to go to work if you can’t work, or if you don’t feel it’s safe to work. It simply means that construction work can continue if the project owner, the contractors, and craftworkers all wish to proceed. If you choose not to work during this time, that’s your decision. We understand that many members have reasons that they can’t work, or simply don’t want to leave home at this time. If that’s your case, Local 737 supports your decision. We also understand that there are many members who are willing to work through the crisis. And again, if that’s your case, Local 737 supports your decision.

Safety is our first priority on the job. That’s as true when it comes to the threat of a virus as it is when it comes to fall protection, or any of the “normal” hazards that we’re used to seeing as skilled craft workers. Whatever you choose to do, Local 737 will have your back; whether you’re sheltering in place or continuing to build the Northwest. Either way, we’ll do it safely, and we’ll do it as a Union.

These are uncertain, unprecedented times, and we are here and available at

<http://www.local737.org/officers-and-staff>.

**Members in Action**

It’s all about teamwork, it’s all about safety. Members of Laborers Local 737 at work throughout Oregon.

District Council Organizing Update

It’s an exciting time for the Laborers’ Union in Oregon. Local 737 has been growing for several months adding new members and new contractors to the Union. Building our membership and ensuring that everyone performing Laborers’ work in Oregon gets dignity on the job is a top priority for the entire Union.

Both Local 737 and the NW Region have added organizing staff since the beginning of the year. With that new staff in place, we are focused on continued growth of the membership and converting our construction contracts to 9(a) status.

To accomplish that growth,

we held a strategic planning meeting with all staff and identified three industries to focus organizing efforts on. We are beginning with work in the traffic control industry. This industry employs far too many people for wages barely above minimum wage with little to no benefits.

The initial phase of the plan, contractor outreach, is underway. Several employers have met with the organizing team and we are discussing the benefits of being a union contractor. The second step is outreach to the workers in this industry so that we can all work together to improve conditions on the job. If you would like to be involved

in your Local’s organizing efforts, please call the union office to let us know.

We are also converting more contracts from 8(f) to 9(a) status under the National Labor Relations Act. Many of you have been involved in this process in years past and will likely be involved again. Converting our contracts means that employers are no longer able to cancel their union agreement prior to its expiration. The membership is in control of that decision, which means our wages and benefits are much more secure. If you have any questions about this process or want to be involved, please call the Union office.

Executive Board Update**New coronavirus benefit added**

Coronavirus: Your well-being is our top priority. The Trust has added a NEW BENEFIT effective April 1, 2020—MDLIVE TELEHEALTH with Behavioral Health. The Trust is providing this benefit at a \$0 cost share to you, which means you will not be responsible for the cost of the visit. However, standard cost shares will apply for any medications prescribed during the visit.

Dear Plan Participant:

The Trust has taken the following steps to support Trust members covered by Regence:

• If a doctor believes you need to be tested for COVID-

19, no pre-authorization is required.

- We will cover the cost of a COVID-19 test including the office visit with no cost share if a provider determines a test is necessary.
- We’re in contact with high-risk members using case management services to ensure they have the support they need.
- As we learn of members diagnosed with the virus, Regence is reaching out to provide personalized support.

Regarding Prescriptions, Kroger Prescription

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...Executive Board Update

From Page 1

Plans indicates that:

- Standard refill policies, which allow you to refill or renew a prescription medication when 25% of your current prescription is remaining, should help you stay on track with your medication during this time.
- They are monitoring the situation closely and will update their information and policy if or when the situation changes. They are committed to taking appropriate actions to ensure you have themedication on hand to keep you healthy. Should you have any questions or concerns about your individual situation, their pharmacists are available 24/7.
- If you currently fill 30-day supplies of your maintenance medications at a local pharmacy and would like a longer-term supply, you can ask your physician to write your prescription for a 90-

day supply and fill it at a local Fred Meyer (or other Kroger owned pharmacy).

Community Resources for the Latest Information

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for prevention information and COVID-19 updates. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>
- Regence blog, <http://news-regence.com/blog>
- Oregon Health Authority, <http://healthoregon.org/coronavirus>

On April 1st, download the MDLive app and have a safe, convenient Telehealth visit. The Trust offers participants covered by Regence with a convenient telehealth option called MDLive, so you can talk to providers without leaving home. Be sure to register.

The Union meeting was canceled last month with the approval of the International Union's variance and the Executive Board did meet in accordance to the variance.

Actions were taken to prepare the Local to accommodate safe working conditions for the staff of Local 737 and to purchase necessary equipment to be able to work from home if necessary to continue to be open for business to serve the membership.

Action was taken to help fund Labor's Community Service Agency's (LCSA) "Helping Hands" program. Further action was taken to fund the Laborers Local 737 Coronavirus Targeted Allocation Program.

Action was also taken to freeze the out-of-work list for a period of three months offering protections to workers who want to shelter in place.


We want you and your families to be healthy and safe. So, we took the following precautions. On March 23, 2020, we implemented the following procedures that applied to our offices. These procedures will continue through April 13th.

- Walk-in service will not be available.
- A few key staff will be there. They will not answer or unlock the doors. You can call the office for any necessary union business at 541-801-2209.
- You can also drop payments in the drop box.
- If you have job site issues, call your field agent at the cell phone number. If you need the number, call the office or go to the Local 737 web site at www.local737.org.

CORONAVIRUS TARGETED ALLOCATION PROGRAM (CTAP)

The Coronavirus Targeted Allocation Program was Created, to help serve Local 737 membership impacted by coronavirus' workplace and medical disruptions. Through partnership with LCSA, it will allow Local 737 to assist qualified Local 737 members in need with unexpected childcare costs, and food resources. These items have proven to be top needs at the moment, but may change.

Please contact the Local 737 office for more information.



OREGON & SOUTHERN IDAHO LABORERS-EMPLOYERS TRAINING TRUST FUND
 PORTLAND TRAINING CAMPUS: 17242 NE SACRAMENTO ST, PORTLAND, OR 97230 - Phone: 541-745-5513
 IDAHO FALLS TRAINING CENTER: 580 W. 19th STREET, IDAHO FALLS, ID 83402 - Phone: 208-542-6240
apprenticeship@osilett.org

By Aida Aranda
Training Director

On behalf of all the OSILETT instructors, staff, and myself, we want all our members to know that your well-being, health and safety is of the utmost concern and priority for each of us.

In these unprecedented times, we are responding to the best of our ability to continue to serve our members, not only in our capacity as training providers but as your brothers and sisters experiencing this extraordinary health crisis together.

To all our apprentices, we want to assure you that your progress and advancement through our program is very important and we are prioritizing training to expedite completions and re-rates as timely as possible under these circumstances.

As soon as possible we will post our training schedule, which will be prioritizing required training for journeymen, apprentices and contractor needs.

LiUNA Training is working around the clock in developing online training so we can provide our members expanded on-

line course offerings.


We hope to be offering remote video training as quickly as possible and will update you on Local 737's website and on the Oregon Laborers website, and with direct communications.

LiUNA Training offers all members access to an online Infectious Disease Awareness course available in English and Spanish. This class has great general information and will soon be updated with specific COVID-19 information. We highly recommend everyone access this course! link: <http://www.liunatraining.org/infectiousdisease/awareness-course.html>

The course has a built-in assessment and provides a certificate of completion at the end.

We are here for you, we care about each of you, and we want you to reach out to us if you have any questions, if you need help or resources. You are not alone. We are in this together and we will get through it together, Stay well.

In solidarity.



LiUNA!
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MEMORANDUM

TO: To all District Councils and Local Unions

FROM: Bob Abbott, Vice President and Northwest Regional Manager

DATE: March 16, 2020

RE: Extension of the W. Vernie Reed Scholarship Application Deadline to June 1, 2020.

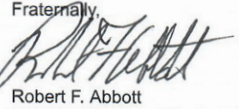
Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As you all are aware, the recent coronavirus (COVID-19) has affected numerous areas throughout the Northwest Region. In many areas, K-12 public schools, private schools, community colleges and universities have been shut down until the end of April. We understand this will bring some complications in relation to the W. Vernie Reed Scholarship Application, including but not limited to, getting high school/college transcripts etc.

In light of these recent events, the W. Vernie Reed Scholarship Committee has decided to extend the deadline for applications to be received, from April 1, 2020 to **June 1, 2020.**

The scholarship committee is focused on protecting the safety and health of our members, applicants and their families. We understand the complications this outbreak has created for the entire Northwest Region. It is for these reasons, the scholarship committee has extended the deadline.

We ask that all the Local Unions and District Councils share this on their websites and social media outlets along with notifying their membership about this extension. Should you have any questions or issues, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Fraternally,

 Robert F. Abbott
 Vice President and Regional Manager

RA:rr

TERRY O'SULLIVAN
General President

ARMAND E. SABITONI
General Secretary-Treasurer

Vice Presidents:

TERRENCE M. HEALY
RAYMOND M. POCINO
JOSEPH S. MANCINELLI

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Current issue of the
Laborers Lifelines Magazine with
COVID-19 UPDATES: <https://www.lhsfna.org/>

Feel the Power

COVID-19 Scenarios & Benefits Available			
COVID-19 SCENARIOS	Employer Paid Sick Leave (check with your employer) www.oregon.gov/BOLI	Unemployment Insurance	Paid Family and Medical Leave
Worker is mildly ill with COVID-19	✓	✓	The paid family and medical leave insurance program is still being developed. Benefits are expected to be available in January 2023.
Worker is severely ill with COVID-19	✓	?	
Worker was exposed and quarantined, Business remains open	✓	✓	
Worker is caring for sick family member	✓	✓	
Schools are closed because of COVID-19 and worker has no childcare	✓	✓	
Worker is immune-compromised and advised to self-quarantine	?	✓	
Worker is afraid of gathering in a group and does not go to work (self-distancing)	✗	✓	
Employer must shut down due to quarantine	✓	✓	
Employer shuts down due to a business slowdown or lack of demand	?	✓	
Employer reduces available hours due to business slowdown or lack of demand	✗	✓	
Employer stays open when urged to close for public health	✓	?	
First responder is under quarantine	✓	✓	
For more information, go to: www.oregon.gov/employ/Pages/COVID-19.aspx			
<div><div><div>State of Oregon Employment Department Oregon.gov/Employ</div></div><div><div>The Oregon Employment Department is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Language assistance is available to persons with limited English proficiency at no cost.</div><div>El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon es un programa que respeta la igualdad de oportunidades. Disponemos de servicios o ayudas auxiliares, formatos alternos y asistencia de idiomas para personas con discapacidades o conocimiento limitado del inglés, a pedido y sin costo.</div></div></div> <div><div>✓ Yes</div><div>✗ No</div><div>? Maybe</div></div>			

Oregon Employment Department | Oregon.gov/Employ | EDPUB190 (0320)

COVID-19 Situaciones Hipotéticas y Beneficios Disponibles			
COVID-19 SITUACIONES	Permiso por enfermedad pagado por el empleador (verifique con su empleador) www.oregon.gov/BOLI	Seguro de Desempleo	Permiso de ausencia familiar y médica
Empleado ligeramente enfermo con COVID-19	✓	✓	El programa de seguro de Permiso de ausencia familiar y médica remunerado aún se está desarrollando. Se tiene previsto que los beneficios estén disponibles en enero de 2023.
Empleado severamente enfermo con COVID-19	✓	?	
Empleado fue expuesto y puesto en cuarentena, y el negocio sigue abierto	✓	✓	
Empleado cuida a familiar enfermo	✓	✓	
Las escuelas cierran debido al COVID-19 y el empleado no tiene cuidado infantil	✓	✓	
Empleado está inmunocomprometido y se le pide que se aplique una auto cuarentena.	?	✓	
Empleado teme juntarse con un grupo y prefiere no ir a trabajar (auto distanciamiento)	✗	✓	
El empleador debe cerrar el negocio debido a una cuarentena	✓	✓	
El empleador cierra debido a una desaceleración del negocio o una baja en la demanda	?	✓	
El empleador reduce las horas disponibles debido a la desaceleración del negocio o la baja en la demanda	✗	✓	
El empleador permanece abierto cuando se le insta a cerrar por salud pública	✓	?	
Si un socorrista está en cuarentena.	✓	✓	
Para mayor información vaya a: www.oregon.gov/employ/Pages/COVID-19.aspx			
<div><div><div>State of Oregon Employment Department Oregon.gov/Employ</div></div><div><div>El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon es un empleador/programa que respeta la igualdad de oportunidades. Disponemos de servicios o ayudas auxiliares, formatos alternos y asistencia de idiomas para personas con discapacidades o conocimiento limitado del inglés, a pedido y sin costo.</div><div>The Oregon Employment Department is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Language assistance is available to persons with limited English proficiency at no cost.</div></div></div>			<div>✓ Si</div> <div>✗ No</div> <div>? Quizás</div>

Oregon Employment Department | Oregon.gov/Employ | EDPUB190-S (0320)

Political update

By Jodi Guetzloe-Parker
Business Rep

Brothers and Sisters,

Business Manager Zack Culver asked Danielle Garza and I to collaborate on an update for the newsletter.

First and foremost, thank you for doing what you do. Your bravery, courage and commitments are being seen by all and acknowledged. As we tread this unknown pandemic, thank you for taking the best possible care of yourselves and your family. I've had the opportunity to speak with some of you, see your posts on Facebook, and see through your eyes, as cranes are installed and concrete poured, your perseverance is amazing.

Beginning in August 2019, candidates for various state and local municipalities started reaching out, seeking the endorsement of our Local. Many conversations were had during the next three months, leading up to a day of candidate interviews. The candidates submitted a questionnaire

prior to their interview with leaders from the District Council, Laborers 483, and Local 737. During candidate interviews we asked questions focused on the office they were seeking, and LiUNA values. After the candidate interviews, they were provided with a tour of the facilities and our incredible training center.

We were able to endorse some candidates prior to the COVID-19 pandemic breaking out. Due to an ever-changing environment, we incorporated stringent rules about the office, and established protocols to keep staff, members, and our own families safe during this time. Unfortunately, we had to cancel a series of further candidate interviews on the eve of our set date, due to the risks it posed to the candidates and the panel. We are focusing on a work-around to engage with candidates about Laborers needs and how the process will look. Politics may seem frivolous right now, however, our long-term goals for our

area infrastructure, prevailing wage rates, responsible contractor language, diversity goals and apprenticeship utilization all need to be in the long-term vision of any endorsed candidates.

If you attended any of the union meetings or candidate forums, you've met Danielle Garza, political and legislative assistant for Local 737, as well as District Council Political Director Chris Hewitt. Chris handles the State Capitol lobbying, as well as the endorsements of state representatives and senators. He brings his well-honed skill-set from prior work with the Oregon AFL-CIO and Oregon Nurses Association. Danielle brings to the table experience with local political policy, and a deep understanding of the LiUNA values we hold dear.

With the new stringent office operations put in place, Danielle has been establishing political protocols for candidates who are seeking our endorsement. This is the first time in our history — even prior to the merger in 2015 — to set a standard for endorsements. I feel these efforts will impact how the Laborers are seen in the political arena. Developing documents, reaching out to

elected officials, seeking what's right and fair for you is among our priorities. We as a well-oiled machine jointly and separately attend area meetings to develop relationships with county commissioners, city councilors, mayors, representatives, senators, congressional delegates and all the staffers that do the heaving lifting for governance.

We were coming off of the starting line with a developed agenda for success when this

pandemic arrived, and are now writing, calling and otherwise reaching out to our elected officials. We look forward to the time when we can put our feet back onto the streets and carry out our long-term political agenda.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Please stay safe in this ever changing environment, take care of your families and we look forward to seeing you soon. In solidarity.



Membership Tracking Program

INCOM Integrated Comput...

OPEN



A Membership Tracking App is available for paying dues, updating contact information, check your list position, and to view special messages from the Union. To login the first time, use your Social Security number. The default password is the last 4 of your Social Security number. We recommend you change your password upon logging in. If you have questions or need to change your password, call the office at 541-801-2209.

On your iPhone, open up the

App Store. In the search box type in "Membership Tracking" and the app should pop up. Download the app and the blue icon should show up on your iPhone's home page.

Open up the app and you'll be seeing the welcome screen. Click on "My Local Portal" (in the red box) to bring up the portal options. Choose what Local you are with by tapping on the Local number in the 2nd row, then choose whether you're a "Member" or "Agent." Then click on "Go".



CORONAVIRUS & COVID-19:

PREPARATION AND RESPONSE

First known as the novel coronavirus, the virus now referred to as COVID-19 has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the number of cases in the U.S. and Canada continues to rise. **It's now critical that everyone does their part to limit the spread of the virus, as people without symptoms or with mild symptoms can still spread the virus to others.**

Risk in the U.S. and Canada

- Current risk of contracting COVID-19 in the U.S. and Canada varies by community based on the extent of the outbreak and the success of mitigation efforts.
- About half the people diagnosed with COVID-19 have already recovered. It's estimated over 80 percent of those infected will experience only mild symptoms. However, even people at low risk for serious health complications should take steps to protect groups who would be at higher risk if they got the virus.
- Risk for more serious health effects is highest among:
 - Older adults (age 60 and up)
 - People with underlying health conditions (e.g., heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, cancer)
 - People with weakened immune systems
- The majority of deaths caused by COVID-19 have occurred among people falling into at least one of these higher risk categories.

Transmission & Diagnosis

- **Transmission:** spread primarily through airborne respiratory droplets during coughing and sneezing, but can also be spread through regular breathing. Being in close proximity (less than six feet) to an infected person, especially in enclosed spaces, can result in transmission. Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands, or touching an object with the virus on it, followed by touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands can spread the virus.
- **Diagnosis:** If you suspect you have COVID-19, call your healthcare provider. A lab test may be performed and sent to the CDC.

Signs, Symptoms & Treatment

- **Incubation:** It takes between 2-14 days for symptoms to appear after exposure. During this time period, people are contagious and able to pass on the virus. The average onset of symptoms is around 5 days.
- **Symptoms:** Mild to moderate respiratory symptoms similar to the flu may include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In serious cases, these symptoms progress to pneumonia and other life-threatening respiratory conditions.
- **Treatment:** There is currently no vaccine for COVID-19 and no specific treatment beyond those typically prescribed for seasonal flu. If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected, focus on supportive care to relieve symptoms. Do the following to help prevent the disease from spreading:
 - Stay home except to get medical care. Don't go to work, school or public areas and avoid public transportation. If possible, self-quarantine for at least 14 days after the onset of symptoms to prevent spreading the virus to others.
 - Wear a surgical mask when around other people or when visiting a health care provider.
 - Call ahead before visiting your doctor so the office can take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.



- Clean all "high-touch" surfaces everyday with a household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Avoid sharing personal household items like drinking glasses, utensils or bedding. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.
- Seek medical attention if your conditions worsen (e.g., difficulty breathing).
- Employers should encourage sick workers to stay home or use available telework options. Employers should consider the feasibility of allowing workers who are sick or suspected of being sick to stay home without punitive measures such as loss of pay.

Preventing & Limiting the Spread of the Virus: Protect Yourself and Others

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol when soap and water aren't available.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Clean "high-touch" surfaces every day with a household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you are sick, stay home. If you must go out in public, do your best to avoid close contact with other people.
- Practice social distancing by limiting person-to-person contact within six feet, especially in large groups or in enclosed spaces.

Preventing & Limiting the Spread of the Virus: Frontline Workers

- In addition to the guidelines above, workers who may come in contact with infected persons, such as healthcare workers, should take additional precautions. In addition to the steps above, these workers should:
- Wear personal protective equipment (PPE). This includes N95 respirators, gloves, gowns and eye protection.
 - Be trained on safe donning, doffing and disposal of PPE to avoid infectious disease transmission.
 - Be medically able to wear the type of respirator needed and fit-tested to wear it. A respirator can't protect you if it doesn't fit your face.
 - Be aware of the differences between surgical masks and N95s. Surgical masks do not protect the wearer from air-

borne respiratory droplets. Remember: surgical masks protect others from you; N95s protect you from others.

Travel & Potentially Exposed Persons

- If you are sick or suspect you have the virus, do not travel. Federal government and airline policies regarding international travel are changing rapidly; take this into consideration before booking flights or leaving on your trip.
- Avoid non-essential travel on commercial airlines, trains and buses for work or personal use; consider alternate options such as video conference calls when possible. Consider the importance of attending events in person versus the risk, and act accordingly.

- On March 15, 2020, the CDC issued guidance on mass gatherings: for the next eight weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the U.S.

THE POWER TO PROTECT

Additional Resources

CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html

WHO: www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

OSHA: www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/index.html

For more on infection control measures and how employers can respond:

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/infection-control.html

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/guidance-business-response.html

