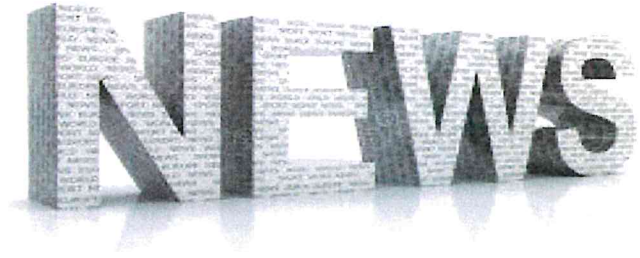


## Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union 354



Brothers and Sisters,

I want to start this newsletter off by thanking Tim Custer for the work he has done for our Local Union. Tim served as the Business Manager for 14 ½ years and prior to that he was a Business Agent for 7 years in our Region 2 area. Thank you for all your years of service and dedication you put forth for our local union.

I would like to thank all the members that came out to vote at the election of officers on June 7, 2025. I can speak for all the elected officers, when I say thank you for your support!! As Business Manager, I will work tirelessly for this local union and our membership. I will always have an open-door policy. Feel free to reach out anytime with questions or concerns and to bring new ideas to the table. I am honored to serve this local union for the next 3 years.

For close to a year now we have been talking about the work that is coming at the Homer City site. I am very excited to announce we have boots on the ground. As of the date of this letter, we have 17 members working on the new Homer City Redevelopment Project. When complete, this project will be the largest gas fired power plant in North America. The site will consist of 7 units totaling 4.5 gigawatts of power, with room to expand. The main use is to power a data farm that will be built on the site. Rumors of 20 data centers are projected for this site. Along with the work will come some challenges. The UA as a whole is very busy across the county getting travelers to man the project could be a challenge. We plan on bringing larger apprentice classes into the program and organizing guys out there doing our work that have the skills to be a UA member. The PA Pipe Trades Organizers and our Examining Board are going to do their best to get the best guys out there. We will be scheduling Comet classes for both Apprentices and Journeymen in the very near future. What is a Comet Class? **Construction Organizing Membership Education Training.** The UA put this course together to help show why we should organize. When you see the dates for the classes, please make every effort to attend.



The agents and I were invited to attend an announcement on August 21 at the old Robena Coal Site near Point Marion about 2 ½ miles past the Hatfield Power Plant. “IEP” International Electric Power purchased the 1400-acre site and plans to put 2 – 950 megawatts gas power plants with room to expand. The purpose of the power will be to provide power to 2 Data Centers on the site again with room to expand. This project still must get the necessary permits in place, but the owners feel very confident this project is a go. If all goes well the estimated start date will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2026. The project is being referred to as “Hummingbird.”

We have been talking about the Data Center that is to be built at the former Alcoa Plant in Lower Burrel. Months back, Steve Fearer and I met with the owner, and he assured us the project was a go. Since then, we have tried to reach out to the owner and have not had any luck with getting solid information on this project. As we know more, we will keep the membership posted.

We are happy to announce another large project that could be starting in our jurisdiction in the near future. On November 21, 2025, we attended a town hall meeting in Clearfield County at the Karthaus Fire Hall. There we met Perry Babb, CEO of Keystate Energy. Mr. Babb made the announcement that their company purchased the old Karthaus Energy site and plans on building a fertilizer plant there. A few years back this facility was to be built in Clinton County, which is in Local 520’s area. We are very excited to announce that this project is moving forward and will be built in Local 354 jurisdiction. Mr. Babb stated that a lot of permitting is still in place from when the proposed power plant was to be built on this site. They have more permits to get it in place, but he feels confident this project will move forward. This project has a 2-billion-dollar price tag, estimated to produce 1 million tons of fertilizer per year. Projected total manpower 1000 + construction workers and this is scheduled to be a 2.5-year project.

The PA Pipe Trades organizers recently appointed Ron Michlena to their team. Ronnie is a member of Local 354 working for the PA Pipe Trades. Ronnie will be playing a large roll in helping with the manpower needs for the large projects and our local signed contractors as well.

This past July, the Frat Committee made the discission to move the Family Picnic from Idlewild to Delgrosso’s Amusement Park. Largely due to the fact Delgrosso hires our contractors for work at the park and factory. Sometimes change is never popular, but the families we spoke with really enjoyed the park. We booked next year’s picnic there again. Save the date: **Saturday, July 18, 2026**. We will always support those that support us!

The office of Local 354 wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas!





## **JATC LU 354 NEWSLETTER- DECEMBER 2025**

**Continuity Reminder-** Moving forward all reminders for Weld/Medical Gas Continuities will be emailed.

**Forms-** Weld Request Forms, Continuity Forms, Background Clearances can be found on our website, [lu354.com](http://lu354.com), JATC has launched a new apprentice monthly OJT Report that's done through the email process.

### **Apprentice Application Deadline February 28, 2026**

If you know anyone interested in Plumbing, Pipefitting, Welding or HVAC Tech, visit our website [LU354.COM](http://LU354.COM)

On the home page, click on the "click to apply" button. They must fill out all the necessary paperwork and listed items to be considered and then mail or drop them off at our Youngwood office.

**Johnstown Plumbing License-** Anyone interested in taking the Johnstown Plumbing License Exam for either the Journeyman or Master the exam is January 31, 2026 8:00 AM (East) Ebensburg Training Center. Please call 724-925-8108 to sign up.

**Text Notifications-** If you are not signed up to receive text messages through the Union Hall, please call Jayne or Julie 724-925-7238 to be placed on that system. We will be making Class/Certification announcements through the text system.

**EPRI Rigging-** We will be holding a class in the Spring no tentative dates have been set. Text Notification will be sent out when the class dates are scheduled and sign up will be done at that time.

**State Apprentice Competition-** March 23-26, 2026, Local 354 will be hosting the State Apprentice Competition. Welding, Pipefitter, Sprinklerfitter Contestants will be at the Youngwood School. Latrobe School will have the Plumbing and HVAC Contestants. Welding – Thursday nights we have open shop nights at both schools for Journeyman and Apprentices who are welcome to come into Weld. Please contact the JATC to make sure booths are available.

**CPR/First Aid-** West class will be held on January 24, 2026. 8am-12am. East class will be held on February 14, 2026. 8am-12am. Any Journeyman that would like to attend please call 724-925-8108 by January 16, 2026.

**Comet Class-** Class will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Youngwood Training Center from 6:00-9:00 pm Journeyman welcome to attend please call the JATC to sign up.

**Reminder Johnstown Plumbing License fees are Due by December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Please see attached form for Plumbing License Renewal:

Dept. of Codes and Permitting  
401 Main St.  
Johnstown, PA 15901  
(814) 539-2504  
**ATTENTION: THERESA**

Do not write in this space	
<b>For Office Use Only</b>	
Card No. _____	A
_____	J
_____	M
Fee: \$ _____	

**- Application for Plumbing Card**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Business and/or Employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant applying for the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Apprentice Card \$15.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Journeyman Card \$50.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card \$100.00

Fee must accompany application.

Make checks payable to **City of Johnstown, PA**



# MES News



A great deal has been happening here at the Latrobe Service Training Center since the last newsletter. We have had multiple certification classes, added some new equipment and labs, as well as the usual apprentice training.

Some training offerings to look for in the near future: Water heaters, Low GWP refrigerants, EPA 608 universal, and Back-flow certification classes. Make sure that your contact information, (email and cell phone number) is up to date at the union hall. If you are interested in any continuing education opportunities; the open classes will be offered through the local's texting system. I would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday season.

I'm confident that 2026 is going to be a great year for us all!!!

Fraternally yours, Eddie Andolina





## West Region

**East West Manufacturing:** - 2- Members- Working at CCA Carter School in Monongahela, PA and Monessen School.

**Fazio Mech:** -5 - Members – Employed throughout Local 354.

**Hranec:** -5 – Members- At Nemacolin Woodlands and other small projects in the area.

**HLT:** -2- Member – Working on Service.

**John Hall:** -3- Members- Working service and some small projects.

**Keystone Fabrication:** -17- Members-Building Trades Employed at the shop.

**Limbach:** -13- Members – Members at various projects and service such as, Excelsa Health at Latrobe, DNP, Westmoreland Hospital, Uniontown Hospital, Mon Valley Hospital, Power X and Westinghouse.

**Lugaila Inc.:** -13- Members- Working at Cal U., Kiski School and Hempfield School.

**McKamish:** -4- Members – Working at Latrobe Hospital and service.

**Pine Hollow:** - 7- Members – Projects outside the local in (West Virginia 152) and housing complex in Connellsville and other small projects.

**R & B Mechanical:** -1- Member – Working at Ohiopyle Visitor Center.

**Renick Brothers:** -8- Members – At Cal U and Burrell High School.

**RuthRauff Sauer:** -1- Member – Working service.

**Sentry Mechanical:** – 3- Members – Working at St. Vincent College.

**SSM:** -17- Members – Working at Alcoa, ATI in Vandergrift, GE, DNA Lab, Hitachi, St. Vincent, Seton Hill, Westmoreland Hospital and Service.

**Wayne Crouse:** -8- Members – At Youghiogheny Treatment Plant and Lock & Mon Valley Treatment Center.

**W. G. Tomko:** -22– Members – Building Trades working at shop.

**Wheels Mechanical:** -1- Member- Working at Latrobe Airport.

**Whitby:** -5- Members- Employed at this time at Nemacolin Woodlands and other small projects.

**Woods Refrigeration:** -1- Member – Working on various service projects.

There are 23 members working out of town and 19 Journeymen and 3 Apprentice currently laid off at this time.

**REMINDER: Get your drug tests according to the CBA.**

Happy Holidays!  
Business Agent  
Steven Fearer



## East Region

**Triple H Mech.:** -6- Members-Working at SGL Carbon, GKN Sinter Metals, Mersen Carbon, Air Gas in Ridgeway and Mathison in St. Mary's, Brockway Glass, Graphtec in St. Mary's and Johnsonburg Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**K & K Plumbing:** -11- Members-Plumbing at Eisenhower Elementary, Northern Cambria School and plumbing at Bedford School.

**Baer Mechanical:** -11- Members – Working at North American Hoganas on various projects, Johnstown School District, Plumbing job in St. Mary's and various other small jobs.

**S.P. McCarls:** -10- Members – Work in the Fab Shop, Sewer and steam line at VA Hospital, plumbing at the West Branch School and a few projects out of town.

**OSMI Mech:** -3- Members – Penn Highlands in Dubois, Penn Highlands Elk, Penn Highlands Brookville, Penn Highlands Tyrone, Punxsutawney Hospital and a few small projects in the local area.

**Darr Construction:** -3- Members –Northern Cambria School and misc. work at Somerset Hospital.

**Somerset Steel:** -4 Members –Homer City Water Treatment and various projects around local.

**Renick Brothers** -1- Member-At Dubois Charter School.

**Johnston Mechanical:** -14- Members – Maintenance work at Conemaugh and Altoona Hospitals, Association for the Blind, Steam Line at Altoona, VA Hospital and the Sheetz Ambient addition project.

**Hallstrom Clark:** -2- Niagara Cutter, SGL Carbon, and a few maintenance projects in the area.

**John Hall:** -1- Member – Various jobs in local.

**McKamish:** - 6- Members – UPMC Somerset and various jobs in local.

**McClure Company:** -2- Members- Portage High School and Homer City Elementary School.

**Fred Burns:** -1- Member – At Dubois Treatment Plant.

**Leibold Mechanical:** -2- Members – At the West Branch School.

**Huckestein Mechanical:** -1- Member – At Verizon in Johnstown.

**GM McCrossin:** -2- Members- At Norfolk Southern Sewer Treatment.

**PSG:** -6- Members – At Conemaugh Power Plant for the outage.

**Kiewit:** - 17- Members – At Homer City Gas Plant.

**Currently** – There are 59 Journeyman off and 21 out of town working and 6 Apprentices are off.

**Merry Christmas!!**

Business Agent  
**Bill Cononie**



## **FROM THE FUNDS OFFICE**

### **Access Your HRA Account Online**

The Funds Office would like to remind all members that you can access your Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) online at [ua354.lh1ondemand.com](http://ua354.lh1ondemand.com) to review your current balance and view recent transaction history. Please note that, for security purposes, the system requires you to log in at least once every 30 days. If you do not log in within that timeframe, your account will lock, and your password will need to be reset.

If you are having issues with online access to your HRA account, please contact the Funds Office by phone at 724-925-7238 (Option 2) or by email at [LU354benefitsns@gmail.com](mailto:LU354benefitsns@gmail.com).

### **Member Portal Mailing Coming Soon**

The Funds Office will be sending a mailing to all members with information about the upcoming Member Portal. Through this portal, members will be able to view important information such as:

- Eligibility status
- Contribution records
- Beneficiary designations
- Work history
- And other valuable member-specific details

### **Upcoming Membership Educational Meetings**

The Funds Office will also be announcing upcoming membership educational meetings. These sessions will cover a range of benefit topics, including—but not limited to—Welfare and Annuity benefits. We encourage all members to attend and stay informed about the valuable benefits available to you and your families.





## 2026-2028 UA Membership Cards

New membership cards will be issued for the 2026-2028 period. They will be **distributed with your Dues Receipts**. You must be paid at least one-month dues of 2026 to receive your new membership card. If you have already paid your 2026 dues in advance, your membership card will be mailed out separately. Please keep a look out for your new Membership Cards. **REMEMBER - Check your receipts!!**

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### Drug Testing Information

Contact: Mobile Medical: 412-835-8358

Monday – Thursday 8 AM – 5 PM

Friday – 7 AM – 5 PM



Need to Provide: Last name and last 4 of your SSN.

Mobile Medical will update all your information and then help you schedule your test at one of their closet facilities. You will receive a one-time QR code to use when you enter the facility. The QR code will last 7 days. Once you complete your drug testing, you will receive a copy of your drug card via text and/or email within a week. You will **NOT** receive a hard copy of your card. Be sure to save it to your phone or print out a hard copy to keep on hand.

### Available Testing Facilities with Mobile Medical

County	Name	Address 1
Bedford	EMS Diagnostics	9528 Lincoln Hwy
Bedford	HAHC Occupational Health - Bedford	1 Corporate Dr
Blair	Advantage Resource Group	1600 Valley View Blvd
Blair	Nason Hospital OccHealth	105 Nason Dr
Cambria	Advantage Resource Group	160 Jari Dr
Cambria	LPNT (CareerBuilder) - Conemaugh Health Sys	1086 Franklin St
Clearfield	ALPHA Safety USA	230 Hammermill Rd
Clearfield	David F. McAllister Associates	33 Beaver Dr
Clearfield	Patriot Safety & Health Services	1343 Curwensville Grampian Hwy
Fayette	Quest Diagnostics Uniontown	404 West Main St
Westmoreland	Boris Chiropractic Center	146 Motor Drome Rd
Westmoreland	Excela Health - Delmont	6521 Route 22
Westmoreland	Occupational Healthcare	251 7Th St
Westmoreland	Quest Diagnostics Belle Vernon	760 Tri County Lane
Westmoreland	Quest Diagnostics Greensburg-Westmoreland Mall	5240 Route 30
Westmoreland	Quest Diagnostics Irwin	8943 State Route 30
Westmoreland	Quest Diagnostics Murrys ville	4889 William Penn Hwy
Westmoreland	Quest Diagnostics New Kensington	100 Tarentum Bridge Road
Westmoreland	Advantage Resource Grp-Greensburg	143 Hartman Rd
Westmoreland	Occupational Healthcare-New Ken	251 7th St

## Recently Deceased

Earl W. Broadwater  
Robert R. Goas, Jr.  
James J. McElhinny  
Marlin G. Ott  
Joseph L. Thomas



## Recently Retired

Tim L. Custer  
Scott R. Eash  
Jeff Griglack  
Jeffrey P. Haynes  
Mark Nicholson  
David S. Timko  
James D. Vasbinder  
Matthew T. McCloskey

## **“Congratulations to our Lifetime Members 2025”**

John R. Andrews	John C. Draeger
Larry R. Geisel	Carl W. Jones
Rubin Leonard	Richard F. Szeg
Raymond A. Thomas	John R. Wesser, Jr.
Paul Yancich, Jr.	

## Members Profile

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>EAST</u>	<u>WEST</u>
Bldg. Trades Journeyman	379	203	176
Bldg. Trades Apprentice & MES	67	29	38
Spec. Hsg./Div. Housing & MES	21	16	05
Contr./Superv. Members	01	00	01
Metal Trades	09	00	09
Retiree (MT, BT Disability)	152	95	57
Life Members	157		
<b><u>Total Membership</u></b>	<b>786</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>286</b>



# PLEASE READ VERY CAREFULLY

Local Union 354 signed another contract with the American Income Life Insurance Company. This entitles **all** Local Union 354 members an extra \$3,000 Accidental Death Insurance Policy with **NO COST** to you, the member or the union.

AIL will be sending out letters on our local union's letter head along with a card to complete and mail back. **YOU ONLY NEED TO COMPLETE AND MAIL BACK THIS CARD IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING ADDITIONAL INSURANCE THROUGH AIL.**

American Income Life is a union company and provides some great coverage outside of what you have through Local Union 354. If you choose to send back the card with your information, please understand an AIL representative will be contacting you to sale additional coverage. In the past we have heard from our membership at times that they could be a little pushy with those that were not interested and mistakenly completed the information card. In this case be sure to get the salesperson's full name and we will address the situation with our contact at AIL.

