



# PLUMBERS

## LOCAL 130 U.A.

SPRING/SUMMER  
2020



## Business Manager's Letter

From James F. Coyne

## CONTRACTS RATIFIED DURING PANDEMIC

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As we reflect back on the first 6 months of 2020, let me recap where we have been and how the Plumbers Local 130 Union is moving forward at this time.

The Pandemic came at us in a rush, and at its onset, these great United States were hardly prepared in getting a grip on handling this tragedy. In typical fashion, we have leaders and citizens that emerged prepared to do battle, especially our own Governor JB Pritzker and Mayor Lori Lightfoot. On behalf of the Plumbers Union and myself, we want to thank Essential Personnel including Healthcare workers, First Responders, Police, Paramedics and Firefighters who mustered together and worked against immeasurable odds to fight this monster virus. Local 130 Plumbers also answered the rallying cry.

As Governor Pritzker addressed the State of Illinois' citizens and called upon Essential Workers, our Governor ranked Plumbers at the top of the list, calling us to action to join the fight against this Pandemic. Many industries were forced to put the brakes on by slowing down, sheltering in place or working from home. However, this did not describe the actions of the Plumbers ranks at all.

This is why the Plumbers Protect the Health of the Nation. Everyone thanks each of you and deems you our heroes as you, our Plumbers, suited up in protective gear shielding yourselves as best as you could with PPE while simultaneously protecting construction jobsites, schools, hospitals, homes and more as you labored each day. Where social distancing is becoming the new normal – there are situations at

jobsites that will not allow 6' distancing; however, we persevere and respond to the call to fight this Pandemic and carry on with daily work with our staunch partners – our 350+ Union Contractors.

With deep regret, I express my heartfelt sympathy to the families of the two brothers we lost to this hideous Coronavirus. William "Sqwig" Martin, a 17-year member who was employed at the City of Chicago's Water Department passed on April 15<sup>th</sup>. William R. Hildebrand, a 26-year retired member passed on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Again, our deepest condolences and sympathies to their families.

Our Wellness Center stands ready to offer advice, guidance and respond to any questions you may have, whether that is on-the-job or at home. Continue to check the Plumbers Local 130 Website for special events that will continue throughout 2020 at the Wellness Center.

### Collective Bargaining Agreements

Continuing to look to our future – focusing on the next four to five years.

The Pandemic did not prevent Plumbers Local 130's Collective Bargaining team from meeting. Due to their tireless efforts, all sides negotiated and the result was a "Fair and Equitable" four-year wage and benefits package.

Thanks goes out to your Local 130 Bargaining Team

- Kenneth Turnquist (Financial Secretary)
- Patrick McCarthy (Recording-Secretary)
- John Hosty (Business Agent)
- Bart Holzhauser (Business Agent for Technical Engineers)

Thanks also goes out to our Industry Partners

### West Suburban Association (WSA)

- George W. Treutelaar (Chairman of Labor Relations Committee)
- Justin Treutelaar (President of the WSA, and Co-Chairman of Labor Relations Committee)
- Jim O'Sullivan (WSA Treasurer)
- Craig W. Thomas (WSA Vice President)
- James Hill II (WSA Director)
- Jay Lyon (Executive Director)

### Plumbing Contractors Association of Greater Chicago (PCA)

- Matthew Erickson (President of the PCA and Co-Chairman of Labor Relations Committee)
- David Ariano (PCA Director, Labor Relations Committee)
- Mike Kerrigan (Plumbing Council Chairman, Labor Relations Committee)
- SJ Peters (Executive Director)

The commitment and dedication shown for our plumbing industry resulted in this four-year contract.

I am pleased to announce that on June 30<sup>th</sup> the Plumbers ratified the 4-year Collective Bargaining Agreement that extends to May 31, 2024. There were concentrated negotiations on behalf of our members and our loyal contractors. All parties met diligently for weeks and hammered out this four-year deal for all. The first year's economic package grants a \$2.75 increase; the economic value of these four years collectively is \$10.35. This new contract is secu-

Business Manager . . . cont. on page 2.

ity for our members and at the same time, it gives the contractors their labor cost long term through May 2024.

Concurring with my recommendations, and thanking each of you for coming out on June 30<sup>th</sup> to ratify the contract, we have now added .15 cents to the Target Fund. This continues to allow us to recapture market share in the residential service arena and supports our Plumbers 911 program. Most importantly though, this aids in targeting non-union jobs that go to our signatory contractors. We increased the Building Fund by .10 cents – this dime contributes towards the construction of the new parking garage on the 130 Plumbers Campus. Our FST, Ken Turnquist, who is in charge of this project, tells me he hopes to have a shovel in the ground before the first snow flies.

I met with Jerry Raef, President of Kankakee and Iroquois Counties Contractor Association and successfully negotiated a 4-year Collective Bargaining Agreement that extends to May 31, 2024. The economic value of these four years collectively is \$9.04. The first year of this negotiated contract is \$2.29.

### **The Plumbers JAC**

Now let us look to the future – although necessary changes are paramount due to the Pandemic, we will meet and accommodate those deviations while maintaining the education of our Apprentices and Continuing Education of our Journeymen. We have missed seeing their faces outside of the newly introduced Zoom classes and eagerly looked forward to their return on July 13, 2020 when we cautiously reopen our doors at each of the three Training Centers by keeping social distancing, sanitizing and safety uppermost in mind and prac-

tice on a 24/7 basis. It is imperative that our Apprentices move forward to meet the educational demands to become a skilled plumber.

I am proud to announce that the Plumbers JAC Trustees plan to put the shovel in the ground this month marking the new construction of the Joliet Training Center. The new Joliet Training Center, targeted for completion in June 2021, will immediately transition to its new classes while the demolition of the existing Training Center will occur at that time.

I am elated to announce a new class of Plumbing Apprentices began on July 13, 2020. Prior to the Pandemic's grip, the JAC effectively conducted their annual application, registration and testing periods between mid-January running through early March. As a result, Local 130 is adding 110 Apprentices to our membership. They have received their OSHA 30 training during the week of July 6-10, 2020. This training focuses on aspects of safety as well as a new emphasis on pandemic issues on the job-site. Covid-19 has opened up new avenues of education for our Instructors to address and teach not only to our Apprentices but our Journeymen as well.

I am excited to announce that Jack Veber won the Illinois COTE Apprenticeship Contest, Plumbing Division, in March 2020. We are very proud of Jack who is an apprentice at CJ Erickson Plumbing Co.

This year's Third Year Apprentice Contest scheduled for April 27, 2020 was suspended. We will be meeting with the UA and other UA Locals to determine when to safely schedule and reinstate contests in the upcoming months and years.

Continuing Education classes are open – check the Local 130 website for dates and click to book your reserved seat at your

choice of our three Training Centers. You recall that Governor Pritzker deferred the Continuing Education requirements for Illinois State Plumbers license renewals – now is the time to return to fulfill your hours requirements.

### **The Technical Engineers**

We met with MARBA and the NWICA for the Technical Engineers and successfully ratified a 5-year contract with each association that extends to May 31, 2025. The economic value of these five years is \$12.58 for Illinois and \$11.14 for Indiana.

The Technical Engineers will begin its first-ever Day Classes that will meet every Thursday at the Chicago Training Center for this new Apprentice Class of 10 new members. In the past 4 years, Technical Engineers have been meeting for evening classes.

Brothers and Sisters – when I became your Business Manager in 2012 my unending goal then -- and continues today -- is to succeed and thrive. Nothing has changed my passion and my drive to achieve and excel beyond even these targets.

As we emerge from Phase 3 and into Phase 4 of this Pandemic, know that our Local Union Brotherhood and Sisterhood is valued. I care deeply how our members participate in and support our Local 130 Union, that our members and their families keep healthy and stay safe and that we maintain steady employment.

SUCCEED and THRIVE, is my promise and my dedication to you.

In Solidarity,

*James F. Coyne*

## **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Wage and Benefits Allocations - p.3
- Pension and Welfare Office Updates - p.3
- Plumbers JAC Activity - p.4
- New Apprentice Training Center - p.4
- General Office Information - p.5
- 2020 Scholarship Recipients - p.5
- Local 130 Member Hard at Work - p.6
- Country Financial Update - p.6
- Queen Contest - p.7
- Plumbers 911 Update - p.7
- City of Chicago – Plumbing License Exam Dates - p.8
- Summer Kickoff Notice - p.8

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- Membership Meetings – Canceled until further notice
- Rebuilding Metro Chicago – Rescheduled. New date to be determined
- Mulligan Club Golf Outing – Canceled
- Annual Football Smoker – More information to follow
- Plumber Local 130's 125th Year Celebration – Postponed

# June 1, 2020 Wage & Benefit Allocations

## PLUMBERS

Plumbers Local 130 UA members will receive their wage increase on June 1, 2020 and the new benefit package begins on July 1, 2020. The amount of the increase depends on which signatory contractors association represents your employer (see tables below). For the plumbers, a four year agreement was negotiated between Local 130 and the three associations. The journeymen plumber's wage rate (on the check) is \$52.00 per hour if working for a PCA or WSA employer and \$48.00 if working in Kankakee/Iroquois Counties (KICPPA). Listed below please find the allocation of the hourly increase for 2020.

<b>PCA and WSA Contractors:</b>		<b>K &amp; ICPPA Contractors:</b>	
Wages (Journeymen)	\$1.00	Wages (Journeymen)	\$0.54
Welfare Fund	\$0.75	Welfare Fund	\$0.75
Retiree Welfare Fund	\$0.10	Retiree Welfare Fund	\$0.10
Pension Fund	\$0.10	Pension Fund	\$0.10
Pension DC Plan	\$0.75	Pension DC Plan	\$0.75
JAC	\$0.05	JAC	\$0.05
<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$2.75</b>	<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$2.29</b>

## TECHNICAL ENGINEERS

For the Technical Engineers who work in Illinois, a five year agreement was negotiated with Mid-America Regional Bargaining Association (MARBA) and Plumbers Local 130. They will receive their wage and benefit increase on June 1, 2020. The Journeymen's rate for those members working in Illinois has increased to \$49.10 per hour. For the Technical Engineers who work in Indiana the five year agreement with Northwest Indiana Contractors Association (NWICA) will also begin on June 1, 2020. The Journeymen's rate for those members working in Indiana has increased to \$42.75 per hour. Listed below please find the allocation of the hourly increase for 2020.

<b>MARBA Contractors</b>		<b>NWICA Contractors</b>	
Wages (Journeymen)	\$1.35	Wages (Journeymen)	\$1.00
Welfare Fund	\$0.55	Welfare Fund	\$0.45
Education Fund	\$0.04	Pension-DC Fund	\$0.25
		Education Fund	\$0.02
<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$1.94</b>	<b>Total Hourly Increase</b>	<b>\$1.72</b>

## Pension and Welfare Benefit Office

By: JOSEPH OHM, FUND ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Members:

During the past few months, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented each of us with unique challenges. I want to take this opportunity to assure you that the Trustees of your benefit funds have responded accordingly and have implemented the following benefit improvements to help our members during this crisis.

### **Temporary COVID-19 Supplemental Unemployment Benefit (SUB)**

As a means of assisting our members during the COVID-19 crisis, your Trustees approved a Supplemental Unemployment Benefit of \$400 per week for a maximum of four weeks for anyone that incurred unemployment as a result of COVID-19 from March 15, 2020 through June 30, 2020. I'm pleased to report that through June 30, 2020 we were able to provide financial assistance to 388 participants with nearly \$650,000 in unemployment assistance.

### **Temporary In-Service Distribution for Coronavirus-Related Reasons**

In addition to the SUB benefit, the Trustees of the Retirement Savings Fund approved a temporary in-service distribution for any participant affected by COVID-19. The temporary in-service distribution allowed a participant to receive up to three (3) coronavirus-related distributions between April 1,

2020 and June 30, 2020. The total combined limit of coronavirus-related distributions that a participant could receive could not exceed \$25,000. Almost 250 participants were able to take advantage of the temporary in-service distributions and received distributions of nearly \$4,506,395.00.

### **Welfare Fund Improvements related to COVID-19**

In addition to the benefits outlined above, the Trustees of the Plumbers' Welfare Fund approved several benefit improvements to assist our members in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. A **COVID-19 Testing** benefit was approved to allow our participants to be tested for the coronavirus with 100% coverage (no deductible or no coinsurance will apply). In addition, a **Telehealth Visit** benefit was approved. The Telehealth Visit benefit allows you to get the care you need, and save time, without having to schedule a doctor's appointment or be exposed to other sick individuals while you're sitting in the doctor's waiting room. Telehealth Visits are paid in the same manner as in-person office visits. Telehealth Visits related to COVID-19, however, are covered at 100% with no deductible and no coinsurance. Lastly, as a result of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, you can now use your HRA funds to reimburse the cost of over-the-counter drugs and medications purchased without a prescription on or after January 1, 2020.

# Plumbers JAC Activity

Classrooms, shops and hallways fell silent and empty as Jim Coyne, Chairman and Craig Thomas, Co-Chairman made the difficult decision to suspend all training in mid-March at each of our three Training Centers. Keeping safe our Apprentices, Journeymen, Instructors and Staff was of the utmost priority at that time. Our instructors were 'All-Hands-on-Deck' as they accepted the challenge ramping up E-Learning for our Apprentices and Journeymen. Each Instructor was available by phone and email to answer questions raised by Apprentices as they reported to their jobsites. Our instructors reported to their respective Training Centers every day and they raised the levels of external communications with our Apprentices by filming segments of textbook and hands-on lessons so education could continue during these unusual times. Embracing emerging technology by adding this new outlet, the Instructors also conducted Zoom classes as well as handing out assignments, quizzes and testing. The UA has provided the Blackboard platform and our Instructors loaded approximately 30 training videos (complete with homework and tests) for the benefit of our members. You can access these Local 130 proprietary educational videos on Blackboard by request. The education of our Apprentices, while interrupted, has never completely stopped.

This JAC is thrilled and excited to announce that Jack Vebber won the Illinois COTE Apprenticeship Contest, Plumbing Division, in March 2020 for Local 130. Hosted at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 25 in Rock Island, Illinois, this contest, organized by the Committee On Training and Education (COTE) has representation from 14 Unions competing in the categories of plumbing, pipefitting, HVACR, welding and sprinkler fitting. Jack was looking forward to winning the succeeding competitions that were to follow and was ready to earn an additional 'Apprentice of Year Award' in Ann Arbor, Michigan, for Local 130 but once again, the Coronavirus eclipsed those contests. We are very proud of Jack, employed as an apprentice since early 2017, at CJ Erickson Plumbing Co.

The Plumbers JAC Building Sub-Committee and the JAC Trustees plan to break ground and begin construction this month for the Joliet Training Center. Completed preliminary testing allows us to move ahead with plans to put the walls up.

The new Joliet Training Center, scheduled for completion in June 2021, will open and conduct its classes while the demolition of the existing Training Center will occur at that same time.

Be sure to mark your calendars for next year – Pandemic woes hopefully behind us – plan to join us for the Grand Opening. We look forward to showing off this State-of-the-Art facility to rival any training center currently constructed.

## NEW Apprentice Training Center To Open in Joliet - Summer 2021

Paving the way for current and future apprentices to continue to maintain our workforce as the best in the industry, the Joint Apprenticeship Committee is excited to announce the construction of a new Training Center at our Joliet location.

The 33,000 square foot training facility is scheduled to start construction in July of 2020 with an anticipated completion date of June 2021. The facility is modeled after the Chicago Training Center and will have Backflow, Faucet, Fixture, Water Heater and Hot Work Labs, along with classrooms and a multi-purpose room. The new training center will use rain water, grey water and solar technology the will house a 300-person auditorium. The demand is there for highly trained, qualified Plumbers, and the IT infrastructure will help bring advanced learning for our Apprentices, and all those involved.



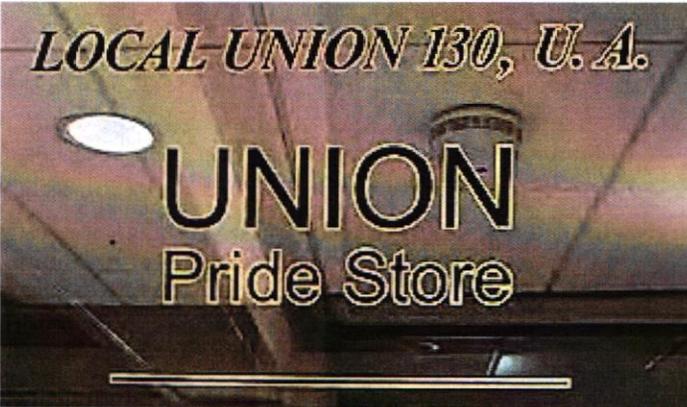
# General Office Information

By: *KEN TURNQUIST, FINANCIAL SECRETARY TREASURER*

2020 has been a most eventful year thus far! While we all adapt to our new way of living personally, the Local continues to motor full-steam ahead.

Our last newsletter announced the completion of the equipment that would enable us to broadcast our monthly membership meetings to the Joliet and Volo offices. In June we successfully broadcasted our "Authorization for Strike Vote" Meeting on June 18th to the remote offices. There were 91 members in attendance in Volo and 128 members in attendance in Joliet. Our Ratification Meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> was also broadcasted with 65 members in attendance at Volo and 51 at Joliet. Many thanks to our IT team's technological know-how that made this possible.

The Union Pride store is stocked and ready. The success of the store launch was more than we expected and we can't wait for you to see all of the new items awaiting you!



The store catalog is now on our website. If you are unable to make it to the Chicago office, we will take orders at each office and have the merchandise sent to the office the order is placed from. Hours of operation for the Union Pride store coincide with all union meetings and late night business hours. We also will open during regular business hours for members who come to the Chicago office.

The new UA Membership Cards were sent out in February/early March. We know that there are some still pending to be mailed. If you haven't received your card yet, please call the general office number and let us know. In the meantime, you may use your Local 130 card for meeting attendance.

As you know, due to the pandemic, the UA launched a "Dues Carry" initiative in April for the month of March to provide assistance to members who had work hour reductions to less than 40 hours per month. In May the UA extended the assistance for the month of April. All members who were affected by meeting the criteria have had adjustments posted to their ledger. Those receipts were mailed out on June 24, 2020.

Just as a reminder, members can set up automatic monthly payments for window dues. This will help you avoid late fees that equate to a month and a half of dues. Please consult with your banking institution about how to create the automatic payments.

Please remember to always carry your Local 130 membership card and plumbing license with you on the job site. Business Agents routinely scan cards at the job sites to ensure proper referrals are in place.

## 2020 Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to our four recent high school graduates who are this year's recipients of the annual Stephen M. Bailey Memorial Scholarships.

### **KAITLYN VICKERS**

- Daughter of Ian Vickers – Adjustable Forms

### **CONNOR UPHUES**

- Son of Patrick Uphues – AMS Mechanical

### **KAILEY SHEA**

- Daughter of Michael Shea – Plumbers Local 130

### **JOHN CASTANOLI**

- Son of Dominic Castanoli – Central Lawn Sprinklers

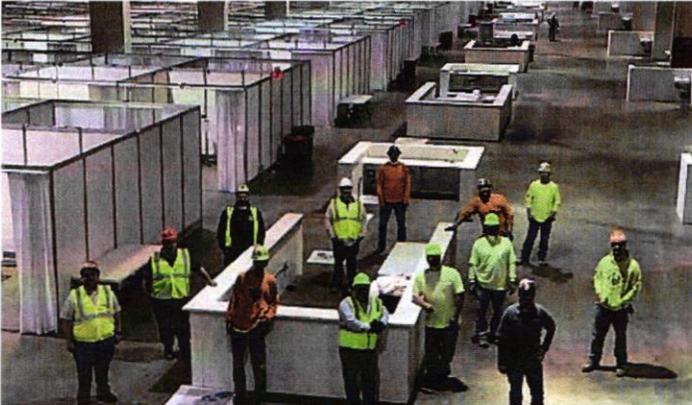
# LOCAL 130 MEMBERS HARD AT WORK

## SOLIDARITY WITHOUT QUARANTINE

As the Pandemic approached Chicago with an alarming number of positive tested Covid-19 patients, Mayor Lightfoot and Governor Pritzker needed to have areas where the over flow of patients could be treated if all the local hospitals were at full capacity. They had three locations that needed to be transformed into makeshift hospitals. They were McCormick Place, Metro South Hospital in Blue Island and West Lake Hospital in Melrose Park.

Our Plumbers took on the task of completing all the plumbing work at all three locations even working on Easter Sunday to make sure they will make their deadline.

A special "thank you" to O'Sullivan Plumbing and The Stone Group that worked at McCormick Place, Hill Mechanical at Metro South Hospital and Terry Plumbing that worked at West Lake Hospital.



McCormick Place



Metro South



McCormick Place



Westlake

**Did you know?** presented by



A whole life policy can help supplement your Plumbers Local 130 UA provided life insurance.

Plus, some whole life insurance policies can **build cash value** over time (similar to building equity in a home) which can be used while you're still alive.

Some people choose to use it to:

- Help fund a child's education
- Supplement retirement income
- Start a business or expand an existing one

Contact your COUNTRY Financial District Office at 815-744-2241 or call your local representative today.

*Life insurance policies issued by COUNTRY Life Insurance Company, Bloomington, Illinois. Policy loans and withdrawals decrease the cash value and face amount of the policy. The decision to purchase life insurance should be primarily based on a need for the death benefit. Life insurance is not an investment and is not appropriate as a replacement for retirement savings accumulation.*

# Annual Queen's Contest

On Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> over 70 contestants participated in our 2020 search for our "Chicago St. Patrick's Day Queen." Congratulations to our Queen and her Court for 2020.

What unprecedented times we live in. Never did we realize that the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade would have to be cancelled due to Covid-19. There was never a question in our minds that it was the right thing to do.



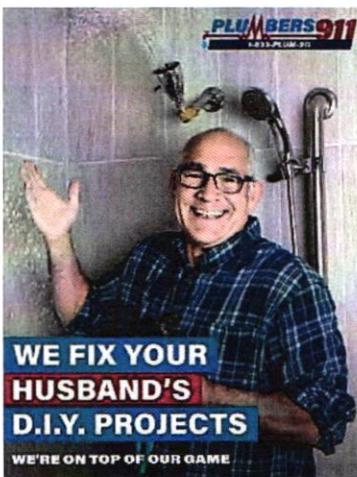
(L to R): Kelley Leyden, Emily Daniels, Kari McClowry (Queen), Casey Doherty and Kathleen Murphy.

# Plumbers 911 Update

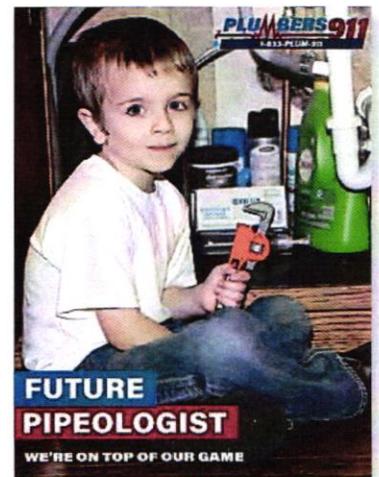
Our final phase of advertising has been completed at the Fifth Third Arena, home of the Chicago Blackhawks facility.

Please stop by to take a look at our newest ads. This is one more way we are getting the Plumbers 911 name out in the forefront of our competition – the non-union contractor.

We are pleased to announce that for the month of May our contractors achieved a rate of 46.9% in turning phone calls into service jobs. Our 25 contractors worked diligently during the pandemic to assist customers with their plumbing needs. Working with the new normal of proper PPE, additional sanitation and social distancing requirements these outstanding Plumbers got the job done.



Digital billboard on I-290.



# Plumber's Union Local 130 UA

1340 W. Washington Blvd.  
Chicago, Illinois 60607



PRESORTED  
MARKETING  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Lyons, IL  
Permit No. 27

## AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL ACTIVE CHICAGO AREA PLUMBERS

### City of Chicago Plumbing License Test

*Upcoming City of Chicago Plumbing License and Plumbing Practical Tests:*

Exam Title	Exam Date	Sign-up Deadline	Exam Title	Exam Date	Sign-up Deadline
PRACTICAL	August 29, 2020	August 17, 2020	WRITTEN	August 5, 2020	June 30, 2020
PRACTICAL	December 5, 2020	November 9, 2020	WRITTEN	October 7, 2020	September 11, 2020

Note: See additional information on Plumbers Local 130 website: [www.ualocal130.org](http://www.ualocal130.org) under "Training."

## Summer Kickoff

Get your physical early and avoid the last-minute rush.



Schedule your physical at the  
Plumbers Local 130 UA Wellness Center

July 1<sup>st</sup> - September 30<sup>th</sup> 2020

Members who receive one of the following physical exams during this time frame will be entered into a drawing each month to win one of 3 giveaways of a backpack and Amazon gift card!

- Camp physical
- School physical
- Sports physical



Call the Plumbers Local 130 UA Wellness Center at 312.421.1016 to schedule your physical exam.

Questions?  
Contact the Plumbers Local 130 UA Wellness Center at 312.421.1016.  
This was printed internally at a Green Facility.



## WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

When looking through the newsletter, you will see many events, articles and pictures not included in this volume that were in previous years.

Most of these events and meetings had to be canceled (or rescheduled) due to the Corona-19 virus. In all cases, it was the right decision to make as "Plumbers Protect the Health of the Nation." At a time when most American's were being ordered to stay-at-home, our industry was ensuring that millions of Americans have access to clean water and sanitation, which is critical in stopping the spread of this virus. Thank you Brothers and Sisters for your tireless effort in keeping everyone safe and healthy.

We hope this Newsletter finds you and your family well and safe. May this unprecedented time in the history of our country highlight the gifts and abilities we all possess. May we all realize our resiliency and come out of this experience as better human beings.