

To the members of Local 290 from Business Manager Lou Christian

## **Update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Impact, May 30th, 2020**

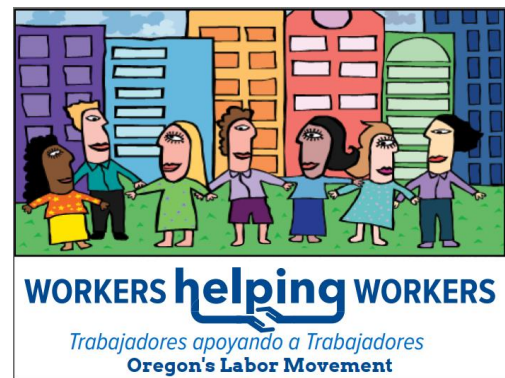
### **Gas Distribution**

The tentative agreement. We spread the word through the gas distribution stewards for information meeting. The tentative agreement outline was reviewed in an online Zoom meeting last Thursday evening and we discussed ideas for a ratification vote. The new national agreement was also reviewed. It goes into effect June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be posting the final tentative Local 290 Addendum online as soon as we get the language finalized with our contractors. The TA language and National Gas Distribution agreement is in our website. [NDPA Language Changes and Revisions NDPA 2020-2025 5-15-2020 MOU](#)

The election committee is working on the ratification vote process. We anticipate sending the information on the agreement out to the members who are working in this field. The whole membership will be notified by mail and can download and read the information on our website when posted. Planning for the ratification vote will be finalized next week.

### **Workers Helping Workers**

Our executive board at a special phone poll approve a \$5,000 donation to the Workers Helping Workers food box distribution drive. This is being put together by the Northwest Labor Council, Labors Community Service and many locals donating to this event. [Workers Helping Workers](#) We have been far more fortunate with a lot of our members working during this emergency. If you need food, this event will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> at the laborers Local 737 hall. It will be a drive thru event with food being placed in your vehicle. A second event is being planned for the 20<sup>th</sup> of June, possibly at our training center in Tualatin if legal details can be worked out. If you want to volunteer contact Bob Tackett at 503-235-9444. Masks, gloves and hand sanitizer will be available and social distancing will be adhered to for all volunteers.



### **District Council of Trade Unions**

A Tentative Agreement with the City of Portland has been reached.

The Agreement contains a Workshare agreement with the state employment division that will allow our members to go on furlough one day a week to save the City on wages, due to a 60-million-dollar budget short fall. The agreement will allow our members to claim unemployment benefits for those furlough days. Also, in the agreement is a 6-month contract extension that contains a 2.9% Cola and maintains all benefits and accruals as if working a full 40-hour week. The parties agree to meet monthly to evaluate funding opportunities that may allow for a return to full employment.

Thank you to Business Agent Pat Christensen for your hard work on this contract!

## **Reregistration**

If you were on the Hiring Hall out of work list before May 1<sup>st</sup> you need to reregister with the dispatch office to maintain your place on the list. [Registration Rules](#)

We are eagerly awaiting to reopen. Washington County finally entering Phase 1 next Monday! We will continue to follow the State and County guidelines. We will continue to work remotely. If you need something done in person that can't be done remotely, please contact the front desk. We will open as soon as state and county rules allow. ([Washington County Reopening Status](#) [Washington County Workplace Guidance](#))

On a sad note I was reminded how much we take for granted this week. Local 350 Reno, Nevada dispatcher Freddie Sheehan was 46 years old passed away last Monday unexpectedly from a heart attack. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and the Local.

Everyone stay safe and well!

Sisters and Brothers,

In Solidarity,

Lou A Christian