WarnerMedia’s New Home At 30 Hudson Yards

See Page 6

Inside

About the Contract Page 2
Meet the Scholars Page 8-9
More About Healthcare Page 16
Business Manager’s Report

Spring Arrives with Union Elections and a Healthcare Reality Check

Brothers and Sisters,

It seems like it was only yesterday, but in fact three years have passed and it’s time once again to conduct our Local 94 elections. Nominations for officers will be accepted during each of the General Membership Meetings (8 AM and 5 PM) Wednesday, May 8 at the Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 W. 44th Street.

A copy of the Notice of Elections appears on pages 14 and 15 of this newsletter. I urge everyone to attend. This is YOUR union make your voice heard.

As Bill Caramico and others here at Local 94 continually remind us, “unions all across our country continue to face new and increasing difficult challenges. Whether it be the Supreme Court’s Janus decision on paying dues, to reducing or eliminating pension and healthcare.”

The greatest challenge and highest obligation of a union is to deliver a labor agreement which ensures good wages, provides job protections, and health and pension plans. ‘Our reputation and a strong social conscience are the hallmarks of our Local 94.’

We require looking beyond the next pay raise for all of our members and our families. During our recently completed commercial negotiations with the Realty Advisory Board (RAB) we faced those challenges head-on. The result was an agreement which was overwhelmingly ratified.

We are grateful by your support and confidence. However, in order to reach that agreement we had to make some difficult but necessary decisions concerning our healthcare program. Changes bring questions, and you deserve answers.

As in all contract negotiations, healthcare is a contentious subject, this year it was the most contentious in memory. In every contract, the Union’s job of securing increases in the employer contribution rate while maintaining the current level of benefits has become increasingly difficult.

Four years ago the Funds’ actuarial consultants projected the Commercial Health Fund to have approximately thirteen and a half months of reserves as of December 31, 2018. Through cost saving initiatives, the hard work of the Fund Office administration, and decisions made by the Trustees, the Fund was able to exceed those expectations. As of December 31, 2018 the Fund had approximately sixteen months of reserves.

However even with those reserves, the reality is, rising medical prices combined with government regulations have, and will continue to put a strain on the Local 94 Health Funds. Mental Health Parity, coverage for adult children, etc., although good for participants, have created additional expenses in the near and long term.

Due to increases in medical costs, the Trustees, Fund Office administration, and consultants have been evaluating the Commercial Funds current copay structures, retiree premium levels, and prescription formulary changes as well as other items. This evaluation includes how these changes would strengthen the long term sustainability of the Health Fund.

Increases to retiree premiums are being considered because they have not changed since 2005. As you are well aware, medical inflation itself warrants changes to these premiums. To be frank, the Commercial Health Fund cannot continue to collect retiree premiums at levels which were first established in 2005. Another consideration is increasing the eligibility requirements for retiree benefits. Currently, participants can be eligible for retiree health benefits as early as age 55. This means the participant and his/her family could potentially be covered for ten years until Medicare becomes the primary insurer.

A pro-Medicare participant such as this costs the Fund approximately $3,600 a month versus a Medicare retiree who costs the Fund $854 a month.

We are also focusing on prescription cost saving strategies. As you are aware, the Fund recently switched its Pharmacy Benefit Manager to generate millions of dollars in savings. Additionally as we have done in the past, we will continue to implement strategies that will increase the utilization of generic prescription versus brand prescriptions. In many cases, the cheaper generic prescription is a clinically appropriate alternative to the more expensive, recognizable brand prescription.

The Fund is also looking to offer incentives to drive where care is received by participants. In the Health Fund Administrator’s report in this newsletter (see page 16), Kathy Rider details the price differences between primary care, urgent care, and the emergency room. Typically, your primary care (doctor’s office) is your best and least expensive option. Obviously it’s important to go to the emergency room and urgent care facilities when you have that emergency, but unnecessary emergency room visits costs the Fund a lot of money.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize the need to continue to be forward looking for the long term sustainability of the Local 94 Health Funds. By making certain modifications, we can position our Funds to continue to provide expansive benefits that most others do not have. I appreciate your consideration and patience on past strategies and future strategies moving forward.

In Solidarity,

Kuba J. Brown
Business Manager and Financial Secretary
Lessons of Sandy, Inspire and Energize Brookfield’s Crew at One New York Plaza

Ray Macco

With its majestic exterior, A-list tenants, an underground food court/minimall and spectacular views of the harbor, One New York Plaza is a Lower Manhattan gem. Yet, for all of its splendor the building and the tenants were helpless when Superstorm Sandy landed in October 2012.

Despite the pre-storm preparations of the Local 94 crew they were powerless against the forces of nature. The 2.6 million square foot building was inoperable.

Within a matter of hours the storm surge gushed an estimated 25 million gallons of water into the building. Left behind was a useless Central Chiller Plant, Generator Fuel System, Medical Systems, Life Safety Systems, and the Lower House Electrical Infrastructure.

As home to the international law firm of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson and financial giant Morgan Stanley, dozens of other tenants, a lengthy shutdown was out of the question. The Local 94 crew knew what needed to be done and they were all-in.

Chief Joe Albanese, who was Assistant Chief Engineer when the storm hit, speaks with pride of the crew’s response and commitment to re-opening the building. “Due to Brookfield’s quick and strategic thinking and thousands of hours from the Management and Engineering teams, they had the building up and running in three weeks,” Albanese recalled. “It wasn’t perfect, and there was still a lot of work to be done, but we were able to give the tenants what they needed to get back to their desks.”

Looking back, he has some added perspective of their challenge. “Actually, it probably took 10 years off our lives,” he said. “But they needed to get back to their desks.”

“One day, behind the scenes and within the quarters of the office building, John Peplinski, the Supervising Engineer of the entire Critical Plant, was seen working with another member of the team, Assistant Chief Phil Cimiluca, on the chiller plant system. John is a very strong, driven, and capable engineer. He walked into the control room, where the chiller plant runs, and checked all the critical parameters and equipment, and with the chiller plant now up and running, he went down the hall to the boardroom where the Manager of the critical plant and I were already reviewing how the critical plant was doing. The chiller plant was just beginning to operate and already the temperature in the boardroom was dropping to within a degree of the outside temperature. John said to me, ‘We got this’ and turned to the Manager of the critical plant and said, ‘We got this’.”

Chief Phil Cimiluca, Engineers: Demir Kozì, Brian Hughes, Chris DiMeglio, Sal Cialdella, Danny Hernandez, Assistant Chief Phil Cimiluca, Kevin Oefelein, Chief Engineer Joe Albanese, Tom Gumiela, Brian Hughes, Joe Cassidy, Demir Kozì. Below, Water Street entrance to lower level mini-mall.

Chief Albanese and his Local 94 team of Assistant Chiefs and Engineers: Demir Kozì, Brian Hughes, Chris DiMeglio, Sal Cialdella, Joe Monegro, Joe Cassidy, Dan Ratigan, Phil Pecorino, Mechanic Kevin Oefelein, Tom Gumiela, and Apprentices Carlo Figueroa, Danny Hernandez, Josh Pinker, and Robert Peplinski, continue that same dedication to work with Brookfield’s experienced management team, Joseph Syslo, Mike Delmont, Dan Kindbergh, Rich Bachia, Mike Bosso, and Tom Damsel.

Lessons of Sandy, Inspire and Energize Brookfield’s Crew at One New York Plaza has been purchased which will certainly prove more effective than the sandbags used during Sandy.

Albanese arrived at One New York Plaza in 2005 as a Local 688 Chiller Mechanic and has been a proud member of Local 94 for the past 14 years. He now maintains and operates the 13,000 ton tri-fueled chiller plant with building systems that are supported by 15 back up emergency generators along with more than 60 Automatic transfer switches.

Today, that 13,000 ton plant consisting of two natural gas engines, four steam turbines and three electric chillers operates 9,000 of those tons off of cooling towers, with the remaining 4,000 running off the river. According to Albanese, this energy efficient plant also provides cooling for its 1.4 million square-foot neighbor at Two New York Plaza.

Albanese was also quick to credit the engineering crew for all of their hard work. “I believe they are the best of the best in the industry.” He called himself fortunate to work with Brookfield’s experienced management team, Joseph Syslo, Mike Delmont, Dan Kindbergh, Rich Bachia, Mike Bosso, and Tom Damsel.

If there is anything that will get the attention of Michael Bloomberg it is efficiency. After all, it was his development of a system to deliver a more efficient method in providing critical information to investors which made him a billionaire.

So while the cost saving efforts of Local 94 Chief Brian Wall and his crew at 120 Park Avenue won’t save billions, they are making a difference in Bloomberg’s bottom line.

Located at the northwest corner of Park Ave. and 41st Street. Opened in 1981, the 27-story 630,000 square foot tower served as the headquarters for tobacco giant Phillip Morris, until it relocated to Virginia in 2008.

Bloomberg LP moved into the building in 2011, leaving floors 8 thru 23, a total of 468,000 square-feet, when his company grew too large for his Lexington Avenue space.

While his flagship remains on Lexington, he did bring some of his legendary Bloomberg hospitality to Park.

Visitors arriving at the 13th floor reception area welcomed to what can only be described as the mini-mall.

In addition, an external flood barrier system was isolated the belimo valves to restrict water flow when supplemental units are off. Action reduced the operating GPM’s by 150%. Reduced the fan speed on the 36 15-ton CRAC units minimum fan speed from 84% to 54%; shut off electric heaters, humidifier and dehumidifier on a seasonal basis, which reduced power consumption from 30 amps to 1 amp; lowered the DP from 32 psig to 10 psig, which reduced GPM’s from 2,400 to 900, and eliminated the use of three of the four condenser water pumps. Discontinued base building after hour schedule resulting in an annual savings of $650,000. Combined with the more than $620,000 in electrical savings the crew has already generated some $1.2 million in savings.

And, according to Wall the savings are only the beginning. “These savings will be approving,” said Wall. “I’m sure there will be even more savings down the road. These are a pretty smart bunch of guys.”

More impressive yet, the crew was able to reduce the number of tenant complaints throughout the process. “The company has a high standard and the fact that these guys were able to do what they did, while dealing with complaint calls without interruption, well, that is beyond impressive,” said Wall.

Tom Hart

Local 94 Crew Generates Savings at Bloomberg’s Park Ave. Satellite

‘These are a pretty smart bunch of guys.’

——Chief Brian Wall
Local 94 Moves to 30 Hudson Yards With WarnerMedia

Mike Gadaleta

Most Local 94 engineer teams would consider themselves lucky to have experienced one “shovel-in-the-ground” to full building operation in their career. This month, as the nearly 5,000 employees of WarnerMedia move from their Columbus Circle home into 30 Hudson Yards, they’ll be greeted by the same engine room leadership team that welcomed them when Time Warner moved to Columbus Circle.

Director of Operations (and Local 94 veteran) Ed Cavanaugh, Chief Engineer Bob Burns and Assistant Chief Rich Morris, helped oversee and open Time Warner’s move in 2004, have done it again.

During a recent visit to Burns new 30 Hudson Yards office the three men recalled that move. “We brought that (Columbus Circle) building up together,” recalled Cavanaugh and Burns have either been at the construction site or traveling the country searching, reviewing and procuring the most state-of-art machines and back-up systems. “We are on the leading edge of smart technology,” said Burns.

As for Hudson Yards “We’ve been here for the past 15 years as a team. Going back to the summer of 2016, Cavanaugh and Burns have either been at Hudson Yards prepping for WarnerMedia move into one 4 million square-feet of space spread over 16 floors.

Today, the steel and glass tower at 30 Hudson Yards tower soars 1,300 feet into the sky. As the new home to HBO, CNN, WB, Turner Broadcasting and other media entities the team had to consider the power requirements and provide the redundancies and backup to meet the demands of the world’s largest media companies. Their space includes multiple live broadcast studios, data and technical rooms, a conference center, health club, employee cafeteria, and three large screening rooms used for “Red Carpet events.

Because even the best equipment in the world is only as good as the people who make it run, was also putting together his Local 94 crew of Critical Systems Engineer Jimmy Donohue, Engineers Bryan Smith, Chris Dumpson, Matt Amiratano, Andrew Strauch, Joe Rutledge, Christopher Dannmann, Brian Schirripa, Chris Dumphson and Director of Engineering Ed Cavanaugh.

Once home to the Michael Petrides School for nearly 25 years. It is also one of the rare Department of Education schools where parents can enroll their child in Pre-K and watch as he or she advances all the way through high school graduation.

Open exclusively to Staten Island residents and with an enrollment of 1,300 students, it’s no wonder entrance is held by lottery, some 1,600 hopefuls are turned away each year.

For those lucky enough to be accepted the challenges and opportunities provided by the many advanced and specialty programs also comes with the comfort of learning in familiar surroundings. While students and even teachers eventually move on, there are engineers and firemen who have been at the school since the transition from the Community College in 1995.

One of those engineers – Thomas Bickerton – started at the school before it opened in 1994. “I was here for the transition,” Bickerton. While he may have been the first to arrive it takes a large and dedicated team of full- and part-time engineers and firemen to run the plant and maintain the grounds.

High Pressure Engineer Chris Hemmes oversees the engine room which provides heat and comfort for the eight buildings of the nine buildings spread across the campus. He along with Bickerton, and Firemen Anthony Maglucio, Eric Nonis, and Vinny Voila are full-timers. Five part-time Hi-pressure Engineers Joe Houghton, Richie Raguza, Dennis Maestrilées, Joe Ramirez and Rick Cordero round out the team.

Heat and cooling are provided by three duel-fuel boilers which have been in the place since 1964. Along with the boiler, Hemmes runs 200 ton absorber in the summer.

“Everything in this building is 50 years old. So it’s really all about staying on top of routine maintenance,” said Hemmes.

Those boilers generate the heat which runs along an underground pipe system to warm and cool seven of the eight buildings. “The chiller house is run on its own lo-pressure boiler,” Hemmes explained.

It is at this time of year the team faces its biggest challenge. “We run full heat 24/7 from November to April. When the weather gets warm, it can get crazy,” Last April for example a warm front came through in early April which put the team to the test.

“We went from running heat on Wednesday, then because it’s a dual-coil system fill the chill water and change the filters for cooling on Thursday,” Hemmes recalled.

Along with their routine engine room duties the crew is also responsible for maintaining the campus. Located at the bottom of Todt Hill in Sunnyside, the Petrides campus includes a large parking lot, open spaces, a kidlde playground and an athletic field.

“We are responsible for fixing pot holes, snow removal, and building repairs. “We also have to deal with the wildlife,” said Bickerton. “We actually have a herd of 20 deer roaming the grounds, along with wild turkeys. There’s a lot that goes on here.”

Caring for Students from Kindergarten through High School at Petrides

Top right, Spring Creek Educational Campus in Brooklyn. (L to R) Petrides engine room veterans Engineers Chris Hemmes, Thomas Bickerton and Fireman Anthony Maglucio

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Nicholas D’Amato
Anthony is the son of Salvatore Cialdella who works as an Engineer for Brookfield Properties. He has been a member of Local 94 since January of 2011. While attending East Islip High School he has been in honor classes and AP classes in Math, Science and English. As a junior he overcame a fear of public speaking and ran for Vice President and won two consecutive terms. He also served as a representative of the School Improvement Team interacting with the teaching staff to focus on school issues.

Max Dorazio
Nicholas is the son of Ronald D’Amato who works as a Chief Engineer for SL Green. He has been a member of Local 94 since May 1990. A graduate of Kellenberg Memorial High School in Union Dale, N.Y. Nicholas was a member of the National Honor Society and received the President’s Award for Educational Excellence. He was voted the Most Valuable Player of the Boys Varsity Soccer and Volleyball teams. Outside the classroom, he teaches religion at his local church and is on the Junior Retreat Staff. He is a Senior Ambassador and a Marianist Mentor, and participated in the Lourdes Service Mission Trip. Nicholas is attending University of Rhode Island’s Honors program, and will be majoring in Kinesiology with interests in the Pre-Medical track.

Mark Lapinski
Mark is the son of Christopher Dorazio who works as a Fireman for NYCSSS at PS 425 in the Bronx. He has been a member of Local 94 since January 2016. While attending Carmel High School in Carmel, NY Max was a member of the National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America and the Carmel Mentor Program. He also was a member of the varsity soccer, Golf and Bowling teams. He also volunteered at Kent Public Library and Kent Recycling Center. He has been involved in the Fill-up the Truck and Special Olympics. All while holding several part-time jobs to help supplement his expenses. Max is attending Villanova University majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Emma Keegan
Emma is the daughter of Vincent Keegan, an Assistant Chief Engineer for Global Holdings. He has been a member of Local 94 since May of 2003. While attending the Baccalaureate School for Global Studies in Astoria, she served as Vice President of the Senior Council, and President of the Gay-Straight Alliance. She was one of two students to receive the New York State Comptroller’s Award for student achievement. She was a Girl Scout Ambassador and her Gold Award is pending. Emma is attending Stony Brook University where she is a member of the Women in Science and Engineering Honors Program. She is looking toward a career in medicine while studying Biochemistry and Applied Mathematics.

Mark Magennis
Kathryn is the daughter of James Magennis who works as an Engineer for Cushman & Wakefield. He has been a member of Local 94 since October 2012. While attending Ramsey High School in New Jersey, Kathryn was Vice President of the student body, President of her D.E.C.A chapter and a captain of her field hockey team and dance teams. She was also the Orientation Coordinator and was the overall leader in the Leadership Academy. She participated in numerous school clubs including S.A.D.D., S.T.A.N.D., S.O.S., Interact, National Honor Society and World Challenge, as well as working for Habitat for Humanity in Bolivia. She was also among the speakers at the commencement ceremony in June. Kathryn is attending Fairfield University where she is studying Nursing.

Jenna Miller
Jenna is the daughter of Henry Miller, a Corporate Engineer for George Comfort & Sons. He has been a member of Local 94 since April 2005. While attending the Elmwood Park Memorial High School, in New Jersey, Mark was on the honor roll for four years and completed the Rutgers Microbiology program. He also volunteered in the school's peer tutoring program. He was a member of the Track & Field team, the Tech Club and the STEM club.

Jenna Miller
Emma is the daughter of Stanley Miller, a former Police Officer for the Hempstead Police Department. She has been a member of Local 94 since 2000. She attended Hofstra University where she will be studying Chemistry.

Spencer Sundeberg
Spencer is the son of John Sundeberg, an Engineer for Jones Lang LaSalle. He has been a member of Local 94 since April 1984. While attending Lynbrook Senior High School in Lynbrook, NY Spencer was an active member in the National Honor Society as well as the Marketing Executive for his award winning Virtual Team. He was a finalist in the Entrepreneurship and Leadership Conference and was on the football, basketball and lacrosse teams. He was a Junior Fire Fighter for the town of Lynbrook and a lifeguard for the town pool. Spencer is attending Misericordia University where he has been accepted into the Doctorate of Physical Therapy program.

Lily Zangari
Lily is the step-daughter of David Sciallis, a Chief Engineer for First Lexington Corp-Rudin Management. He has been a member of Local 94 since January 2004. While attending South Side High School in Rockville Centre, NY Lily served as President of her high school’s National Art Honor Society and the SADD chapter. She was also a member of the National Honor Society, and the National Spanish Honor Society. She received the Brandeis University Book Award for her commitment to civic engagement, community service, political activism and social justice work. She volunteered at a local soup kitchen, homeless shelter and nursing home. Lily is attending the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia. She is pursuing a painting major and a graphic design minor.
Scholarship Dinner Dance
Comfort, Care and a Can-Do Attitude at Crowne Plaza in Times Square

Located in the heart of Times Square cornering a full block of Broadway between 48th and 49th Streets the Crowne Plaza Hotel is a popular haven for New Year revelers. It’s walking distance location to dozens of theaters, restaurants and even Central Park makes the hotel a year-round attraction for tourists worldwide.

Ensuring the comfort of the thousands of guests who pass through its doors is a crew of Local 94 engineers under the direction of Tony Colon. With nearly 800 rooms, restaurants, a health club with pool, as well as additional 235,000 square feet of commercial office and retail space there is no shortage of activity for the Local 94 members under the Local 6 umbrella.

For Colon who has worked most of his career exclusively in commercial properties in lower Manhattan the Crowne Plaza has presented new challenges. “Between the hotel rooms and amenities, office space, rehearsal studios, a parking garage and some of the largest retail space in the city it’s been different,” said Colon. “And, a new two-story rehearsal studio is about to open.”

“With the weather changing nearly every tool imaginable to his belt; hand gauges and pens in his shirt pockets; and tops it off with a flashlight strapped to his head.

A 35-year veteran of Local 94, German has been at the Crowne Plaza for the past 25 years. He not only knows every inch of space, he understands everyone’s first responsibility. “There are always three guys in the call center ready to answer any call at any time.”

In keeping with the ever growing expansion of mobile technology, German noted, there is now a mobile app for that.

This is really a tremendous collective effort. There is a great bond with the staff.”
—Tony Colon

Adding a New Engine Room Skill: Writing

It is a matter of great pride that you, the members of Local 94, are considered to be among the most skilled and respected engineers in the industry. It is a reputation you have earned through your commitment to your trade and your willingness to learn new skills and embrace the new technologies and techniques.

The challenge for Training Center is to provide you with all the necessary tools to develop new skills and advance your careers. Thanks to the support Mr. Brown and our Training staff, our members have access to the tools needed to develop and enhance their skills. Sometimes those skills go beyond the pressure gauge. Sometimes it is learning how to properly write a report.

Take for example the 13 SL Green Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs and Engineers who completed a Business Writing course Murphy Institute for Worker Education at the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies. The program was developed by CUNY’s David Shapiro (who taught the course), SL Green’s Patrick Calcagno and the Local 94 Training Center.

Over the course of the semester students worked on grammar, punctuation, properly organizing an incident report, expanding their vocabulary and other skills. The impact of the class was such, that the students were using their new skills long before their December graduation.

In an interview with Becky Fireheets, for the SLU blog, Michael DeLuca said he’s “definitely” been using it at work. “When we send emails and incident reports, we often tag business owners or portfolio managers, and it’s important to use the right grammar and sound intelligent.”

It’s walking distance location to dozens of theaters, restaurants and even Central Park makes the hotel a year-round attraction for tourists worldwide.

Howard Styles with new Hampden Flushometer Trainer.
Nominations and Elections

April 17, 2019

NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR A ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF LOCAL 94, IUOE

Dear Brother/Sister Local 94 Member:

Listed below is important information pertaining to the 2019 Nomination for and Election of Local 94 Officers.

Please read carefully.

Pursuant to Article II, Section 4 of the Local 94 Bylaws, a Nominations Meeting will be held at the General Membership Meetings on May 8, 2019.

1) Officer Positions to be elected

   a) Article II Section 1 of the Local 94 Bylaws specifies the following Officer positions to be elected:

      Business Manager, President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Trustees (3), Auditors (3), Conductor, and Guard.

   The Officers who are elected will serve for a term of three (3) years.

   b) Pursuant to Article III, Section 5 of the Local 94 Bylaws, the Business Manager, President, Vice President, Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer, shall be designated delegates to the IUOE Convention by virtue of their Local 94 elective office.

   c) Elected officers of Local 94 may hold more than one (1) elected position concurrently.

2) Date, Time and Place of the Nominations Meetings:

   a) Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 - General Membership Meetings

   b) Time: 8:30AM - 9:30AM, 10:00PM - 11:00PM

   At each meeting, nominations shall be made from the floor.

   c) Place: Hotel Trades Council

   305 West 44th Street, Mezzanine Floor

The meeting of the ballots will take place immediately after the polls close at 9:30 PM, at the Local 94 Training Center.

To win the election, a candidate is required to receive a plurality of the votes cast; the candidate who receives the most votes wins the election.

In the event of a tie vote between any candidates, a run-off election will be held on Wednesday, August 21, 2019.
Options for Confronting Costs of Health Care

We Have You Covered
When You or Your Dependents Get Sick or Hurt, You Have Options for Getting Care

When you or your dependent are sick or injured and need to see a doctor, how do you choose between going to the emergency room, an urgent care clinic or your doctor’s office? This is an important decision that can impact the care you receive and how much it costs you and the Fund. The tips below are designed to help you make your decision.

When You Should Go to Your Primary Care Physician
Your doctor's office is generally the best option. Your primary care physician already knows you, understands your medical history, and can treat you accordingly. Simply call your doctor's office, explain your condition, and can treat you accordingly. Simply download the FREE OptumRx App or Google Play®. You can then easily search drug prices, manage medication reminders and have access to the most current drug coverage information.

What It Will Cost You and the Fund
While the costs to you for the three options are similar if you get care from a network provider the overall costs are very different. According to national data compiled by Empire, the average emergency room visit can cost over $2,100. Emergency room visits are among the most expensive medical services for you and the Health and Benefit Trust Fund. When you go to an urgent care center, the average cost is $190. And your doctor's office visit costs even less—on average of $125 for a walk-in visit. That’s why it’s important to go to the emergency room only when you experience a true medical emergency, and to understand what alternative forms of care exist if you’re not having an emergency, but need same-day treatment. Unnecessary emergency room visits costs you and the Fund a lot of money.

Questions?
Call the Fund Office at (212) 541-9880, or visit www.local94.com.

We would never want you to compromise your health. If you’re experiencing a true emergency, call 911 or get to an emergency room as quickly as you can. But, if your condition is not life threatening, think about using an alternative form of care for quicker, less-expensive and more convenient care.

Do you know who your Beneficiary is for the Annuity Fund?
In the event of your death, the beneficiary named for the Annuity Fund will receive the amount in your Individual Annuity Fund Account, in accordance with the applicable rules as set forth in the Plan (provided that you have a balance in the account at the time of death). You may also name a contingent beneficiary in the event your beneficiary pre-deceases you. This beneficiary designation is different and completely separate from any beneficiary information you may have on file with the Local 94 Health Fund. Perhaps you had a recent life change that would require you changing your beneficiary. Even if there have been no changes and you think your beneficiary information is correct, we strongly encourage you to take a moment to review your account to ensure that the beneficiary information on file is current and accurate.

We would also encourage you to contact the Health and Benefit Fund so we can help you.

Please remember that if you encounter any problems with your prescriptions, you can contact OptumRx toll-free at 855-295-9140 or you can contact the Health and Benefit Fund at 212-331-1800.

Review the 2019 Formulary (The List of Covered Medications)
Each prescription drug company has its own list of covered prescription medications that are selected for their safety, cost and effectiveness. You and your doctor should review the formulary to help you select the most cost-effective prescription medications for your needs. The Health and Benefit Fund encourages all eligible participants to log in to the OptumRx website at www.optumrx.com for valuable information as well as OptumRx's current formulary list.

Use the OptumRx App
The OptumRx App® is also another resource available to you. It can make the online pharmacy experience as simple as possible. Simply download the FREE OptumRx App from the Apple® App store or Google Play®. You can then easily search drug prices, manage medication reminders and have access to the most current drug coverage information.

NEW Specialty Medication Pharmacy: BriovaRx
Specialty medications will be filled by BriovaRx, the OptumRx specialty pharmacy. BriovaRx provides specialty medications and some clinical support for complex conditions, including cancer, arthritis, and other conditions. You can contact BriovaRx customer care toll-free at 855-427-4682 or log in to the OptumRx website at www.optumrx.com.

Don’t depend on the cost of a Formulary list to determine which medications are covered. Use the OptumRx App® to quickly access coverage information and many other tools.

Questions?
Call 800.294.3575 and ask for a representative of John Hancock by calling 800.294.3575 from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm EST. Please call today!
9/11 Victim Compensation Fund: Running out of Time and Money

It is time to determine whether you may be eligible for the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund.

The September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) is due to expire on December 18, 2020. This means that claims must be submitted in full by then. Recently, the first time since the Zadroga Act was reauthorized in 2015, the VCF

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Local 94 2019 Calendar

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019
General Membership Meeting
8:30 PM, 2 PM, and 5 PM —
Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street. Special Presentation of Local 2018 Graduates.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019
Local 94 Scholarship Deadline — See Local 94 website for details: www.local94.com

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019
Local 94 Retirement Seminar
Members who plan on retiring within the next 2 years should attend this Seminar. Topics covered will be Medical coverage, Pension Fund, Annuity Fund, Social Security and Financial Planning. To sign up for an individual 1 on 1 session please contact Kimberly Antonaccio at 212-331-1826 or email at Kimberlyantonaccio@local94.com

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019
General Membership Meeting
8:30 PM, 2 PM, and 5 PM, Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street. Nominations and Elections of Local 94 Executive Board

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019
Local 94 Spring Golf Outing
8 AM — South Shore and LaTourrette Golf Courses, Staten Island. Contact: Jack Redden (212) 245-7935.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2019
New Members Meeting
Meeting begins promptly at 4PM — Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street. New members who were notified to attend and paid the $100 application bond who attend the Initiation Ceremony will be refunded the $100 application bond.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019
General Membership Meeting
8:30 PM, 2 PM, and 5 PM — Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street. Training School Graduation & Service Awards Ceremonies will be conducted at the 5 PM meeting.

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED IN JULY AND AUGUST

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2019
Local 94 Family Picnic
Fountain Springs Country Club, 234 Conklnpoint Road, Ringwood, New Jersey. All Tickets must be purchased in advance. No Tickets will be sold at the door. For tickets please call Kelly Drummond (212) 331-1800. Please note: No personal food, coolers, alcohol or other beverages will be permitted. No alcohol or smoking will be permitted in the pool area.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019
Local 94 Memorial Mass
Local 94 will remember and honor our fallen brothers and all who lost their lives during and after the September 11, 2001 attacks with a Memorial Mass at St. Malachy’s R.C. Church, 239 West 49th Street. 10 AM.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2019
New Members Meeting
Meeting begin promptly at 4PM Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street. New members who were notified to attend and paid the $100 application bond who attend the Initiation Ceremony will be refunded the $100 application bond.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019
Local 94 Fall Golf Outing
8 AM – Split Rock Golf Course, 870 Shore Road, Bronx, N.Y. Contact: Kelly Drummond (212) 331-1834; or Henry Augustine (212) 751-4036.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019
General Membership Meeting
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM — Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2019
General Membership Meeting
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM — Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019
General Membership Meeting
(Holiday Toy and Coat Drive)
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM — Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street.

Be sure to visit the Local 94 website at www.local94.com for updates.