



BUILDING TRADES NEWS

VOLUME 27, NO.4

LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTIES BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO



SEPTEMBER 2022

EL CAMINO PAVES THE WAY TO P.L.A. Community College in Torrance Votes for First Labor Agreement



Council Executive Secretary Chris Hannan, right, joins Building Trades union activists after the Project Labor Agreement vote.

BY LESLIE BERKMAN

Riding a wave of pro-union sentiment

in the region, the El Camino Community College Board of Trustees on July 11 unanimously adopted the college's first

Project Labor Agreement. The five-year contract with the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction

Trades Council commits the college to collective bargaining standards on cam-

SEE EL CAMINO PAGE 8

BIDEN SIGNS JOB BILLS

BY JAMES DUFFY

To improve workers' lives and foster union

growth, Congress has approved the Inflation Reduction Act. President Joe Biden signed

the \$369 billion bill into law on Aug. 16.

The IRA will invest in clean energy, negotiate Medicare drug prices and ensure that union standards are part of major construction projects that it funds.

The IRA raises \$737 billion in revenue through corporate taxes, ending a stock buyback credit and other means, ultimately reducing the federal deficit by \$300 billion.

"This is going to offer working families thousands of dollars in savings by providing them rebates to buy new and efficient

SEE BIDEN PAGE 17



President Joe Biden promised action on jobs, and now he's delivering.

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BUILDING TRADES ACTION

ON THE MARCH FOR LABOR DAY



Teamsters Local 572 heads down Avalon Blvd. in Wilmington.

While Southern California suffered through a record heat wave on Labor Day weekend, union members brought their own heat to the 43rd annual Labor Day parade in Wilmington.

The event had been transformed into a food drive for Labor Day 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.

On Sept. 5, energy and enthusiasm were back on the streets for what event organizer Los Angeles/Long Beach Har-



The Bulldogs of Harry Bridges Span School.

bor Labor Coalition says is the biggest Labor Day get-together in the western United States.

Union popularity is peaking at its highest levels in almost 100 years—71 percent of Americans in a recent survey said they approve of unions. New sectors, from Amazon workers to minor league baseball players, are unionizing daily.

The parade and picnic were the perfect

SEE LABOR DAY PAGE 18

Photos by Mark Savage

FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

GONZALEZ IS LABOR LEADER FOR A NEW GENERATION

In this month of Labor Day, we salute a great labor leader, and welcome a new leader for 2.1 million union members. The California Labor Federation has fought for the working class, representing 1,200 local unions. Alongside the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California and local unions, councils and state associations, this fight has improved wages, benefits and working conditions for union families throughout our state.

For the last 26 years, Art Pulaski has led the California labor movement as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the federation. Working with State Building Trades Presidents Bob Balgenorth, Robbie Hunter and Andrew Meredith, the federation and our Building Trades unions have fought back numerous attacks, including the elimination of prevailing wage requirements for public works projects in 1996. We flooded the streets of Los Angeles and Sacramento by the tens of thousands, which sent a message to then-Governor Pete Wilson that this was not going to be tolerated! I remember that day as a first period apprentice on the streets of Los Angeles with over 15,000 of my Building Trades sisters and brothers.

Art started at age 16 as a meatcutter in a union supermarket in his native Connecticut. Heading out west, he became the Executive Secretary of the San Mateo Labor Council in California from 1984 to 1996 before taking over at the Labor Fed.

Art built and rebuilt a labor movement in California that rose from the middle of the 1990s to become a standard-bearer of the AFL-CIO for the country. California has the seventh-highest union density in the country, and the largest total number of union mem-



Art Pulaski, fighting to raise the minimum wage

bers. County by county, our unions play a huge role in legislation. We train new generations of workers and bring working people to the table in the fifth-largest economy in the world.

We don't take this strength for granted. When Art decided it was time to retire, it was important that his successor be as strong and dedicated as he was, and ready to fight new battles for the new era we are entering.



BY CHRIS HANNAN
Executive Secretary

On July 27 in San Francisco, at the Cal Labor Fed's biennial convention, Art entered his first day of retirement, and the delegation elected Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher as the new Executive Secretary-Treasurer. Lorena Gonzalez will fight fiercely for labor and make no apologies. We all look forward to working with her. Gonzalez, an attorney, served as Assemblywoman for the 80th District in San Diego County from 2013 to January 2022, and served as Chief Executive of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council from 2007 to 2013.

In the Assembly, Gonzalez brought her labor experience to the forefront. Her strongest legacy is AB 5, which makes it much harder for companies to misclassify workers as independent contractors. AB 5 is now a model for lawmakers around the country.



Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher will lead 2.1 million union members and recruit new ones.

Gonzalez's next challenge will be to bring the Labor Fed into the new era where workers from giant companies like Amazon and Starbucks are starting to unionize. The fast-food and warehouse sectors, which have resisted unionization for the past 30 years, are now exploding with grassroots, worker-led organizing drives.

On Aug. 15, 150 Amazon workers at a warehouse in San Bernardino walked off the job to protest their working conditions. Organizing Amazon, one of the five biggest companies in the world, would add tens of thousands of union workers to the Labor Fed ranks.

The day she was elected, Gonzalez announced the "Unionize California" initiative, which sets up a quick website link for people interested in unions.

"Any worker who's interested in unionizing their workplace—no matter what industry they work in, or how small the worksite, or how far along or educated they are about the process—will be able to simply reach out to the Federation through the Unionize California website and be quickly connected with a staff organizer," Gonzalez said.

We look forward to many years of activism and growth with Lorena Gonzalez's leadership. On behalf of the 140,000 men and women of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building Trades, welcome!

BUILDING TRADES NEWS

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Tradeshaw & Sign Crafts
Local 831

Painters Local 1036
Resilient Floor Local 1247
Civil Service Local 1991
UA Pipe Trades District Council 16
Plumbers Local 78

Steam & Pipefitters Local 250
Plumbers Local 345
Plumbers & Fitters Local 398
Plumbers & Steamfitters
Local 582

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Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5
Boilermakers Local 92
Bricklayers & Tile Layers Local 4
Electrical Workers Local 11
Electrical Workers Local 40
Electrical Workers Local 45
Electrical Workers Local 441
Elevator Constructors Local 18
Operating Engineers Local 12
Iron Workers Local 416
Iron Workers Local 433
Iron Workers Local 509
Laborers District Council
Laborers Local 300
Laborers, Gunite Workers
Local 345
Laborers Local 652
Laborers Local 1184
Laborers Local 1309
Laborers, Plaster Tenders
Local 1414
District Council 36 Painters
& Allied Trades
Drywall Finishing Local 1136

Road Sprinkler Fitters Local 669
Sprinkler Fitters Local 709
Plumbers & Fitters Local 761
Plasterers-Cement Masons
District Council
Plasterers-Cement Masons
Local 755
Plasterers Local 200
Cement Masons Local 500
Cement Masons Local 600
Roofers & Waterproofers Local 36
Roofers & Waterproofers
Local 220
Sheet Metal Workers Local 105
Sheet Metal Workers Local 170
Teamsters Joint Council 42
Teamsters Local 848
Teamsters Local 952
Teamsters Local 986

Change of address: Union members, please contact your local.

BUILDING TRADES NEWS 3



Iron Workers Local 416 members represent their union.

2 BUILDING TRADES NEWS

BUILDING TRADES ENDORSEMENTS: NOVEMBER 8 ELECTION

Are you registered to vote?

CHECK REGISTRATION
<https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>
REGISTER ONLINE!
<https://registertovote.ca.gov/>
Registration deadline: Oct 24
After Oct 24:
sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg

ELECTION DAY
IS
TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 8

These are the
November 8, 2022
Primary Election
Recommendations of the
Los Angeles/Orange Counties
Building and Construction
Trades Council.

All of California's registered
voters will receive a ballot,
starting Oct. 6.
<https://voterguide.sos.ca.gov/>

HOW TO VOTE:

In person, starting Oct. 29 at vote centers in
LA County and Orange County
Return ballot to secure dropbox,
starting Oct. 11
Return ballot at vote center
Return ballot by mail

WHAT'S A VOTE CENTER?

It's a polling place where you
can vote in person. Many open
between Oct. 29 and Nov. 8,
and you can vote at any vote
center in your home county

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE PROP. 30

Increases tax on income above
\$2 million for zero-emission
vehicle projects and wildfire
prevention programs.

SUPPORT

UNITED STATES
SENATOR

Alex Padilla

GOVERNOR

Gavin Newsom

LIEUTENANT
GOVERNOR

Eleni Kounalakis

SECRETARY OF
STATE

Shirley Weber

STATE CONTROLLER

Malia Cohen

STATE TREASURER

Fiona Ma

INSURANCE
COMMISSIONER

Ricardo Lara

STATE
SUPERINTENDENT
OF PUBLIC
INSTRUCTION

Tony Thurmond

ATTORNEY
GENERAL

Rob Bonta



Alex Padilla



Tony Thurmond

LOS ANGELES COUNTY



For more information on
LA County voting, go to
www.LAvote.gov.

BALLOT MEASURES AND BONDS

MEASURE ULA,

City of Los Angeles
United to House Los Angeles
\$875 million per year

SUPPORT

United to House LA will raise funds
for affordable housing and renter
protection. Work will be under a
Project Labor Agreement and
prevailing wage.



Yes on ULA

LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY
COLLEGE DISTRICT

\$5.3 billion bond
SUPPORT

CERRITOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT

\$425 million bond
SUPPORT

PASADENA CITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT

\$565 million bond
SUPPORT

MEASURE PRM, PALMDALE
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

\$120 million bond
SUPPORT

MEASURE Q, LONG BEACH
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

\$1.7 billion bond
SUPPORT

MEASURE AAA, COMPTON
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

\$350 million bond
SUPPORT

LA COUNTY SUPERVISOR

District 3:
Bob Hertzberg

SHERIFF

No endorsement

U.S. CONGRESS

District 26 (Malibu):
Julia Brownley

District 27 (Santa
Clarita/Lancaster):
Christy Smith

District 28 (Pasadena/
San Gabriel Valley):
Judy Chu

District 29 (San Fernando):
Tony Cardenas



Christy Smith

BUILDING TRADES ENDORSEMENTS: NOVEMBER 8 ELECTION

District 30 (Pasadena/
Burbank/Glendale):
Adam Schiff

District 31 (Azusa/West
Covina):
Grace Napolitano

District 32 (Malibu/
Canoga Park):
Brad Sherman

District 34 (Downtown
LA/Boyle Heights):
Jimmy Gomez

District 35 (Pomona):
Norma Torres

District 36 (Santa
Monica/Redondo
Beach):
Ted Lieu

District 37 (Culver City/
Baldwin Hills):
Sydney Kamlager

District 38 (Whittier/
Norwalk):
Linda Sanchez

District 42 (Long Beach):
Robert Garcia

District 43 (Inglewood/Torrance):
Maxine Waters

District 44 (Wilmington/Carson):
Nanette Barragan

STATE SENATE

District 20 (Burbank/San Fernando Valley):
Daniel Hertzberg

District 22 (Arcadia, Covina, El Monte):
No endorsement

District 24 (West LA,
Redondo Beach):
No endorsement

District 26 (Downtown
LA):
Maria Elena Durazo

District 28 (South LA/
Culver City):
Lola Smallwood-
Cuevas

District 30 (Pico
Rivera/Whittier):
Bob Archuleta

STATE ASSEMBLY

District 34 (Quartz Hill):
Tom Lackey

District 39 (Lancaster,
Palmdale, Hesperia):
Juan Carrillo



Grace Napolitano



Sydney Kamlager



Lola Smallwood-Cuevas



Tom Lackey

District 40 (Santa
Clarita/Castaic):
Pilar Schiavo

District 41 (Pasadena):
Chris Holden

District 46 (San
Fernando Valley/Bell
Canyon):
No endorsement

District 48 (Baldwin
Park):
Blanca Rubio

District 49 (Montebello):
Mike Fong

District 50 (Santa Monica/Malibu/Agoura Hills):
No endorsement

District 51 (Beverly Hills/Hollywood/West LA):
Rick Chavez Zbur

District 52 (East LA/Glendale/Highland Park):
Wendy Carrillo

District 53 (Pomona):
Freddie Rodriguez

District 54 (Downtown
LA/Boyle Heights):
Miguel Santiago

District 55 (Culver
City/Baldwin Hills):
Isaac Bryan

District 56 (Whittier/La
Pueente):
Lisa Calderon

District 57 (Jefferson
Park/South LA):
Reggie Jones-Sawyer

District 61 (Inglewood):
No endorsement

District 62 (Lakewood/
Lynwood):
No endorsement

District 64 (Downey/
Norwalk):
Blanca Pacheco

District 65 (Compton/
Wilmington):
Mike Gipson

District 66 (Torrance):
No endorsement

District 69 (Long Beach):
Josh Lowenthal

CITY ELECTIONS

LOS ANGELES
MAYOR
No endorsement;
check with your local
union



Chris Holden



Lisa Calderon



Blanca Pacheco



Josh Lowenthal

LOS ANGELES
CONTROLLER
Paul Koretz

LOS ANGELES CITY
COUNCIL
District 5:
No endorsement

District 11:
No endorsement

District 13:
Mitch O'Farrell

District 15:
Tim McOsker

LONG BEACH
MAYOR
Rex Richardson

LONG BEACH CITY
COUNCIL
District 3:
No endorsement

District 5:
Megan Kerr

District 9:
Dr. Joni Ricks-Oddie

BALDWIN PARK
COUNCIL
Paul Hernandez

BELLFLOWER
COUNCIL
District 5:
Juan Garza

EL MONTE MAYOR
Jessica Ancona

INGLEWOOD
MAYOR
James Butts

INGLEWOOD
COUNCIL
District 3:
Eloy Morales

PALMDALE
COUNCIL
District 3:
David T. Gomez

District 4:
Eric Ohlsen

PICO RIVERA
COUNCIL
Gustavo Camacho
Johnny Garcia

RANCHO PALOS VERDES COUNCIL
Paul Seo



Paul Koretz



Rex Richardson



Megan Kerr



Juan Garza



James Butts

BUILDING TRADES ENDORSEMENTS: NOVEMBER 8 ELECTION

SANTA MONICA COUNCIL
Lana Negrete
Caroline Torosis



District 1:
Nubia Flores



SANTA CLARITA VALLEY
Division 1:
Bill Cooper



Division 2:
Dirk Marks

Division 3:
Maria Gutzeit

UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
Division 1:
Serge Haddad

WEST HOLLYWOOD COUNCIL
Chelsea Byers
Zekiah Wright

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARDS

ANTELOPE VALLEY
Area 2:
Steve Buffalo



District 4:
Carla Corona

District 5:
Miguel Sanchez

District 1:
Charles Hughes

District 2:
Carliss R. McGhee

District 3:
Brandon Myers

District 4:
Ernesto Castillo

District 5:
Adam Carranza
Veronica Sifuentes
Cindy Wu

District 6:
Norma Amezcua

District 7:
Nancy Smith
Ralph Velador

District 8:
Chris Trunkey

WATER DISTRICTS

District 1:
Art Chacon

District 2:
Vincent Dino

COMPTON
Area 1:
Andres Ramos

Area 4:
Juanita Doplemore

Area 5:
Dr. Sharoni Little

EL CAMINO
Area 2:
Nilo Vega Michelin

Area 5:
Cliff Numark

LONG BEACH
Area 1:
Uduak-Joe Ntuk

Area 3:
Sunny Zia

Area 5:
Virginia Baxter

LOS ANGELES
Seat 2:
Steve Veres

Seat 4:
Sara Hernandez

Seat 6:
Gabriel Buelna

Seat 7:
Kelsey Iino

SANTA MONICA
Tom Peters

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS

LOS ANGELES
District 2:
Maria Brenes

District 6:
Kelly Gonez
LONG BEACH



Kelly Gonez



Andrew Taban



Carliss R. McGhee



Alicia Mignano



Art Chacon

WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Division 1:
Joy Langford

Division 3:
John Allen

WEST BASIN
District 1:
Harold Williams

District 4:
Scott Houston

ADDITIONAL ELECTIONS

Antelope Valley Health Care District
Steve Hofbauer

Superior Court Judge
Seat 90:
Melissa Lyons

ORANGE COUNTY

For more information on Orange County voting, go to www.ocvote.com.

SUPERVISOR

District 4:
Doug Chaffee

District 5:
Katrina Foley



Joy Langford



Steve Hofbauer

BUILDING TRADES ENDORSEMENTS: NOVEMBER 8 ELECTION

U.S. CONGRESS
District 38
(La Palma/La Habra Heights):
Linda Sanchez

District 40
(Tustin/Chino Hills):
Dr. Asif Mahmood

District 45 (Fullerton/Westminster):
Jay Chen

District 46 (Anaheim/Santa Ana):
Lou Correa

District 47 (Irvine/Laguna):
Katie Porter

District 49 (San Clemente):
Mike Levin

STATE SENATE

District 30 (Brea):
Bob Archuleta

District 34 (Anaheim/Santa Ana):
Tom Umberg

District 36 (Huntington Beach):
Kim Carr

District 38 (San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano):
Catherine Blakespear

STATE ASSEMBLY

District 59 (Brea):
Phil Chen

District 64 (La Habra):
Blanca Pacheco

District 68 (Anaheim/Orange/Santa Ana):
Avelino Valencia

District 70 (Garden Grove):
Diedre Thu Ha Nguyen

District 71 (Mission Viejo):
Matt Rahn

District 72 (Huntington Beach/Laguna Beach):
No endorsement

District 73 (Irvine/Costa Mesa):
Cottie Petrie-Norris

District 74 (San Clemente/Dana Point):
Chris Duncan



Jay Chen



Katie Porter



Catherine Blakespear



Avelino Valencia



Chris Duncan

CITY ELECTIONS ANAHEIM COUNCIL
District 2:
Gloria Sahagun Ma'ae

District 3:
Natalie Rubalcava

BUENA PARK COUNCIL
District 1:
Joyce Ahn

District 5:
Connor Traut

COSTA MESA MAYOR
John Stephens

COSTA MESA COUNCIL
District 3:
Andrea Marr

District 4:
Manuel Chavez

District 5:
Arlis Reynolds

FULLERTON COUNCIL
District 5:
Ahmad Zahra

GARDEN GROVE MAYOR
Steve Jones

IRVINE MAYOR
Farrah Khan

IRVINE COUNCIL
Dr. Kathleen Treseder

LA HABRA COUNCIL
Michelle Juarez
Bernier

ORANGE COUNCIL
District 1:
Arianna Barrios

District 6:
Adrienne Gladson

SANTA ANA COUNCIL
Ward 2:
Nelida Mendoza

Ward 4:
Phil Bacerra

Ward 6:
David Penaloza

TUSTIN MAYOR
Rebecca "Beckie" Gomez



Gloria Sahagun Ma'ae



Arlis Reynolds



Ahmad Zahra



Arianna Barrios



David Penaloza

TUSTIN COUNCIL
District 3:
Frank Gomez

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARDS

COAST Area 1:
Jim Moreno

RANCHO SANTIAGO Area 2:
John Hanna

Area 6:
Phil Yarbrough

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS ANAHEIM ELEMENTARY
Area 5:
Ryan Ruelas

ANAHEIM UNION HIGH SCHOOL
Area 2:
Annemarie Randle-Trejo

CENTRALIA ELEMENTARY
Area 1:
Henry Charoen

Area 2:
Art Montez

Area 5:
Luis Jerry Flores

GARDEN GROVE
District 2:
Mark Paredes

HUNTINGTON BEACH UNION HIGH SCHOOL
Bonnie Castrey

ORANGE UNIFIED
Area 1:
Andrea Yamasaki

Area 5:
Kris Erickson

OTHER ELECTIONS MIDWAY CITY SANITARY DISTRICT
Sergio Contreras

ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
Division 1:
Dina Nguyen



Jim Moreno



Annemarie Randle-Trejo



Bonnie Castrey



Dina Nguyen

EL CAMINO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

pus construction projects, as well as local and veteran hiring.

The agreement, which for a year and a half has taken shape in talks and negotiations between the college and the Council, is also the first public works PLA won by the Building Trades in the city of Torrance.

Founded in 1947, El Camino College occupies a 126-acre campus. It has added and replaced several major buildings in past decades, but many facilities are showing their age and the college has an ambitious construction program for the future.

The college enrolls about 33,000 students each semester, and offers about 200 degree and certificate programs.

The PLA will bring better workforce standards and quality craftsmanship, and will also be a conduit to careers for some of those students, said Chris Hannan, Building Trades Executive Secretary.

Hannan noted that the trustees were particularly interested in extending Building Trades apprenticeship and apprenticeship-readiness training to their students and graduates.

Apprentice Opportunities

Community colleges already provide vocational training as an alternative for students who are not transferring to a four-year college. With the PLA, those students will have more opportunities to join a local union's apprenticeship and get their start working on campus construction.

"It is a good place for recruitment," Hannan said. "We are going to work with their existing trades programs and possibly put together an apprenticeship readiness program using the Multi-Craft

Core Curriculum of NABTU (North America's Building Trades Unions)."

Hannan told the trustees before the vote, "Construction is still a very difficult way to make a living. But it is a proud living and you can have something to show for it at the end of the day. You can drive by Redondo Beach Blvd. and Crenshaw and you can point to something you built that was built right and that is going to last in the community for generations to come. Every one of those projects is going to prioritize your students and this local community that El Camino serves."

Inglewood to the Beach

The agreement sets a 40 percent goal for the hiring of El Camino Community College certificate holders and graduates who have completed a Building Trades apprenticeship-readiness program as well as military veterans and people living in the college service area, extending to the greater South Bay area and LA County. Targeted areas range from the beach towns of El Segundo and Hermosa Beach to working-class cities like Inglewood and Hawthorne.

Veterans will be recruited through the "Helmets to Hardhats" program of the Center for Military Recruitment, Assessment and Veterans Employment.

The college has a five-year construction plan for 2024-2028. Hannan said that unlike some other college PLAs, the agreement with El Camino College will cover a broad range of construction projects that are not confined to a particular bond issue. About \$285 million does come from the district's Measure E, with \$135 million slated in state aid, and other monies available as well.

Infrastructure improvements will include a new heating/hot water (hydronic) system. The current system uses steel pipes that are more than 70 years old, as well as newer fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) pipes that are failing.

Some of the other projects on the drawing board are to demolish early campus



El Camino College fills a large 126-acre campus in Torrance.

Photos by
**HECTOR CRUZ SANDOVAL/
SANDOVAL MEDIA**

SEE EL CAMINO PAGE 10



Trustee Clifford Numark.



Trustee Trisha Murakawa.



Board Vice President Kenneth A. Brown.



L-r, Student trustee Sidney Lee, Superintendent/President Brenda Thames and board Secretary Katherine Steinbronner Maschler.



Council Executive Secretary Chris Hannan, right, talks with Nilo Vega Michelin, President of the El Camino Community College Board of Trustees.



The college has a five-year construction plan for 2024-2028.

EL CAMINO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

buildings such as the North Gym, built in 1958; construct a community theater to replace the Marsee Auditorium; and to create a new campus commons for students, to add gathering spaces with shade, food and promenades.

The construction of the El Camino College Fire Training Facility will include new classrooms, locker rooms, a multipurpose room, an administrative office, fire apparatus storage building, fire tower, physical training area, ventilation props storage area and landscaped areas.

Long-Term Stability

Nilo Vega Michelin, President of the El Camino Community College Board of Trustees, said that after “spending a long time on this issue, probably longer than on any other issue,” college representatives reached an agreement with the Building Trades that “will provide our students with apprenticeship opportunities. It will also provide opportunities for local businesses and students; it will provide long-term project stability, higher quality work and less lawsuits.”

Michelin also said the agreement would boost the local economy, referring to directives for local hiring and encouraging local and small businesses to participate as contractors or suppliers.

Board of Trustees member Trisha

Murakawa thanked the Building Trades for “being a partner with us to help our students. Not everyone wants to transfer to a four-year university,” she pointed out. “Those who do, great. But those who don’t can also come to El Camino and get certification, get the education and training, get into the apprenticeship program and have a construction career and take care of your family.”

Joe Sullivan is director of energy solutions for the National Electrical Contractors Association of Greater Los Angeles, representing about 300 electrical contractors that in turn employ about 10,000 IBEW Electricians. He said his organization strongly supports the Project Labor Agreement.

“This agreement will require compliance, which ensures responsible contracting and that protocols are followed, and it makes our contractors want to bid these jobs,” Sullivan told the trustees. In addition, the joint union/management apprenticeship program that is part of the agreement will provide five years of training to prospective union Electricians at no cost to the students. “They earn money while they learn,” he said.

Tommy Faavae, an organizer and business developer for IBEW Local 11 who was among about 40 union construction members attending the July 11 trustee meeting, pointed to the Building Trades’ “proven track record” for creating a pipeline to apprenticeships and hiring locally in partnership, for ex-

ample with the LA Community College District and Long Beach City College. “Time and time again Project Labor Agreements excel and uplift the community,” Faavae said.

The success at El Camino also reflects a strong track record at other community college campuses. To date, Hannan said,

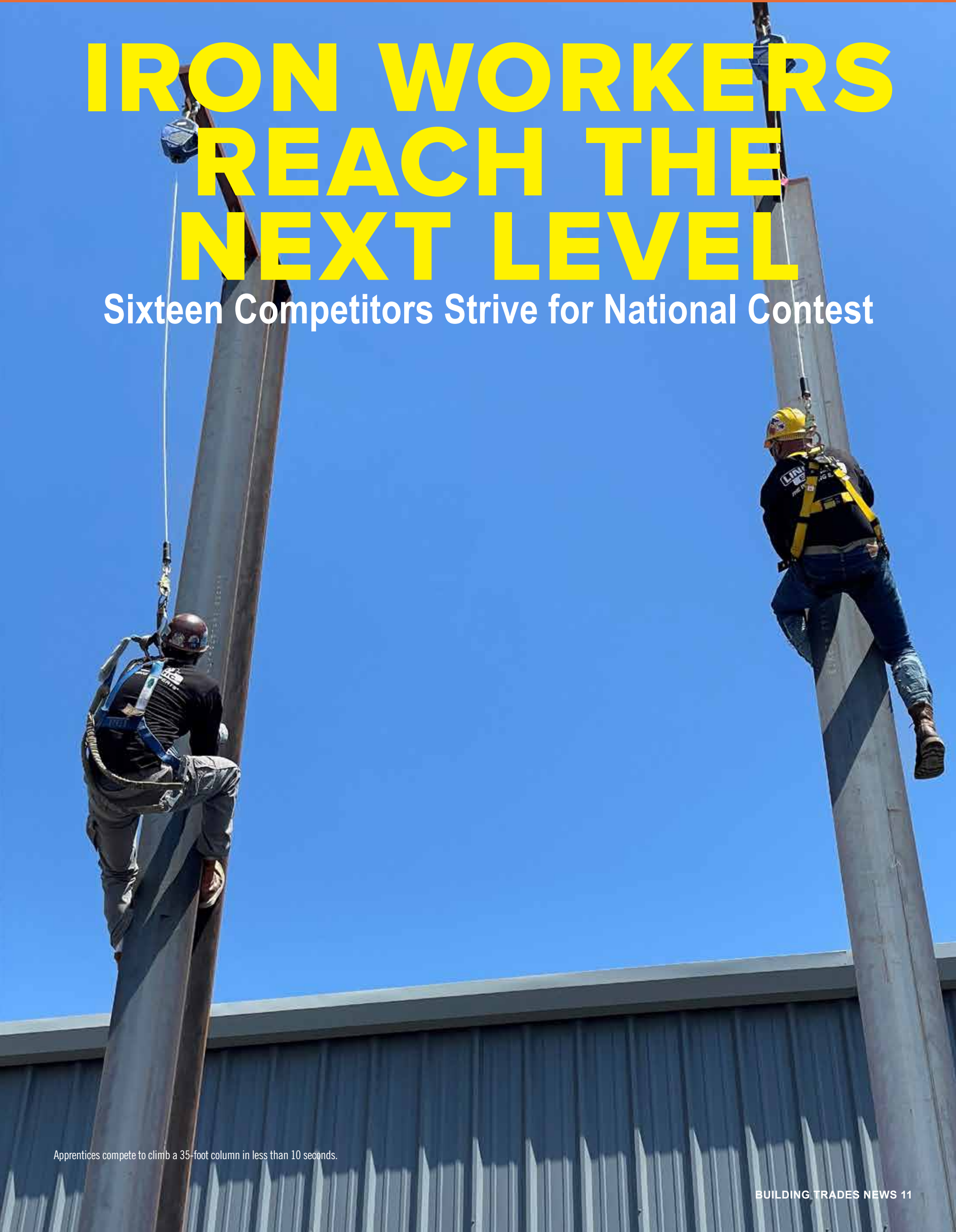
the Building Trades have successfully negotiated PLAs at 16 of the 26 community colleges in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. “I think we continue to build momentum from the good work of our union members and our local unions and Building Trades,” Hannan said after the vote.



Kelsey lino, President of the El Camino faculty union, testifies for the PLA.

IRON WORKERS REACH THE NEXT LEVEL

Sixteen Competitors Strive for National Contest



Apprentices compete to climb a 35-foot column in less than 10 seconds.



Sixteen apprentices vied to represent the Iron Workers in the upcoming national finals.

BY ANNE-MARIE OTEY

On an April morning in Fontana, the Iron Workers Training Center is buzzing. Sixteen contestants are vying for five spots in a national contest that will test the skills of apprentice Iron Workers.

Held every two years, the National Apprentice Competition had to skip 2020 due to the pandemic. So, apprentices are especially eager to compete this year, says Brad Huth, coordinator for the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee of Iron Workers Locals 416 and 433.

“This brings our best and brightest to the forefront,” he says. “This is the level of skill that we’re training to.”

By the end of the day, six contestants (two tied for fifth place) will move on to the national, Sept. 22-24 in Denver. There, they will match their skills against apprentices from Iron Worker unions throughout the United States and Canada, the products of 133 training centers. The meet will span two and a half days.

The candidates will officially represent their local unions and the State of California and Vicinity District Council of Iron Workers, which covers California, Hawaii, Arizona and part of Nevada.

The tests are tough. The contest in-

cludes eight different competitions: a written exam, layout instruments, welding/burning, knot tying/rigging, rod tying, architectural/ornamental (assembling a window unit), mockup and climbing a column.

They Do It All

And no one gets to pick and choose which areas they’ll compete in. They must do it all. The Los Angeles/Orange Counties/Las Vegas locals divide into two specialty areas—structural with Local 433 and reinforcing with Local 416. But traditionally, most locals train members in both skill sets. So in the contest, a structural Iron Worker will be tying rebar, and rodmen will show their ability with rigging knots, whether or not that’s part of their everyday work.

That well-rounded approach makes it even more of a challenge to succeed. But, Huth says, the members are up to it. And when they’re not competing with one another, they’re staying busy. The apprenticeship for Locals 416 and 433 is the biggest for Iron Workers in the nation.

Photos by
**MARK SAVAGE AND
IRONWORKERS DISTRICT COUNCIL**



Michael McReedy of Local 433 shows his ability to use layout instruments.



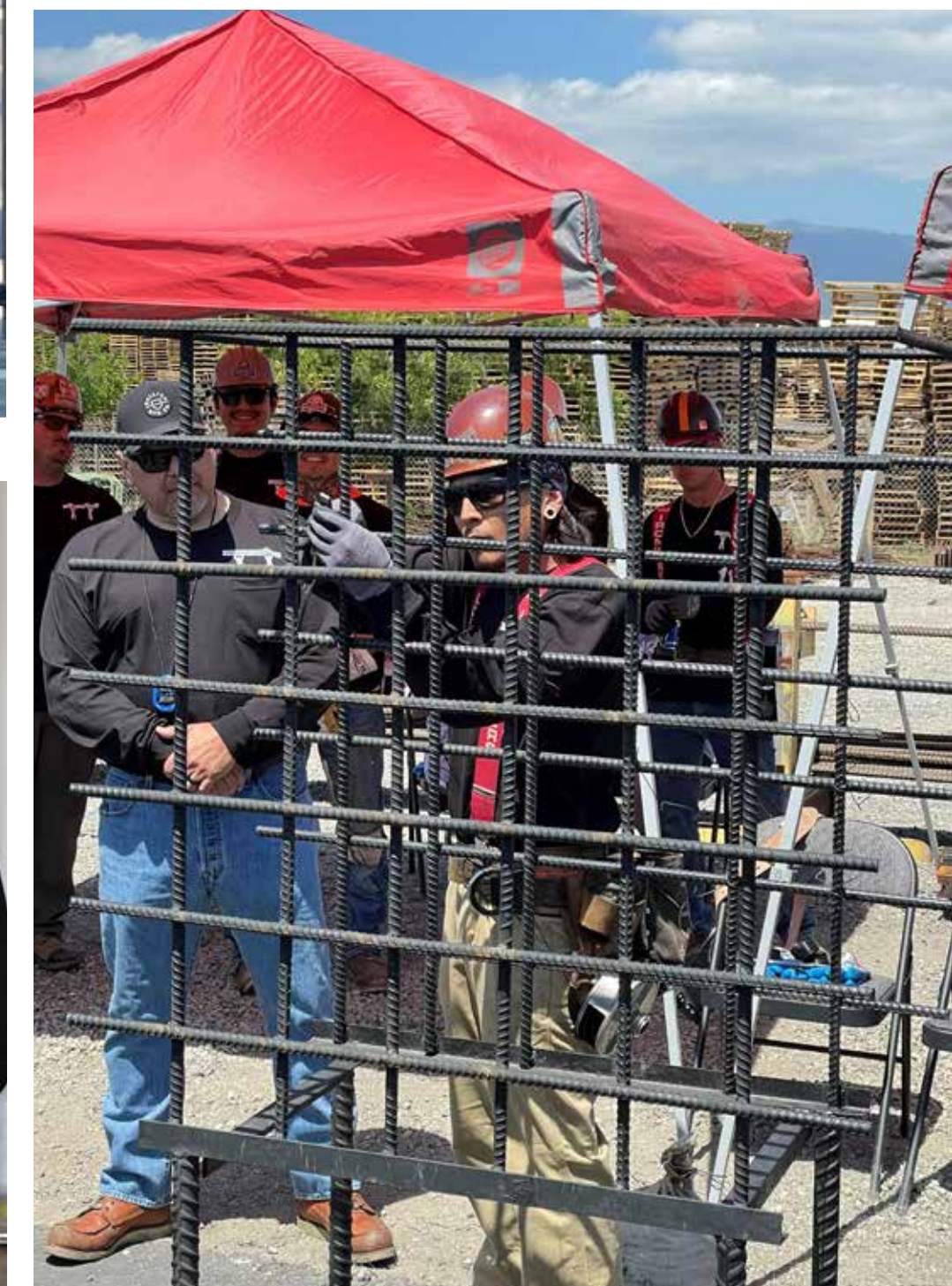
Michael Long of Local 75, Phoenix, performs in window assembly, part of the architectural and ornamental contest.



Instructor Ernie Penuelas of Local 433, left, checks the rigging work of Local 433 apprentice Anthony Ochoa.



Oscar Alvarado of Local 416 prepares for cutting and welding; he won third place and a trip to the nationals.



Local 416's Christian Matheson has one minute in each rod-tying category to make the most and the best ties. Requirements are the snap; snap and wrap; saddle; saddle and wrap, and figure eight.



Anthony Ochoa lights a torch.



Casey Carlson, apprentice with Local 118 in Sacramento, won first place.



Anthony Ivaldi of Local 377, San Francisco, above and below right, finished in fourth place.



Contestants Mary Young, left, and Timothy Sparacino, both of Local 118 in Reno.



Apprentice Justin Blackburn of Local 433 in the rigging contest, which evaluates ability to tie eight rigging knots and reeve two types of blocks.



UA LOCAL UNION 250 PIPELINE PATROL

The United States has 2.8 million miles of regulated pipelines—and members of UA Local 250 play a major role in keeping them safe and usable. Many of these pipelines carry vital but potentially hazardous substances like natural gas. Pipelines can be located anywhere, including under streets and private property.

Keeping these underground pipelines in their ideal condition is essential to protect neighboring communities and natural areas. Here, members of Local 250 perform the careful work of replacing sections of natural gas pipeline in Santa Clarita and the El Cajon Pass.

“Delivering natural gas is necessary for our economy and daily quality of life,” says

Ben Clayton, Business Manager of UA Local 250. “Pipelines that are in bad repair end up wasting this important resource. They’re also dangerous. So our members bring all their skills to these jobs. We take all the necessary precautions to do these jobs safely. And that, in turn, protects residents and neighborhoods, and keeps the energy flowing.”

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Every year, Building Trades unions travel to Washington, DC for the national legislative conference. Here, Rep. Lou Correa, seated center, meets in his Capitol Office with Council Representative Ernesto Medrano (standing behind the Congressman) and the event's biggest regional delegation—the men and women of the LA/OC local affiliated unions.

BIDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

appliances, weatherize their homes, get tax credit for purchasing heat pumps and rooftop solar, electric stoves, ovens, dryers,” the President said.

US Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh added, “The IRA will create thousands of good jobs while addressing the climate crisis and lowering costs for essentials including health insurance, prescription drugs and energy.”

It’s been a good month for job creation. The national unemployment rate is 3.5 percent. And along with the sweeping IRA, Biden signed the Chips Act on Aug. 9. The Building Trades strongly support the act, which will invest \$52 billion into the US manufacture and research of semiconductor chips, which have become a flashpoint in international trade.

The goal is to “reshore” production into US factories.

“It mandates for the first time that unions and our members be at the table as the federal government invests billions in innovation research and economic development,” said Liz Shuler, President of the AFL-CIO.

Investing in Energy

Building Trades international union leaders commended President Biden and Congress for passing the Inflation Reduction Act. The bill’s investments in wind, solar and nuclear energy, clean manufacturing and infrastructure directly benefit skilled construction workers and businesses across the United States.

North America’s Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey applauded Congress for the bill’s benefits to the middle class and America’s economy. McGarvey highlighted lowering the federal deficit, fighting inflation and providing historic labor protections in the largest investment to fight climate change and accelerate domestic energy production in the

nation’s history.

“By taking strong action, this bill gives relief to all Americans,” McGarvey said. “The Inflation Reduction Act places our country on a more secure and sustainable path, and opens more family-sustaining, middle-class career opportunities.”

Proponents of the bill note it will cut greenhouse gas emissions, but does not end fossil fuel use. Like the Building Trades, the IRA supports an “all of the above” energy strategy that includes fossil fuels, carbon capture, traditional renewables like wind and solar, nuclear power and “green hydrogen.” The LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council is deeply involved in a campaign to make Southern California into a hydrogen hub.

The IRA provides a path to invest in green energy while growing a well-paid union workforce.

Lonnie Stephenson, President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, said the bill makes “historic investments” to fight climate change, bolstering domestic manufacturing and energy independence by weaning the United States from critical imported components.

Requiring Prevailing Wages

Among the IRA’s green investment provisions, \$60 billion will be invested in communities burdened by climate change and another \$98 billion will improve health care affordability and reduce prescription drug costs.

“Frontline and historically underrepresented communities will not be left behind as the Inflation Reduction Act targets new and expanding opportunities in previously overlooked corners of the country,” Stephenson said. “Such projects include

dinary Americans.”

SMART, the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers, issued a statement in praise of the IRA, which it says will lower costs for working families while creating “good, union jobs with strong labor standards.”

“Unlike the past administration, this legislation will see absolutely no tax increases for small businesses and families that make less than \$400,000 a year—instead, corporations will finally be held accountable and pay their fair share. And most importantly for our members, SMART workers will be called upon to take on the green energy jobs that this bill creates,” SMART posted on its website.

While not solving the climate crisis, the bill is the biggest climate change bill in US history. The last major bill to invest heavily in wind and solar was the American



US Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh, member of the Laborers union, earns applause at the Building Trades national conference.

“In the IRA, the goals of green energy and good union jobs are not in conflict,” said Chris Hannan, Council Executive Secretary. “This is our number-one issue as we deal with climate change. New energy production must be effective and union-friendly.”

For example, a \$51.1 billion wind and solar tax credit will encourage cleaner electricity production.

nuclear, wind, solar, EV charging stations, hydrogen, carbon capture, battery storage and installing energy-efficient technology in commercial buildings.

“These investments will create millions of good union jobs thanks to Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements and Buy America incentives. This largest-ever climate package will also help reduce the federal deficit without raising taxes on or-

Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, when Biden was Vice President to President Barack Obama.

Now, as President, Biden has gone farther. “The Inflation Reduction Act invests \$369 billion to take the most aggressive action ever—ever, ever, ever—in confronting the climate crisis and strengthening our economic and energy security,” he said.



Representatives and members of the Pipe Trades, including UA Local 250, Local 78 and Local 709.



SMART Local 105 comes out in force every year for Labor Day.



Members and their families from UA Local 250 Steam & Pipefitters.



Iron Workers Local 433 members and representatives with Business Manager Keith Harkey, standing fourth from left.



“Godfather” Ray Cordova, the Chairman of South County Labor.



Starbucks organizer Tyler Keeling.



LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis rides with Teamsters Local 848.

LABOR DAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

occasion for the upcoming and historic labor movements to learn from each other. Over hot dogs, snow cones and roasted corn, and helped by an occasional ocean 18 BUILDING TRADES NEWS



UA Local 78 Plumbers turn out for the parade.

breeze, parade-goers showed up early and stayed into the afternoon.

“We are all in this together,” said Ron Herrera, President of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, as he told how his 43 years in the Teamsters enabled him to buy a home and raise his family. Speaking for the new union movement

was Tyler Keeling, a Starbucks barista trainer who led the successful effort to unionize a Lakewood Starbucks. There are now 209 union Starbucks in the US. “Organizing my store with my co-workers, with my community, was my first real step out of poverty,” Keeling said. “I’m fighting for a union job now.”



Vintage cars add flair.



Kids of the Pipe Trades enjoy the day.



Union puppies like the day, too.



Iron Workers wave the flag for their union.

SOFTBALL IS A BIG HIT

Teams Compete in 18th Annual Tournament



IBEW Local 11 B team wins the Upper Bracket.



UA Local 582 Plumbers & Steamfitters is the Lower Bracket victor.

The 18th annual Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Softball Tournament featured plenty of players, home runs and an extra-innings championship game.

The four top finishers were IBEW Local 11 B (Upper Bracket winners), UA Local 582 Plumbers & Steamfitters (Lower Bracket winners), UA Local 78 Plumbers (Upper Bracket runner-up) and IBEW Local 441 B (Lower Bracket runner-up).

Local 11, which was last year's runner-up, made a spirited run for the final win, said John DeCleene, business representative for IBEW Local 441, which organizes the annual event.

After a long day, the last game was slated to last only four innings, but the two teams were tied. The next inning started with a runner on second base, similar to the rule in Major League Baseball that allows this in extra innings in order to speed up play.

Local 78 did not score, leaving it to Local 11 to give it their best shot. They did, and won 24-23.

"Everyone was excited and had a good time," DeCleene said.

Many teams boasted Business Managers, agents and representatives joining journeymen and apprentices, along with their families, who enjoyed kids' attractions and refreshments. "The camaraderie of all the Trades out there is great to see," said Bill Steiner, Business Manager of UA Local 398.

The tourney took place in Chino Hills at Big League Dreams, which features replicas of famous MLB parks.

SEE SOFTBALL PAGE 22



Batter up! Luis Sanchez of UA Local 250.



Edward Ramirez of Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5.

Photos by
MARK SAVAGE



UA Local 78 Plumbers with Business Manager Jeremy Diaz, back row center, is Upper Bracket runner-up.



IBEW Local 441 B team, shown with the A team, is Lower Bracket runner-up. Business Manager Neal Lauzon is in the back row, fifth from left. Local 441 hosts the annual event.



Frank Munoz, left, of Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5 and Jose Flores of SMART Local 105.



Running man: Daniel Puckett of UA Local 250.



Miguel Miramontes of IUPAT DC 36, Local 1247.



Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5 brings the food as well as the force.



UA Local 761 Plumbers & Fitters.



IUPAT Drywall Finishers Local 1136 includes member Marco Acosta's little boy.



IUPAT Local 1247, Resilient Floor & Decorative Covering.



IUPAT Local 1036 Painters, with assistant political director Stephanie Von Slomski, fifth from left, standing, and Katrina Gutierrez in yellow jersey.



IBEW Local 11 A team.



IBEW Local 440.



IBEW Local 47.



SMART Local 105 A team with Sam Hurtado, standing second from left, who retired as a business representative in July.



SMART Local 105 B team.



Iron Workers Local 416.



Iron Workers Local 433.



UA Local 250 Steam & Pipefitters A team.



UA Local 398 Plumbers & Fitters, with Bill Steiner, Business Manager, sporting #20.



Teamsters Joint Council 42, comprising members of local unions 63, 630, 952 and 2010.



Laborers Local 724, Studio Utility Employees.



THIS IS SHEET METAL



LABOR MANAGEMENT COOPERATION TRUST

Steve Hinson, Business Manager,
SMART Local 105, www.local105.org

Kevin O'Dorisio, Executive Director,
SMACNA-So Cal, www.smacna-socal.org

Sheet Metal local union members and contractors are an essential part of any building. The Sheet Metal Trade includes architectural work, air balancing, and the fabrication and installation of duct and mechanical equipment for HVAC.

It's a range of specialties based on craftsmanship with metal and composite materials, and dedicated to the highest quality.

Currently, the Los Angeles Unified School District is partnering with the Building Trades, including SMART Local 105 and its signatory contractors, in a Project Stabilization Agreement to build and modernize hundreds of schools. The PSA started in 1999 and has been renewed several times.



At North Hollywood High School, above, a SMART Local 105 crew on the job for signatory contractor Critchfield Mechanical Inc. is working on three new buildings. The old gymnasium, auditorium and numerous academic spaces were demolished, and three new buildings are rising in their place. A new two-story complex will include main and practice gymnasiums, while a three-story auditorium will feature a lobby, theater and performing arts classrooms. Another two-story building will hold classrooms and a computer lab.

Each signatory contractor follows the principles of excellence. Jobs are completed efficiently, helping save money for the client. The highly trained union workforce promotes safety and increases productivity.

With over 200 contractors signatory to SMART Local 105, and over 2000 nationwide in the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National Association, the partnership of labor and contractors works to grow the Sheet Metal Industry to the highest quality.