



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS **LOCAL 5 NEWS & VIEWS**



VOLUME LIII



IBEW Local 5 Meeting Hall, Training Center, And Headquarters Building 5 Hot Metal Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

SPRING 2026

HOMER CITY ENERGY CAMPUS

How a Decommissioned Pennsylvania Power Plant Is Becoming the Nation's Largest Natural Gas-Powered Data Center



photo courtesy of Homer City Redevelopment

Nestled in Indiana County, Pennsylvania — about 50 miles east of Pittsburgh — the former Homer City Generating Station once stood as the largest coal-burning power plant in the Commonwealth. Its 1,217-foot chimney, the tallest in the United States at the time, loomed over the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania for decades as a symbol of industrial might. That era came to an end on July 1, 2023, when the plant was permanently decommissioned after nearly 55 years of operation.

But the story of Homer City is far from over. In what could be described as the most ambitious energy infrastructure transformation in Pennsylvania history, the very same 3,200-acre site is now being reborn — not as a monument to the past, but as a gateway to the artificial intelligence-driven future. On April 2, 2025, Homer City Redevelopment (HCR) and Kiewit Power Constructors Co. officially announced the Homer City Energy Campus—a next-generation natural gas powered data center campus poised to become the largest of its kind in the United States.

A Project of Historic Scale

The numbers behind the Homer City Energy Campus are staggering. The project calls for the construction of 7 natural gas-fired turbines capable of generating up to 4.5 gigawatts (GW) — or 4,500 megawatts — of electricity. The new plant would surpass the current title holder for the nation's largest gas-fired power plant, the West County Energy Center in Palm Beach County, Florida, which clocks in at 3,777 megawatts.

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Corner by Tom McIntyre

Business Manager's



I hope that all of the members and their families had a great holiday season and a happy New Year. I want to thank all of the members that participated at the holiday parties throughout our jurisdiction in 2025. It was good seeing all of you and we had a very good turnout at every location.

The work outlook remains very strong for calendar year 2026 with a very solid look ahead. Our industrial opportunities have grown here in early 2026 with a lot of gas compressor sites within our jurisdiction along with wastewater treatment plants taking substantial manpower early this year. The Alcosan Wastewater Treatment Plant is well over one billion dollars in improvements and expansion where we currently have several of our contractors on site. This work is being performed under a Project Labor Agreement.

As you see, our cover story highlights the Homer City Energy Campus Site that is moving at a rapid pace. This project is a large manpower job for us here at Local 5. Just on the power generation portion of this site, we are estimated to peak at 650 to 700 electricians the summer of 2027. This does not include any of the data center portion of the project. This new data center economy is perfect for us here in Western Pennsylvania. Because of this, some of the other potential data center sites within our jurisdiction are:

1. TECfusions Keystone Connect located in Westmoreland County on the former Alcoa R&D Campus
2. Fort Cherry development in Robinson Township, Washington County
3. Robena Mega Site/Project Hummingbird in Greene County
4. Springdale Data Center Project in Allegheny County located at the former Cheswick Generating Station
5. Zediker Station in South Strabane, Washington County which is a CNX resources project

There are many non-disclosure agreements on most of these among others, so our information has been limited.

We have some personnel changes here in the office. I have hired Chris Gualazzi as an Assistant Business Manager on the Membership Development Team. Ronald Moye was selected to fill Brother Gualazzi's unexpired term on the Executive Board and Brother Robert Davide was selected to complete Brother Moye's term on the Examining Board. I would like to wish all of these brothers' good luck in their new positions.

This election season starts with the Primary Election on May 19th so please get out and vote or vote by mail if you prefer. In the Primary we have a few races that are important to Local 5 with some friends and allies being challenged. First in State Senate District 42 is Wayne Fontana. Wayne has become our partner on so many developments, and it is very important that we get to continue to work with Senator Fontana. Please vote the IBEW Local Union No. 5 endorsed candidates listed in this newsletter. As you can see, we endorse those candidates that work on and are in favor of the issues important to us and our livelihoods not by party affiliation.

I hope to see all of you at our annual "Denny Miller Family Picnic" once again being held at Idlewild Park on Saturday, June 20th, 2026. Also, at our Labor Day festivities here at our building on Monday, September 7th starting at 8:00 a.m. for shirt and hat distribution, then busing to our staging area at the former Arena site.

New Officers & Staff Appointed

Christopher Gualazzi
Organizer



Ronald Moye Sr.
Executive Board



Robert Davide
Examining Board



Follow us on social media



continue from front page....



The initial capital investment in power infrastructure and site readiness alone is expected to exceed \$10 billion, representing the single largest capital investment in Pennsylvania's history. When the cost of building out the data center facilities on the campus is factored in — expected to run into the billions more — the total investment will dwarf any previous project the state has seen.

The Power Behind the Campus: Seven GE Vernova Turbines

At the heart of the Homer City Energy Campus will be seven high-efficiency GE Vernova 7HA.02 combined-cycle gas turbines — American-manufactured machines representing some of the most advanced natural gas generation technology available today. These turbines are hydrogen-enabled, meaning they are designed to incorporate hydrogen fuel blending as that technology matures, offering a pathway to reduced emissions over time. GE Vernova finalized its full turbine order in July 2025, with the first equipment deliveries expected to begin in 2026.

The campus will deliver up to 4.5 gigawatts of power dedicated to supporting AI-driven hyperscale data centers, while simultaneously supplying electricity to thousands of homes on the local grid. Compared to the former coal plant, the new facility is expected to reduce CO2 emissions by 60 to 65 percent per megawatt hour — a significant environmental improvement even as it dramatically scales up power output.

The exponential growth of artificial intelligence — from large language models to computer vision, autonomous systems, and high-performance scientific computing — has ignited an unprecedented surge in demand for electricity.

Homer City is being designed from the ground up to simultaneously serve multiple large hyperscale data center customers. HCR eliminates costly transmission losses and provides a level of power certainty that simply cannot be matched through grid-dependent facilities. Also, the Homer City site's existing connections to both the PJM Interconnection and the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) grids allow excess power to be sold back into the regional market.

Jobs, Economic Impact, and Community Revitalization

Perhaps nowhere is the Homer City Energy Campus story more profound than in Indiana County itself, a community that watched the closure of the old coal plant with deep anxiety. The project is projected to generate more than 10,000 direct on-site construction-related jobs over an expected five-year construction period — a number that will reverberate through local housing, retail, transportation, and services.

The Homer City campus, once operational, will not merely serve data center customers — it will shore up a region of the grid that desperately needs new, dispatchable generation capacity.

MEET THE AGENTS



Tom Platt
Business Agent
Allegheny County

Tom Platt began his career as a Local 5 Apprentice in June of 1999, after leaving a family business to have a better life for his family. Once advancing to Journeyman Wireman/Technician in July of 2004, Tom worked his way up to Foreman, Commercial Project Manager, and Service Department Manager. Tom has worked diligently as a Business Agent for I.B.E.W. Local 5 since 2021. Tom was entrusted to be Pittsburgh Building Trades Secretary / Treasurer in June of 2024, and he continues to hold this position

Tom grew up with hard-working, blue-collar parents that taught him the value of dedication and hard work. Tom's greatest challenge and accomplishment was raising his three children as a single parent and helping them grow into independent, thriving adults.

Tom has volunteered with the Local 5 Float Committee, and the Explorer Program. With Walter Bentley II passing away and being the leader of the Explorer Program, Tom assisted Rachel Hienz in getting the program back up and running after a hiatus during Covid, helping young individuals explore their potential in the trade unions with The Boy Scouts of America Explorers Post 5.

Tom currently resides in Pittsburgh and takes pride in working hard every day for his Union Brothers and Sisters.



Kirby Christie
Business Agent

Kirby Christie began his career in 1998 as a first-year apprentice with IBEW Local 10 in Butler. After completing two years of training, Local 10 merged with Local 5 in 2000, and he finished his apprenticeship in Pittsburgh, advancing to Journeyman Wireman/Technician status in 2003.

Over the next twenty-five years, he worked primarily in the commercial sector, with significant experience on hospital and university projects.

In September 2023, Business Manager McIntyre appointed him Assistant Business Manager for Butler, Armstrong, Clarion, and Venango counties. During this period, he also joined the Butler Labor Council, the IBEW Tri-State Association, and the Pittsburgh Building Trades. In the fall of 2025, his jurisdiction expanded to include Jefferson, Elk, McKean, and Cameron counties, adding membership in the North Central Building Trades as well.

Active Members 20 To 55 Year Service Pin Recipients

TWENTY YEAR PINS

Douglas J. Arlow
Thaddeus P. Ciechanowski
Michael D. Davenport

Michael P. Howard
Kristen L. Lawrence
Michael J. Reilly

Robert J. Sabol
Alan J. Sanderbeck

Timothy D. Schrock
Daniel S. Shaffer
William E. Wareham

Stuart Werner
Raymond C. Zapanoni
John C. Zielinski

TWENTY FIVE YEAR PINS

Gerald V. Askins
Justin E. Bair
Michael P. Bartlebaugh
Christopher C. Basista
Brian M. Beckett
Thomas M. Boak
Chad E. Booher
Robert A. Boothe
Robert M. Botteicher
Steven Brandl
Parker J. Brinkley
Laurie S. Buchheimer
Michael I. Cairns
David M. Clark
Christian M. Concannon
Christopher J. Corbin
Daniel R. Corso

Jennifer J. Czapik
Daniel R. Dart
Mark J. Decker
John A. Desensi
Bryan J. Detweiler
Carl J. Dietz
Thad K. Donaldson
John D. Drake
Chris A. Etzel
Shauna L. Felix
James A. Flannery
Frank A. Folino
Michael J. Freeman
Eric L. Gaiter
Tommy E. Gallaher
Joel B. Getty
David E. Gogoel

Michael C. Haley
Thomas M. Helsel
Richard T. Henretty
Eric J. Hinnebusch
John M. Hresko
Chad G. Huber
Eric D. Irvin
Mark L. Irvin
Kevin A. Karnack
John R. Keilbach
Joseph E. Kelley
Michael A. Kendlick
Damian P. Kostovny
Bradley W. Kraus
Steven M. Krchmar
Craig D. Kushner
Lee H. Labovick

Jonathan Lager
Christopher R. Lavalle
John Liberoni
Eric C. Logan
Gregory P. Martin
Kimberly Martyn
Christopher A. Masaitis
James E. McCabe
John G. McKee
Jason R. McKenzie
Mark A. Mikesic
Steven J. Milius
Stephen C. Morrocco
Brian D. Myers
Daniel J. Patsen
Benjamin J. Pearson

Mitchell R. Pegher
John A. Perelman
Joseph A. Perhach
Floyd P. Peterson
Gregory R. Pfefferman
Richard A. Pfeifer
Richard A. Pieniadz
David A. Pioskunak
Joseph V. Plutko
Anthony S. Polk
Joseph A. Pope
James E. Ragland
John D. Ranalli
Christian L. Riblett
David R. Richey
Leon J. Roman
Kevin M. Scheafnocker

Timothy J. Schultheis
Todd M. Shelly
Edward S. Shepherd
Dwayne D. Shindledecker
Brian R. Slavick
Brian C. Smith
David M. Spring
Stanley J. Steban
Joshua J. Varhola
Jason V. Vautard
Richard G. Vincent
Adrian R. Weil
Jesse R. Wheeler
Gregory J. Wohlgemuth
Stanley E. Young
Brian R. Zang
Gregory A. Zimmerman

THIRTY YEAR PINS

Vincent C. Aluise
Robert P. Aranos
Charles C. Baccino
Banker C. Beach
Shawn J. Bettwy
John F. Bryan
Craig A. Chermer
Howard F. Cupps

Harry H. Davis
Richard M. Deemer
Pio Dipofi
Lori A. Donahue
James W. Earley
Paul N. Feiling
Mark C. Frank
Timothy R. Hays

Todd J. Himes
James J. Hollerich
Robert T. Hudson
Kirk G. Hufnagel
Patrick L. Hutchings
Thomas S. Jasper
William L. Jasper

David A. Javorski
Richard C. Jones
G. Douglas Kramer
Andrew T. Lasher
Mark L. Lundberg
David J. Morgano
Joseph A. Neal

David J. Pingree
Brian G. Proch
Eric J. Rectenwald
Douglas T. Schiffer
David R. Schuchert
Paul G. Shipe
Daniel S. Smith

Norman E. Sturgess
Richard W. Sumney
Robert B. Towner
Patrick J. Treese
Michael D. Tretinik
Raymond D. Valentine
Michael D. Wist
Scott D. Zeszutek

THIRTY FIVE YEAR PINS

David J. Almasy
David G. Arbogast
Gerald Bacco
Alex Belak
Brian S. Bentz
Ronald H. Black
Gary P. Bohatch
David M. Bonetti
Douglas S. Boody
Michael M. Boras

Brian K. Clugston
Wayne W. Colteryahn
Joseph E. Cornelius
James J. Coventry
Robert W. Doerzbacher
William R. Edel
William T. Eger
Neal G. Fanks
James A. Ferne

Jeffrey J. Gaertner
David E. Gardner
Lane D. Garrison
Anthony N. Guida
Francis M. Hibbs
Michael J. Hollern
Michael A. Jaap
Alan J. Kaplin
Scott T. Kearns
Joseph R. Kenbok

Timothy A. Kristobek
Jeffrey C. Krug
Timothy J. Laffey
Thomas J. LaPorte
Lawrence E. Liebler
William R. McConnell
James A. Miller
Kevin M. Mills
Frank A. Moletz
Edward R. Monahan

Michael S. O'Rourke
Joseph M. Podrosky
James F. Popinski
Mark N. Puma
Chris J. Pyle
John F. Radacsi
Charles H. Robison
James A. Ryan
Gerald J. Sladic

Richard B. Sowash
Stanley J. Stavish
Clark Stewart
James J. Stynchula
George J. Sullivan
Carl W. Turner
Neal D. Unger
Kenneth R. Weiss
Stephen D. Werner
Jon E. Wuycheck

FORTY YEAR PINS

Anthony J. Boyd

Paul A. Duda

Benjamin Hoffman

Steven R. Weltner

Breaden D. Young

FORTY FIVE YEAR PINS

Ronald A. Dunleavy

Albert G. Lonzo

Curt L. Miller

Timothy V. Wisyanski

FIFTY FIVE YEAR PIN

Regis E. Kaminski

PIN RECIPIANTS



25 YEARS

Sitting L to R: Joshua J. Varhola, David M. Spring, Edward S. Shepherd, Adrian R. Weil, Richard A. Pfeifer, Stephen C. Morrocco, Craig D. Kushner
 Standing L to R: Tom McIntyre, Kevin A. Karnack, Richard I. Cairns, Brian M. Beckett, Joel B. Getty, Michael C. Haley, Michael Varholla



30 YEARS

Standing L to R: Tom McIntyre, Eric J. Rectenwald, Michael Varholla



35 YEARS

Sitting L to R: Wayne W. Colteryahn, Jeffrey J. Gaertner, Neal G. Fanks, Joseph R. Kenbok, George J. Sullivan, James A. Ferne, Stanley J. Stavish, Clark Stewart, Carl W. Turner
 Standing L to R: Tom McIntyre, Chris J. Pyle, Kevin M. Mills, William T. Eger, Anthony N. Guida, William R. Edel, James A. Miller, John F. Radacsi, Charles H. Robison, Michael Varholla



40 YEARS

L to R: Tom McIntyre, Benjamin Hoffman, Michael Varholla



45 YEARS

L to R: Tom McIntyre, Ronald A. Dunleavy, Timothy V. Wisyanski, Michael Varholla



55 YEARS

L to R: Tom McIntyre, Regis E. Kaminski, Michael Varholla

Local 5 Womens Committee and RENEW volunteer for the Pittsburgh Food Bank



Front L to R: Natalie Funk, AB McCullough, Tom Zielinski, Annika Szczyrbak, Alana Jones
 Back row L to R: Emma Ciaramella, Stephanie Rogers, Fate Hays, Sheehan Aitken, Zach Podish, Nate Slivka, Rob Davide, Jared Garcia, Michelle Garcia

LEGAL COUNCIL REPORT



JOSHUA BLOOM & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

THE “SAVE ACT” WILL PREVENT U.S. CITIZENS FROM VOTING

We can all agree that U.S. Citizens have the right to vote in our federal, state, and local elections. We can also all agree that non-U.S. Citizens do not have the right to vote. These are both matters of common knowledge. Would you support a federal law that prevented millions of U.S. Citizens from voting? I’m confident that the overwhelming majority, regardless of party affiliation, would confidently answer NO.

Preventing U.S. Citizens from voting is exactly what the “Save Act” will do. Requiring proof of citizenship to vote will only prevent U.S. Citizens from voting. The Bipartisan Policy Center released a study on March 16th, 2026 finding that 12% of U.S. Citizens who are currently properly registered to vote do not have documentation necessary to prove their citizenship. The University of Maryland’s study provided that 21,300,000 U.S. Citizens do not have the necessary documentation to provide proof of their citizenship. This is not surprising when you consider the facts that only 46% of U.S. Citizens have a U.S. Passport and only 80% have their Birth Certificates. Now, consider the fact that individuals who have changed their name when they got married have a different name on their Birth Certificate than on their current driver’s license, etc.

Meanwhile, during 2025, the state of Utah did an investigation to determine just how many non-U.S. Citizens voted in their elections. After the state verified the citizenship of everyone who voted in the state, it found that there were ZERO voters who were non-citizens. There was only 1 instance of a non-citizen who attempted to register to vote but was unsuccessful. The state of Kansas enacted a proof of citizenship requirement to vote. After the law was enacted, it was determined that less than .002% of the individuals who attempted to register to vote were non-citizens. Meanwhile, 31,000 U.S. Citizens in the state of Kansas were denied their constitutional right to vote!

Democracy is not only important because it is truly the backbone and soul of our Constitution, but it is also particularly important to our working families. When working families lose their right to vote, they lose their voice and the ability to remove corrupt and anti-worker public officials. For example, according to Salary Expert and Glassdoor, in autocracies like Russia, the average construction worker earns between 366 and 456 rubles per hour which is the equivalent of between \$4.50 and \$5.68 U.S. Dollars per hour.

Life can be challenging. Get the peace of mind you deserve.

LifeSolutionsSM MAP can help you balance work and personal needs to become healthier, happier, and more productive. Our private and confidential resources and support are inclusive of all populations, including older adults, new parents, diverse individuals, LGBTQIA+, veterans, those with disabilities, and others.

Work with an expert

Coaching/Counseling

- Confidential sessions in person, by telephone, or via video
- Expertise in family issues, anxiety, depression, grief and loss, drug and/or alcohol concerns, and more
- 24/7 phone support for immediate help
- Professional and personal trainings on a variety of topics, including resilience, stress, substance use disorders, mindfulness, and grief and loss

Disruptive event management

- 24/7 support to develop a response plan
- On-site group and individual services, plus follow-up for those showing acute distress
- Help with recovery, resilience, and self-care strategies for IBEW 5 member

Services for life stressors

- Free, 30-minute legal consultation and up to 25 percent off the attorney’s fees post-consultation
- Free, 30-minute telephone consultation with a financial professional

Safe Journey

- Call a transportation service when you are concerned about getting home safely
- Get reimbursed for up to two, one-way rides per year (maximum of \$50 per ride)

Web-based resources

- **RxWell app**—Personalized program that allows you to learn tools and techniques for in-the-moment relief from depression, anxiety, and stress
- **Skill Builders**—Personal and professional self-paced courses
- **Downloadable legal forms**—Wills, bills of sale, and powers of attorney
- **Monthly wellness webinars**

Lifesolutions@upmc.edu
+1 855-209-8762 (TTY: 711)

To access the Work-Life section of our website, go to lifesolutionsforyou.com, click Login, and enter your company code.

Your company code is: IBEW5



workpartners

TV Talk By Jim Ryan

55 Years of Service: Rege Kaminski and the Evolution of Broadcast Technology

When Rege Kaminski first walked into what was then WIIC-TV—now WPXI—in 1969, television was a very different world. He started a temporary summer job while studying electrical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. Rege entered the trade at a time when vacuum tube technology was still common, and black-and-white monitors were the standard.

That short stint in 1969 was just the beginning. Rege returned in 1970 and began what would become an extraordinary 55-year career as an active member of IBEW and is still going. In those early days, working in television broadcasting meant working under constant pressure. News was live, and mistakes were not easily hidden. “If something went wrong, it was very visible,” Rege recalls. “There was pressure for perfection, and management responded immediately.” Every broadcast required total focus, and every technician played a critical role. Producing a broadcast also required a full crew. A typical show at WIIC called for multiple technicians, including audio, a technical director, videotape operators working with large reel-to-reel machines, projectionists running film shot by news crews, and video and transmission specialists. Technicians had to adapt in real time as pieces came together just moments before going to air. Today fewer people often handle the same responsibilities.

The structure of the broadcast day also reflected a different era. Stations did not operate around the clock. Each day began with a formal sign-on and ended with a sign-off. Between those points, everything had to be carefully timed—film segments, commercials, and live programming all had to hit their marks precisely. Technicians were constantly living by the clock, ensuring every second of airtime was accounted for.

Over the decades, Rege has witnessed a complete transformation of the industry. Today, automation has changed nearly everything. Computers now execute detailed broadcast logs, and many timing and coordination tasks that once required multiple people are handled digitally.

Despite these advances, the core of the job remains the same. “You can’t learn everything in school,” Rege says. “You have to stay calm, not panic when something happens, fix it, and then learn from it so it doesn’t happen again.” That ability to think clearly under pressure is just as important today as it was more than five decades ago.

Through all of these changes, one constant has been Rege’s membership in IBEW Local #5. He credits the union with providing stability, fair wages, and unity among members. “You’re working with other great technicians, and there’s a real sense of togetherness,” he says. “No one is afraid of someone else getting ahead. By doing the job, members help members.” That solidarity has been especially important in an industry that has undergone such rapid change. Union representation has helped ensure job security while maintaining high standards for the skilled work required to keep stations operating.

Rege’s long career has also placed him behind the scenes during some of the most significant events in modern history. From the era of Apollo 11 to the recent launch of Artemis II and ten sitting presidents, he has been part of the team responsible for delivering critical information to the public.

Before the Internet and YouTube, TV was the only way people could see important events. That responsibility is what stands out most to him. “I’m proud to have helped get the news out to the people of southwestern Pennsylvania,” Rege says. After more than 55 years in the trade, Rege also has a clear message for the next generation. Take the work seriously, and don’t pass up opportunities. “Don’t turn down work,” he advises. “We have value to the company. Be as valuable as possible by doing the best job you can every day.”

From the days of sign-on and sign-off to today’s automated, around-the-clock broadcasts, Rege Kaminski’s career tells the story of an industry transformed. With that same commitment and longevity, there is every reason to believe Rege may one day earn his 60-year active service pin as well.

RETIREE CORNER





CHRISTMAS PARTY IN PITTSBURGH





Local No. 5 Endorsed Candidates

2026 Primary Election

Tuesday, May 19th



Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

PA Governor

Josh Shapiro

PA Lt. Governor

Austin Davis

United States Congress

Dist. 12

Summer Lee

(D)

Dist. 17

Chris Deluzio

(D)

Pennsylvania State Senate

Dist. 38 Lindsey Williams (D)

Dist. 42 Wayne Fontana (D)

Dist 46 Camera Bartolotta (R)

Pennsylvania House of Representatives

Dist. 15 Joshua Kail (R)

Dist. 30 Arvind Venkat (D)

Dist. 42 Jen Mazzocco (D)

Dist. 16 Robert F. Matzie (D)

Dist. 32 Joe McAndrew (D)

Dist. 44 Hadley Haas (D)

Dist. 19 Aerion Abney (D)

Dist. 33 Mandy Steele (D)

Dist. 45 Brittany Bloam (D)

Dist. 20 Emily Kinkead (D)

Dist. 34 Abigail Salisbury (D)

Dist. 48 Timothy J. O'Neal (R)

Dist. 21 Lindsay Powell (D)

Dist. 35 Dan Goughnour (D)

Dist. 57 Eric Nelson (R)

Dist. 23 Dan Frankel (D)

Dist. 36 Jessica Benham (D)

Dist. 58 Eric Davanzo (R)

Dist. 24 La'Tasha Mayes (D)

Dist. 38 John Inglis (D)

Dist. 72 Frank Burns (D)

Dist. 25 Brandon Markosek (D)

Dist. 39 Andrew Kuzma (R)

Dist. 77 H. Scott Conklin (D)

Dist. 27 Daniel J. Deasy, Jr. (D)

Dist. 40 Natalie Mihalek (R)

Dist. 79 Caleb McCoy (D)

If you or a family member hold an elected or appointed public office, please reach out to Ken Nagel at 412-432-1457. We'd love to discuss how we may work together to further our common goals!

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CHRISTMAS PARTY IN ALTOONA



CHRISTMAS PARTY IN CLEARFIELD



CHRISTMAS PARTY IN BELLE VERNON



CHRISTMAS PARTY IN BUTLER

UPCOMING EVENTS

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
RENEW
 Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

MAY 30TH AT 12PM
CLEARFIELD TRAINING CENTER
PARKING LOT



EVENT INFO

Open to all Local 5 members rain or shine. \$50 early bird tickets per team of 2 or \$60 day of. \$15 non-player tickets. Scan QR code for registration & discount hotel rooms.

PRIZES

1st PLACE
Grand Cash Prize

2nd PLACE
Cash Prize

3rd PLACE
Cash Prize

BBQ & BYOB

INFORMATION

For more info contact RENEW at local5renew@gmail.com

ANNUAL DRUG TEST AND TOOL SALE

PITTSBURGH
JUNE 12 3-8PM
JUNE 13 9AM-12PM

CLEARFIELD
JUNE 17 3-8PM

DENNY MILLER FAMILY PICNIC

JUNE 20, 2026

AT

Idlewild[®]
 -AND-
SoakZone[®]

ELK COUNTRY ARCHERY CHALLENGE

AUGUST 14-16, 2026

EVENTS
3D COURSE
PACK RACE
HEAD-TO-HEAD SHOOTOUT



MEN'S AND LADIES DIVISIONS

LOCAL #5 - UNLIMITED 3D ALL WEEKEND FOR \$25

COMPETITION LEVELS

Spike - Youth **Traditional Ladies**
Raghorn 18-39 **Royal 40-49**
Imperial 50-59 **Monarch 60+**



3D COURSE AND NOVELTY SHOTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



UNLIMITED 3D WITH REGISTRATION



SCAN CODE FOR REGISTRATION



facebook@Elk Country Archery Challenge Shooters

ELK COUNTRY VISITOR CENTER 134 HOMESTEAD DRIVE BENEZETTE, PA 15821

IBEW Local 5 Golf Club 2026 Schedule

- May 16- The Madison Club
- June 27- Strawberry Ridge
- July 18- Butler's Woodside
- August 15- 4 Person Scramble at Glengarry Golf Course
- September 19-20- Weekender in Canton, Ohio -The Quarry and Chippewa golf courses

The regular outings will include golf and snack at the turn. There will also be optional and skins game and skill prizes.

The August scramble will include snack at the turn and buffet dinner after golf along with team and individual prizes.

We will be sending out our annual mailer with all times and prices in early April. We welcome golfers of all skill levels. Anyone interested in participating should contact: ibewlu5golfclub@gmail.com

Labor Day 2026

For the Pittsburgh Labor Day Parade, we will be meeting at the Local 5 Building Complex starting at 8:00AM for T-Shirt Distribution. The buses will start leaving at 8:30AM to take you to the Parade Site. Please Note: Hats and shirts will only be distributed at our building before the parade – nothing will be given out at the staging area at the Arena!

TEG INTERVENTIONS

Drug and Alcohol Consultation, Intervention and Placement

TEG Interventions works to assist hundreds of union members and their loved ones with substance abuse disorders.

If you or a family member need personalized, confidential, professional insight and assistance to proper treatment or counseling, please call Tim: (724) 413-9709.

GET LOCAL 5 MERCHANDISE



UNIONMERCH.US



The **WPANECA Electrician Emergency Support Program** was created in 2018 to lend a helping hand to IBEW electricians and their families in the face of emergencies. We've proudly been able to do that over the past few years. In 2022 alone we awarded over **\$6500** in aid and helped support 3 different IBEW Electricians who needed our help during their most challenging times. What we build together as **NECA/IBEW** is truly a team effort. We want you to know that we are here to **HELP YOU** when you need it most. We want to make sure electricians in Local 5 understand that the EESP is a confidential, safe place to seek financial assistance in the face of an emergency.

Please visit www.wpaneca-electrician.org to learn more



Veterans News

Veterans Speak Out, VA Backs Down on Disability Rating Changes

Recent proposed changes to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability rating system sparked concern among veterans, advocates, and labor organizations nationwide. What began as a routine update to rating criteria quickly became a broader debate about fairness, transparency, and the government's obligation to those who have served.

The VA periodically reviews its Schedule for Rating Disabilities to reflect current medical knowledge. This time, proposed revisions would have downgraded a veterans disability rating based on current treatment versus severity of the disability. Veterans' groups warned the changes could reduce ratings for future claims and create uncertainty for those who rely on these benefits for financial stability and access to care. Even the perception that benefits might be reduced was enough to generate widespread concern among veterans and their families.

Veterans service organizations (VSOs), including groups like the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and Disabled American Veterans (DAV), mobilized quickly. They raised concerns through congressional oversight channels, including the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs, and pressed the VA for answers about how the proposed changes could impact veterans' lives. Advocacy groups elevated veterans' concerns directly to policymakers, coordinated outreach efforts, and made clear that the proposals risked undermining trust in the system.

That coordinated effort had an immediate effect. In several key cases, the VA paused or reconsidered proposed updates even before the formal public comment process had fully played out. Following further review and continued engagement with stakeholders, the department ultimately halted or significantly revised several of the most controversial proposals. The outcome was widely seen as a victory for veterans and a clear example of what organized advocacy can achieve when voices are heard early and often.

For union members—especially in industries with strong veteran representation—this moment carries added significance. Organizations like IBEW Local #5 include many veterans who have transitioned from military service into skilled trades and continue to contribute to their communities. For these members, disability benefits are not abstract policy—they are part of the foundation that supports their health, their families, and their ability to remain active in the workforce. The same principles that guide union work—solidarity, collective action, and standing up for fair treatment—were clearly reflected in how veterans and their advocates responded.

At the same time, conversations like these can bring stress and uncertainty. Changes to benefits, even proposed ones, can raise real concerns about stability, healthcare access, and the future. For any veteran who may be struggling—whether with health issues, navigating the VA system, or simply feeling overwhelmed—it's important to remember that support is available and that no one has to face these challenges alone. Reaching out to a fellow union member, a steward, the Local #5 Veterans Committee, or a trusted veterans' organization can be an important first step.

There are also dedicated resources ready to help. The Veterans Crisis Line is available 24/7 by dialing or texting 988 (then press 1), offering confidential support for veterans and their families. Local VA offices, VSOs, and union networks can also help connect individuals with benefits guidance, counseling, and other services. Taking that step to reach out can make a meaningful difference.

This episode is a reminder of two important truths: when veterans stand together, their voices matter—and when challenges arise, support is always within reach.

JATC NEWS

Have you ever talked to an apprentice while on the job about what they are doing in class?

After they answered, have you ever thought to yourself 'That is definitely NOT the way I did it during my apprenticeship!' If you have, you probably realize that things are changing in today's apprenticeship experience.

For the past several decades, the JATC had been using a five-year model. This model included an intense first four years of book driven learning experiences and a fifth year that introduced a few of our specialty offerings. The 2025-26 apprenticeship class is using a new model that requires only four years to complete. This new model has brought about significant change in the way the apprenticeship operates. New technologies, teaching techniques, and timetables have allowed the JATC to approach learning in a whole new way, while still maintaining the quality and content of the program.

New technologies have changed the way our instructors deliver information to



the student. In the past, an assignment (reading, lesson questions, etc.) was ordered for the week and upon completion, a review of the lesson questions was conducted. Finally, a test was administered. Today, an instructor can give a brief outline of the materials that the learner should read in a standard textbook, offer simple examples related to problem solving, and spend time relating the curriculum to real life scenarios encountered on the job. These steps help explain the "Why's" that every ap-



prentice has; Why do I have to know this? How will this information help me on the job? Can you give me an example of where I might use this information? After this presentation, the apprentice should open their Computer-Mediated Learning (CML) lessons for a more refined explanation of the materials. Of course, all lessons have a start time and, at some point, an end time. But this new approach that includes the CML offers an asynchronous approach. The apprentice works at their pace and can return to parts of the CML that need further review. Time spent on review of lesson questions in class is reduced since the CML offers results to knowledge checks immediately.

Because of the new technologies available to the instructors, new teaching techniques are required. The biggest change is the time made available for a more hands-on approach. Instead of calculating Ohm's law results, prove it with a meter. Instead of spending time on paper calculations, practice more conduit bending, practice transformer terminations and sizing of primary/secondary protections. Additionally, the instructors can introduce tutorials that are available on different media platforms such as YouTube.

All the detailed changes benefit the apprentice by offering more points of view about any given subject; a traditional textbook point of view, the instructor's point of view, the CML point of view, a media platform point of view, and finally, a self-proven point of view through the hands-on experience. This will offer a better-rounded Journeyman that is qualified to lead the IBEW into an ever-changing future.



Join us if you can by enrolling in a class. Touch-up your electrical theory, fire alarm, or EV charging skill sets. If you can't afford the time for a class right now, you can still help us by offering your apprentice your point of view on a given subject. Remember, the learning experience for our young apprentices doesn't stop at the training centers doorstep it also continues through the on-the-job experience as well!

CHECK OUT WHAT CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE HERE:



The JATC would like to take a minute to celebrate the accomplishments and the pending retirement of Assistant Training Director Ron Ewing. Ron has been instrumental in many of the programs that the JATC has to offer and the new direction that the program is tracking. Ron's expertise in the field of Motors and Motor Control helped shape the program that is offered today. He has offered guidance and countless hours to the eventual modernization of the motor control lab, which included the installation of newer and up to date equipment at the Pittsburgh Training Center.

Several years later, Ron became a full time first year instructor. It is often times overlooked how important this position actually is. Not only is the first year instructor responsible for an introduction to our industry and all things electrical, but they offer the first unionism instruction that an apprentice sees or hears. Ron is a strong union advocate, and his insight benefited everyone. Years later, Ron became an Assistant Director and helped oversee the addition to and renovation of the Clearfield Training Center. Today, the Clearfield Training Center is no longer in the shadows of Pittsburgh and offers some of the best training available. Ron's accomplishments are many and he will be missed. We all wish Ron and his family the best in his retirement.



**ONLINE DUES
PAYMENTS NOW
AVAILABLE AT
IBEW5.ORG**

A promotional graphic for Pittsburgh Pirates tickets. It features a large yellow 'P' logo with 'TM' below it on a dark background. To the right is a yellow QR code. Below the QR code is the text 'USE CODE: IBEW'. At the bottom, it says 'DISCOUNT PIRATE TICKETS FOR IBEW MEMBERS' and '*new games are available for the following month on the 2nd Monday of each month'.

I.B.E.W. LOCAL #5 FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Is your account information up to date? If you have any of the following changes to your personal information, please inform the credit union:

- Change of address
- Name change
- Email address
- Phone numbers
- Driver's License information

It is important to keep this information current and up to date in case the credit union needs to contact you.

PRODUCTS OFFERED AT THE CREDIT UNION:

- Financing of vehicles (cars, boats, motorcycles, and ATV)
- Personal Loans
- Home Equity Loans
- Notary Service
- Savings Accounts
- Certificates of Deposit
- Holiday Clubs

PHONE: 412-432-1152

FAX: 412-431-4659



Hours of Operation
Monday & Thursday
9am -7pm
Tuesday & Wednesday
9am-3pm
Friday
9am -NOON

AROUND OUR JURISDICTION



Hey Electric at Armco Credit Union
Clark Rupp, Donovan Timblin, Bucky Iman, Keith Ishman, Brandon Reep, Todd Verner Jr, Brock Bailey, Adam Reddinger



Biter Electric at Altoona Veterans Hospital
L to R: Jadon Pence, Paul Dodson, Joel Snedden



OZ Enterprises and Pevarnik Brothers at Penn West Boiler Upgrade
L to R: Matt Martin, Ryan Younkins, Chris Augenstein, Eric Hanna



Sargent Electric at Veterans Leadership Program
Brayden Babich, Dan Podgorski, Jim Ebert, Colton Cooper



Pure Tech Bradford
L to R: Adam Ward, Don Baker, Andy Paul, Andy Brown, Parker Brinkley, Auston Howard



Wellington Power at Bethel Park Elementary
Jason Wetzel and Wayne Ruby



T.P. Electric on Small cell sites
James Gigler, Tim Toth, Ed Zahniser



Matco Electric at McKean County Landfill
L to R: Logan Huelburt, Justin Cogswell, Chad Johnson, Eric Little, Floyd Peterson



M&J Electric at Page's Dairy Mart
Trevor Porter and Jason Hopye



Turik Electric at Three Rivers Golf Club
L to R: Justin Chiocca, Owen Gall



Hanlon at the New Granada Theater
Ryan Leary, Keaton Naeser, Garin O'Leary, Michael Cenci, Gregg Szramowski



Lighthouse Electric at Iron Mountain
L to R: Matt Danner, Nick Difilippo, Jared Garcia, Tim McClay, Tom Helsel, Matt Hoerr, Matt Bendel, Justin Grossman, Trevor Hogue, Dylan Morris, Tyler Gannoe, Mike Martinac



Chapman at Harmon Creek

AROUND OUR JURISDICTION



Precision Electric at Dicks House of Sports Greensburg



Ferry Electric at Science of Speed
L to R: Rob Davide, Logan Frahllich



Biter Electric at PSU
L to R: Brian Hewitt, Luke Guenot, Andy Voriseck,
Joe Smith, Mike Lair, Daryl Noal, Cole Hamm, Justin



Sargent at Nova Place

L to R Front: Jared Boger, Nick Reitler, Craig Kushner, Ethan Heinz, Matt Brestensky, Dave Socci, Sam Barone, Zach Hartung
Back: Brad Telegdy, Zachary Williams, Dan Frick, Mike Krobot, Corry Sheffler, Sam Siegel, Paul Warnock



OZ Enterprises at State Police DNA Lab
L to R: Kathryn Durkin, Paul Rusiewicz, Justin Vesely



E-J Electric at Clermont Solar



Sargent Electric Wireless on the North Side
L to R: Gary Leavengood, Adam Koren, Andy Cornely,
Jeff Coyle



Pure Tech at Domtar Paper Mill
L to R: Chad Johnson, Floyd Peterson, Dan Dart, Luke Dart



Clista Electric at Market Square
L to R: Chris Williams, Garret Landers, Brian Axe, Sony Stewart, Ed Williams, Eric Sturgess



Kirby Electric at BNY

L to R: Chuck Grese, Aaron Remlinger, Mitch McCaffrey, Steve Schneider, Steve Werner, Bill Völk, Pat Faust, Jeremiah Rowe, Mike Stophel, Ryan Opiela, Matt Zarisky, Ray Thomas, Jon Pferdehirt



Sargent Electric at Arts Landing
L to R: Matt Crowson, Tristin Luckey, Matt Brestensky



BEST WISHES TO PENSIONERS

The officers, and members of Local 5 congratulate these newly retired members and wish them a long and healthy retirement:



Gregory A. Scanlan
 Kirk M. Hoak
 Andrew M. Krall
 Michael T. Romano
 John A. Tobolski
 Ronald D. Bronzon
 William R. Dysert
 James M. Manuppelli
 Richard L. McCombie
 Robert J. McCort
 Glenn T. Rosporski
 Robert J. Sabol
 Timothy Taylor
 Timothy J. Holtzman
 Dean Peters
 James A. Swartz
 Timothy D. Wise
 David G. Arbogast
 Louis A. Aquilino
 Robert B. Beck
 Steven B. Christy
 Neil M. Mikec

William M. Moore
 Ron Marangoni
 Mark G. Broan
 Gregory Burchell
 Alfred L. Franklin, III
 Michael A. Martorelli
 Dennis R. McDermott
 Gregory C. McIltrout
 Michael S. O'Rourke
 Donald Schnelbach
 Joseph M. Podrosky
 Stanley J. Stavish
 John D. Szerbin
 James J. Coventry
 Lawrence A. Saitta
 David W. Whipkey
 Ronald D. Ewing
 James D. Hinterliter
 Timothy C. McShane
 Thomas W. Hunter
 James R. Black
 Bradley T. Wiefeling
 Gary L. Reinert, Jr.

Anyone interested in joining the Local #5 Retirees Club should contact: Mr. Tim Perkosi @ 412-860-4033

It is very important to notify the Local Union promptly of any mailing address or phone number change!

BENEFIT INFORMATION

IBEW LOCAL 5 OFFICE: 412-432-1400 or Toll Free 1-800-225-IBEW

Judy Elkanich: Pension applications, deceased member notification / information, beneficiary changes, scheduling of appointments with the Business Manager, "Honorary and Participating" withdraw information..

Cate Eichner: Highmark, Security Blue, Freedom Blue, Pensioners \$10 Dental and Optical Premium and Maintenance assessments.

Courtney Steingraber: Dues payments and inquiries, change of address notifications, and BA Member information and "Military Card" requests.

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA): 412-432-1155

Chris Cottrill: Scholarship information.

JATC Apprenticeship Office: 412-432-1145

Lisa McManus: Apprenticeship information.

W.P.E.E. Pension Fund: 412-432-1156

Pension benefit calculation inquiries and questions; W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund death benefit beneficiary updates; and Workers Compensation pension and insurance benefits.

W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund 412-432-1130 or Toll Free 1-800-382-1428

All insurance-related questions, including Hospital, Emergency Department, Medical/Surgical, Major Medical, Dental and Vision; Pensioners Dental & Optical Claims.

Secretary of Funds: 412-432-1128 or Toll Free 1-877-782-1817

Beneficiary changes, ERTS, contractor contribution information, benefit hour information, vacation check inquiries.

W.P.E.E. Deferred Compensation and Sick and Disability: 412-432-1144

Deferred Compensation, Supplemental Unemployment Benefit (SUB) withdrawal, and Sick and Disability benefit inquiries.

Central Data Services (CDS): 412-432-1125 or Toll Free 1-877-782-1410

Pension benefit calculation inquires and questions; W.P.E.E. Insurance Trust Fund death benefit beneficiary updates; and Workers Compensation pension and insurance benefits. All other fund-related questions.

IBEW Local 5 Federal Credit Union: 412-432-1152

Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM to Noon

IBEW LOCAL 5
5 Hot Metal Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2355

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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IN FRATERNAL MEMORY

Deceased Retired Members

Dana R. Miller September 13, 2025
 Barry T. Bell June 23, 2025
 David L. Stahlman September 11, 2025
 Hugh Hardy, III September 12, 2025
 David C. Schumacher September 20, 2025
 Donald D. Humphries, Jr. October 30, 2025
 Timothy C. Dale October 4, 2025
 Jerry W. Cherry October 28, 2025
 David B. Morrison November 12, 2025
 Gary R. Harris November 28, 2025
 John J. Pozyccki December 3, 2025
 Marshall Eiding December 11, 2025
 Lawrence E. Heckman December 15, 2025
 Robert D. McKnight December 18, 2025
 David T. McNeil December 26, 2025
 Paul A. Staab January 3, 2026
 Arthur "Butch" A. Antonella January 5, 2026
 David T. Butler January 9, 2026
 Dennis C. Grimes January 11, 2026
 Gary A. Palombia January 17, 2026
 Wilbur Casteel January 16, 2026
 Clyde E. Stewart, III February 5, 2026
 John P. Barefoot February 18, 2026
 William H. Reinert, Jr. February 19, 2026
 Ronald B. James February 24, 2026
 George M. Fullerton March 1, 2026
 James H. Keefer March 20, 2026
 Michael J. Shemerdiak March 24, 2026
 Charles E. Merlino, Jr. March 27, 2026
 Richard R. Schumm March 29, 2026

Deceased Active Members

Robert A. Kucmeroski September 27, 2025
 Derek T. Julkowski October 1, 2025
 Timothy S. Cimino December 6, 2025
 Mark E. Osterritter December 15, 2025
 Gerard Ondo March 20, 2026

All Business Agents can be reached at:

(412) 432-1400
1-800-225-IBEW

Business Agents

Kirby Christie	Natalie Jackson
Jim Crispell	Ken Nagel
Daryl Ezell	Tom Platt
Buddy Franklin	Jim Ryan
William Garner	Ben Steinmeyer
Chris Gualazzi	Michael Varholla

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President Michael W. Varholla
Vice President William C. Garner
Recording Secretary Alfred "Buddy" Franklin
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William C. Garner, Secretary	Ronald E. Moye Sr.	Mathew E. Vinglish

Examining Board

David J. Mazza	Robert C. Davide	Casey J. Roche
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