



SOUNDINGS

AUGUST 2022



Electric Boat celebrated the topping off milestone for its South Yard Assembly Building on March 10, 2022, when the last beam was placed atop the structure.



Electric Boat marks the laying of the keel of the submarine District of Columbia (SSBN 826) on June 4, 2022, in North Kingstown, R.I.

HOW COVID HAS CHANGED OUR EVERYDAY LIVES

In March of 2020, could you ever imagine the changes that would transpire in all our lives in a little less than two and a half years? The world has seen a shift in behaviors, the economy, medicine, schooling, and beyond, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic brought many once-in-a-lifetime changes to everyday life that will become the new normal for millions in the U.S. and around the globe. We have learned different ways of working, different ways of living and different ways to take appreciation of the little things that bring us joy.

Working from home has become a new norm across the country. Employers that were once resistant to work-from-home policies have embraced this new work style in order to survive the pandemic. Employers are continually searching to find the right balance of in-office and remote workers that will make their company the most effective and employees the most productive. Virtual Zoom meetings and video chats are replacing the need for business travel, conference planning, and other once-common practices reducing overall business costs to the employer.

During the height of the pandemic, when many doctors offices across the nation were closed and hospitals were overwhelmed with COVID-19 patients, millions of Americans and many of their doctors utilized virtual doctor visits giving way to "Telehealth". Many private insurers,



employers who provide insurance, doctors, and hospitals have also embraced telemedicine services, allowing virtual office visits as an alternative to in-office services. COVID-19 has changed our perspective on numerous social activities including being in large crowds indoors. A night out for dinner and a movie feels too risky for some. Many now only order takeout, attend only outdoor concerts, and stream films and shows at home. Restaurants and movie theaters that have survived COVID-19 to this point continue to re-invent ways to entice customers to their venues. Many movie theaters are now hosting other events

for entertainment besides just movies to survive. Restaurants have enhanced online ordering and some have even adopted bringing your order out to your car so you do not need to go inside. COVID-19 has dramatically changed how businesses and consumers behave. It initially led to panic buying and stock piling of toilet paper, hand sanitizer and other commodities. After panic buying we shifted our shopping habits towards contactless shopping with on-line retailers like Amazon, offering buyers one stop shopping and quick free delivery with membership. Many now incorporate hybrid shopping; ordering items on-line and shopping local for other items. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how Americans live their lives. Geography is no longer the barrier it once was when it comes to how we shop, and contactless payments are here to stay.



MDA LEADERSHIP

**MDA-UAW
LOCAL 571**

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Soundings Newsletter
is published monthly.

Welcome to the first
digital version of the
Soundings Newsletter.
This newsletter will be
published monthly on
the MDA-UAW Web
Page. We appreciate
your feedback and any
comments you have
to make us better at
how we communicate
MDA-UAW news.

GET INVOLVED
If you would like to
volunteer or get
involved in any of our
committees, events
or volunteer efforts
contact, the Union Hall
at 860-448-0552.



Local Union Communication Association



*From Left to Right:
Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher, 2nd Vice President Amy Stephenson,
President William E. Louis, 1st Vice President David M. Reagan, Financial
Secretary Dave Evans and Treasurer Robert Faraci.*



ConnectiCOSH honored
MDA-UAW President William
(Bill) Louis as the recipient of the
2022 Ed Eagan award.

Bill was recognized for his many
years of service as a union repre-
sentative and as the voice of his
union brothers and sisters.

Under Bill's guidance, the MDA
Health and Safety Committee
has taken on a greater role
and increased responsibility in
improving safety conditions for
it's members.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President
William E. Louis 860-448-0552

1st Vice-President
David M. Reagan 860-448-0552

2nd Vice-President
Amy Stephenson 860-448-0552

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Pamela Gonski 860-433-3688

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Karen Heroux 860-448-0552

Members at Large
Wayne Carbone 860-867-2691
Tony Giordano 860-867-2458
Eric Novick 860-867-2262

Mission Statement of the MDA-UAW Local 571

*The mission of MDA-UAW Local 571 is to serve and represent all members and their families to the best of our ability by provid-
ing work place representation, financial/job security, seniority and respect.*

*We will achieve these goals by educating the union leadership and the membership about their roles and responsibilities in
this process. We also understand that teamwork is the ability to evaluate ideas on their merit, focusing on the issue and not the
person. Our teamwork starts with the membership's voice being heard which will help create an environment necessary for
success.*

*Local 571's priority is to improve the quality of life of our members and their families by
maintaining the highest level of integrity in operating the union.*



GARY BARRON (RETIREE)

Gerhard "Gary" Barron, 62, a loving, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away suddenly on Monday, January 24, 2022, at his home. Gary worked at Electric Boat for 30 years as an Electrical Designer. Rest in peace brother, you will be missed.



DENNIS COURTEMANCHE (RETIREE)

Dennis A. Courtemanche, 58, of Killingly, passed away at William W. Backus Hospital on January 25, 2022, after a brief illness. He worked as an Electrical Designer at Electric Boat for 30 years. Dennis showed passion, dedication, and determination in all aspects of his life. Rest in peace brother, you will be missed.



VERA JONES (MEMBER)

Vera Zerona (Caldwell) Jones, 69, of Norwich, passed away on January 26, 2022, surrounded by her family and friends. Vera was born November 28, 1952 in Richmond, VA. She worked at Electric Boat for 51 years. Rest in peace sister, you will be missed.



MIKE DUNPHY (RETIREE)

Michael Dunphy, 78, of Mystic, passed away peacefully in his sleep, Tuesday, June 7, 2022, surrounded by his loving family. Michael was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. He was a Design Tech at Electric Boat and retired in 2013, after 35 years of service. Rest in peace brother, you will be missed.

IN MEMORIAM

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our Union brothers and sisters.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Families

WILLIAM STAMP (RETIREE)

William L. Stamp Jr., 68, of Hopkinton, R.I., passed away Wednesday, June 22, 2022, after a brief illness. He was a self-taught musician, a talented artist and athlete. William was a Piping Designer at Electric Boat and recently retired after 47 years. Rest in peace brother, you will be missed.



CRAIG BALKO (MEMBER)

Craig Lance Balko, 61, of Groton, passed away Friday, April 15, 2022, at his home. Craig was originally from West Newton, MA. He was a longtime employee of Electric Boat. Rest in peace brother, you will be missed.



JOHN UPHOLZ (RETIREE)

John Robert Upholz, 90, of Stonington, passed way on July 1, 2022, from liver cancer. John worked for Electric Boat and retired after 39 years as a Senior Structural Submarine Designer. Rest in peace brother, you will be missed.



MDA-UAW Local 571 Union Hall, 394 Toll Gate Rd, Groton, CT 06340 (860)448-0552





MARK YOUR CALENDAR



25TH ANNUAL MDA GOLF DAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

Hit the course and join others in a day of fun and fellowship at this year's MDA Golf Day to be held at Cedar Ridge Golf Course.

Cedar Ridge Golf Course is a challenging, well-groomed public golf course located in East Lyme, CT. This 18-hole executive course features several holes over 200 yards in length. Beginners will enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and shorter length of the course, while experienced golfers appreciate the test of shot-making skills demanded by the par 3 layout.

This event always provides golfers a day of camaraderie, fun, and laughter. This MDA golf event welcomes all skill levels and encourages diversified teams on the playing field. Call the Union Hall to reserve your spot today.

LET'S GO CAMPING.

9TH ANNUAL MDA-UAW CAMPING OCT 8TH - 11TH, 2022

Are you a camping fanatic or have always wanted to experience waking up to the smell of pines or fall asleep to the sound of a crackling fire and smell of toasting marshmallows? This is an event you don't want to miss!

Enjoy a festive Columbus Day weekend including trick-or-treating at Natures Campsites in Voluntown, CT with family and friends. Nature's Campsites is sure to please your family surrounded by thickly wooded native pines and the Pachaug river. Available accommodations are 3 cabins, caboose cabin, pull-through sites, and field camping sites. Event registration is required. Day visitor's are also welcome. Call the Union Hall for pricing and to reserve your spot.

MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 2022 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Executive Board	Sep 12	3:30PM	Mystic Marriot
General Membership	Sep 12	4:30PM	Mystic Marriot
Executive Board	Oct 17	3:30PM	Mystic Marriot
Executive Council	Oct 17	4:30PM	Mystic Marriot
Executive Board	Nov 7	3:30PM	Mystic Marriot
Executive Council	Nov 7	4:30PM	Mystic Marriot
Executive Board	Dec 5	3:00PM	Mystic Marriot
General Membership	Dec 5	4:30PM	Mystic Marriot

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP COLLECT FOOD

On June 9th, 2022, at Mohegan Sun, a group of EB employees and family members helped to collect almost 27,000 pounds of food after a UNFI food show event. This collection will provide approximately 22,000 meals to those in need in Southeast CT.



Thanks goes out to the dedicated union members who participated at this event: President William Louis, Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher, Peter Crizer, Kim Deschamps, Brad Lamphere, Michael Sammataro, Mary Pine and Nancy Richards.



The MDA Community Service Committee is looking for more

For Questions or to RSVP:

Peter Crizer	3-2706
Sarah Buehler	3-7818
Tom Erik	3-2574
Charlie Witt	Groton OSE Shop
Maggie Marley	860-464-3325

members who would be willing to donate their time and effort for such a worthy cause. There will be two food shows at Mohegan Sun in August. Dates will be announced soon. Bring your entire family, even the kids can help.

"RUN TO HOME BASE" EB TEAM FAST ATTACK SCORES BIG

The "Run to Home Base" is a annual fundraiser providing vital funds for the clinical care and support for our veterans and their families who are impacted by the invisible wounds of war.



Military suicides have increased 20% since the onset of the pandemic, with nearly 20 Veterans losing their lives to suicide each day.

Several MDA members stepped up to the plate on July 30th, 2022, to help EB Team Fast Attack raise \$40,766 in donations. This donation will help traumatic brain injury programs, intensive clinical program for families who have lost their loved one due to service or suicide, and regional out patient care programs.



MDA MEMBERS GRADUATE UCAN TRAINING

MDA members Karen Hensley and Don Miller recently graduated from UCAN (Union Community Activist Network) training.



This is a training course about human services

available in our community. The attendees were informed about all of the services offered for those in need, and how they can help people find them. This program is a partnership between the Southeastern Connecticut Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO and United Way of Southeastern Connecticut.

UCAN training classes was held over a two week time frame in May. Classes were held at the United Way of Southeastern Connecticut in Ledyard, and UCAN graduation took place on June 7, 2022, at Langley's Restaurant in Waterford.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OFFERED JOB AT EB UPON GRADUATION

The 1st Signing Event for local High School Seniors was held at Ella T. Grasso High School in Groton, CT, on June 8th, 2022. Qualified students were guaranteed jobs at EB upon graduation. This EB initiative is part of the recent requirement for qualified employee staffing in support of the Columbia Program.





SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

JOHN SAFFOMILLA & E. ROY COLVILLE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Emily Gaudet
daughter of:
Jeff Gaudet
University of Saint Joseph

Laura Gilfert
daughter of:
Tom Gilfert
US Naval Academy

Emily Lanoue
daughter of:
Brian Lanoue
Univ. of New Hampshire

Nathan Lowry
son of:
Michael Lowry
Bryant University

Sage Muenzner
daughter of:
Stefan Muenzner
University of Connecticut

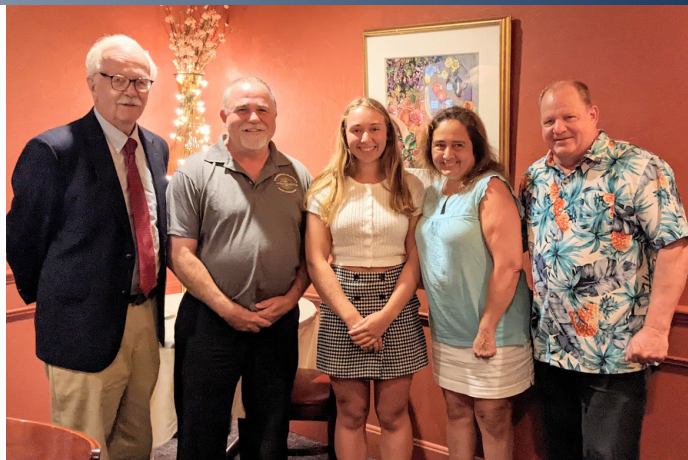
Onastasha Parfitt
g. daughter of:
John Parfitt
Saint Anslem College

Linsey Price
daughter of:
Edward Price
Franklin Pierce College

Ryan Sieng
son of:
Timothy Sieng
University of Connecticut

The MDA-UAW Local 571 is pleased to announce this years recipients of the John F. Saffomilla and E. Roy Colville Scholarship. Student's selected are pursuing a higher education, senior in high school, and parent or legal guardian is a MDA-UAW member in good standing.

Eight students are chosen from all submitted applications to receive a \$2500.00 scholarship award. On June 22, 2022, an award dinner was held at Tony D's restaurant in New London to recognize this years award winners and their parents.



RETIREES & VETERANS



2022 RETIREE LUNCHEONS

AUG 11	Richmond Country Club Richmond, RI
SEP 8	Prime 82 Restaurant Norwich, CT
OCT 13	Filomena's Waterford, CT
NOV 10	Prime 82 Restaurant Norwich, CT
DEC 8	Great Neck Country Club Waterford, CT

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST RETIREES JAN 1, 2022 - JUN 30, 2022

1/4/2022	Courtmanche, Walter T	4/2/2022	Tetreault, Kerry A
1/4/2022	Rabel, George J	4/9/2022	Block, Ann Loder
1/4/2022	Macdonald, Glenn A	4/23/2022	Harcut, Joseph John
1/4/2022	Pothier, Gerard A	4/30/2022	Gendreau, Mark Joseph
1/5/2022	Stanton, Michael Patrick	4/30/2022	Ruiz, Ronald Jack
1/5/2022	Witt, Douglas H	5/3/2022	Drurey, Michael Alcide
1/9/2022	Zarbo, Thomas David	5/5/2022	Young, Kenneth Alden
1/19/2022	Bond Jr, John Joseph	5/7/2022	Davis, Nancy Edith
1/22/2022	Paris, Frank E	5/7/2022	Williamson, James D
1/28/2022	Panucci, Daniel John	5/28/2022	White, Mary G
1/29/2022	Cebriwsky, Gregory Joseph	6/1/2022	Deschenes Jr, Alfred Joseph
2/3/2022	Andruskiewicz, Edward	6/1/2022	Thomas, Gary M
2/5/2022	Paterson, Carol Anne	6/3/2022	Deandrea, David Joseph
2/5/2022	Winemiller, Raymond T	6/4/2022	Esposito, Anthony B
2/19/2022	Napierkowski, Jude Peter	6/4/2022	Seamans, Mitchell Edwin
2/26/2022	Makar, Beverly J	6/7/2022	Basilica, Paul Joseph
3/2/2022	Gamache, Robert Amos	6/7/2022	Wright, Leonard A
3/5/2022	Brochu, Donna Marie	6/11/2022	Garceau, Alfred Joseph
3/5/2022	Rappoport, Barry D	6/11/2022	Park, Gary
3/19/2022	Geer, Roger Henry	6/11/2022	Rocha, Dennis Ricardo
3/22/2022	Williams, Ralph Herbert	6/16/2022	Tetreault Jr, Robert William
3/25/2022	Smith, David J	6/18/2022	Spencer, Norman
4/2/2022	Gaynor, Joan Carol	6/25/2022	Macgeachie, John Alan

VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall visited Bartlem Park in Cheshire, CT June 1-6, 2022. The Wall is a 3/5 scale of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington DC, it stands six feet tall at the center and covers almost 300 feet from end to end. This traveling memorial stands as a reminder of the great sacrifices made during the Vietnam War. It was made for the purpose of helping many heal and rekindle friendships. Special thanks to MDA members President Bill Louis, Tom Montgomery, and Ray Costa who volunteered to help out visitors at the site.



CT VETERANS STAND DOWN EVENT SEPTEMBER 23, 2022

The Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will offer the annual Veterans and service members STAND DOWN which will be held on Friday September 23, 2022, from 8:00am – 2:00pm at multiple regional locations throughout CT. The DVA continues to serve Connecticut's Veterans by providing this "one stop" access to a range of programs and services offered by state and federal agencies, Veterans organizations, and community-based non-profits at regional sites across the State. Members from the MDA-UAW and the MDA-UAW Veteran's Committee will be on-site in Norwich and Danielson to distribute food and products donated by Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center.