



# LOCAL 1010

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October 16, 2020

To Local 1010 Members:

Sisters and Brothers,

As I've begun to state publicly, I am retiring next year. I appreciate all of the support for the last 36 years that I have had the opportunity to serve our Local 1010 Members. As per Local 1010 By-Laws, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, Vice-President, Don Seifert will become Local 1010 President for the unexpired term.

This week we have seen the spread of the Covid-19 Virus not only in Indiana, but throughout the United States. We all saw the increased Covid-19 positive test numbers in Indiana and we must take appropriate steps in our personal lives to give us a fighting chance to protect ourselves from the spread of the Virus. It is a known fact that keeping our hands clean, 6' or more of social distancing, along with mask or face coverings can help prevent and/or slowdown the spread of this terrible pandemic. We absolutely should continue to follow in plant recommendations on hand cleanliness, surface cleaning, social distancing, wearing of masks, and daily self-monitoring. We can only benefit from following these safe practices at home, in public and at work. We are all affected by the health and wellbeing of each other. Let's do our best to support each other and our families by adhering to CDC recommendations regarding the prevention of spreading COVID-19! We have all heard the horror stories of friends, relatives and yes, our retirees that have died as a result of the Covid-19 Virus. Together, we can minimize the chances of us being added to the list of those stricken with Covid-19.

This Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Cleveland Cliffs Management toured Riverdale, Indiana Harbor East and Indiana Harbor West. On Wednesday, they toured Burns Harbor. This was the first visual experience for the Cleveland Cliffs management leaders to see the assets that they are buying. I attended the 80' Hot Strip walk through. I had an opportunity to interact with four management representatives from Cleveland Cliffs. I must say that they have a much more positive attitude towards working with us in making our operations, a safer, cleaner and more productive place to work. I candidly asked about any possible shutdown down of our facilities and their response was immediate: Cleveland Cliffs bought these assets to run them and appreciated the unions desire to make our facilities a better place to work. Please stay tuned and we will update as more information becomes available.

According to management, the operations will remain about the level of operations with a few exceptions as noted below:

- Our Riverdale Facility will continue production.
- At Indiana Harbor East (IHE), overall operations will maintain production levels. According to IHE Management, #4 Steel Production, #3 Cold Strip facilities including the 29 Temper Mill. The #5 Pickle

Line, and 80" Tandem are to be scheduled down for repairs but Pickle/Tandem may run Sunday to catch up for recent Tandem delays due to water contamination in the oil. The 80" Hot Strip Mill will start back up after completing a major planned maintenance outage this week. We will keep everyone in the loop if we have any more information regarding operational changes.

The USW International has announced its first Virtual Education Conference: Smart is Stronger November 17-18, 2020. Plus there are free on-line classes leading up to the conference. The Conference is free to all USW and Soar Members. **Local 1010 has a specific Registration Code: C28BX.** Use the following Link <http://usw1010.org/images/Virtual%20Education.pdf> to find out about the classes offered and how to sign up! If you have any questions about the conference, please contact the USW Education and Membership Development Department at 412-562-2253.

**Highmark is offering up to two reusable face masks to members to help slow the spread of the Coronavirus.** 1010 Members may request the masks through Highmark's website and the link for requesting masks is: <https://healthyiving.highmarkhealthplan.com/> If you have difficulties with the link you may also order your masks by calling Highmark Customer Service @ 866-267-3280.

Please note that our Health Awareness Initiative (HAI) benefit has been revised for 2020 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. **The revised 2020 Wellness Exams deadline is now through 12/31/20. All 2020 completed Wellness forms must be submitted to Highmark no later than 1/15/21.** The new HAI form is posted on the USW Local 1010 Website at <http://usw1010.org/images/HAI2020R.pdf>. The 2020 HAI verification and letter detailing the 2020 deadline extensions and the 2021 deadline change was also mailed out to all members. Also, **Open Enrollment Health Care Booklets** will be arriving soon to our homes. Please review these Health Care Booklets as they have important **HealthCare Benefits Information**. Any questions please call Local 1010 Benefits Representatives Ernie Barrientez, Terra Samuel, or Kevin Bracket at 219-937-7784 ext. 117 or ext. 112.

Many "Thanks" to those who completed the Joblink Survey! The \$100 Visa Gift Card winners are Norma Conway, Jerry Jackson and Jesus Suarez.

**JobLink has live and online classes as well as some classes in person onsite.** See JobLink on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/BKJobLink/photos/a.415211498544234/3369275076471180/?type=3&theater>  
See Fall 2020 Live Streamed Classes, Live and Online Classes here: <http://usw1010.org/bulletins.html>

As we look out for each other, be safe at work and at home. Remember our members and families that are experiencing health issues, keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

**If you have any COVID related issues please contact your department Safety/Grievance representatives for resolution.** If those issues cannot be solved at the department level, please contact the Local 1010 Safety Committee. All contacts are at this link <http://usw1010.org/safetydirectory.html>.

In Solidarity, Steve