

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

VOL. 73, NO. 3

Since 1952 •

Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades

65 Cents

February 9, 2024

SHORT CUTS

2023 ends with solid job numbers

Michigan's construction industry ended December 2023 with a jump of 3,000 construction workers for the month – which contributed to a 1.6 percent increase during the course of the year. Percentage-wise, that ranked Michigan No. 30 for job gains among the states in 2023.

Michigan was one of 35 states where construction employment increased in December from a year earlier – a fairly solid number.

“Construction demand remains strong in many parts of the country, especially for infrastructure, manufacturing and data center projects,” said Stephen E. Sandherr, the Associated General Contractors' chief executive officer on Jan. 23. “But a paucity of qualified workers is holding back further employment gains and impacting project schedules and budgets.”

New York (-3.9 percent job loss in 2023), Hawaii (-3.6 percent), Rhode Island and North Dakota (both -3.1 percent) saw the largest percentage decreases in construction employment, while South Dakota (+20 percent), Arkansas (+12.8 percent) and Kentucky (+12.2 percent) were the nation's hotspots for construction employment in 2023.

Palisades re-boot gets \$1.5B loan

Solar, wind and hydro aren't the only alternatives for green energy production, as the state and nation moves away from energy that comes from carbon-based fuels.

The state and federal governments are eagerly looking at the shuttered Palisades Nuclear Power Plant as a power provider, with word coming last week that the federal government plans to loan the plant's owner, Holtec, \$1.5 billion to restart the facility. That comes on top of \$150 million budgeted by the state last year to aid the plant's transition from decommissioning to operations.

State Rep. Graham Filler (R-St. Johns) called the reports of the loan “a nationwide sign that nuclear energy is growing!” Stacey LaRouche, a spokesperson for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, said the governor is “proud to support Holtec and local, state and federal partners” in seeking the plant's reopening.”

The Palisades plant was shut down by Entergy in May 2022 after 50 years in service. The reactor was de-fueled that June, and its sale to Holtec was completed later that same month with decommissioning envisioned for completion in 2041. Last October Holtec announced plans to re-power the unit and submitted a filing with federal regulators to formally begin the process of seeking re-authorization of power operations at the plant.

Holtec would add two small modular reactors near the existing 800-megawatt reactor, which would nearly double the output of the plant. Holtec said the plant would employ about 520 if reopened, and of course the building trades could expect to see significant employment to re-energize the plant.

Aiming to cut carbon emissions from coal- and natural gas-burning power plants, last year Michigan's Legislature adopted a package of bills that require 100 percent of the state's electricity to come from clean sources by 2040. It's one of the most ambitious clean energy mandates in the nation.

Quotable

“I would rather have a mind opened by wonder than one closed by belief.”
-Gerry Spence (1929-)



THE VANGUARD HOTEL under construction at Catherine between Glen and Ann streets in the Ann Arbor Medical Center fills a need for the area, with the addition of 164 hotel rooms. Colasanti is managing the project, and about 115 tradespeople are on site.

Vanguard Hotel on the rise in U-M's Medical Center

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

ANN ARBOR – Thanks primarily to renovation work and new construction of properties on the University of Michigan campus, this city is perennially one of the hotspots for the building trades in the state.

It continues to be a busy city for Hardhats in 2024, led by the ongoing, years-long project to erect the \$920 million, 264-bed U-M Kahn Health Care Pavilion. But one block down the hill from the Pavilion hospital along Catherine Street, and two blocks down from the University of Michigan Hospital, is a construction project whose location makes all kinds of sense: the nine-story Marriott-Vanguard Hotel.

Construction manager Colasanti Group is managing the hotel project, which includes an additional four levels of cast-in-place concrete below ground, to accommodate 241 parking spots. The start of construction began in the spring of 2022.

“It's going to be a really nice hotel for Ann Arbor, and especially for the area,” said Anthony “Moose” Ticconi, the project's senior superintendent for Colasanti. “There aren't many options for hotels near the hospital, so it's going up where it's needed.”

Ticconi said late last month that there are
(Continued on Page 13)



SETTING UP A SHOWER valve for installation in a sixth floor room at the Vanguard Hotel project is Eric Kinney of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 190. He's employed by Wilbur Plumbing.



UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE of foreman Tim Wood II, first-year apprentices (l-r) Rodney Ambrose and T.J. Caudill insulate a duct in a fourth-floor hallway of the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor. The Heat and Frost Local 25 members are employed by Master Mechanical Insulation.

High-profile union wins aren't moving the overall numbers

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

Union successes were all over the U.S. map in 2023.

The UAW scored huge 25 percent-plus wage gains for their membership after their strike last fall, and they're talking about taking that higher-pay momentum to try to organize nonunion auto plants in the South. Strike activity is disrupting the anti-union stances taken by companies like Starbucks, Trader Joe's and Amazon. Hollywood writers scored gains after a six-month strike, and UPS Teamsters negotiated a good contract, too. President Biden walked a picket line – the first sitting U.S. president to do so.

The greater media has picked up on all those pro-union vibes,

Membership in unions remained flat last year

and union approval in the U.S. is matching historically high levels. None of that, however, is very much moving the number of American workers who have a union card in their wallet.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Jan. 23 that the union membership rate – the percent of wage and salary workers who were members of unions – was a record-low 10.0 percent in 2023, “little changed” from 10.1 percent in 2022. The BLS said that
(Continued on Page 3)

Why the lack of union progress:

Let's start with 'aggressive, coercive, and intimidating opposition' to labor

(From the Economic Policy
Institute)

The labor movement is in the midst of a resurgence. Unions have seen near record-high favorability in recent years, with the most recent polls showing that 67 percent of Americans approve of unions.

Recent polling also shows that a majority of workers in the U.S. across all sectors – 59 percent – support unionization in their own workplace. Similarly, Americans' desire for unions to have more influence in the country has increased from a record-low 25 percent in 2009 to 43 percent today. This marks a new high in the desire for union empowerment, exceeding the prior high of 39 percent in 2017 and 2018.

Further, workers are organizing at a pace not seen in recent decades. High-profile campaigns like those at Amazon and Starbucks highlight this momentum.

However, we are not seeing this resurgence translate into significant increases in union density. It is important to view this data in context. Union density has consistently declined over the past five decades. There are many factors that contributed to this decline, but at its core the decline reflects an intentional political effort to suppress workers' wage growth and shift income to profits and executive salaries by

stripping away the most important leverage that workers have – the right to bargain collectively.

Employer opposition to unions significantly intensified in the 1970s, and employers now routinely exploit weaknesses in U.S. labor law to legally and illegally defeat union organizing. For nearly 50 years, federal policy has failed to respond to this dynamic. Except for an expansion of coverage into health care in the 1970s,
(Continued on Page 4)

\$20 million settlement finally ends UIA fraud case

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – A nine-year legal battle involving more than 3,000 Michiganders falsely accused of jobless insurance fraud was finally settled Jan. 30 in the state Court of Claims.

Judge Douglas Shapiro granted final approval of a \$20 million settlement in the *Bauserman v. State of Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency* case.

The wrongfully accused victims behind the class action suffered all manner of financial hardships, with ruined credit, some being forced into bankruptcy and others the loss of their homes as a result of being unfairly accused by the state UIA's faulty computer system of illegally collecting jobless benefits.

The final order from Judge Shapiro capped a nearly nine-year legal battle that twice reached the Michigan Supreme Court and
(Continued on Page 4)

Building material prices plummet in '23

Wildly inflated U.S. construction material prices moderated significantly last year, and that trend looks to continue into 2024.

The National Home Builders Association reported Jan. 16 that the average 15 percent increase in building material prices in 2022 – and averages were much higher

among some specific materials – dropped to a much more welcome 1.3 percent throughout 2023. And the year-end numbers included a scant 0.1 percent increase for residential building material prices in December. Nonresidential construction input prices similarly moderated last year, coming in 1.6 percent higher in 2023 vs. 2022.

“Construction input prices fell sharply in December,” said Associated Builders and Contractors Chief Economist Anirban Basu. “While plunging oil prices are the primary factor behind the sharp decline, most input prices were tame in 2023's final month. That serves as a fitting end to a year during which aggregate input

prices increased just 1.2 percent and many individual commodity prices actually fell.”

According to the Producer Price Index, in December compared to a year prior, prices fell in softwood lumber products (-14.6 percent), crude petroleum (-10.8 percent), lumber and wood
(Continued on Page 2)

Rare mass timber project rises in U.P.

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

NEWBERRY – With 20 million acres of forest within its borders, Michigan's wood products industry supports the production of all manner of goods: furniture, wood pulp, paper mills and lumber.

The market for most of those products have been firmly established for well over a century, and currently the commercial use of wood products contributes \$22 billion per year to the state's economy. But like a tiny tree seedling poking up from a forest's floor, a new product with a lot of potential, but meager roots, is

barely coming out of the ground. We refer to the use of mass timber, a product that is ever-so-slightly competing with steel and concrete in the U.S. as a structural building choice.

One of those rare mass timber projects is currently going up in this eastern Upper Peninsula village, as the state Department of Natural Resources is undertaking the construction of a new
(Continued on Page 3)

MASS TIMBER columns rise last month during construction of a DNR property in Newberry. Union carpenters are performing the work.

Photo credit: Walbridge



Viewpoints



Labor's sluggish resurgence

One venue after another touts the resurgence of labor. They make the case largely on the backs of strikers, particularly the deal won by the UAW from the Big Three under their feisty leader, Shawn Fain. Autoworkers were one of many strikers including what seemed all of Hollywood, truck drivers, healthcare workers, and many, many others. October saw the most feet on bricks in 40 years.

There's a strong brief to be argued. The Teamsters laid out an ambitious set of bargaining goals and damned near achieved everyone of them, including tightening down on the tiers between new and old workers. The UAW did much the same with a creative strategy and innovative tactics, including winning payments from the companies for those workers the union had called out on strike, which is unheard of.

Union demands couldn't be pigeonholed either, because some of their issues, like the impact of artificial intelligence on their jobs as writers and actors, were cutting edge. Casino workers in Las Vegas were able to do the happy dance as well. President Biden even joined a picket line. How about that? No question, unions were clearly having a moment. At least, this was true for legacy unions with long established positions in their industries and localities.

Many of these same reports still mention the organizing surge that was predicted by the Amazon victory in Staten Island and the hundreds of wins by Workers United, SEIU, in Starbucks stores all over the country, but the organizing story for unions is less rosy.

After six months, Starbucks was in the headlines asking the union to come back to the bargaining table. Maybe that's progress, and maybe that's the company believing they have waited the union and the workers out long enough to water down whatever might follow. Amazon on the other hand continues to play hardball and give no quarter. A nascent organizing drive, once again by the independent and now conflict-riven Amazon Labor Union, in Kentucky was in the news once again for firing organizers and union-busting. There's also no news that indicates that there is any real progress in moving to an Amazon contract on Staten Island.

There is no sign, at least not yet, although of course our fingers are crossed, that the strike successes are pushing workers forward into new organizing drives, despite the UAW's claims that thousands are calling them to organize. Interestingly, some of the workers that are breaking ground are very white collar. Microsoft seems to have entered a neutrality agreement under the auspices of the AFL-CIO and the Communications Workers, that could cover 100,000 workers, mostly in tech. This follows success with gamers that helped Microsoft monopolize that sector. SEIU has made progress with doctors. Nurses are organizing in some places, including in New Orleans. The NLRB continues to try to make the path easier, even as Congress starves its budget, delaying with one hand, what was being accelerated with the other.

These are all exciting developments. They are something like spring buds bursting up after a long winter. If you have a union, you're happy for it. If you could get a union, surveys indicate workers and the public in record numbers think that would be a good idea. It's not a false spring, but neither is there yet any sign there the movement is back with labor. In new organizing, most of this looks like good engineering, rather than the winds of change sweeping through the working classes. Inflation is easing, and employers are pushing back harder now. There's a historic opportunity, but still for all the applause and hype, not enough is happening to bring the changes workers need and demand for real and effective organization.

Wade Rathke, Chief Organizer Blog Founder, Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN)



Trades contribute to Care House

MOUNT CLEMENS - Building trades union representatives in Macomb County contributed \$10,400 last month to Care House, a facility that helps women and children who are victims of domestic violence. It was the 24th year in a row that the group made a January contribution to Care House, which operates out of an old home on Market Street.

The contributions are made in the form of \$25 Meijer gift cards, which are ideal for Care House to use to meet the wide-ranging needs of moms and victimized children.

"We can't tell you how grateful we are to you for your continuing support," said Care House Executive Director Dorie Vazquez-Nolan. "We see a families living in a car, we see people who need gas to make appointments, we see food insecurity, we see moms who can't afford diapers or school supplies," she said. "That's when these gift cards become so helpful."

From left to right in the photo are Macomb County building trades business agents Trevor Grace (Bricklayers Local 2), Dorie Vazquez (Care House); Jeremy Haviland (International Union of Painters and Allied Craftworkers Local 2352); Gary Glaser (Plumbers Local 98); Jimmy Horvath (Iron Workers Local 25); Jason Grunenwald (Sheetmetal Workers Local 80); Rob Williams III (Sprinkler Fitters Local 704), and Tony Parker (International Union of Painters and Allied Craftworkers Local 2353).

Care House has responded to more than 10,500 families and interviewed more than 9,500 children since it opened in 1996. Their mission is to "to prevent and reduce the incidence and trauma of child sexual and physical abuse in Macomb County through collaborative, multi-disciplinary, and effective family-centered activities." Through Care House, the children are "spared the trauma of multiple interviews associated with most child abuse investigations."

Building material prices plummet

(Continued from Page 1) products (4.4 percent) steel products (-2.0 percent) and gypsum products (-1.7 percent).

Prices rose throughout last year in the following categories: sand, gravel and crushed stone (+8.5 percent), construction machinery and equipment (+7.6 percent), concrete products (+7.3 percent), brick and structural clay tile (+5.5 percent) and switchgear, switchboard and industrial controls equipment (+5.2 percent). Nearly every other category of building material rose less than 2 percent last year.

The National Association of Home Builders said prices for construction materials (excluding energy-related products) rose 14.6 percent in 2021 and then another 15 percent in 2022, before the steep fall in prices last year. Prices remain 22.7 percent above the pre-Covid year of 2019, however.

Jones Lang LaSalle, a global real estate services company, said it expects construction spending "to remain stable overall but will see variations from sector to sector," in 2024. "Material costs are expected to increase by 2-6 percent."

Standing up for real news

By Jim Hightower

Local newspapers – produced by reporters who live in and know about their communities – are vital to America's democratic health.

But local papers, including dailies and rural weeklies, are being swallowed by a handful of global financial predators. The giants profiteer by drastically underfunding and shriveling the staffs of the papers they seize, eliminating local news beats and filling their pages with cut-and-

paste, out-of-date syndicated articles with no local relevance.

A particularly voracious example of predatory ownership is the sprawling Gannett chain – now controlled by SoftBank, a Japanese, multibillion-dollar investment syndicate that has taken over some 218 daily papers, including my city's *Austin-American Statesman*. These banking barons have literally been squeezing the "local" out of their news products, and they're now trying to squeeze out more money for themselves by short-changing the few dedicated local journalists still trying to produce a real newspaper for the Texas capitol city.

To be clear, the *Statesman* is

profitable for Gannett and SoftBank. Yet, while rich investors and top executives keep hauling in enormous paydays (Gannett honchos draw \$7 million a year plus bonuses and benefits), local journalists have been denied a rise in pay for five years.

Some have had to take second jobs and/or re-mortgage their homes to keep doing honest journalism they believe in. Gannett has responded to this dedication with a slap in their faces, proposing to eliminate its corporate share of employees' pension funds.

So... STRIKE! The Austin News Guild, led by Nicole Villalpando, is reluctantly planning to go public with action to bring this injustice into the open. Curiously,

Gannett's designated editor of the *Statesman* has not allowed even one article to be printed about this big news of labor suppression in our progressive community – much less informing Austinites about SoftBank's ownership of our "local news."

This is not merely an Austin story, for hundreds of Gannett staffers across the country are up against the same greed, pondering strikes to gain just a little bit more economic fairness. This takes guts and community support, for these workers are not only confronting multibillion-dollar owners, but also pusillanimous editorial bosses who refuse to stand up for their colleagues and honest journalism.

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

**BRICKLAYERS BOILERMAKERS ELECTRICIANS INSULATORS PIPE FITTERS
PLUMBERS SHEET METAL WORKERS**

- ◆ Mesothelioma
- ◆ Lung Cancer
- ◆ Asbestosis
- ◆ Pulmonary Fibrosis
- ◆ Throat Cancer
- ◆ Colon Cancer

As pioneers in asbestos litigation, GPW has filed asbestos lawsuits since 1984, defending the rights of hardworking men and women throughout Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as MESOTHELIOMA, LUNG CANCER, ABESTOSIS, PULMONARY FIBROSIS, THROAT CANCER, and COLON CANCER.

Many building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Some are not aware they were even exposed. Family members may be at risk of bystander exposure.

\$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

GPW obtained a **\$1.8 million** verdict in a Lung Cancer claim, the **largest Asbestos Verdict in the history of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.**

For more than 30 years, GPW has helped thousands of Michigan workers. We have represented mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestos disease victims, obtaining over \$1 billion in compensation for our clients.

CONTACT GPW TODAY TO RECEIVE YOUR FREE COPY OF 100 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT MESOTHELIOMA!

For nearly 20 years GPW has offered this FREE resource and guide to mesothelioma victims. Call 800-799-2234 or visit www.gpwlaw-mi.com to request a FREE copy today!



Contact us today:

800-799-2234

www.gpwlaw-mi.com

Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry. Call for a FREE consultation.

BUILDING MICHIGAN! It's Gerber, baby! HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



AN AERIAL-VIEW POSTCARD view shows the Gerber Products plant in Fremont in 1955, and the iconic baby logo. The small Fremont Canning Co. first occupied the site at the turn of the last century, and then the plant grew significantly after the Gerber family owners basically invented the concept of factory preparation and packaging of food for post-nursing babies. We're happy to report that the Gerber plant is still the largest employer in Fremont, and continues to produce baby-friendly products like peas, carrots and apples.

Around Michigan, our traditional blue-collar reputation stems from producing hardware, right? No, not hammers and screwdrivers, but cars in Detroit, boats in Bay City, furniture in Grand Rapids and iron ore and copper in the Upper Peninsula.

Ahh, but we also have a softer side. Food! Pasties in the U.P. Traverse City is the nation's cherry capital. Battle Creek, aka Cereal City, is where Post and Kellogg were founded.

And let's not forget Gerber Products Co., a baby food company birthed in the small town of Fremont, populated today by about 4,500 and located 45 miles north of Grand Rapids. Gerber Products Co. is not only a food manufacturer that has fed millions of babies over the past near-century, but its jars of food are sold behind a baby-faced label that's as iconic as Ford's blue oval or GM's blue "GM."

"Did you know that the Mitten State is also the birthplace of the largest baby food brand in the world?" asks Emily Tieman in an article last year for *Only in Your State*. "Gerber started in Fremont, Michigan, and has been operating for almost a century. The Gerber Products Co. had a humble beginning in West Michigan."

According to *Funding Universe*, a publication which tracks company histories, Gerber traces its origins to the Fremont Canning Co., a small packager of peas, beans, and fruits in rural Michigan begun by Frank Gerber and his father in 1901. By 1914 the plant was expanded to permit year-round production. Three years later, with the death of his father, Frank Gerber became president of the company and saw its sales exceed \$1 million for the first time, and the company experienced steady growth during the 1920s.

By 1926 Frank Gerber's son Daniel had risen to assistant general manager of the company. "A year later," said *Funding Universe*, "Daniel's wife, Dorothy, made a suggestion: that Dan persuade his father to begin manufacturing and selling strained baby foods in order to end the tedious chore of cooking, mashing, and otherwise preparing solid foods for infants."

According to the Gerber Co.'s *History and Heritage*, "Following the advice of her pediatrician in the summer of 1927, Dorothy Gerber started straining solid foods for her

7-month-old daughter Sally. After repeating this process many times, Mrs. Gerber suggested her husband try it. She watched Dan make several attempts, and then he pointed out that the work of straining fruits and vegetables could be easily done at their canning business, based in Fremont, Michigan."

They knew they were onto something when workers in the plant began requesting samples to feed their own babies.

"Frank and Daniel undertook extensive preliminary research before launching the concept," said *Funding Universe*, "thoroughly testing the products, contacting nutrition experts, distributing thousands of samples, and conducting follow-up market research interviews. The baby food line was introduced successfully in 1928, and the Gerbers' careful implementation of the idea, relying on both professional and public endorsement, established the foundation upon which the present-day business rests."

For a family of small-town canners, they sure got the marketing right when it came to selling baby food. In 1928, the Gerber company sponsored a contest to "find the perfect Gerber baby" to be the face of the company's products. The judges chose an entry of an unfinished charcoal sketch of a baby, which the artist, Dorothy Hope Smith of Connecticut, said she would finish if chosen. The identity of the baby was kept secret for 40 years, when in 1978 it was revealed that the baby was Ann Turner Cook, Dorothy's neighbor. The iconic sketch, for which she was paid \$300, was never completed.

Within a year after the company went nearly all-in on baby food, said a *New York Times* article, "Gerber was advertising its new line of baby foods in national magazines, using as its signature the same cherubic baby's face that is now among the world's most recognizable corporate logos." About the same time, Gerber launched an advertisement for baby food in *Good Housekeeping* magazine, which enlisted mothers of young children to participate directly in a coupon redemption program.

Funding Universe said "the campaign was overwhelmingly successful, resulting in national distribution within six months and first-year sales of 590,000 cans, with gross revenues of \$345,000. In effect, the Gerbers

had created a new industry, served previously only by pharmacists, and then only under special circumstances and at a high cost to the consumer."

Competitors popped up quickly, but Gerber continued to dominate the industry. The company was selling one million cans of baby food per week by 1941, then double that in post-war 1948. In 1943 the company opened a second baby food plant in California. In the 1950s the company added three new plants, in North Carolina, New York and Ontario.

Diversifying in the 1950s, the company used its sterling brand name to sell toys, and then other baby-related products in 1965. Gerber-branded clothes came later. Its familiar glass jars were put into place in 1960. The company was the world's largest baby food manufacturer in 1974, the year of Dan Gerber's death, with sales of \$278 million.

Later, the Gerber name was placed on all manner of food products, including "Gerber Graduates" for kids in the post-baby years, and then food products for adults. The company even sold Gerber-brand life insurance.

In 1994, Gerber's executives thought the company had expanded as much as it could domestically, and agreed to be sold for \$3.7 billion to Swiss pharmaceutical giant Sandoz Ltd. Nestle purchased Gerber for \$5.5 billion in 2007, and owns it today.

The company moved its headquarters to New Jersey in the 1990s. But it remains Fremont's largest employer, and local farmers have a ready buyer for their crops.

In September 2008, Gerber's Fremont facilities were designated as a Michigan Agricultural Renaissance Zone, receiving a 15-year, \$43 million tax break. The company announced that year it would create a \$75 million scientific research for baby and infant nutritional products at the site.

The most recent major announcement for the plant, in 2020, was the investment of \$36 million for an expansion to make freeze-dried snacks, and creation of about 50 additional new jobs. The company employs about 500 at the Fremont plant.

Gerber Products Co. remains the world's largest baby food products manufacturer. It produces 300 baby care items and 220 food products distributed to 80 countries.

High-profile union wins aren't moving the overall numbers

(Continued from Page 1)

membership did grow by 139,000 last year, but the nation's non-union workforce saw greater growth.

"Workers are fed up with low wages, few benefits, and a lack of dignity and respect on the job, which is precisely why more are interested in joining a union now than ever before," said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. "Although union density remained flat in 2023, that doesn't reflect the surging momentum that working people have carried into this year. Waves of workers across industries and geography are joining unions despite vicious union-busting campaigns by large corporations. Polling data shows that 71 percent of Americans support unions, the highest level in nearly 60 years, with 88 percent showing support for unions. And as the BLS numbers show, the union difference in wages remains strong, driving increased interest among workers to have a voice on the job."

Kate Bronfenbrenner, director of labor research at Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations, said the ability of nonunion employers to challenge, and delay, union organizing efforts is a key roadblock for more union successes. "Union organizing gains continue to be offset by job growth in nonunion jobs and job loss in heavily unionized sectors," she said Jan. 23. "The BLS data does not include the majority of newly organizing workers who still do not have first contracts two years after the election due to employers challenging NLRB certifications and stalling negotiations."

The annual unionization report by the BLS comes with its usual collection of statistical morsels. Unfortunately, over the past few decades, those stats have shown a labor movement in persistent decline, while at the same time highlighting the union advantage:

- In 2023, the number of wage and salary workers belonging to unions, 14.4 million, showed little movement vs. 2022. In 1983, the first year for which comparable data are available, the union membership rate was double (20.1 percent) the 2023 rate, and there were 17.7 million union workers four decades ago.

- Union workers enjoyed a 14 percent advantage in weekly earnings vs. their nonunion counterparts (\$1,263 vs. \$1,090).

- Michigan enjoyed a gain of nearly 50,000 union members in 2022, then lost 25,000 union members last year. That decline dropped Michigan's unionization rate to 12.8 percent in 2023, down from 14.0 percent in 2022. In 2023, Michigan ranked No. 12 among the states in union density.

- The two highest states for union density in 2023 were at least four points higher than any other state: Hawaii (24.1 percent union density) and New York (20.6 percent). At the bottom among the states for union density in 2023 were the usual suspects: South Dakota (3.6 percent), North Carolina (2.7 percent) and South Carolina (2.3 percent).

- Construction unions are losing density, and members: building trades unions in 2023 represented 10.7 percent of the industry in 2023, a decline from 11.7 percent in 2022. In real numbers, construction unions lost 65,000 members in 2023, dropping membership below 1 million, to 954,000 members.

North America's Building Trades Unions issued a statement on Jan. 26 questioning the BLS numbers. The group pointed to ongoing research by the Institute for Construction

Employment Research (ICERES) which consistently places union membership penetration several percentage points higher every year than BLS numbers over the past decade. The reason: the BLS data contains employment numbers that includes engineers, accountants and office workers, "occupations that are not typically unionized," NABTU said.

- The union membership rate of public-sector workers (32.5 percent) continued to be more than five times higher than the rate of private-sector workers (6.0 percent).

- In 2023, the unionization rate for women was little changed over the year at 9.5 percent, and unchanged for men (10.5 percent). Among the major race and ethnicity groups, Black workers continued to have a higher union membership rate in 2023 (11.8 percent) than White workers (9.8 percent), Hispanic workers (9.0 percent) and Asian workers (7.8

percent). Those numbers did not change much in 2023.

"Every worker who wants to join a union should be able to without facing intimidation and harassment from their employer," Shuler said. "Corporations spend more than \$400 million per year on union-busting consultants to stop worker organizing, and corporate leaders like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos — themselves hoarding billions of dollars — have made it their mission in life to stop their own employees from having a voice at the workplace."

Last year marked one of the biggest strike years since 1990.

"Workers want unions, but a broken system is undermining their efforts to organize at every turn," said Heidi Shierholz, president of the labor-backed Economic Policy Institute. "Employers have exploited weaknesses in U.S. labor law, and federal and state policymakers have failed to prevent this from happening."



A RENDERING of the completed mass-timber constructed DNR facility in Newberry.

Rare mass timber project rises in U.P.

(Continued from Page 1)

customer service center using Michigan-grown red pine.

"There is a growing interest in this building technique, and research is being done right here in Michigan to look at using hardwood as well as softwoods to create mass timber products," said Brenda Haskill, forest utilization specialist with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. "Many researchers are looking at new ways to use wood because it is a sustainable resource."

Ground broke on the DNR's new \$5 million, 30,000-square-foot field office in October. Construction is being managed by Detroit-based Walbridge. The building will provide office space for staff, a heated garage for fire suppression equipment, and a meeting facility for public use. This office will replace two aging structures currently on an adjacent site.

"The opportunity to consider a mass timber design for the new structure aligns with the governor's and department's goals of mitigating climate change, by adopting technologies that help sequester carbon and are less carbon intensive," the DNR said. "The proposed project will also provide an opportunity to document the performance of a mass timber building in Climate Zone 7."

Mass timber construction uses large solid or engineered wood columns, beams and panels as building materials. The wooden cross-laminated or glue-laminated pieces are an alternative to metal and concrete building components. The use of mass timber is a relatively new concept more common in the Pacific Northwest and in Europe.

According to Michigan State University, citing the Wood Products Council, only 856 mass timber buildings were under construction or had been built in the U.S. as of last June, with another 1,004 in design. MSU said at the time that seven mass timber buildings were being erected in Michigan, and another 29 were in design.

In 2021, Michigan State University completed one of the nation's showcases for mass timber construction, the \$100 million, 117,000-square-foot STEM Teaching and Learning Facility on the grounds of a long-abandoned powerhouse.

Last month, Walbridge said, "mass timber erection began at our Michigan Department of Natural Resources Newberry Customer Service Center. Partnering with Clark Contracting Services for the erection, Vaagen Timbers for mass timber manufacturing and Lord Aeck Sargent on the design, the team continues to make excellent progress in building a facility the public will be able to explore and enjoy."

"As Michigan's first fully mass timber structure, the facility is utilizing Michigan's very own homegrown red pine. Walbridge continues to be at the forefront of sustainable construction and is honored to be working on this milestone project for the DNR and State of Michigan!"

"Mass timber" said a report by Michigan State University, "refers to a variety of engineered wood products comprising dimensional lumber layered together to form panels, columns and beams. Common styles include: glue-laminated timber, where pieces of wood are glued together and each layer follows the direction of the wood's grain; dowel- or nail-laminated timber, where pieces of wood are held together by dowels or nails and follow the direction of their grain; and cross-laminated timber panels, where pieces of wood are glued together and alternate the direction of their grain at each layer by 90 degrees — like a Jenga tower."



THE GERBER PLANT in Fremont in the 1930s. Today the Nestle-owned campus has grown to be home to the original Gerber factory, the Nestle Research and Development Center for baby meals and drinks, a parent resource center, and several corporate functions such as agriculture, technical applications and procurement.

ISSN-007-3717

The Building Tradesman

is the Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

Patrick Devlin
Secretary-Treasurer

Steve Claywell
President

Visit our website: www.michiganbuildingtrades.org

The Building Tradesman is published bi-weekly (every other Friday) by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Detroit office. 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

Subscription Rate \$15 annually
(group rate for unions)

The Building Tradesman
1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216
Phone: (313) 961-3800
Fax: (313) 961-2467

Union members with address changes are asked to contact their local union.

Editor/Photographer
Marty Mulcahy
E-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

Advertising Director
Joe Hoshaw
E-mail: btads@ameritech.net
(734) 558-6955

Periodical mail postage paid at Detroit, MI and additional mailing offices.

Printed at Grand Blanc Printing,
a union shop



Local 149 Roofers and Waterproofers

Roofers Local 149

DETROIT – Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Mar. 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Mar. 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for Apr. 9, 2024 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9, 2024, meeting, we will be taking proposals on administering the \$3.00

raise.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SITTING ON THE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE? The search for a collective-bargaining negotiating committee is coming. Nominations are being taken Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

Are you a strong advocate for yourself and your fellow Detroit 149 members? Have you ever considered being a part of your Union's collective-bargaining negotiating committee?

For the collective-bargaining negotiating committee job description, please contact Business Manager Brian Gregg at 313.961.6093.

In order to stand for election,

you need to be a Journeyworker in good standing and you must be nominated by another member in good standing at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, or in writing via a nomination acceptance letter addressed to the Recording Secretary Tom Jaranowski by Monday, March 4, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

Thank you to the members who have paid their Union Dues a year in advance.

By paying your Union Dues a year in advance, you are saving our union money. To pass these savings along to our members, we will be giving a "I paid my Dues" t-shirt to anyone who's dues are paid up to 12/31/2024 and beyond. In order to be eligible, members must pay their 2024 dues in full by January 31, 2024. To receive your 2024 "I paid my Dues" t-shirt, please contact the Union Hall (313.961.6093 ext. 0).

Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit. Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas. To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall.

Detroit Training Center Information

The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows:

Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1- Monday, January 22, 2024

Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2- Tuesday, January 23, 2024

BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1- Wednesday January 24, 2024

BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2- Thursday, January 25, 2024

Apprentice 7 & 8 Hands On + Safety & Health- Thursday, January 25, 2024

All classes begin at 6:30pm

Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

CLEARANCE CARDS. Are you scheduled to go out of town for work in another Local's territory? Clearance cards are needed when you are sent out of town to work. Get a clearance card from the Hall and call the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.

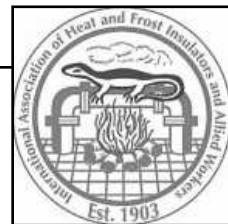
Outdoor Life. If you have any hunting and fishing pictures that you would like to see in the Journeyman Roofing & Waterproofing magazine, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0, for additional information.

MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for Jan. 9, 2024, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9, 2024, meeting, we will be taking proposals on administering the \$3.00 raise.

Notice. When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work list.

The publication above is as 2/5/2024, 1:00p.m.

In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local No.149



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Regular Union Meeting will be held on Friday, Feb. 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at J.A.T.C. Training Center, located at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. There are several members who have the number blocked and therefore are not receiving the Robo Calls. These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

Please notify the Local Union Office with any phone and home address changes. We need the most current member information throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International.

Per the Rules and Procedures: Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed, you can do so by calling or texting the office at (517) 708-0665 with your layoff date and the name of the Contractor you were laid off from.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671

Allied Workers' Local 47

**Fringe Benefit Funds
6525 Centurion Drive
Lansing, MI 48917-9275
Toll Free: (800) 323-8079
Telephone: (517) 321-7502
Fax: (517) 321-7508**

Joshua Kroell will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Joshua is the Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be reached by phone at (989) 385-2671, or by mail at: P.O. Box 1498, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804.

To all active members, if you have not sent in your Coordination of Benefits Form, your Spousal Form, or your Birth Certificates for your Children, no one will be covered on our insurance until these items are sent to TIC. Please call TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and get the above-mentioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively.

Remember that Auto and Motorcycle accidents are not covered by our plan. Auto and Motorcycle accidents should be covered by your personal Auto Insurance policy.

Members having questions regarding Pension and Welfare Fund please contact TIC International at the numbers below or log onto their Website: www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org

(Continued next column)



PAUSING FROM WORKING ON a rainy and foggy roof at the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor last month are (l-r) apprentice Jay Petit, foreman Jay Petit and journeyman Mike Petit. It's a Petit family effort, as they're installing roof rails for heating and cooling equipment atop the hotel.



Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators 25

SOUTHFIELD – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

SUB FUND BENEFIT: At the latest SUB Fund Meeting, the trustees voted to increase the SUB Fund Benefit amount effective, Jan. 22, 2024. The new weekly rate for members drawing a medical disability check

from the Fund Office will be \$350.00 per week. A member drawing an unemployment benefit from the State of Michigan will now receive \$300.00 per week.

PER CAPITA: Please be reminded, any member working 32 hours or less during a month must pay their own Per Capita of \$14.00 per month. Per Capita payments should be made on a monthly basis. If a member works as a traveler in another Local's jurisdiction, the member must remit double Per Capita of \$28.00. Please forward your payments monthly to Local 25, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033.

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MODULES: It is important to keep your M.U.S.T. Safety Modules up to date. If you have Modules expiring and needing to be completed, give the Union Office a call to have the testing authorization turned on.

Local 47 cont'd

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

Applications are open for the Apprenticeship Program. Call the Union Office.

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 part L, page 4 of the Apprenticeship Standards states, "According to the Apprenticeship Standards you are required to accurately fill out the online work report for NO later than ten (10) days from the end of the current work week."

Good and Welfare: We hope everyone stay in good health!

(Continued next column)

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:

All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct.

LAY OFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within 48 hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine.

S.U.B. FUND: Please be reminded, in order to receive a S.U.B. Fund check on Friday, all paperwork must be submitted to the Office no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday.

SUB FUND TIME LIMITATION: Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 30 days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the 30 days will be denied per the Plan Document.

NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

BENESYS: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information. Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members. In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

SICK AND INJURED: Please keep all our sick and injured members in your thoughts and prayers.

'Aggressive, coercive, and intimidating opposition' to labor

(Continued from Page 1)

all the legislative changes to the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), which governs private-sector labor law in the U.S., since its enactment in the mid-1930s have been changes that weakened unions.

As a result, U.S. policy effectively denies workers a meaningful right to a union and collective bargaining. It is a testament to the commitment to organizing efforts and the enthusiasm of young workers for unions that we saw unionization increase in the private sector by 261,000 in the face of toothless labor policy. Unfortunately, those gains were diminished by the decline in public-sector unionization where the impact of relentless attacks in some states on workers' right to organize and bargain collectively is being realized.

In 2023, workers organized across a variety of work settings, including higher education, museums, nonprofits, entertainment, retail, and manufacturing. This momentum translated into an increase in National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) elections. The NLRB is a small, independent agency tasked with administering the National Labor Relations Act, which guarantees most private-sector employees the right to form unions and collectively bargain.

The NLRB is responsible for conducting union elections to determine if workers wish to be represented by a union. During the Fiscal Year 2023, the NLRB saw a 3 percent increase in union election petitions. This increase builds upon FY 2022's significant uptick (53 percent) of union election petitions, which was the highest filed since FY 2015. Not only are workers filing elections at increased rates, they are winning them, too. Analysis from Bloomberg Law finds that NLRB-conducted elections saw an 80 percent win rate during the first half of 2023. Up until the 2010s, average win rates for NLRB-conducted elections were below 60 percent.

In addition to forming unions, thousands of workers went on strike or threatened to strike in 2023. Preliminary monthly data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the number of workers on strike in 2023 exceeded the number from 2022. From Hollywood writers to autoworkers to nurses, many workers succeeded in winning raises, improving working conditions, and maintaining benefits. The threat to strike often can be just as powerful as the strike itself, as demonstrated by Teamsters union members during their negotiations to secure a fair contract covering 340,000 UPS drivers in the summer of 2023.

Unions have also captured big gains through contract negotiations. According to analysis by Bloomberg Law, union contracts ratified in the first quarter of 2023 gave workers a 7 percent average first-year pay raise – the largest quarterly increase since 2007.

Despite the continued popularity of unions among workers and the public, we have yet to see this momentum translate into substantial increases in the number of workers represented by a union. It's worth noting that the current trend is still unfolding. It takes time to organize and win union elections, and not all of the union activity of the last couple of years will have yet translated into increased unionization.

However, it does not explain the long-term trend of declining unionization. In fact, today's overall union density is lower than before the National Labor Relations Act was passed in 1935. What is causing this disconnect? Simply put, decades of policy decisions have made it harder for workers to form unions and bargain collectively.

In the private sector, decades of federal policy and court decisions have weakened labor law. Most notably, the passage of the Taft-Hartley Act in 1947 allowed new legalized forms of employer anti-union activity. Under Taft-Hartley, an "employer free speech" clause was added, mandatory captive audience meetings were allowed, and employers were given the right to file representation petitions to determine whether their workers want to form a union.

Starting in the 1970s, when the overall unionization rate was more than 25 percent, employers began to exploit the weaknesses in the National Labor Relations Act. For example, employers use the lack of civil monetary penalties for breaking labor law to their advantage and interfere with workers' right to organize with little to no repercussions. Today, employers continue to engage in aggressive, coercive, and intimidating opposition toward workers' efforts to unionize. EPI research estimates that employers are charged with violating federal law in 41.5 percent of all union election campaigns.

The organizing effort at Starbucks stores is a prime example of how employers are willing to break labor law. Since December 2021, more than 370 Starbucks stores in 42 states have voted in favor of unionizing. Over the last two years, the National Labor Relations Board has fielded hundreds of unfair labor practice charges from Starbucks workers and from Starbucks Workers United (Jamieson 2023). Further, employers spend more than \$400 million a year on consultants to dissuade and weaken workers' unionization efforts. In the case of Starbucks, the company has retained Littler Mendelson, a law firm notorious for its union avoidance services.

As a result of the growing employer opposition to unions and the failure of policy to stem it, workers are unable to organize new union members fast enough under current labor law to keep pace with the natural "churning out" of unionized jobs. Every year in the U.S. economy – even during times when the aggregate economy is healthy – hundreds of thousands of establishments close, leading to millions of workers losing their jobs.

Some of these business closings and employment losses fall on unionized workers. When the economy is healthy, hundreds of thousands of establishments also open each year, leading to millions of workers finding new jobs. However, employer hostility and our dysfunctional system of labor law keeps new jobs from becoming unionized at anywhere near the rate at which unionized jobs are disappearing.

To generate an economy that works for everyone, workers must be able to win union representation. Policy changes at the federal and state levels are crucial to restoring a fair balance of power between workers and employers. Congress and state legislatures must institute policies that promote the right to union representation and collective bargaining.

(This was condensed from a report issued Jan. 23 by Economic Policy Institute staffers Heidi Shierholz, Celine McNicholas, Margaret Poydock, and Jennifer Sherer. It's titled, "Workers want unions, but the latest data points to obstacles in their path." The EPI is a labor-backed policy center).

\$20 million settlement ends UIA fraud case

(Continued from Page 1) closes a "sad chapter in Michigan history" that took place between 2013-2015, said Michael Pitt, an attorney for plaintiffs.

The case stemmed from the use of MIDAS – the Michigan Integrated Data Automated System – a \$52 million computer program that issued the fraud flags with little human intervention. "When it comes to judging human conduct and behavior, algorithms are incredibly stupid," Pitt told *Bridge Michigan*, call-

ing the case a prescient warning about the danger of over-reliance on artificial intelligence.

Shapiro concluded that the \$20 million settlement "is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class Members," according to the state attorney general's office. Economic and hardship payments can now be made to the settlement class members, and this will occur in the first quarter of 2024.

Unemployment Insurance Agency Director Julia Dale said

her agency welcomed the settlement. "The lawsuit pointed out the limitations of our existing computer system, which was implemented in 2010 and does not meet the expectations or needs of today's users. A replacement is on the way with the UIA's design of a brand-new computer system to replace the older MiWAM technology. The new system is expected to be fully functional in 2025."

The state acknowledged that the computer system's lack of human oversight was compounded

by the sending of automated assessments of large fines to jobless claimants.

"Class counsel, law firm staff, and our claims administrator worked tirelessly for more than a year to make sure every claimant was heard and properly compensated for the harm caused by the use of algorithms instead of people to adjudicate unemployment claims," said Pitt. "I am proud of my firm's work, and we all rejoice that this sad chapter in Michigan's history is behind us."

A priest and a taxi driver both die and arrive in the long line at the pearly gates of heaven. St. Peter comes by in a golf cart, and the priest thinks he's going to get special attention and a ride to the front of the line.



Instead, St. Peter picks

Just joking

up the nervous cabbie, and drives him through the gates into a beautiful villa in one of heaven's nicest neighborhoods.

The priest eventually gets through the line and is placed in a nice, but small heavenly condo, but nothing

like the taxi driver's villa.

A little dismayed, one day he approached St Peter.

"I'm a little puzzled," the priest said. "As a clergyman, I devoted decades of my life solely to serving the Lord. How come the taxi driver got a villa, and for me, only a small apartment?"

St. Peter smiled. "Up

here, we go by results. While you preached, people slept. While he drove, people prayed!"

"Such is the irresistible nature of truth that all it asks, and all it wants, is the liberty of appearing."

—Thomas Paine (1737 - 1809)



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers 25

NOVI – February's Union meeting will be Monday, Feb. 26, 2024 at 7:00 pm. We will conduct the second (2nd) reading of the proposed By-Law Proposal during this meeting. The meeting will be in person and zoom. All Union Halls will be open.

There will be NO Union meeting in March; however to accommodate Voting for the By-Law and June Wage Allocation we will conduct an April Union Meeting earlier in the month, as follows.

The April Union meeting will be Monday April 8, 2023 at 7:00 pm and will be in person and zoom. We will conduct the third reading of the proposed By-Law Proposal.

On Wednesday April 10, 2024 we will conduct Voting for the By-Law Proposal and the June Wage Allocation Vote. All Union Halls will be open from 12 pm (noon) until 7:00 pm.

Steward meeting(s): The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday Feb. 21 at 6 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, Feb. 26 at 6 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 29 at 6 pm. All are welcome!

Communications Alerts & E-mails; sign up via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**. You can download our APP for android on google play or for iphone at the APP store just search "Iron Workers Local 25" Martinez web shop.

IMPORTANT: Dependent Eligibility Verification for Health Insurance Benefits coverage. PDA Verification Team from Livonia MI is conducting this audit. All members who have dependents (spouse and/ or children) on their health care must comply. If you missed the mailing somehow, watch your mail for a second mailing coming soon!! **PLEASE RESPOND RIGHT AWAY WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR LETTER AS THIS IS VERY TIME SENSITIVE AND CRITICAL TO YOUR CONTINUED COVERAGE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN.**

The 2024 Dennis O'Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available. All COMPLETED applications must be turned in by March 15, 2024. Call the Novi Union Hall 248-344-9494 to get one mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible.

New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org where you can now make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in your application. No walk-in foot traffic.

The 2024 Mandatory Apprenticeship Meeting will be on Saturday, March 16th 2024 @ the Novi Union Hall from 10am-1pm; all Classes, all Apprentices must attend.

Apprentices: Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In" this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also, located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & "Welding Test Certifications". You can now electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests.

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to the ironworkers25.org to view the 2024 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Training Schedule. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. **The Wixom Training Center – Phone: (248) 960-2130 24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues:** Pay via our APP or website www.ironworkers25.org. **The phone no is 866-635-2826. Or pay union dues with personal check or money order** and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The mailing address for member BENEFIT related matters is: Iron Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue Cross Health Claims and Customer Service 877-

790-2583. Delta Dental Claims/ Customer Service 800-482-8915.

Check your HRA Balance: my.wexhealthcard.com

Check you online benefit information: ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/

BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD: Any member who has a newborn child, or a new dependent child through marriage MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).

BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE: Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-30).

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday Feb. 20 at 10 am in Novi. The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday March 5 at 8:30 am. All are welcome.

Thoughts & prayers for Lifetime ironworker James Clement #485069 who was in the hospital. Get well wishes!

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday March 5 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be April 18, 2024; **NEW LOCATION:** at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 1 pm. All are welcome.

The Downriver Chapter. The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be April 19 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI 48183. All are welcome.

Local 25 Retirees' Club 2024 Scholarship is available. Eligibility Requirements: child or grandchild of a retired Local 25 member. Applicant must be in their Senior year of high school with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Retiree must have a *minimum of 5 years continuous* Local union membership and be a member of the Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club as of the prior year and must be current on their annual club dues to be eligible and apply. Contact John Miller: text/call (734) 812-8036. All requests must be made by March 12. Completed applications due by 5pm April 30, 2024.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan: www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/ Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041, Blue Care Network 800-482-5982 for Substance-use disorder.

FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357.

MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health

Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis. Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT: <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds.

The IRONWORKER Magazine changes: The magazine published by the International will now be issued every other month (6 times per year). To subscribe to the digital edition of the Ironworker or the monthly newsletter, please use the following link: <https://www.ironworkers.org/s/ironworker-digital-sign-up>

In Memory: Herbert Hansen #1027381 passed away Jan. 18, 2024 at the age of 71. He was a retiree from Local 340 and is survived by his wife Kimberly, and many friends in the Ironworking Industry. Margaret Sweeney passed away Jan. 24, 2024 at the age of 96. She was the wife of James A Sweeney Sr. who predeceased her. She is survived by her ironworker sons Lifetime member Timothy Sweeney #949573 and (former member) James Sweeney Jr. #893200.

Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (FEB 5, 2024 9:00 am E.S.T.)-



PREPARING A FRAME for placement of an oculus feature on the seventh floor of the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor is Greg Emery of Iron Workers Local 25. He's employed by Vertex.



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 7:00 pm. There will also, be an executive board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

New Sweatshirts are in! Call your Business Agent to arrange for pickup.

Bro. Elwood Baker passed away at the age of 92 years old, he was a 72-year member. Please keep the Baker family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to: abest@opcmiami.org Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustsafe.com to see how many modules you have. Your username is your full social security number and your password is the first four of your social security number.

Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account. To activate your Blue Cross member account online go to bcbsm.com/ register and select register now.

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all your OPCMIA Local 514, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

It is important for all members to keep the Local updated on addresses, email and phone numbers. If you need to change an address or add an email and phone number, please call the Local at (248) 548-0800.

Death Certificates: Please always notify the Union Hall with a phone call when a member of the Local has passed away and submit a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased active or retired member.

Attention all Apprentices, now you will need to go to the website: www.micementplasterertraining.com to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions". You will be able to put in your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please feel free to contact Larry with any questions you might have.

If you are a Military Veteran, please contact the Local so we can update our records. Please call (248) 548-0800.

The Local's website is: www.opcmiami.org. Please refer to website for updated information.

O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a satellite office in Flint, Michigan. We welcome Member and Contractors in the Flint area to handle their business transactions at: 2630 Grand Traverse, Flint, MI 48503. Appointments may be made by contacting Business Agent Mike Stanfield at (517) 719-2316, or the Business Manager Henry Williams at (313) 215-5063.

Please make sure your modules and drug test are up to date, there are some plant jobs that do require the MUST modules. You can go online at: www.mustonline.org Call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

Please make sure that we have all of your current contact information, address and phone number so we can keep the fund offices updated for your health care and pension and also if you are having your vacation checks mailed out. If you have moved, please contact the Local and we will change your addresses with all of the fund offices.

Important Notice For Plasterers and Detroit Commercial Cement Masons: You are able to find out more about Fund investments, change your investments, obtain your balances, and, during regular business hours, speak to a representative by contacting Principal either via its website, www.Principal.com or by telephone, 800-547-7754. Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

Go online: Principal.com
If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started. Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identity), and your ID number (this is either your Social Security number or a specific ID provided by your employer) or ZIP code.

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.
If you don't provide your mobile phone number, you'll need to answer a few personal questions as an alternative way to confirm it's really you.

Create a unique username, set a secure password, and add your email address.

Select and answer three security questions to use if you need to call us.

You now have access to your online account, and you'll get a confirmation email within a few minutes.

The first time you log in, you'll need to choose where we send you verification codes (text message, voice call, or authentication app) and how often you want to use them.

Feel free to call Principal at 1-800-547-7754 and speak with someone between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. CT Monday-Friday with any questions regarding online access.

As always, if you have any questions or need help on any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office for assistance at (248) 645-6550 or 30700 Telegraph Rd., Ste 2400 Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4524 The Fund Office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Plasterers and Cement Masons: It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local. **Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local.**

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **Road Builders** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502.

Plasters and Commercial Cement Masons can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357.

All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

For the **INTERNATIONAL PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.



CUTTING BRICK at the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor is Cody Detlor of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. He's employed by Leidel and Hart.



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

WARREN/LANSING - ALL FEBRUARY 2024 CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED (EXCEPT FOR THE MARQUETTE CHAPTER & HOUGHTON MEETINGS LISTED BELOW) DUE TO THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING.

HOUGHTON: Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, February 19, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

ALL CHAPTER OFFICER NOMINATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE MAY 2024

UNION DUES UPDATE: Effective January 01, 2024, the dues discount has changed. It is now pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive discount, you must be current on dues. **Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.**

DEATHS REPORTED: Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Dale Bradley (PCC)** who passed away on Jan. 24, 2024. Brother Bradley had been a member for 45 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Richard Smits (Bricklayer)** who passed away on August 24, 2023. Brother Smits had been a member for 67 years.

****IMPORTANT NOTICE**** Future union information and negotiation surveys will now be sent via text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following: Text 2MI to 50607. You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#). Respond with your six-digit IU number and you will receive Local 2 Text Messages going forward!

WEBSITE UPDATES. Be sure to check out our new website at <https://www.bricklayers.org> and our app, which can be found in the IOS and Android app stores by searching for Bricklayers Local 2.

CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED: We need Skilled Bricklayers, Restoration workers and Caulkers in Metro Detroit. If you are available for work, or know anyone who is skilled in our crafts, contact your Field Representative on their cell phone. You can also have those who are interested call either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781.

SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS: Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781.

A SPEEDY RECOVERY: A speedy recovery is wished to all those who have been sick or injured. Let's keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS: Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2023 online training classes.

APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS: Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice Worksheets MUST be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>. For more information on the Training Centers visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE: During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <https://bacweb.org/member-service/member-assistance-program-map> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for Membership Assistance Monday – Friday 8 am – 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

FACEBOOK: "Like" Local 2 on Facebook "Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 of Michigan."

E-MAIL ADDRESS: Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via e-mail. Please submit your address by sending an e-mail to information@bricklayers.org and in the subject line place "Local #2 e-mail address" then type your name, phone number and e-mail address in the body of the communication. We appreciate your time and effort in helping us accomplish this task.

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION

BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000

CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362

Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550

International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)

Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954

Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (800) 531-2244

\$\$\$ Top Prices Paid \$\$\$

ALL TYPES of NONFERROUS and FERROUS SCRAP METAL

- ALUMINUM • BRASS • COPPER • STAINLESS STEEL
- EXOTIC ALLOYS • CATALYTIC CONVERTERS
- CARBIDE • HIGH SPEED STEEL • AUTO RADIATORS

COMMERCIAL
RESIDENTIAL
INDUSTRIAL

CONTAINERIZED
SERVICE

PICKUPS
AVAILABLE

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 A.M.-5 P.M.
SATURDAY 8A.M.-NOON

(248) 960-1200

MANN METALS CORP.

1011 DECKER ROAD • P.O. BOX 711 • WALLED LAKE 48390



UA Local 85
SAGINAW - The next Union Meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 PM.

Congratulations to all who ran and to all who won in the Local 85 Election. New Officers, Trustees and Committee Members will be installed on Wednesday, Feb. 21 Union Meeting. I am excited to serve with all of you.

Please note: Our new mailing address for all correspondence has changed to 3535 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603.

Contact Information:

Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513 jpomerville@ualocal85.org

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 jbadour@ualocal85.org

Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514 tdanielak@ualocal85.org

Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330

csteele@ualocal85.org

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 rbjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 ktuthill@ualocal85.org

Please check the ualocal85.org or our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

The new website is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number.

Social media: Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, @UALocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

JATC News: Congratulations to our newest Journeymen Sam Herbert and Jeffrey Dukes!

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

SUB Fund: Print Unemployment Payment History located underneath the Certification Tab when logged into your MiWAM account. Deadline for submittals is Noon on Thursday in order to receive a check that Friday. Checks will be mailed out on Friday. No in person pickups allowed.

Where to submit documents: Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org

SUB Application for Benefits: Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at the Hall.

90 Day Rule: The weeks you are claiming must be submitted within 90 days of the first Monday following the week in which you are eligible to receive a State benefit per the Plan Documents.

Taxes: There are no taxes taken out of SUB Fund Checks, however they are taxable wages and you will receive a W-2 at the end of the year. If you want taxes withheld from your SUB Fund Check, please indicate the dollar amount for Federal and State on each SUB submittal.

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:

Address & Phone Update: Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone number changes at (989) 799-5261.

Beneficiary Cards: Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261.

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

Insurance: When you are working out of another Local's jurisdiction it may take up to 90 days for your Insurance and Pension to be reciprocated back to Local 85, which may cause problems with your Health Insurance.

Retiree Luncheon: ALWAYS SAVE YOUR CHECKSTUBS and fax them in to the hall at 989-791-3468 with the local you are working out of indicated. We will fax them down to BeneSys to keep your insurance up to date.

RETIREE LUNCHEON: (Continued next column)



UA Local 333

LANSING - The February meeting will be Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 7:30 pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd., Lansing MI 48911.

NOTICE: Please plan on attending a Special Call meeting at the Lansing Union Hall, (5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI 48911) on February 13th at 6:00 pm. An Allocation vote effective June 01, 2024 will be discussed and voted on. All Members have been mailed a notice with additional details. Please call Price Dobernick if you have any questions prior to the meeting at the Lansing office.

Attention: Per Section 130 of the UA Constitution, monthly dues will go from \$28.00 per month to \$31.00 per month effective January 1, 2024 for Journeymen with no change for retirees.

A Diversity Committee Meeting

will be held Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 5:30 pm at the Local 333 Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd., Lansing MI.

WELD CLASSES

LANSING. Beginning - 1/08/24 - 3/13/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced

1/09/24 - 3/14/24 - Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 - 8:30 JACKSON Beginning - 1/08/24 - 3/13/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced - 1/09/24 - 3/14/24 - Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 - 8:30

BATTLE CREEK. Welding

1/08/24 - 3/13/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 ADVANCE PIPEFITTING

- Jeff Thom, Instructor Lansing Training Center - January 29, 2024 - Monday and Wednesday 5:00 - 8:30 Total hours to complete certification - 40 hours. Class limited to 12 members.

INTRO TO NAVISWORKS

- Eric Kosloski, Instructor Lansing Training Center - January 28, 2024 - Monday and Wednesday 5:00 - 8:00 Total hours to complete class - 24 hours. Class limited to 6 members.

FUNDAMENTALS OF GAS HEATING

- Scott Richardson, Instructor Lansing Training Center - February 8, 2024 - March 11, 2024 - Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 - 8:00 Class will be limited to 8 members.

MED-GAS CERTIFICATION

- Anyone interested in taking a Med-Gas class please sign up on the Website - UA333.Org.

Please sign up on the Website - UA333.org. If you need assistance call the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS:

Per the UA as of January 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of the their expiration date or you will lose your certifications. Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call Diana at the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. Even though the Training Center sends everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it is the member's responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

NOTE: Members needing assistance with the Journeyman Plumbing Code test prep please contact Tim Hicks at the Training Center.

Battle Creek Retiree Breakfasts are held the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Cafe, 2587 Capital Avenue, Battle Creek, MI at 9:00 am. Please spread the word.

Retirees' Breakfast in Jackson:

Retirees meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson MI. PLEASE NOTE: The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson crossing Shopping Center.

Local 85, con't

The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, 3535 Bay Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

Fraternally,

Justin M. Pomerville Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Local Union 85



UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO - UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS:

The apprenticeship application process has started for 2024. Applications must be picked up by the person who is applying and are available the entire month of February from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The completed application along with various documents must be returned, by the person applying, no later than Thursday, February 29th at 4:30 pm. Call the Union Hall if you have any questions.

UNION DUES REMINDERS:

Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is accepted at the Union Hall for any payments. You also have the option to pay your union dues through the Local 357 website @ www.ualocal357.com. Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site.... so, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00... you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or calling Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.

RETIREE MEETINGS:

Retiree lunch meetings will now be BREAKFAST on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9:00 am at Long Island Cafe located at 5222 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 218-0003.

MEDICAL CLAIMS ISSUES:

As a member, TIC International and Labor First provide a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at (888) 281-3461. For Medicare Retirees - Contact Labor First at (269) 218-3533 or (833) 933-0036.

WEBSITE INFORMATION - FRINGES - TIC:

Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Member Resources, then click on MRA / TIC Intl Information and then Register.

This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and create your own password. Once you have completed all the information - click on the LARGE REGISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again - type in your email address and password - and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when the hours are posted to your account.

This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.

CHANGE OF STATUS:

If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date.

There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorcees. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to Dakota Gould, and family, on the birth of a son.

CONDOLENCES:

Condolences to the family of Mark Followell on the recent passing of his mother.

"No one has ever had an idea in a dress suit."

-Sir Frederick G. Banting (1891 - 1941)



UA Local 370

FLINT - The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024, at 7:00.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

First Aid & CPR March 6th @ 4:30pm, Sept. 18 @ 4:30

Backflow March 11th thru April 8th. Mondays and Thursdays @ 4:30

Night Welding Session 2 Feb. 12 thru March 6. Mondays and Wednesdays @ 4:30

Night Welding Session 3 March 18 thru April 10. Mondays and Wednesdays @ 4:30

All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 ext 15.

Per our By-Laws Article XV,

The Building Tradesman is hereby adopted and subscribed to as our Labor paper for all members of Local 370. Said paper to be used for all official notification of membership.

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board - Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee - Tuesday February 13, 2024 at 4:00pm

PAC committee - Tuesday February 13, 2024 at 5:00pm

Executive Board - Tuesday February 13, 2024, at 5:00pm

Building Committee - Tuesday February 13, 2024 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee - Tuesday February 13, 2024 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee - TBD

ALL GM Worksites and others require Must Safety and Drug Testing:

MUST safety modules are only valid for 4 years. Call the hall to sign up for the MUSTSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form

Local 370 office hours 7:30am - 4:30pm.

Sub/Sick checks will be processed 8:00am - 11:30 am and 1:30pm - 4:15pm daily.

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. Member's present must have dues paid to date to claim award. The monthly award is \$150.

Attention All Active Members in Good Standing.

The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.

Mobile App. Our mobile app is now available for download on you cell phone.

Go to the app store and search UA Local 370. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues.

This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.

Our web site is up and running. Check it out at ualocal370.org

We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1.00 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

Plumbing, Mechanical and Residential Code Books are now available at the hall. The books are \$75.00 each.

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month

(Continued next column)



UA Local 671

MONROE - The next regular scheduled Union Meeting is scheduled for March 7th, 2024, at 7pm. There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on March 7th, 2024. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

ATTENTION: This paper is to serve as official notice to the membership.

Also, please refer to our website https://www.unitedassociationlocal671.com/ and its calendar for the latest updates.

Local 671 App: Our Mobile app is back up and running after a large update required by the Apple App Store. The new username will be your last name and book number @ ibusiness-tech.com, (ex. smith1234567@ibusiness-tech.com) and the password is your book number. Contact Vinnie if you have any issues logging in.

All upcoming courses and certifications have now also been added to the App under the Training tab. Please contact Justin to register for any training opportunities.

Health & Welfare:

If you are an active member on Local 671 Health & Welfare fund you should be receiving new insurance cards in the mail. If you did not receive a new card or need additional cards for dependents, please contact the Union Hall.

To all active members of Local 671 Health & Welfare, please take note of the new plan changes effective January 1st, 2024. The changes were mailed to you. If you have any questions, you can contact Carly or Mike at the Union Hall.

To all our Retirees on United Health Care, if you need an eye exam there is one free exam per year through United Health Care. If you have any questions, you can contact Labor First at 734-234-6496 or toll free at 833-237-3380.

New Arrivals:

We would like to congratulate Brother Parker Eason and his wife Joselyn on the birth of a daughter, Masyn Elizabeth, on February 1st.

Retiree Luncheon:

We would like to remind everyone that our retiree luncheons are held on the last Thursday of every month, except for August, due to the picnic, and November and December due to their proximity to the Holidays. These luncheons are a great time to see old friends, and maybe even meet some new ones. We look forward to seeing you there!

Open Weld Shop Nights:

The open weld shop nights are now Wednesday and Thursday nights from 6pm-10pm now that school is back in session.

There will be no open welding on Union Meeting or UA weld test nights. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on the Monday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first come, first served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

Per the UA Weld Quality System Manual, any member who does not currently hold a UA Welding certification must prove that they are ready to take a UA

(Continued next column)

Local 370, con't

increments according to our by-laws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test contact business agent, Zack Desrochers for application and testing dates.

Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10.00 and fleece caps \$5.00. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 dollars each. Hooded sweat shirts and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are available. The sweat shirts are \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.

If you shop on the internet, SHOP UNION MADE, log on to www.shopunionmade.com.

T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Training Classes:

A fire pump testing class is being scheduled at the Local 704 Training Center. Call Jeff Gray to reserve your spot. ASSE 15000, ITM classes are scheduled for after the first of the year, this is a 40-hour class. Contact the training center for more information.

Reminder: Article V, Section 13 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Order. Any project that falls into the jurisdiction of Local 704 shall be manned by not less than two (2) members. Any member violating this By-Law shall be brought before the Executive Board for a trial and be subject to a fine.

Article IX, Section 4 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Order states: Members shall report all job starts to their local union office.

It is the members' responsibility to notify the Union Hall when they return to work.

Phone numbers to remember:

NAZI is 1-800-638-2603 for information regarding Health and Welfare or Pension fund questions.

As a reminder, do not call Empower in regard to a withdrawal from your defined contribution account.

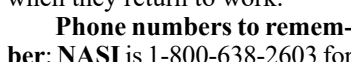
TIC International: 248-645-6550 for D.C. Fund distribution questions.

Jason May (Merrill Lynch): 248-655-4048 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

Congratulations to the following retired Brothers for achieving their 50 Year status with the UA and Local 704. Larry Morris, Bill Christian, Steve Williams and Dave Gough. Congratulations and thank you for your years of service.

A reminder to please update any change of address or phone number changes with the Local Union Hall.

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members



Local 671, con't

weld test prior to the UA Weld test date.

Contact Justin if you want to sign up for the next UA Weld Test which is tentatively scheduled for 02/29/2024.

Valve Technician Recertification Class:

We will be holding another Valve Recertification Class on March 2nd. If you have not been contacted yet, please review your certifications and contact Justin to ensure that you are up to date!

Michigan Plumbing Exam Prep Class:

We will be holding classes to prepare Members who will be taking their Michigan Journeyman Plumbing Test. If you have any questions or are curious about your Plumbing hours with the State, contact Justin for details.

Wachs Machining Class:

We will be conducting an introductory Wachs Pipe Machining Class on Monday, March 4th and Wednesday, March 6th. Contact Justin if you are interested in attending.

In Closing: We are currently having a raffle to benefit our Scholarship/Benevolence fund. If you are interested in buying tickets or would like more information, please contact the Union Hall. This is a good opportunity to support Local 671 and all the great things we are doing for our membership and the community.

God Bless Union Labor and Local 671!

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com

Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ualocal671.com

Carly Neely: Insurance Line (734) 241-6180 email: carly@ualocal671.com

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692



SETTING A WASTE VENT in a fifth floor room at the Vanguard Hotel in Ann Arbor is Chris Young of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 190. He's employed by Wilbur Plumbing.



Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

Local 636

UA Local 636
DETROIT - Special Election January 8, 2024 RESULTS
 Business Manager (1 to be elected): Larry Krisniski – 391 votes - **Elected**
 Financial Secretary-Treasurer (1 to be elected): Jake Regits – 387 votes - **Elected**
 Business Agent (2 to be elected):
 (1) Jeff Selph – 77 votes
 (2) Mark Puz Jr. – 88 votes
 (3) Jeff Lewis – 216 votes - **Elected**
 (4) Dan Gurley – 278 votes - **Elected**
 (5) Mike Pierce – 147 votes
 Executive Board (1 to be elected):
 (1) John Verran – 87 votes
 (2) Mike Ferrante II – 65 votes
 (3) Brandon Spaulding – 125 votes - **Elected**
 (4) Kim Pigeon – 67 votes
 (5) Ed Hyvonen – 66 votes
 Financial Committee (1 to be elected):
 (1) Malcome Harris – 174 votes
 (2) Michael N. Sylvester – 58 votes
 (3) Bill Fast – 181 votes - **Elected**
 Examining Board (1 to be elected): (1) Jason Blouin – 330 votes - **Elected**

from Troy production.
 Once direct deposit begins, members choosing direct deposit will have the payments deposited into their accounts on Fridays. That is the reason for processing being done on Wednesdays.
Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement forms for SUB-PAY were mailed by BeneSys and can be found on our website and you can call the Local for one.
BeneSys has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters 636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call #248-641-4936 or #888-646-8920.
Considering Retirement?
 Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 248-641-4936 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork. **Please allow a 60–90-day notice that is necessary to adequately process the requests for paperwork, getting the forms sent to the participant, the member completing it and returning it to the Fund Office for final processing.**
Are you "Work Ready"?
 Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at **mustsafe.org** and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE CERTIFICATION PAYMENTS.**
Training Center News.
REMINDER: Training Center down to 15 Welding Booths for night welding through the month of February due to upgrades.
Training Center News.
 Regular night welding running through the Winter will be Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm
 Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8 Starting Thursday Feb 22 at 5 PM: Ammonia safety 1.
 Starting Wed. Feb 21st at 5 PM: CSD-2, and Chillers-tear down
 Starting Thursday Feb 22nd at 5 PM: Oil Burners, CAD 2 and Trimble layout class.
 Monday and Thursday nights with Jason from 5 till 8: Basic VRF and MES 3/Star.
 Running Saturdays Dec. through April:
 Orbital/cleanroom, and HDPE Fusion class, RMD/GMAW, Downhill
 All classes are \$50 per 5 weeks. Call Kim at the Training Center to sign up.

Local 190
Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

UA Local 190
ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, March 11th at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.
ATTENTION MI GAS DISTRIBUTION MEMBERS: A "Special Called Meeting" for the Michigan Gas Distribution Wage Allocation has been scheduled for: Saturday, April 6th from 9:00 a.m. until Noon. This meeting will be held at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.
GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES DOWN HILL WELDING TRAINING & HELPER TRAINING: Will begin Tuesday, January 2nd and run for 2 months. This class will be held at the training center Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In order to take the journeyman gas distribution weld test, you must attend this training as a prerequisite. Please note that 4th and 5th year gas apprentices have preference to sign up for this welding training. Limited space is available so please contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423, Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at 734-369-1432.

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK: All members who get laid off or report back to work please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work.

PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.
MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN: If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades. Please contact Kristyn at our Training Center to get information on a UA 21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1 for Kristyn

FUSING CLASS: Anyone interested in registering for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432.
MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION - E-Mail address: Please contact the union hall 734-424-0962 or Pat Duffy 734-368-4423 to make sure we have a current e-mail address.
MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY!!! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

CREDIT CARD MACHINE: You now have the ability to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit card or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A surcharge of 3.99% is added to your card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 2023 HEALTH COSTS: Just a reminder to all members if you have paid 2023 health costs personally, you must submit information to our fringe benefit office by February 15, 2024. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Bernadette at 1-888-390-7473
NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP FOR YOUR SMART DEVICE: Attention all members, you can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation benefits and much more. Download: **BCBSM**
A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: A representative will be at the union hall each month on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.
MEDICARE: When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-390-7473.
 The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5:00pm. Friday 8am. to 3:30pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MIOSHA, MD-HHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!
 Please submit all certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date.
 Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2024 Schedule - Mondays - April 1st, July 15th, and September 30th. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.
 First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2024 Schedule - Mondays - April 15th, July 22nd, and Oct 7th. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.
 Welding Lab: Open welding lab schedule is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm-9:00pm, closing Dec. 14th, 2023. The welding lab will reopen January 4th and will be scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays at 4:30pm. to 9pm. and Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm. The welding lab will be closed for Union Meetings and Holidays. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). 2024 Schedule: First course starts Feb 13th, 2024. The second course starts Oct 17th, 2024.
 Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5:00 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org
 Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry.
 2024 Schedule: First course starts March 12th, 2024. The second course starts Aug 20th, 2024. Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org
 Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): This is a two-day course. 2024 Schedule: First course starts April 16th, 2024, Second course starts Sept 24th, 2024. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Spring 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org
 EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: Monday, March 18th, 2024, refresher starts at 5:00 p.m. and then on Monday, March 25th, 2024, test starts at 5:00 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org
RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, March 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.
NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER: Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL
 Aluminum - Copper - Brass
 Nickel - Alloys - Carbide
 Radiators - Lead - Batteries

McNichols
 Scrap Iron & Metal Co.
 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott)
 mcnicholsscrap.com
(313) 365-6100

Detroit
 Iron & Metal Co.
 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo)
 detroitironandmetal.com
(313) 841-5100

BeneSys™ Over 40 years of quality Administrative Services

To each of our Members, Clients and Vendor partners impacted by COVID-19, our thoughts are with you. Rest assured knowing that BeneSys is working hard on your behalf while we navigate these difficult circumstances together.

THE FULL SERVICE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR
 Health and Welfare Plans
 Defined Benefit Pension Plans
 Defined Contribution Pension Plans
 Claims Processing
 Supplemental Unemployment Plans
 HRA's, HSA's, FSA's
 Vacation Plans
 Eligibility Processing
 Trust Fund Accounting
 VEBA Administration
 Web Applications
 COBRA Administration
 HIPAA Compliance

With over 800 experienced and technical professionals on staff, BeneSys stands ready to assist Trustees in providing exceptional service to Plan Participants. BeneSys has clients across the U.S. and 23 regional office locations.

Boston, MA	Milwaukee, WI	San Diego, CA
Bridgeton, MO	Omaha, NE	San Ramon, CA
Columbia, MD	Phoenix, AZ	Seattle, WA
Denver, CO	Pleasanton, CA	Troy, MI
Des Moines, IA	Portland, OR	Washington, DC
Hagerstown, MD	Riverport, MO	West Covina, CA
Las Vegas, NV	San Jose, CA	Youngstown, OH
Louisville, KY	Salt Lake City, UT	

www.benesys.com | (877) 923-6379 | info@benesys.com



AIR-TESTING PIPE they installed on the fifth floor of the Vanguard Hotel project are **Jonah Beisel and Scott Johnson of Plumbers 98.** They're employed by Sylvan.



Plumbers Local 98



UA Local 98
DETROIT – **Membership of Plumbers Local 98. The officers and staff at Local 98 hope you and your family are well.**

Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits, the Training Center, and more can be found on our web site. Go to UALOCAL98.COM. MED GAS, MED GAS, MED GAS! Coming to a job near you! I would like to thank and wish good luck to all those who feel it is important to run for these jobs below at Local 98.

Special Elections for the offices of (1)-Business Agent, (1)-President, (1)- Recording Secretary, (1) Executive Board Position & (2) Examining Board Members. This will be held on Feb. 15 at the Union Hall from 9am - 7pm. Located at 555 Horace Brown Dr., Madison Hts., MI 48071.

To vote in the election all members must be in good standing for 1 year prior to the election, and 2 years in good standing to run for an office.

Members are asked to bring an ID or union card to the polls for verification. In event of a tie, a run off election will be held Feb. 26, 2024 from 3-7pm at the hall.

The following members are nominated according to how they were drawn at the nomination meeting.

For Business Representative. Vote only for one. Mark Wisniewski, Dan Willingham, Mark Little, Jimmy Cools,

President vote only for one. Jeff Pulford, Ryan Lyle

Executive Board vote only for one, Mandy Morrison, Ron Lindsay

Recording Secretary vote only for one, Thomas Ray, Dawn Melancon

Examining Board vote for two, Jeff Chene, Michael "Scott" Huber, "Elected"

Meetings & Union Hall. The next regular Union meeting is Feb. 8 at 7 pm at the Union Hall.

The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

Retiree Meetings. The next Retiree Meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 14 from 12-2pm at Local 98!

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship. Learn more at Plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship.

Dues. You can pay your dues online, over the phone, in person or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto payments. Any other dues questions, please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 ext. 3. "The following members are delinquent on dues and are working for our contractors. Torrance Harris, Robert Van Dike, Carlton Helwig. If you are working with these **EXPULSED MEMBERS**, please push them to get with the hall and get caught up. Or if you know they have left 98 please let us know. **To stay on insurance when you retire you must keep up your dues, no way around that. I get it if you are out of the trade but a working member especially an apprentice during full employment worries me. Thank you.**

SUB Apps/Out of Work List. SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App whether you qualify for SUB or not. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser, 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon, 248-752-3702.

Benefits. *We now have a dedicated BeneSys employee at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short

Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. Her name is Brooke, the Local 98 Health Insurance Specialist. Brooke is receiving the calls coming into Local 98. In order for us to best track all issues please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 and select option #2 for Brooke. If Brooke is on the other line, leave her a message and she will get back to you promptly.

New Benefit. We will have a new benefit for the working members of Local 98 and their families. We are proud to announce we have secured a 2-year agreement with Delta Dental starting March 1, 2024. There is zero cost to the fund at this time. Please watch the insurance mailings for the annual benefit information for 2024. We still will offer the DENCAP (Golden) Dental plan for the retired members who wish to purchase this plan.

Worker Assistance Program. Work Life Strategies, LLC. Are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling. All this is confidential and lead by or health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887. If you cannot go to her office she can do phone conferences, don't wait ask for help when you feel issues are affecting your life.

Please select option #4 for Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo if you are looking to retire. Please set a meeting up with him. We recommend doing this at least 6 months before retirement.

In Memoriam: Our sympathies to family and friends of Brother Douglas Crilly initiated 09/13/1962, a 61-year member, Brother Richard Harju initiated 08/21/1959 a 64-year member. Rest in Peace Brothers.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers & Apprentices. This is a great opportunity to expand and grow, as many members are looking to retire. If you know anyone working Non-Union or is a past member that may be interested, have them call Organizer Rob Moses at 248-763-2187. Or get online at The Training Center for more information on Apprenticeships.

In solidarity I remain, Carlo Castiglione, Business Manager Plumbers Local 98

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 26, 2024. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions. The State of Michigan Plumbing Division will be instituting the 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code beginning in March of 2024. When there is more information available, we will share it with you.

CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2024. All classes are register and pre-pay by credit card, check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class. The 2024 upgrade classes are listed below. Please keep an eye out for the class you need or find interesting!

Monthly Code Class – Next class is PENDING at 4:30 pm. This is not a code update class. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher

for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. **Please call Paul** at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

CLASS LIST 2024.

ASSE Backflow Tester Certification: *Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly.* \$100

8 hour recert class April 16 & 17 Deadline is March 15
8 hour recert class July 23 & 24 Deadline is June 21
8 hour recert class October 22 & 23 Deadline is September 20

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):
Spring: March 4 – May 13 Deadline is February 9 -\$200
Fall: September 9 – November 18 Deadline is August 23-\$200

ASSE Repairer: * Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification**
Spring: March 5 – April 9, Deadline is Feb. 9 -\$100
Fall: Sept. 10 - Oct. 15, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

ICRA and Water Quality: * Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30**
Spring: March 6 - May 15. Deadline is Feb. 9 -\$200
Fall: September 11 to November 20, Deadline is August 23 -\$200

CAD/BIM
Spring: March 4 – May 13 Deadline is Feb. 9 -\$100
Fall: Sept. 9 – Nov. 18 Deadline is Aug. 23-\$100

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour):
Spring: March 6 - May 15. Deadline is February 9 -\$200
Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$200

Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber
Spring: March 6 - May 15. Deadline is Feb. 9 -\$100
Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

Hydronic Heating and Cooling
Spring: March 6 - May 15. Deadline is Feb. 9 -\$100
Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

OPEN WELDING – Open welding is available on Wednesday evenings. Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can't find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth.

2023 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month. If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **Welding and Brazing sessions** will be March 2, 2024. **You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

2023 Course Hour reimbursement forms are available at the Training Center. You must have 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2023 to be eligible for the \$100.00 reimbursement.

OSHA Training - OSHA 10, available as an online class for \$59 at www.careersafeonline.com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to www.mustonline.org. **Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

It is each member's individual responsibility to keep all their Certifications current. If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your call. We attempt to return all messages by the end of the business day.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service
Local 111

UA Local 111
UPPER PENINSULA – The next Union Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 29th at 7:30 in Escanaba.

Welding Classes: Tuesday Evening weld classes are ongoing at the Escanaba Training Center, classes run from 5 pm-9 pm on a week-to-week basis. We are also starting Saturday weld classes, 8 am-4:30 pm, once a month. Contact Training Coordinator John Antoncew to be added to the notification list. Your position in the class is not confirmed until you receive a reply.

Upcoming Saturday Weld Sessions: February 24th, March 23rd, and April 27th.

Upcoming Weld Tests: March 2nd and May 4th – Anyone interested in 1-day shutdowns, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba office.

MRA CARD: Please check your MRA Account for transactions that are in need of substantiation or ineligible. You can access this info here: <https://edge.zenith-american.com/page.php?p=members/index.php&ac=login>

The MRA link will take you directly to your MRA info and you will be able to see the ineligible transactions.

Please make sure what you are submitting is either an **Explanation of Benefits (EOB)** or an **Itemized billing with paid receipt**, that includes:
Provider Name
Patient Name
Date of Service
Description of Service
Total Patient Responsibility

Please if you are having trouble with something you have submitted you can call the Zenith American Solutions helpline at 1-866-823-4730 extension 1 (MRA) Or call the hall and Rose will be able to try and assist you-906-226-6511 ext. 4

Reminder: Check your records and contact the hall with any changes to the following: **E-Mail, home address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death.** Please call April or Rose to have your information updated.

Reminder: It is your responsibility to call the hall as soon as you get laid off, the day you call in is the date that you are placed on the **Out of Work List**, if you do not call in you will not be referred to work.

Reminder to all apprentices, you must attend 4 union meetings per year.

Reminder to Welders/Welding Forms: The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the hall. Certifications expire every 6 months and it is YOUR responsibility to get your welding forms turned in on time.

Please update all Non-UA certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA etc.) by sending a copy of your certification to the Union Hall

Check your dues records! You are assessed a \$50 reinstatement once you become 3 months behind. You are automatically expelled once you are over 6 months behind.

Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site ua111.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

MSHA Training: To register for an MSHA class please go to Upconstruction.org and go to the **MSHA calendar** to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also.

"Truth is the only safe ground to stand upon."
–Elizabeth Cady Stanton

"The problem is never how to get new, innovative thoughts into your mind, but how to get old ones out. Every mind is a building filled with archaic furniture. Clean out a corner of your mind and creativity will instantly fill it."
–Dee Hock



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

ATTENTION: This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.

Retiree Breakfast: The retiree breakfast will be held on **Thursday, March 7, 2024**, at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Wild Game Dinner: Save the date - the Wild Game Dinner is back! Join us on 3-28-2024 at **Barclay Event Center, 2330 Barclay St., Muskegon MI 49441.** We are in need of wild game donations. By donating, you'll have the chance to enter into specific raffles based on the pounds and type of game you contribute. Remember, the more you donate, the better your chances of winning. Additionally, if you volunteer at the dinner, you'll be entered into a separate raffle as well. We encourage you to donate or volunteer for this fantastic event. Expect delicious food and great prizes. If you're interested in attending, please reach out to Jason Finch. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Organizing Update: These are busy times for everyone; both union and non-union workers. We are all organizers in some sense, speaking to unrepresented workers about benefits and wages. It makes perfect sense to us as to why we are union, but non-union workers listen to what they are being told about dues, traveling, and getting laid off. We need to educate them, there is strength in numbers. Do you know who really hates the unions? The non-union business owners! "We're all doing the same work, we're just not all getting the same wages and benefits!" It has never been a more perfect time to organize with the workload that is here, but it is definitely a team effort! The message is clear, you deserve better wages, benefits and representation which is why you need a UNION! –**Work safe, Johnny Ortiz (616) 307-8551.**

Hiring Rule Reminder: As per section 5.8 of the CBA, the 50/50 hiring provision applies only to jobs working under the Local CBA. Any national agreement jobs calling for manpower are not eligible for the 50/50 provision.

Contact Information: If you need to change or verify your contact information, PLEASE CONTACT THE UNION OFFICE as soon as possible so we can keep our system up to date.

FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS)

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds
5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098
(855) 407-5862 Toll Free

Health Insurance Contact Info: Active & NON-Medicare Retirees

Aetna: (855) 878-4101 • **EAP:** (888) 238-6232 • **Save-Rx:** (800) 228-3108

Medicare Retirees. Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

Current Health Insurance Premiums: Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33 • Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10 • Medicare Single \$123.63 • Medicare Couple \$247.26 • Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13 • Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

Solxsys, Aetna, Labor First: If you have issues with any of our fund service providers, contact Ryan Bennett at rbennett@ua174.org. Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

Dues: Please keep your monthly window dues current. You can find your dues balance on the website or by calling the Union office. Remember that if you are expelled from the UA, you are no longer eligible to attend Local Union events such as meetings, picnics, awards banquets, and Christmas parties.

Dispatch: We have split up the dispatch responsibilities between the Business Agent and the Assistant Business Manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email of: dispatch@ua174.org which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

Jurisdiction: Remember to always call into the local you are traveling to. Do not rely on anyone else to call in for you. They will not get into trouble. It is the member who is working in another local who has not checked-in who will get in trouble. Please contact Ryan Bennett if you see another local's contractor or member working in our jurisdiction.

Metal Trades, Helpers, and Trainees: Please remember that if you are working as a Metal Trades, Helper, or Trainee you raises are based on the day you were first dispatched to work at that classification. If you are not sure of your dispatch date, please contact the Union office. **It is up to you to let the Union office know that you are due for a raise.**

Labor Councils: - Kent Ionia - 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location
Lakeshore – 3rd Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details. *The Kent Ionia Labor Council has recently moved from the building on Benjamin and will be rotating meeting locations monthly.

Training News: FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, February 8, 2024, and Thursday, March 14, 2024.

WCP: The next weld test event will be Saturday, February 10, 2024, @ 8:00 am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, February 8, 2024, from 5:00p – 9:00p. Please call/text and sign up if you plan to test.

ASSE BACKFLOW REPAIRER: Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, January 8, 2024 @ 5p – 9p.

HVAC/Low GWP Refrigerant Safety: Flammable and Mildly Flammable Refrigerants (A2L): As the HVAC industry continues to move forward and innovate, common refrigerants that were once used are now being phased out and replaced with Low GWP refrigerants (A2L). Technicians will require additional training for the safe handling and transportation of these refrigerants. Night training classes will be offered for A2L safety certifications and dates will be announced soon. The prerequisite required to attend this class is holding a current EPA608 certification.

If you have a certification that has expired in the last few months and have questions regarding recertification, please contact the Training Office. Many certifications have extended grace periods on expiration dates.

Please contact Chris Phillips or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30 Or via text Chris (906)322-1592 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

"Nothing in the world is permanent, and we're foolish when we ask anything to last, but surely we're still more foolish not to take delight in it while we have it. If change is of the essence of existence one would have thought it only sensible to make it the premise of our philosophy."
– W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965),

"A book is a version of the world. If you do not like it, ignore it; or offer your own version in return."
–Salman Rushdie (1947 -)

BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON ♦♦♦♦
Real Estate Training Inc.
901 Tower Drive, Suite 120
Troy, MI 48068
www.middletontraining.com
248-885-8311





Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169
ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **February 16, 2024**, at 8PM at IBEW Local 275, located at 140 64th Ave. N. Coopersville, Mi. 49404. **Please take note of the date change!**

Current union dues for 2023 and 2024 are \$55.85 in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

In an effort to assist our active members, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has waived any increase in dues for the upcoming 2024 year. Dues for the 2024 year will remain at \$55.85.

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – www.boilermakerslocal169.com for more information.

Any member interested in taking the Great Lakes Safety for Corteva please contact Area 3 Business Agent, Mike Card at 989-662-6491.

Save the date! Our annual Dinner Dance is currently scheduled for February 10th, 2024 at the Athenium Hotel and ballroom in Detroit. Rooms are still available at a discounted rate of \$239.00 and can be reserved by using the promotional code, **Boilermakers**. Valet parking is also 50% off at a cost of \$20. Please send a check for \$50.00 to the Union Hall to reserve your attendance at this great event. Dinner and drinks will be provided, and your check will be returned upon arrival. This protocol is used to provide an accurate head count to ensure adequate accommodations at the dinner dance. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a special night with your significant other and your union members. Single members are welcome as well. Let's make this the biggest dinner dance yet. I look forward to seeing you all there.

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Scholarship Committee announces the 2024 contest. All the eligibility requirements and procedure for applications can be found on our website www.boilermakerslocal169.com Do not hold off, as all applications are due back on March 1. **The essay question is: What economic conditions fueled the rise of labor unions in the late 19th and early to mid-20th century? Compare and contrast the economic conditions from that period in history with conditions that workers face today. Include topics such as wages, housing costs, safety, child labor and others.**

The Great Lakes Area Boilermaker Apprenticeship Program is currently accepting applications for the position of coordinator. If you are interested in applying, contact Business Manager Bob HutSELL at the Union Hall for details.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons:
Area 1 Retiree luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 am at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 W. Jefferson, River Rouge.

Area 2 Retirees hold luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant located at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be February 21, 2024, at 11AM at The Boulevard Lounge. It's located at 316 S. Saginaw Road, Midland, MI. 48640. All area boilermakers and retirees are welcome to attend.

Area 4 Retirees' lunches are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks Restaurant 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI. Area 4 retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County Road 480.

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45.00. Payments can be made with cash or check. If you live outside of the area and would

(Continued next column)



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED, our next regular **MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE Feb. 26, 2024, at 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI. Our next Executive Board meetings will be held on Feb. 19, 2024.** Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

Attention All Members, this paper is to serve as official notice to the membership. This is how we get information out to all our members, as repetitive as it might be there is new information in each article, please read it carefully and call the hall or attend a union meeting if you have any questions.

February's meeting will be a **special called meeting** as there was a motion made to have a picnic in 2024 at the January meeting. There will be a discussion and vote at this meeting.

You should have received your End of Year report and W-2 sheet by now. If you haven't received this, contact the hall. A copy of your W-2 is due by March 31, 2024, but you can send them in or bring them in before that deadline.

We are looking at having a supplemental insurance company (Aflac) come into the April membership meeting to let members sign up for a policy if they choose, they need 25 members to sign up to get a group pricing. We are also looking to have a financial advisor come to the April meeting, more information will come in future articles.

We are going to be giving pins for service at the April Meeting, so if you are eligible for 15 years or more of service pin, please attend this meeting. It will be held at the Electricians Hall, more information will be in this paper as it gets closer.

I encourage everyone to use Bill Pay through your bank to pay dues, it is a free service and can be set up for weekly, monthly, or quarterly. We have a few of our members that have already started this, and it seems to be working well. Please call the hall or contact your bank about how this works.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is vap@iuec.org or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Organizer @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWP National Coordinator @ 410-312-1474.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Golf Outing, please contact **Justin Smith @ (248)709-0341.**

If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website.

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work.

If you think there are contract violations or safety violations on the job you are on, call the hall, we will come out to the jobs and get these issues corrected.

If you would like to sign up for Safety alerts, text **(855) 957-1801** and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email.

Once again, individuals with

Local 169 cont'd

like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at www.boilermakerslocal169.com or on our Facebook page.

The cost of your T.W.I.C. card is reimbursable from the M.O.R.E. Fund. Contact the Union Hall for reimbursement.

Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

Retired member, Guido Volpe passed away on January 15, 2024. There will be a Celebration of his life on February 10, 2024, at The Outpost in Port Huron from 12-4. The address is 521 24th St, Port Huron, MI 48060.



Michigan Painters District Council

District Council 1M Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez
Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m.

Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933

Local Union 312 Business Rep: Tim Schwerin
Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

Local Union 514 Business Rep: Scott Mikulen
Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.
Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826 Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman
Meeting date: 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845 Business Rep – Fred Frederickson
Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

Local Union 1052 Business Rep – Jake Fluty
Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803 Business Rep: Josh Ovalle
Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 7677 Midland Road, Free-land, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352 Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland
Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.
Local Union 2353 Business Rep: Tony Parker
Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.

Local 36 cont'd

a Mechanic Exam Pass Date on or after Jul 9, 2022, must take a Mechanic Required (MR) Continuing Education course in 2024 to receive their scheduled pay raises Jan. 1, 2025. **I highly recommend you take the course and keep up on it every year!** We had 3000 members take the CE in 2023, 1100 required and 1900 grandfathered. We would like to see all our grandfathered Mechanics take this course in 2024. If you aren't registered or are having problems getting registered, call the hall and we will help you.

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you **MUST** call those jobs into the hall!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A.

Attention All Apprentices, Kenny and I thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. **Classes started the week of Jan. 23, if you have not heard from your teacher contact the hall.** Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!**

Attention All Temporary Mechanics, your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement **MUST** be signed by the end of each month at the Union meeting. If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the **NEXT MORNING**. If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, your personal tools **MUST** be taken off the job and notify the hall.

Attention All Retirees, if you requested an Honorary Card and have not received it, please contact the Hall.

If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can get you on the email list. Please keep the Sutton's family in your thoughts and prayers after the passing of Honorary Brother Leonard Sutton. We would also like to extend well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Painters District Council 1M WARREN – Dear Members,
DCIM WEBSITE: www.iupatdcmichigan.org
DC 1M UNION CARDS*
Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:
Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP: Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID go to Google Play-store; Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP
Username: your member id#
Password: painters

With this APP you can access training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.

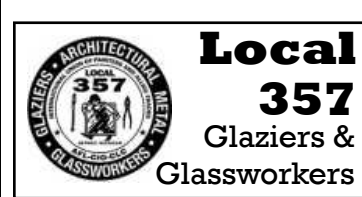
Sickness and Death. It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Local 2353 Member Howard "Detroit Howard" McLaughlan. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

FTI of the Great Lakes upgrade classes: FTI Apprenticeship will be putting on Rigging and Signaling classes. Rigging and Signaling class-Lansing March 9 and 16; 9 a.m. Rigging and Signaling class-Warren March 23 and 30; 9 a.m. Contact FTI Director Shawn O'Neill to register
Email: dot@iupatdc1m.org or call at (517) 304-4425

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

OUT OF WORK/ BACK TO WORK: To keep work placement efficient, please notify the office when you are laid off or going back to work.

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888. New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so. Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



Glaziers & Glassworkers 357 WARREN – Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, March 4th, 2024 at 6pm. Please make every effort to attend.

The IUPAT pension has updated the pension website. There is new information that could be helpful. Iupatpension.org

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal. You can find this in the app store, and it is a free app. Once you download this app, you will need your union member id to log in.

You can find your member id printed on your quarterly union card. Once you log into this app it's a helpful tool to track your hours worked, and it also has a digital copy of your union card.

Keep your working status current; this helps protect your benefits if you have a mailing address and/or telephone number change, please notify the Union and Fund Offices of the changes.

Dues payments may be mailed to the Union Office at 14587 Barber Avenue, Warren, MI 48088. Make checks payable to: **DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M** in care of Glassworkers #357.

When traveling to work out of town, all members are reminded that they must check in with the local that you are working in as per the International Constitution and our local C.B.A.

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-0666; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

If you are in need of safety modules, please contact your employer if you are employed or the union office @ 586-552-4478, if you're not.

Any questions call the hall or call the Council @ 586-552-4474.

Participation is very important to keep our union strong, so try to make it to a meeting.
– **Business Rep. Don Stepp**



Feel the Power

Laborers Local 1191
(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)
DETROIT – Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

Member Personal Information Updates: Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.

Monthly General Membership Meetings: General Membership meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays).

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **February's Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 23rd of February, 2024.**

Union Dues For 2024: Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

Important Notice Regarding Dues Payments: According to the Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member will be suspended by the International Union without notice. **To better serve our membership, the Local accepts in-person Cash, Credit and Debit payments.**

Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at **(313)-894-2241** to have one mailed to you. **FYI: Members who sign up for vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!**

New Projects: Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

Referral List: Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. FYI: It is the Member's responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!



Local 591 Sign, Pictorial & Display

Sign Pictorial & Display 591 WARREN –The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 5, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

Members must be in good standing (dues up to date) with district council 1 app or receipt of paid dues to attend meeting

Anyone possessing a union membership and willingly works at a nonunion shop doing union work can have charges preferred against them under Sec. 16.4, and 19.8 of the District Council By-laws

Any questions on local union issues, please call Jeremy Haviland at 586-899-0183, your Business Representative.

Questions pertaining to Local 591 Pension Fund issues call 248-645-6550 and/or Health Care issues call 248-358-3340 or 800-482-8736 which will then be answered directly through fund office.

OUT OF WORK: BACK TO WORK: procedure for out of and back to work: When laid off or going back to work, call the office. 586-552-4474

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 35 YEARS BIESKE & ASSOCIATES

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 55 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. They maintain offices in Sterling Heights, Livonia, Southgate and Novi. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

- ONLY SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY CASES
- WE WILL PERSONALLY REPRESENT YOU
- OUR FEE PAID AFTER YOU WIN

www.ssdfighter.com





SETTING UP A HAMMER DRILL as he installs fire alarm wiring at the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor is Dennis Locks of IBEW Local 252. He's employed by Superior Electric.



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252
ANN ARBOR - *Financial Advisor Joe Moynihan will be at the February Union Meeting to discuss finances.*

REGULAR MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING RESCHEDULED: to March 20 due to IBEW 6th District membership development and government affairs conference.

BE SURE TO KEEP BENEFICIARY FORM UPDATED: A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office AND at the hall for anyone who may need to update beneficiary information. If your information needs to be updated, it needs to be updated at BOTH.

TRAINING CLASSES 2024: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM.

Instrumentation Part B Tuesdays Jan. 16 thru March 12

Code Update session 1 Monday's and Thursday's March 4, 7, 11, & 14

Code Update session 2 Monday's and Thursday's March 18, 21, 25, & 28

Code Update session 3 Monday's and Thursday's April 8, 11, 15, & 18

Code Update session 4 Monday's and Thursday's April 22, 25, 29, & May 2

CPR/First Aid Tuesdays March 5, 12, June 4, 11, Sept. 3, 10, Dec. 3, 10

There will be a code update required in 2024 for 2025 license. We have 4 sessions this winter and spring, and will have six more in the fall. Sessions are limited to 50 people each.

There is a \$50 fee to hold a spot in all classes except First Aid/CPR. You must register one week prior to class start date. Call the Training Center at (734) 475-1180 to register.

LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OPENING: If you're interested in filling the open labor management committee seat or looking for more information please contact President Mike Cox at (734)424-0978.

TRAINING DIRECTOR OPENING: The AAEJATC is accepting applications for Training Director. If you are interested, please submit a letter of interest that addresses specifically how your experience and qualifications meet the duties and desired qualifications of the position, a current resume, and any transcripts, diplomas, or certifications to the AAEJATC, located at 13400 Luick Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118, or submit by email to Hope Salyer at hopes@aaejatc.org, by Feb. 29, 2024. All applications will be kept confidential.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION/ EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS: There will be a meeting at the Hall with our financial advisor, benefits office, business office, and training center on Feb. 21st at 5 p.m. to discuss the structures of our system. Although this will be geared toward new members all members are welcome to attend. Significant others are also encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to info@ibew252.org or (734) 424-0978 so we can estimate the amount of food to provide.

2024 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2024 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2024 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2024! Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April

15. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at www.union4lifefcharity.com.

SUPER BOWL PARTY: EWMC and Renew Committee are once again hosting a Super Bowl party at the hall on Feb. 11, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Food and beverages will be provided. There will be a raffle for a chance to win a T.V. and other prizes. Bring your friends and family.

PHEASANT 4 LIFE HUNT: There will be a field hunt on the morning of March 9, at Ringneck Ranch, 14904 Hanover Rd., in Hanover to benefit U of M Rogel Research Center. The hunt usually begins between 8-9 a.m. Cost is \$150 per person, with a deposit of \$50 due by Monday, Feb. 15. If a dog is needed it is \$100 per group. Payments can be made at the JATC, Union Hall, or by Venmo. Bird cleaning is \$3.50 per bird if desired. Food, beverages and snacks will be provided. BYOB. Contact Joe Jarecki for more information at (734) 770-5114 or joejarecki4@gmail.com.

WINTER GATHERING: This year's winter gathering will be held on Monday, March 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral, 4705 US Hwy 98 North, Lakeland, FL.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Sunday, March 23 at the hall. More details coming soon!

RETIREE'S CARD GAME: The first Thursday of every month Local 252 and UA 190 retirees meet at the Union Hall for card games and donuts. The games start at 9 a.m. Please come join the fun.

RETIREE'S BREAKFAST: will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 160 S. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant.

M.U.S.T DRUG TESTING: Please make sure your MUST drug testing is current as you cannot work on a U of M project or several other projects in the jurisdiction without being current. Local 252 has a zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use.

ERTS: Please make sure that you are signed up in the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up in ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back.

AFLAC INSURANCE: Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate. Contact Representative Lisa Enerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone number: (517) 306-0144.

RETIREMENT: NEBF and applications take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. IBEW PBF applications usually take 3 months to process but are running a couple months behind. IBEW PBF applications can be filled out 6 months before your planned retirement date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork at least 3-6 months before your planned retirement date. You will be asked to submit copies of social security cards, birth certificates, marriage certificate, divorce decrees, etc. for you and your spouse with your applications. For a full list of required documents please contact the Union Hall.

CONDOLENCES: The Lo-



IBEW LOCAL 275

IBEW 275
COOPERSVILLE – The work outlook continues to be very busy, with the potential of several large projects kicking off this Spring and Summer in addition to the work our contractors have already secured. We've had various open job calls for some time and plan to have more over the coming weeks and months. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call you may be interested in.

Contract negotiations are coming up soon and we are gathering member proposals to sift through in the lead up to the first meeting. If you would like to suggest proposals for negotiations, there is a form you can submit on our website, www.ibew275.org, under the Member Resources tab, click on "Wages Bylaws and Agreements." It is password protected. You can get the password by calling the Hall if you don't have it.

With the tremendous amount of work right now, the Local has been organizing new members of all levels to fill calls and grow the Local. If you've been to a Union meeting recently, you'd know we've been swearing in several new members monthly for the last several months. We can use all the help we can get, so if you know any electricians in your social circles and/or communities, please encourage them to reach out to one of our organizers, Walter or Geoff.

The 2024 West Michigan United Labor Wild Game Dinner has been scheduled for Thursday, March 28! Please mark this date on your calendars if you plan to attend this year's event. There will be more information about the event coming out in the following weeks. Again, this year, WMUL is looking for wild game donations (fish, venison, etc.) from local union members. If you have any extra fillets or meat in your freezers that can be donated, please contact Walter at the Union Hall.

At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Adam Engle, Logan Gorman, Kevin Koon, Luke Rokus, Trevor Kreft, and Christopher Wagner. Please make every effort to get caught up with your dues as soon as you can.

Local 252, con't
cal sends our sincere condolences to Brother Richard Curtis for the passing of his wife Barbara on Jan. 16, 2024. The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Brother Glenn Williams, who passed away on Jan. 19, 2024.

CREDIT CARDS: The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3.5% to use your card.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 12/2023, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$131.25 for first quarter 2023. "BA" members pay \$67.80 per quarter for 2023. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now. **Payments for first quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, March 29, 2023.**

Future Dues Increases:
Effective July 1, 2024: A Members will pay \$134.25 per quarter.

Effective Jan. 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$140.25 per quarter.

Effective July 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$143.25 per quarter.



IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on March 4, at 6 p.m.
The next **Renew meeting** will be held on March 4, at 5 p.m.
The next **Executive Board meeting** will be held on Feb. 19, at 5 p.m.

The **Pension Education Meeting** will be held on Feb. 29, at Union Hall, at 6:00PM.

The **Veterans Committee Meeting** will be held on March 7, at Union Hall, at 5:00PM.

Brotherhood night is the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at CJ's from 3:30 to 5:30PM.

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady. We have open calls for Moore and Hi-Tech all have crews working on the Pfizer site. Gurtz is still working on the MAPS Project and plan to be there until the end of March. Gun Lake Casino Hotel and Water Dome have several floors up, with more windows being installed all the time. Yes, there are a few warm spots. Palisades is waiting for final approval. They could be hiring this spring.

Politics are starting up and there are plenty of issues that have improved because the Democrats have had control. One issue that benefited all of us, is the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act. This act authorized the U.S. Treasury Department to provide much needed help to severely financially troubled multiemployer retirement plans, including NEBF, through the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). More than 550,000 actives, retirees and survivors participate in the IBEW's multiemployer pension plan. Jon Current and I went to Washington DC last week. We went to the White House. We met with Secretary Buttigieg and Secretary Granholm. Probably more important, we met with several staff of the White House. They were there to answer questions and hear our feedback on the policy that is being introduced.

Retiree Lunches at the following Locations:
Feb. 21, at Red Lobster 6535 S. Westnedge Ave. Portage, @ 11 March 20, at McGonigle's Irish Pub, 3512 E. Main St. Kalamazoo. @11:00.

Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage St., Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m.

On the last Friday of each month retirees and others meet at Jac's Cekola's Pizza, 3112 S. Ninth St., Kalamazoo, MI. 49009 @11:30.

With a heavy heart, I am sad to report Brother James W. Begeman, passed away on Jan. 22, 2024, at the age of 71. James was a member from 2000 to 2018. Check out the Local 131 **website.** There is a new tab called "Retirees." You can find the Retirees calendar of Events. There is a list of those who have retired. If you think of something you believe we should post, please let me know. All Memorials (members and members families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the "Memorials" Tab.

If you hear of anyone's passing, please notify the Hall. Job listings can be tracked. A recorded message of calls for employment will be available after 5:00PM by calling (269) 382-1762 and posted on the website under "Job Listings". The job call will list the name of the employer and the number of employees needed. The Union business office will offer all the work calls available at the time of the job offer. Any registrants who are interested in a call may either apply in person at the union business office between 8- 8:30AM or leave a message on the recorder, stating they wish to apply for a job call.

Sign up for a **Code Update** class. Classes are scheduled for March 9 and 10, on April 13 and 14 and on May 4 and 5. Call the hall or email mapplebey92@gmail.com to reserve a spot. Classes are limited to 25. There will be classes in the fall.

RETIREMENT: NEBF and IBEW PBF application takes at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – **First Aid/CPR** – Check the expiration on your First Aid/CPR certification cards! There is a First Aid/CPR refresher class scheduled for March 11, 2024 at the Hall after the Union Meeting. We will be having a class every March for members to get an updated First Aid/CPR certification card.

Reminder about Health Plan Advocate regarding the Michigan Electrical Health Plan Pharmacy Savings Program. Health Plan Advocates is working with the MEEHP to help the fund and the members to save money on costly prescriptions. If your prescription is over \$400, the HPA will check for copay savings cards to get members a \$0.00 payment for that prescription. If you receive correspondence from HPA, either via mail or email, you MUST respond to them to get enrolled. If you don't contact HPA, you could encounter a high deductible/co-pay when you fill that RX on your next refill.

Delta Dental – Active Members should have received the new Delta Dental cards and information on the covered services. If you haven't received your cards, please contact the Hall. You can also visit deltadentalmi.com and set up an account to see your dental card as well as your EOB's.

General Membership Meeting is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5 p.m. at the Hall.

2024 Personal information. Please keep your address, phone no. and email address up to date at the Hall. Contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall if you need to update them.

Executive Board meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m.

Wilson-McShane has replaced TICI for our benefit administration as of June 1, 2023. Please have a little patience as the transition has had some bumps that they are smoothing out. You can visit www.michiganelectrical.org to create a new account under the *Member Portal tab*. You should have received new Special Fund cards that are white. Please dispose of the old blue cards as they will no longer work. The website to access your *Special Fund* is <https://ibewmichigan.lh1ondemand.com/Login.aspx>. There is an app you can download from your app store **MI IBEW Special Fund**.

Retiree Breakfast: The Retiree monthly breakfast is at 9am at Lux Café, 2587 Capital Ave SW. Mark your calendar for the third Thursday of each month to attend.

Local Website – Check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is IBEW445.com. Make sure you check out the **Resource Link** page for important related websites.

Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest, Recording Sec.

Local 131, con't
effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth/marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications. Important numbers for you to write down: NEBF 301-556-4300 IO Pension 202-833-7000

Wilson-McShane has been sending emails addressing your special fund accounts. Receipts are required when using the special fund card (WEX Account). Wilson-McShane is asking for receipts. You must produce them, or the IRS requires that you pay taxes on the payouts. The Blue Cross Blue Shield explanation of benefits could be used. Please call the hall or Wilson-McShane for help.

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Joshua Chopp, Paul Dillon, Trevor Doxey, Ruben Dunbar, Justin Garcia, Richard Peebles, Joel Pixley-Fink, Travis Schuster, Joseph Selles, Justin Sowash, Cody Stokan, Jason Streit, and Cory Werner-Hoskins.

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948
FLINT – Meetings.
Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be February 12th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.
Retiree Meetings - Retirees will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month starting back in April.

Party Committee - All members of the party committee would like to thank the membership for the enormous turnout for this year's Christmas party. We greatly appreciate the feedback and look forward to our next event.

AFL Educational Meetings - Attention all members. Before every monthly meeting at 5 PM, our hall will be hosting educational meetings presented by the AFL - CIO. These meetings aim to further educate our members on core regulations, acts, and laws that play a key role in our careers. For any questions or concerns please contact Jenny Wallace.

Book Signing - For any members looking to sign our books please refer to our hotline at (810) 767-3308 Ext #5 or report directly to the hall.

Work Outlook - Our work outlook is slow with a gradual increase in calls projected post-strike. Steady calls have been available for GM centers. Long term calls for service truck drivers have been made available. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

Dues Reminder - Members, please ensure your dues are paid in full. For any questions, concerns, or payments please see Jenny Wallace or call the main office at (810) 767-3308.

Seeking New Membership - As always, we are actively seeking to organize new membership. For any questions, concerns, or interest please contact Organizer Kellogg Dipzinski.

New Store Stock - To all members interested, we have new merchandise at our hall. New stock includes shirts, hoodies, hats, and other apparel. For any questions or purchases please contact Jenny Wallace.

Thank You to Kristen McDonald Rivet for taking the time to visit our hall and speak with us all. We hope good luck and success for you on the campaign trail to come.

Thank You to Carly Rose from the AFL-CIO for the educational speeches about upcoming political acts. We hope to host you again at future points and look forward to the forward pushing labor movement.

CPR Class - Thank you to all members in attendance at our latest CPR certification course. We will be scheduling more in the future and will post the information promptly.

New Membership - Welcome to our latest member; Shawn Frederickson. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

Retirees - Congratulations to Timothy Kilbreath, Dale Selden, and Steven Teel on your pension applications. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

"Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not; it is the first lesson that ought to be learned; and however early a man's training begins, it is probably the last lesson that he learns thoroughly."

—Thomas H. Huxley (1825-1895)

"Tact is the knack of making a point without making an enemy."

—Isaac Newton (1642 - 1727)

"There smites nothing so sharp, nor smelleth so sour as shame."

—William Langland (1332 - 1400)

"If you would not step into the harlot's house, do not go by the harlot's door."

—Thomas Secker (1693-1768)

IBEW Local 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The March monthly membership meeting will be held at 6 P.M. on **Monday, March 4, 2024.**

Executive Board Meeting. The February Meeting will be held at 6 P.M. on **Monday, Feb. 19, 2024.**

Work Report. Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction that may require additional manpower include: -Nelson Electric (Currently) GM Powertrain - Many more projects to come at Powertrain.

-J. Ranck Electric – continuing work at SK Siltron semiconductor chip manufacturing facility.

-Master Electric continues Electrical installations on the new Isabella County Jail. More calls for this project are expected.

-Countyline has secured Airport Work. Countyline has a Michigan Sugar De-Sugaring Project and also a project at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility. Look for job calls from Countyline.

-Clements Electric Independence Bridge work continues along with Bay Carbon Project, and also work out to the Bay City State Park.

-Conti Electric has many projects inside I -Park (DOW). Conti Electric has also secured a couple small projects inside Michigan Sugar along with a nice Fire Alarm Project on site at Michigan Sugar.

-Conti Electric also expects to assemble trailer city on their upcoming solar project near Rogers City April 1. Conti expects the average manpower on this project to be around 50 peaking at 90. Zone 1 scale will be paid on this project along with \$50 dollars a day incentive pay being offered per Conti.

-Escon has secured a nice project at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end. Much more work is to come out at Mersen with projects bidding as you read this article.

-Zone 2 also has another Solar project coming to the Lafarge Cement Plant. This Project could also start very soon.

-Another large-scale utility solar project is expected to break ground in Isabella County this year. As soon as more details are known I will share them.

Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing are currently having many calls getting into Book II if you are looking for work. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

In Solidarity, Ryan Charney Business Manager / Financial Secretary

Organizers Report. As always, 692 Organizers continue to visit jobsites within our jurisdiction to speak with unrepresented electricians, building relationships and discussing the opportunities that exist by joining our Brotherhood. We should never lose sight of the organizing mission that guided the birth and growth of the IBEW. Our founders built a strong union by organizing all qualified workers, which allows us to achieve higher union density and ultimately increases our bargaining power during negotiations.

Regular public school visits and partnerships with area ISD programs and will continue through the winter into spring in an effort to recruit apprenticeship applicants and increase overall interest in the skilled trades. A special focus was aimed towards the schools in our northern jurisdiction including Onaway, Cheboygan, Rogers, and Alpena. Select Bay Arenac ISD students have been working directly with agents performing hands-on lab assignments at our apprenticeship school. More than a dozen additional school events have been scheduled in the next two months.

If you know any young people interested in the electrical construction industry, please contact an agent to receive apprenticeship application and supplemental information. Our Apprenticeship accepts applications in-person year-round, every first and third Wednesday of the month.

For the third consecutive event, IBEW Local 692 earned the "Questy" award, voted by area high school students as the Most Engaging Exhibitor. It was a pleasure to work hands-on with the future leaders of the electrical construction industry at MiCareer-Quest Middle Michigan's annual event. We'll be looking forward to an opportunity to compete for a fourth Questy at 2024's event

scheduled to take place on Friday, Oct. 11 at SVSU's Ryder Center. Thank you to all the students, organizers, volunteers, and fellow exhibitors who make this important event so special. A special shoutout is due to Training Director Steve Pahl, Instructor Casey Stoike and their 4th year apprenticeship class for all their help.

Agents attended a meeting with Jessica Looman, head of the US Dept. of Labor Wage and Hour Division, to discuss improvements to Davis-Bacon enforcement on federally funded construction projects. Agents also met with National Labor Relations Board lawyers for additional training.

Do not hesitate to contact agents if you are interested in up-to-date work reports or if you'd like to register on books. Saginaw, Lansing, Detroit, Ann Arbor, and West Michigan have all recently experienced open calls. Flint and Local 692 expect more calls at various projects through winter and into spring.

Our website has been updated and is now live. Please visit www.ibew692.net and let us know if you'd like us to add additional information or member options. Members can pay dues, check their position on the out-of-work list, find links to health and pension plan portals and more.

New stickers, pencils, pencil clips and 2024 planners are now available at the hall.

Union Dues. PLEASE NOTE: Effective Jan. 1, 2024, dues will remain \$45.20 per month through June 2024. Effective July 1, 2024, dues will increase to \$46.20 per month. This \$1 per capita increase was approved by the delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

If you have automatic bill pay from your bank or credit union, please make sure to notify them of the increase.

Dues can be paid via phone, on-line, by mail or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. *Please note when using a credit card for payments there will be a 2% charge applied.*

2024 Dues (January 2024 thru June 2024): \$45.20 Monthly
2024 Dues (July 2024 thru December 2024): \$46.20 Monthly

To avoid a reinstatement fee, please remember to keep your dues current.

Retirees Lunch. The February retiree lunch is scheduled for 1 PM on Thursday, Feb. 15 at Log Cabin Bar and Grill, at 181 Main Street in Freeland.

RENEW. On Saturday Feb. 24, RENEW committee will be hosting their 3rd annual Brotherhood on the Bay fishing tournament on the Saginaw Bay watershed. This year Local 557 Saginaw RENEW is also participating in the event. In addition to individual prizes for heaviest perch and heaviest walleye, a travelling trophy will be awarded to either 557 or 692 for the combined weight of the three heaviest walleyes from each local.

This event is open to all IBEW retirees and active members in good standing. \$20 entry fee the day of tournament, \$15 if you preregister by contacting Cody at 989.600.4643. Each entry will receive a ticket for door prize raffles and a walleye dinner. You don't need to fish to receive a door prize ticket or dinner.

Registration is 5 AM to 7 AM, dinner is available starting at 5 PM, and fish are weighed from 5 PM to 7 PM at the hall. Please consider supporting RENEW and enjoying a delicious fish dinner with brother and sisters.

It is the goal of the RENEW committee to increase younger members' involvement in their communities through their local union. If you are a 692 member in good standing, 35 years old or younger and would like to participate in RENEW, meetings are held once a month following general membership meetings.

Fringe Benefits. REMINDER: if you have recently been married, divorced, had children, etc. make sure your beneficiaries have been updated accordingly. Beneficiary forms can be obtained from the hall.

Important links & numbers

Health Plan & Pension Fund. 855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE www.michiganelectrical.org
NEBF/NEAP: 301.556.4300
IO Pension: 202.833.7000

IBEW Local 498
"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, March 11, 2024 @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting –The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Mar 11, 2024.

Pension Plan – 1099's were mailed out on Jan 31, 2024. You should be receiving them by the time this article is printed. They will also be available on the michiganelectrical.org website.

Thank you – We would like to thank Tim Irland for helping Dylan Odwyer do some door knocking for organizing and his work as the local's registrar.

75th Anniversary of Local Union 498 – Look for invites for the upcoming 75th Anniversary Party to be held at the Hagerty Center in Traverse City. You will receive it by USPS and electronic email. You will have to RSVP so we can get a good count for attendance. We are looking for volunteers to help also. Please call Dave or Dylan. So far we have 153 members and significant others signed up to attend.

Code Update Class – The State of Michigan has adopted the 2023 code. Tim Babcock is working on dates for an update class for the 2025 license renewal. Please watch later editions for a class time update.

Negotiations – are coming up this winter. It would be appreciated if you could bring any good ideas to the next regular meetings.

Habitat Update – Rough-in coming up soon at New Wave subdivision off M72 and Bugai Road. Planning for the Feb 17 & 24 for rough-in. Please call the hall if you can volunteer.

Resale Items – We have Local 498 t-shirt, and Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing

Retiree breakfast – Several of the retirees meet at Sparky's Diner off of South Airport Rd. every Monday morning at 9am. So if you are retired or not and want to join in the conversations and possibly some old wives tales or other embellished stories, show up at Sparky's.

Scholarship – Past charter member Brother Bob Dost has a scholarship 'Robert Paul Dost Scholarship Endowment' for High School seniors in the 5-county area around Traverse City. To access it go to www.gtrcf.org/scholarships/. Local 498 union members' children get preference to the endowment.

Service Pins – Service Pins are still available at the union hall for those members who have not received them.

Made in America Websites – www.theunionbootpro.com - 100% American made/union made. Union member discounts 27% off. Use this code when ordering. Be0498mD or order toll free 1-800-723-5384.

Email Addresses – Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communication to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at ibew@local498.net Thank you!
Important numbers for you to write in your address book:
MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax# 1-952-854-1632
Website: www.michiganelectrical.org
MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-855-633-4584
(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)
3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425
NEBF 1-301-556-4300
NEAP 1-301-556-4300
IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES
Jan 1, 2023 – Dues increase to \$152.10/Quarter.
July 1, 2024 – Dues increase to \$155.10/Quarter.

Info Updates – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.
Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#

IBEW LOCAL 906

IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership Meeting the Next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

Electrical Industry Training Center is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at <http://www.detroitetc.org/continuing-education/>. We will start to cancel classes if they don't meet the minimum enrollment requirements, or more hopefully we will order books for those of you who've signed up. Members on the Storm Book must secure their training through the Continuing Education Program offered by the school. If you need assistance in registering for a class, please call the Training Center at 586-751-6600.

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) offers 24/7 call, text and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. Please Call, Text, Chat! IBEW Local 58 Cares! Call 988!

IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line. \$100.00 Donation per Brick.

NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

Local 58 Dues Department – Stay current on your dues! Look at your Dues Receipt – if your paid through date shows 12-31-2023 or earlier, you are not current and will have a reinstatement fee (4 months or more behind). If you are paid through 6-30-2023--you have lapsed and will have to see the Executive Board. It is your responsibility to pay your dues on time – this could affect your retirement or death benefit. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number.

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): The next DEWBF meeting will be March 5, 2024 at 5:30pm. Our next event will be the Ken Fitzhenry Super Bowl Fund Raiser, Sunday, Feb. 11. There is a \$10 entrance fee. Super Bowl raffle tickets are available now at the hall for \$20 each or electronic payment options to purchase raffle tickets are available at Venmo: @belly58bf or Cash App: \$belly58bf. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Mike Bellhorn at 586-612-5964 or Gym Mackey at 313-727-6269.

All prizes from the Super Bowl event are provided by ABC Warehouse in Canton. For a discounted price call Ryan Heinrich at (734) 981-7780. All Tradesmen and families are welcome to receive this Building Trade discount. John Mayernik Scholarship available to apprentice's 2nd year and higher. Applicants eligible to win \$2000. Deadline to apply March 2, 2024. For more info contact Michael Bellhorn 586-612-5964.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the

IBEW Local 906

UPPER PENINSULA – Meetings - 7pm local times
Marquette unit - First Tuesday

Iron Mountain unit – Second Tuesday

Escanaba unit – Second Wednesday

Brothers and Sisters, As has been reported, our hall in Iron Mountain has been sold. For our Iron Mountain monthly unit meetings, we have secured the LIUNA Local 1329 hall for the second Tuesday of each month. It is located at 1800 North Stephenson Avenue. Meeting time is still 7pm local time.

Work outlook: We have got to that time of year where work seems to slow as we finish 2023

projects. This year's projects are starting to ramp up. These include the new Soo Lock, addition at the Brimley Casino, Straits Area Medical Center as well as shut-downs coming up at the Billerude Mill and Tilden Mine. If you are not up to date on MSHA now is the time to schedule a class. Details can be found by calling the hall or the Upper Peninsula Construction Council.

The RENEW Committee continues to meet the first Thursday of each month at 8pm. For details contact Dejian Dean.

Retirees Luncheon is being held each month at the Vierling Restaurant located at 119 South Front Street in Marquette the third Thursday of each month at 11am.

hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading.

Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information to volunteer or participate.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 13 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 19 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. Thank you to all of the delegates to the Annual EWMC Leadership Conference in Atlanta celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the organization.

It was jam packed with information, education, networking and entertainment. Now it's time to get to work here at home. We have a lot of events and projects on the horizon this year and we need all hands-on deck. We have our annual DPSCD March Reading Month event coming up and we need all to sign up so that we can fill all of our spots.

Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, Feb. 12 at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee – will now be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 21 starting at 5:30 pm.

The Political Action Committee (PAC)- If you have any questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting you can reach out to our registrars at registrar@ibewlocal58.org. Political Action Committee Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the hall at 5:30 PM.

Local 58's Women's Committee- Our next meeting will take place on Feb. 22, 5:30pm at the Hall and also on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087). Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

Local 58 Motorcycle Group: Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. For more information, please visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Vice President Anthony Anderanin @ 313-999-3829, aanderanin@gmail.com or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join us at our upcoming meetings to plan for events and rides.

IBEWLOCAL 58 Retirees Association: Our next board meeting will be Wednesday, February 14, 2024. The next luncheon will be Wednesday, Feb. 28 at Corsi's Banquet Center, 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. Doors open at 11 a.m. and lunch

is served at 12:30. Send your reservations with your checks (payable to the Retirees Association) in the amount of \$25 per person, to IBEW #58, Attn Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756, questions call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

2024 DUES. If you haven't paid yours yet, send your checks for \$8 per person, to the aforementioned address at the local.

The ORAL HISTORY PROJECT has started back up, if you are interested in adding your story to this collection, call the local at 313 963-2130 to put your name on the interview list. You will be contacted by a member of the committee for interview dates and times. COME ON OUT for a luncheon, there is always good food, a 50/50 drawing, and this is a perfect time to get out and catch up on what everyone's been up to.

The Retirees Annual Florida Luncheon will be on February 21, 2024 (Wednesday). It's getting close to that time of year. Yes, the great Florida annual Luncheon. I was disappointed to find that Austin's Olde World restaurant is no longer open for lunch. Therefore, for this year, we will hold it Feb. 21, 2024 at Applebee's, 4329 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice, FL, 34293, 941- 497-7740. They will close a section for us, we order off the menu and pay our own bill. Time of arrival 11:45. After lunch we can discuss other alternatives or continue to hold it there. I would like everyone to let me know if you plan to attend, so Applebee's can close off the proper space. Contact information is: Syl Ludwic, 352-250-1178, or sludwic@gmail.com

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

Electrical Workers Credit Union – Our website is <http://WWW.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates!! New auto as low as 5.75%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.net>. Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

Be sure to keep the Union Hall updated with any changes to your phone no., address, and email.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: David Carpenter, Raymond Ferda, Jeffrey Kemezis, Paul Kremer, Timothy Patrica, Joseph Perez, Richard Profant, Richard Rozen, Albert Wellein, Michael Williams, and David Zacharias.

Members that have Passed Away: Dale Lapointe, pension member, 54 year IBEW membership; Edward Maki, pension member, 66 year IBEW membership; Loren Rumsey, Father to JIW Rodney Rumsey; Sam Vitiello, pension member, 45 year IBEW membership; David Weisman, Journeyman Inside Wireman, Son to pension member Lawrence Weisman.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



Local 292
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024, at 6 pm.

Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on February 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. The regular meeting schedule will resume in March.

CONDOLENCES: Our deepest sympathy on the recent passing of Ralph Yakey. Ralph was a member of Local 292 for 70 years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his friends and family.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE: Please remember, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an Employee Assistance Program designed to assist members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member feel this may benefit you, contact Ulliance at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Services are of no cost to members and their dependents.

SMART 292 APP: Our new Local 292 App is now live. It is available to all dues-paying members. Download is available through your App Store. Search **SMART Local 292**. There will be a short waiting period for the verification process.

SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Applications are being accepted for the Sheet Metal Scholarship program. Eligibility requires that an applicant be an active member, a covered employee, or a dependent spouse or child under the age of 25 of a member or covered employee. The applicant must also be a full-time student or be accepted to be a full-time student at an accredited college or university. Obtain an "Application Request Form" by visiting <https://smart-union.org/why-join-smart/scholarships/sheet-metal-scholarship-programs/> click on the "Sheet Metal Scholarships" tab to download the form or call 202-662-0858 to request the application form by mail.

RETURN TO WORK BY NORMAL OR EARLY RETIREES: Consistent with the actions of the Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, the Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 292 Pension Fund ("Fund") have decided to provide a limited waiver of the Fund's suspension of benefit rule from **March 22, 2023 through December 31, 2024** only, without limitation and without incurring a suspension of benefits then in pay status. This means that, during this period, if you are working as a sheet metal worker for an Employer that contributes to the Fund, you will receive your monthly pension benefits from the Fund no matter how many hours you work in any one month. This waiver is based on the current demand for sheet metal workers and is not anticipated to be continued indefinitely. Call Paul for more information or if interested.

OUT OF WORK: If you become laid off, you Must complete an Out of Work List Registration /SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and also through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

TRUHEARING: On behalf of Sheet Metal Workers Local 292, we would like to introduce TruHearing, the NEW exclusive provider of premium hearing aid benefits. This benefit is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact TruHearing at 1-833-898-1255 for an appointment.

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, please go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the "links" tab at www.sheetmetal292.com. Remember that your Username is your full S.S. number and your Password is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

DUES: Membership dues are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).

LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: Check out the online store to purchase Local 292 shirts and jackets. Purchased items will be shipped directly to you. Access through Sheetmetal292.com at the online store tab or <https://sheetmetalworkers292.itemorder.com/sale>. Contact Paul or Tony if you have any suggestions for new items or artwork changes.

ADDRESS UPDATES: If you move, please contact the union hall to update your address.

RETIREES NOTICE: Thanks to all the retirees who came out to the meetings in 2023. It's always nice getting together and staying connected. We will post the 2024 retiree meeting schedule as soon as it becomes available. Stay safe and be well.

Please contact the union hall via our website www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The Constitution and Ritual of the 2nd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will also have hard copies for members who want one.

SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST: Many members have been receiving Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation is returned to the Fund office in a timely manner. By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

UNION HALL HOURS: Hall office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION: We have recently updated the text blast contact list. All members have been added. If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please contact the Union Hall and we will make the change.

WEBSITE / FACEBOOK: Be sure to check our website - www.sheetmetal292.com; Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292.

THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM: The "4-plus" member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four certifications) with the 4 Plus logo, hard hat stickers, and bragging rights. If you would like to be a "4-plus" member contact your Local 292 Training Center at: 313-623-9390 (Dave) or Quintin 248.495.6764.

Attention All Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on February, 10 & 17.

These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

Note: Anyone who signs up for a class, must pay a \$40.00 registration fee that will be refunded on the completion of the class. These deposits are **NON-Refundable** if you do not show up for the classes. (Continued next column)



Local 7
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

LANSING – NOTICE. This Newspaper Article shall serve as Official Notice of ALL meetings for Local 7!

The next Statewide Meeting will be, April 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 1 March 14th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 2 March 19th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3 March 13th at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

*Zone 3 March 21st at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

*Zone 4 March 12th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 5 April 5th at 6:00 p.m. (Moved from April 4th)

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2024. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.

NEWS: Local No. 7 – Union Hoodies available through the Lansing office for \$70.00/each (White supplies last). Hoodies are Gray, Black or Navy with White logo. Payment via check, cash or credit card. Payment must be received before shipping.

SMART Union Labels: Make the union label work for you! The new and modernized SMART Labels are an essential part to wage equalization, which means more money and work for you. Make sure that you are scanning labels in order to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at www.labelitscanireport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

SMART Members Assistance Program provides counselors to speak with members experiencing crisis. Call (877) 884-6227 for 24/7 assistance with Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

ZONE 1 Info. Zone 1 area continues to remain busy and looks to stay this way throughout the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any Journey persons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:

1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49014

(Retirees, please notify Vance or Eric of any changes or additions you would like)

– In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 remains steady and looks good into the spring. My office will be changing here in February, I will be moving to Coopersville the address is: (140 North 64th Ave. Coopersville MI. 49404 Suite 5A). Please remember dues are always due prior to the first of the month and keep me informed of any phone or address changes. If you want to make plans for this summer the Local 7 Picnic is at Timber Ridge Resort in Traverse City, July 20th it will be a great time. In Solidarity, Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: Work in the area remains steady and looks like it's going to be a busy year again. Please remember to get your physicals scheduled for this year as physicals will be a yearly thing we will have to do to keep are deductibles at a lower rate just make sure when scheduling there is a year in between. Please remember to contact me or the Lansing office if you change your address or phone number. Thank you. In Solidarity, Joe Dotson

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City). Our next meeting is on March 21st at the Mill Pond event center. Please be in attendance as we will be going over agenda on our next contract. Make sure your dues are paid and update your address and phone number as there will be more info mailing out. Work in our area is slowing down a bit, there is work in other areas if you get laid off. The SASMI underemployment benefit eligibility is under 700 hours worked from July 1st, 2023 to December 31st, 2023. Please contact me if you want to apply for the benefit. If anyone has any questions on the yearly physical requirement, call Benesys at 1(800) 451-5733. Also, you can go to www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw-7-3/benefits to register and get a wealth of information on your H&W and pension status. In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: Work continues to stay strong in Zone 4. The sheet metal industry in our area continues to thrive, thanks to the hard work and skills of our dedicated members. Don't forget to stay ahead in the industry and enhance your skills in our upgrade classes we provide at our training center. These classes are designed to provide the latest knowledge and techniques in sheet metal and service to help our members. Remember to attend your local Union meetings. Your Brother Scott Brotherton

ZONE 5 Info: Work in the U.P. is still busy and looks to stay that way through spring. Please remember that there is a lot of mine work coming up in the next 2 years if you need to update your mine safety. Visit upconstruction.org to get signed up for a MSHA refresher class. If you know of anyone that would be a good fit for our trade please have them give me a call or go online to fill out an application at sheetmetal7.org In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld

Dues Department: *Online dues payment is now available* Dues of all members of local unions shall be paid monthly or quarterly, but always in advance. To better serve our membership, we accept Credit Card Payments in lieu of your monthly dues. If you would like to take advantage of the Credit Card Service, a finance charge will be applied – Please call the Lansing office during regular business hours at 517-882-4064 to make your payment.

Address/Telephone Changes: Article 8, Section 1 of Local 7 Work Rules: Address Changes: All members are required to keep the Financial Secretary informed of their correct address. A notice mailed to the last address shall be sufficient and legal. If you have moved or changed your telephone number, please contact the union hall to update your records.

BENEFITS: For Benefit questions please contact the area office. Zone 1 – BeneSys 866-822-7037, Zone 2 – TIC 866-887-4338, Zone 3 – BeneSys 800-451-5733, Zone 4 – BeneSys 800-842-2690 and Zone 5 – Wisconsin H & B Fund 800-654-2329.

DEATH CERTIFICATES: Please submit to the Union Hall a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased members. Additional benefits from the International may be available.

CONTACT US: 4931 Contec Drive, Lansing, MI 48910– 517-882-4064

Local 7 Officers:

Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) 517-882-4064

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223

Vance Saunders (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200

Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752

Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112

Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552

Brandon Langenfeld (Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288.

Local 292 cont'd

You can drop off the deposit between the hours of 7:00 and 3:00 at the Apprentice School.

Call the Apprentice School at 248-589-3237, Dave's cell 313-623-9390 or Quintin's cell 248-495-6764 to reserve a spot. Remember we must have the deposit before you will be scheduled in the class.



Local 80
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

SOUTHFIELD – This paper serves as official notice for all meetings and elections.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2024 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2024 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.



TIM MULLIGAN

UNION HALL REGULAR HOURS Monday through Friday 7:30 – 4:00, unless otherwise indicated in holiday hours.

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2024 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: February 19th, April 15th, June 17th, August 19th, October 21st (holiday party) and December 16th. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

RETIREE NEWS: Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

Effective immediately you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax it to 248-557-0297. Your unemployment proof needs to be in by 2pm on Tuesdays to be paid on that Friday. Local 80 will be handling all of your proof now. If you have any questions, please call us at 248-557-7575.

BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL: There will now be a representative from Benesys at the union hall to help our members with anything related to benefits or funds. She will be available all day on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9-4pm. If you are interested in setting up an appointment, please contact Lashone at 248-813-9800 ext. 3250.

RETIREMENT CLASS: Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 9am we will be hosting a FREE retirement education class with Graystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Please call the hall to RSVP 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: James Woodruff, Jacob Stoneburner, Donald Kunkel, Vincent Mandarino, Steve Frohling, Ronald Kelpin, William Marsh, Joseph Sarrach, Steven Herr, Michael Burzynski, Jozsef Salamon, Robert Milovski, Justin Tuthill, Dale Dunlap, Robert Bauer, Daniel Schemanske, Janos, Michael Vinch, Mark Okray, Michael Dostilio, Randy Klein, Dylan Zahringer, Matt Theriault, Sean Stenzel, Tim Woody, Tim Przytulski, Tanner Markusic, James Carter, Roger Clark, David Capps, Joseph McVety, Dan Bulko, Charles Cook, Gerry Hammons, Gary Line, Andrew Abke, Christopher Pope, John Hanes, Michael Trelfa, Lawrence Schattmaier, Dencil G. Daniels, Matthew Whiteford, Richard Davidson III, Daniel Calihan, Jason Kaczmarek, William Borkowski, Daniel Bleyaert, Steven Boyd, Alexander Chambo, Ryan Abke, Robert Moore, Andrew Bovay, Evan Smiecinski, Javen Borgula, Matthew Theisen, Matthew Rushlow, Michael Rushlow, Benjamin Rudisill, Trezor Young, Daniel Stoyka, Jose Cespedes, Douglas Trelfa, Robert Rinna, Joe Laird, Phillip Karl, Shaun Barbarich, Paul Hinkelman, Mikel Ogden, Ron Handley, Shaun Allen & Kolin Barnes.

DUES PAYMENTS: YOUR DUES PAYMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR TO THE FIRST OF THE MONTH. The books will close at the end of the business day on the last day of the month. Payments made on the 1st of the month are considered late for that month. There will be no exception, once the books are closed it cannot be undone. Members will receive a text message dues reminder prior to the end of the month. If you are not receiving our text messaging, please call the hall. **REMINDER:** We ONLY take Visa, Master Card & Discover and do not accept American Express.

BENEFICIARY REMINDER: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your Local 80 and international benefits. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your spouse first and if there is no spouse to your children UNLESS you designate otherwise in writing with each specific benefit. Depending on your classification you could have benefits due to your heirs from Local 80 pension, insurance, annuity and from international and SASMI. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary unless you want it to go to your spouse or children. As always seek the advice of an attorney.

ADDRESS CHANGES: If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well. That is not done through the hall.

WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each members name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.

WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Everyone must obtain a work assignment prior to starting work. If you fail to do so you could be written up on charges.

LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off, even if you only work one day. These are the By-Law rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list fourteen (14) days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven (7) days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

LAY-OFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES: Lay off slips must accompany all applications for sub pay. Without lay off slips you cannot collect sub pay. It is the member's responsibility to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue one in accordance with our contract.

S.U.B. BENEFITS: Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven (7) days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

OUT-OF-WORK LIST: You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. benefits or SASMI. Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and Sept. 1 through Sept. 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. Ulliance is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com. Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.

SAVE THE DATE: • Pre-Retirement Seminar – May 4 • Golf Outing – July 13 • Picnic – August 3



WE ASKED THIS TRIO of iron workers to gather 'round the "oculus" – an architectural element they're building on the foggy roof of the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor. From (l-r) are Ken St. Louis, Brandon DeBord and Mark James. The Local 25 members are employed by Vertex Steel.



RUNNING HEATING and cooling pipe on the fifth floor of the Vanguard Hotel in Ann Arbor is Paul Dancy of Pipe Fitters Local 636. He's employed by Sylvan.



AT WORK ON THE sixth floor of the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor is Michael Escamilla of Sprinkler Fitters Local 704. He's employed by VFP Fire Systems.



SETTING UP SUPPLY ducts on the fifth floor of the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor are (l-r) Jeremy Jundro, Lawrence Cochrane and Anthony Nastwold. The Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 members are employed by Sylvan.

"There is no monument dedicated to the memory of a committee."

—Lester J. Pourciau

"I am among those who think that science has great beauty. A scientist in his laboratory is not only a technician; he is also a child placed before natural phenomena which impress him like a fairy tale."

—Marie Curie (1867 - 1934)

"The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of."

—Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

"Thou shouldst eat to live; not live to eat."

—Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)

AIELLO LAW GROUP PLLC

Construction Injury Specialists

Representing Trades Workers and their families over 25 years

**WORKERS' COMP
SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY
CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENT LITIGATION
ESTATE PLANNING - ELDER LAW**



Mark Aiello

Our associates also handle:
**UNEMPLOYMENT • ANY INJURY CASE
ASBESTOS/TOXIC EXPOSURES**

3000 Town Center, Suite 1820, Southfield, MI 48075
(313) 964-4900 - (800) 881-8896

www.aiellolawgroup.com email: maa@aiellolawgroup.com

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION • VALIDATED PARKING



SETTING A BOX in what will be a guest room at the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor is electrician Mike Sherwood. The IBEW Local 252 member is employed by Superior Electric.

Vanguard Hotel on the rise in U-M's Medical Center

(Continued from Page 1)

about 115 tradespeople regularly on site, which will ramp up to about 160 in a few months at peak employment. The trades are undertaking all manner of tasks, including sheet metal, electrical, plumbing, stud wall framing, some ongoing iron work, and several sequences of masonry.

"For the most part, we're doing really well here," Ticconi said. "The tradespeople, for the most part, are doing good work. One of the challenges is we're working on a tight, postage stamp-sized site. And it would be

great if the weather would start to dry up a little."

The \$40 million project's developer, the Catherine Ann Development Group, said the building will be mixed-use with 164 hotel rooms and suites and 24 apartment suites. The Marriott "Autograph Collection" hotel will have a three-meal-per-day fine dining restaurant and bar, 12,000 square feet of event and meeting room space and retail shops. There will be four underground floors of parking providing 241 parking spots.

"Our plan is to incorporate

the uniqueness of the community and rich history of the University of Michigan into the design and operation of the Vanguard Hotel," said Craig Singer, leader of the Catherine Ann Development Co. "This property will be like nothing else ever built in Ann Arbor and will be as individual as the customers we serve."

The building is expected to be complete this year by Christmastime.

"Colasanti will make sure we get this project done on time, and to the satisfaction of the owner," said Ticconi.



LIFTING A DUCT into place on the sixth floor at the Vanguard Hotel project in Ann Arbor is Rob Liedel III of Sheet Metal Workers Local 80. He is employed by Sylvan.

2024 LOGBOOKS ARE HERE

HARD COPY & MOBILE APP VERSIONS

Aiello Law Group has just released our 2024 Construction Worker's Daily Logbook in both a print and digital version! We have provided logbooks to Michigan's building trades for over 30 years.

The traditional paper version can be picked up in our office, your union hall, the Building Trades office at 1640 Porter in Detroit, or can be mailed directly to you by giving us a call at (313) 964-4900. The digital version can be found in the App Store for Apple or Google Play for Android. Simply search for "Aiello Daily Logbook."



BRICKLAYERS WANTED

\$37.20 HR

\$2,000 SIGN ON BONUS

PLUS HEALTH & PENSION

BRICKLAYERS.ORG

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 members:

\$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Journeyman Bricklayers!

BAC Local 2- Michigan is offering up to a \$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Journeyman Bricklayers and Masonry Restoration Workers who join now and who stay working for our contractors!

Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$37.20 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and 2 Pensions. Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry Restoration Workers.

For more information go to: bricklayers.org

Utilities Instrumentation Service

Michigan's #1 Electrical Testing Firm

- Licensed Electricians with the State of Michigan (IBEW-JIW)
- Member of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)
- Full Member of the InterNational Electrical Testing Association (NETA)
- ISO/IEC 17025 Accredited

Electrical Testing & Commissioning

- Protective Relays • Transformers • Commissioning & Technical Support • Switchgear • Breakers • Infrared & Ultrasonic Survey • Cable Locating • VLF & Tan Delta Testing • Partial Discharge • Meters • Grounding • Generator Controls • ATS • UPS • Battery Systems • Motor Control Centers • Switches • Capacitor Banks

Electrical Studies & Training

- Short Circuit/Device Coordination Studies • Arc Flash/Shock Hazard Studies • Harmonic/Power Factor/Transient Studies & Corrections
- Electrical Safety & Troubleshooting • NFPA 70E

Contact UIS

866-967-9464
www.teamuis.com

UNION Solution Since 1976



Outdoors

Add more outdoors in 2024



By Sarah Lapshan
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

When it comes to nature-based fun and learning, we've got you covered. Everyday adventurers, weekend warriors and everyone in between – you're all welcome in Michigan's big green gym.

"No matter where you live or where you'd like to go, our state has a wealth of quality public lands offering many opportunities to get you outside," said Scott Whitcomb, director of the Office of Public Lands at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. "If your 2024 plans include resolutions for better physical and mental health, less screen time and more days enjoying, supporting and learning about the outdoors, this is a pretty great place to be."

Here are a few ideas to get started.

Tackle new trails. Michigan has more than 13,400 miles of state-designated trails, including multi-use trails that can accommodate more than one type of recreation use. These trails are for hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, paddling, horseback riding, off-road vehicle riding, snowmobiling and more.

To tweak your trails routine: Try a new trail at least once a month.

Paddle one of nine designated state water trails (totaling 630 miles) that flow through more than a dozen counties.

Sign up for the Bob Ross-inspired Happy Little (Virtual) 5K (April 22-26) and support tree-planting and forest-protection efforts in state parks.

Bring a buddy and introduce someone to the trails experience. When you're ready to blaze your own trail, get everything you need – interactive nonmotorized trail and ORV route maps, snowmobile trail maps, track chair details, etiquette guidance and closures info – at Michigan.gov/DNRTrails.

Watch for wildlife. An easy,



A GROUP OF HOLIDAY mountain bikers stop for a picture on the Norway Ridge Trail near Alpena. *MDNR photo*

fun way to enjoy fresh air is to keep an eye out for animal tracks. You can do this year-round, but with tracks and evidence of critters more visible with snow on the ground, winter is one of the best times.

Rachel Lincoln, a DNR wildlife outreach coordinator, said many animals remain active during Michigan winters, both in urban and rural settings, and it's common to see tracks of deer, squirrels, coyotes, birds and rabbits widespread throughout the state – though the tracks of bobcats, foxes and weasels prove more elusive.

"Small mammals such as shrews, mice and voles will tunnel beneath the snow, leaving lines of raised snow that are easy to spot," she said. "Following tracks gives insights into animal

behavior. You're like a detective, piecing together what the animal was doing, where it was traveling to and from, whether it was alone or traveling in groups."

Want to know more? Animal track field guides can help you learn about the tracks you're seeing. Peterson's Field Guide on Animal Tracks is a great resource to explore beforehand or take with you in the field. Learn more about plant and wildlife species at Michigan.gov/Wildlife.

Try your hand at tree ID. With more than 20 million acres of forest land and expanding urban tree canopy, Michigan knows trees ... but do you? Hartwick Pines State Park interpreter Craig Kasmer has some tree-identification tips to keep in mind when you're out exploring.

Conifers (pine, spruce, fir

and cedar, for example) that retain their leaves, are easier to ID in the winter. Deciduous trees (like maple, birch and elm) that lose their leaves take more effort to determine. "The three characteristics to look for are bark, branching and seeds, and the seeds are usually found on the ground at this time of year," said Kasmer.

For a branching reminder, he suggested the acronym MAD HORSE, because **m**aple, **a**sh, **d**ogwood and **h**orse chestnut all have opposing branching patterns: twigs grow off a branch opposite of each other like our arms from our torso. All other trees/shrubs grow in an alternate pattern.

Some quick tree traits: White oak trees have water-resistant properties that make them great for building boats and wine barrels. Redbud trees have tiny pink flowers that bloom before the trees even grow leaves. The mighty eastern white pine, Michigan's state tree, can grow over 100 feet tall!

Intrigued? Discover more facts about Michigan's trees on the DNR's native trees webpage.

Know your invasives. No matter how or where you spend time outdoors, there is something you can do to care for your favorite places: learn about invasive pests and diseases that threaten native plant and animal species.

If certain invasives are given the chance to outcompete native species enough to establish themselves in new ecosystems, they pose a huge risk to Michigan woods and water. Certain species can cause deforestation, reduce fish populations and alter valuable habitat. It's easy to help; just know what to look for and report what you see!

Visit Michigan.gov/Invasives to learn more about identifying and reporting problem species; get tips on actions hunters, anglers, boaters and others can take to reduce the spread of invasives; and explore the popular NotMiSpecies webinar series. It covers everything from rock

snot (yes, a true aquatic invasive species) to protecting your own backyard or neighborhood from damaging bugs like spongy moth or spotted lanternfly.

Volunteer. Teaching new hunters about safety, answering campers' questions and sharing campground program information, pulling invasive plants in state parks' natural areas, cleaning up illegal dumping sites in the forest, installing fish-spawning structures, gathering water samples from an inland lake, giving lighthouse tours, reporting sick or dead wildlife – these all are things you can do to help Michigan's natural world and the people who like to spend time in it.

If you want to lend a hand but aren't sure how to make the leap, visit the DNR's Get Involved webpage. Explore the different volunteer options and see where you have a natural inclination, what feels like the right fit. If Michigan's great outdoors has given a lot to you over the years, make 2024 the year you give back. You'll be glad you did.

Discover new pursuits. Always wanted to try fishing, hunting, hiking, birding, mushroom hunting or other nifty nature quests, but want a little guidance? The DNR's Outdoor Skills Academy has just what you need: expert-led outings, all the gear, and time and space to let yourself learn.

"Sometimes a lack of experience with a certain hobby or skill can be intimidating, but the Outdoor Skills Academy removes all of that," said the DNR's Ed Shaw, who oversees the program. "Spend a weekend with your son or daughter, partner or best friend – or go solo and make new friends – and enjoy diving into something new that might just become a lifelong passion."

Upcoming classes include ice fishing and snowshoe building, with more opportunities added throughout the year. Watch for updates and registration details at Michigan.gov/OutdoorSkills.

Michigan's Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program offers women (18 and older) opportunities to explore outdoor activities in a noncompetitive, supportive atmosphere. The program offers weekend events in February and June in the Upper Peninsula at the Bay Cliff Health Camp north

of Marquette.

"BOW truly is a life-changing experience for many of the participants who often find deep and meaningful connections to the outdoors on their very first visit," said John Pepin, administrator of the program. "There is also a camaraderie, finding of new friends and good times shared by participants and volunteer instructors alike."

The program has dozens of class offerings ranging from self-confidence, shotgun and rifle shooting and cross-country skiing to flyfishing, paddleboarding, photography, wilderness first aid, archery, backwoods cooking, hiking and more. Sign up for upcoming activities and learn more at Michigan.gov/BOW.

Look local. Whitcomb said that state-managed public lands aren't your only option for getting outdoors. At the local and regional levels, too, you can find quality public recreation resources – neighborhood playgrounds, nature centers, community parks, city-to-city trails and more – that often are available closer to home.

"Such opportunities proved critical during the COVID-19 pandemic, and they continue to provide the safe, welcoming outdoor space people value," he said.

One place to start the search is the DNR's Michigan.gov/YourLocalOutdoors website, where you'll find an interactive map pin-pointing the names, locations, directions and destinations for plenty of places to camp, hunt, fish, boat, bike and more. Most entries offer information such as latitude and longitude, address, contact phone number and link to a dedicated webpage with more specific details and amenities.

Get more outdoor inspiration – including winter fun such as fat-tire biking, stargazing and cross-country skiing – at Michigan.gov/ThingsToDo.

If you're looking for new opportunities for adventures and recreation in the outdoors, Michigan has what you're looking for. Add more outdoors to your life in 2024.

"In these matters the only certainty is that nothing is certain."

– Pliny the Elder (23 AD - 79 AD)

CALL THE LAW OFFICES OF SERLING & ABRAMSON P.C. MESOTHELIOMA • LUNG CANCER

- Represented over 5,000 Michigan Plaintiffs in most all building trades
- Represented auto, chemical, utility and steel plant workers
- Over 200 years of combined experience
- We know the asbestos products that were used in Michigan and where exposures occurred

"From the very first conversation, we knew that the Serling firm would be honest, hardworking and compassionate. We felt so comfortable and protected with the Serling firm."

–Widow of Chrysler Engineer

Experience • Results • Michigan Attorneys • Asbestos Product Experts

Insulators • Pipefitters • Bricklayers • Plumbers • Boilermakers
Electricians • Utility Workers • Steel and Auto Workers • HVAC Workers • Other Trades



Hundreds of millions of dollars collected for Mesothelioma & Lung cancer

MICHIGAN'S FIRST & FINEST



Offices in Birmingham and Allen Park

Receive our FREE Michigan Guide Book on Mesothelioma and Lung Cancer



Can qualify for Lung Cancer case even if you smoked

www.serlinglawpc.com

CALL for a FREE consultation and we will review your claim

(248) 647-6966

(800) 995-6991