



THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council
Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades unions

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SHORT CUTS



Candidates endorsed for Nov. 2 election

A list of endorsed candidates for the Tuesday, Nov. 2. General Election can be found in this edition on Page 4.

DTE moves up plan to end coal at Belle River

DTE Energy announced Oct. 13 that it is ceasing all coal use at its 1,395-megawatt Belle River Power Plant in St. Clair County no later than December 2028 – at least two years earlier than its scheduled end of use date in 2030.

The utility said it would achieve its 50 percent carbon emissions reduction goal faster than planned and move the company closer to its goal of achieving net zero carbon emissions.

DTE said it has retired four of its coal-fired facilities (Marysville, Harbor Beach, Conners Creek and River Rouge) and plans to retire two of its four remaining coal plants – St. Clair and Trenton Channel – in 2022, while also exploring other clean energy options for electricity generation.

“By making this important generation decision now, DTE continues to be proactive in improving our reliability, addressing the expanding needs of our customers and accelerating our journey to cleaner energy generation that is affordable for the customers and communities we serve,” said DTE Energy CEO Jerry Norcia.

The company said it will “evaluate a conversion of the Belle River Power Plant to cleaner energy resources.”

On the Belle River plant site, a new \$1 billion natural-gas power plant – the 1,150-megawatt Blue Water Energy Center – is scheduled to go online next year to help replace some of the power generation that will be lost from the coal-burners.

Gas training plant site starts for Consumers

FLINT – Consumers Energy on Oct. 13 broke ground on its new natural gas training facility. The center, named Flint Gas City, will serve as a training resource for more than 1,500 Consumers Energy employees who build, maintain and operate natural gas infrastructure.

“Flint Gas City is a breakthrough initiative that directly impacts our goal to provide world-class performance and deliver hometown service,” said Tonya Berry, vice president of Gas Operations at Consumers Energy. “This facility, along with our training team, will provide the best possible preparation for our current and future workforce.”

Developed in partnership with the Michigan State Utility Workers Council, the \$10.1 million facility will be located at the Flint Service Center, 3201 E. Court St.

The training center will feature learning environments designed specifically for the natural gas industry, including a command center where instructors will create and control various training scenarios, such as gas leak simulations, service hook-ups, utility locating, leak detection and corrosion monitoring.

Quotable

“Life is short and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the dark journey with us. Oh be swift to love, make haste to be kind.”
—Henri Frederic Amiel (1821-1881)

Michigan's prevailing wage law is resurrected

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – And just like that, Michigan's prevailing wage law has made a comeback.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on Oct. 7 announced that the State of Michigan will once again require contractors to pay prevailing wage on state-sponsored, taxpayer-funded construction projects. Prevailing wage has been the single most important law that governs construction

Whitmer reinstates law to uphold wages; up next: ABC legal push to quash it, again

worker wages, but efforts by conservative lawmakers over the years have reduced to 24 the number of states that still have the law on their books.

The move in reinstates the prevailing wage requirement for government contractors, which was repealed in Michigan in June 2018, and ensures that any con-

struction worker working on a state-sponsored construction project receives a wage that “prevails” in their locality.

Prevailing wage laws deter out-of-area contractors from importing lower-paid, out-of-area workers, thus undermining local wage scales in an effort to underbid local contractors.

“By reinstating prevailing wage, we are ensuring that working people get treated with dignity and respect, which starts with

a fair wage,” Whitmer said. “As governor, I am proud to stand shoulder to shoulder

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TAKING A PHOTO after the prevailing wage reinstatement announcement at the UA Local 333 Training Center in Lansing were (l-r) Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council President Steve Claywell, Michigan Regional Carpenters Council President Tom Lutz, UA Local 85 Business Manager Justin Pomerville, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, UA Local 333 Business Manager Price Dobernick and International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Organizer Ed Bracamontes.

Strange days: job growth weak, pay is up, workers are quitting in droves

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

The Covid economy continues to confound.

•The U.S. economy was supposed to be on a glide path upward by now, but the Covid-19 Delta variant upended employment and market expectations, not to mention the world's supply chains.

•Unemployed workers getting extended pandemic benefits were assumed by many to be holding back the U.S. economy by not taking open jobs, but there was not a rush to fill positions once those benefits ended Sept. 1.

•The conundrum is that hiring has slowed significantly in August and September, but U.S.

job postings have been at a record level, increasing 62 percent. The nation's unemployment rate dropped in September, with the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reporting Oct. 8 that the rate dropped 0.4 percent to 4.8 percent. But the nation only added 194,000 jobs, significantly less than was expected.

“WHOA. THE DELTA VARIANT LEAVES ITS MARK,” Economic Policy Institute President Heidi Shierholz tweeted of the coronavirus pandemic's impact (her emphasis), in response to the numbers.

EPI senior economist Elise Gould added: “weaker growth in

(Continued on Page 4)

Wobbly construction industry stabilizes, but hurdles are ahead

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

The nation's construction industry has its share of headwinds, but there was some good news released earlier this month in a year of ups and downs.

The non-residential construction industry in September added jobs for the first time since March, and the Dodge Momentum Index for the U.S. construction industry last month climbed a healthy 11 percent.

“The gain in the Momentum Index and its components in September is certainly good news and a sign that owners and developers are looking past the current concerns over pricing, Delta, and politics and are moving forward with projects to meet demand,” said Dodge Data and Analytics on Oct. 7. “This does not mean there are no problems ahead for the sector. Month-to-

month volatility in the data is likely to remain for some time.”

The nonresidential building industry (for planned projects) staged a solid recovery in early



2021, Dodge said, as the economy began to awaken from its pandemic-induced slumber. But entering summer, those gains

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Trade union apprenticeships, college degrees offer similar path to good pay

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

What's inclined to deliver a higher paycheck these days: a college degree or a completion certificate from a construction union apprenticeship program?

On average, graduates of joint labor-management (union) apprenticeship programs in the construction industry still don't earn as much as college grads with four-year degrees. But pay for union apprenticeship grads has near parity when you combine

(Continued on Page 4)



THE CONCRETE TOWERS that will support the U.S. side of the Gordie Howe Bridge to Canada rise in Southwest Detroit. The twin towers, currently 250 feet tall, will nearly triple that height when the project is complete. The 183-foot-tall Lafarge cement silo, the largest in North America when it was completed in 2004, continues operations at right, with the company's ship *Alpena* shown docked on the Detroit River.

Photo credit: Bridging North America video capture

Gordie Howe Bridge goes up, down, as construction progresses

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor



FINISHING THE SURFACE of the Livernois overpass at I-75 is Damon Meriweather of Cement Masons Local 514.

DETROIT – To date, the most prominent aspects of the Gordie Howe International Bridge are the twin 250-foot-main towers, staring at each other from Windsor and Detroit on the north and south banks of the Detroit River.

But as impressive as they are, the towers as they stand today are not even halfway up to their planned 722-foot final height - which will put them on a level with the top of the 73-story Renaissance Center. And the towers only represent a portion of the work that's been going on for three years – more than 400 tradespeople are currently working on the Detroit side alone, moving sewer lines, driving piles, setting re-rod, building ramps and overpasses, setting shorter “back-span” bridge supports and placing new concrete.

“Before you can build up, you have to build down,” said Bryce Phillips, CEO of Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority, which is managing construction of the project. “While you cannot see the substantial work underground that needed to be first

(Continued on Page 2)



BUNDLING RE-ROD for use in the construction of a “template” form behind him on the U.S.-side tower of the Gordie Howe Bridge is Albert Montgomery of Iron Workers Local 25. He's employed by Black Swamp Steel Co.

The month of 'Striketober':

Workers refusing 'to return to crappy jobs with low pay'

The following were selected remarks made on Oct. 13 by AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler to the National Press Club.

In recent weeks, more than 1,000 workers went on strike at Nabisco's bakeries and distribution centers.

Nabisco and its parent company Mondelez had threatened to

ship good union jobs to Mexico if the workers did not agree to major concessions, despite record corporate profits. These are the workers who made the snacks that got us through lockdown during the pandemic – the Ritz crackers, the Oreos.

I had the privilege of walking the picket line with Keith,

Darlene and the other union members in Richmond. The company tried to pit workers against each other by offering a two-tiered health care system that weakened coverage for new hires.

The answer from the union was a resounding no. To quote Keith and Darlene: “We don't sell out our young workers. We are

fighting for the next generation.”

Many of you have written about the labor market in recent months. There's a lot for assignment editors to explore: the pandemic, a change in administrations, the return to office debate, the Great Resignation, inflation.

But while these forces may

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Viewpoints



The general strike of 2021

On Oct. 12, the Labor Department reported that some 4.3 million people had quit their jobs in August. That comes to about 2.9 percent of the workforce – up from the previous record set in April, of about 4 million people quitting.

All told, about 4 million American workers have been leaving their jobs every month since last spring. Add this to the Oct. 8 jobs report showing the number of job openings at a record high. The share of people working or actively looking for work (the labor force participation rate) has dropped to 61.6 percent. Participation for people in their prime working years, defined as 25 to 54 years old, is also down. Over the past year, job openings have increased 62 percent.

What's happening? You might say American workers have declared a national general strike until they get better pay and improved working conditions.

No one calls it a general strike. But in its own disorganized way it's related to the organized strikes breaking out across the land – Hollywood TV and film crews, John Deere workers, Alabama coal miners, Nabisco workers, Kellogg workers, nurses in California, healthcare workers in Buffalo.

Disorganized or organized, American workers now have bargaining leverage to do better. After a year and a half of the pandemic, consumers have pent-up demand for all sorts of goods and services. But employers are finding it hard to fill positions. This general strike has nothing to do with the Republican bogeyman of extra unemployment benefits supposedly discouraging people from working. Reminder: The extra benefits ran out on Labor Day.

Renewed fears of the Delta variant of COVID may play some role. But it can't be the major factor. With most adults now vaccinated, rates of hospitalizations and deaths are way down. Childcare is a problem for many workers, to be sure. But lack of affordable childcare has been a problem for decades. It can't be the reason for the general strike. I believe that the reluctance of workers to return to or remain in their old jobs is mostly because they're fed up. Some have retired early. Others have found ways to make ends meet other than remain in jobs they abhor. Many just don't want to return to backbreaking or boring low-wage shit jobs.

The media and most economists measure the economy's success by the number of jobs it creates, while ignoring the "quality" of those jobs. That's a huge oversight. Years ago, when I was Secretary of Labor, I kept meeting working people all over the country who had full-time work but complained that their jobs paid too little and had few benefits, or were unsafe, or required lengthy or unpredictable hours. Many said their employers treated them badly, harassed them, and did not respect them.

Since then, these complaints have only grown louder, according to polls. For many, the pandemic was the last straw. Workers are burned out, fed up, fried. In the wake of so much hardship, illness and death during the past year, they're not going to take it anymore.

To lure workers back, employers are raising wages and offering other inducements. Average earnings rose 19 cents an hour in September and are up more than \$1 an hour – or 4.6 percent – over the last year. Clearly, that's not enough.

Corporate America wants to frame this as a "labor shortage." Wrong. What's really going on is more accurately described as a living-wage shortage, a hazard pay shortage, a childcare shortage, a paid sick-leave shortage, and a health care shortage. Unless "these" shortages are rectified, many Americans won't return to work anytime soon. I say it's about time.

Robert Reich
Professor of Public Policy
University of California-Berkeley

Long live prevailing wage

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's decision this month to reinstate the prevailing wage via executive order came as a pleasant surprise to the state's construction workers, both union and nonunion.

Numerous academic studies over the past few decades have shown that prevailing wage laws bolster construction workers' paychecks, benefits and training programs.

Have no doubt, the reappearance of prevailing wage also came as a pleasant surprise to many construction contractors in Michigan, who see the law as a wage stabilizer in an industry that is rife with unwanted variables, especially these days.

The Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council endorsed her for governor three years ago, and Whitmer's executive action may have been a blatant move to win union workers' votes in next year's gubernatorial election. If it was, so be it. Remember it, embrace it. After all, money from the deep-pocketed, anti-union Devos family and the Associated Builders and Contractors greased GOP lawmakers' palms, and millions of dollars were spent on two petition drives to finally get the 53-year-old law repealed in 2018.

Whitmer's executive action could be overturned in the courts, not to mention by a different governor. But for now, it's nice to win some political hardball.

Marty Mulcahy
Editor

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor.
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A plan for the Post Office

By Jim Hightower

Corporate ideologues never cease blathering that government programs should be run like a business.

Really? What businesses would they choose? Pharmaceutical profiteers? Big Oil? Wall Street money manipulators? High tech billionaires? Airline price gougers?

The good news is that the great majority of people aren't buying this corporatist blather. Instead, by a 2-to-1 margin, Americans stunned smug right-wing privatizers by specifically declaring in a poll last year that our U.S. Postal Service should not be "run like a business."

Indeed, an overwhelming majority, including half of Republicans, say mail delivery should be run as a "public service."

In fact, having proven that this nearly 250-year-old federal agency can consistently and efficiently deliver to 161 million homes and businesses day after day, it's time to let the agency's trusted, decentralized, well-trained workforce provide even more services for our communities.

How about "postal banking?"

Yes, the existing network of some 31,000 post offices in metro neighborhoods and small towns across America are perfectly situated and able to provide basic banking services to the one-out-of-four of us who don't have or can't afford bank accounts. The giant banking chains ignore these millions, leaving them at the mercy of check-cashing exploiters and payday loan sharks.

The Post Office can offer simple, honest banking, including small-dollar checking and savings accounts, very-low-interest consumer loans, low-fee debit cards, etc.

The goal of postal banking is not to maximize corporate profits, but public service. Moreover, there's nothing new about this. Our post offices served as banks for millions of us until 1967, when Wall Street profiteers got their enablers in Congress to kill the competition.

(via www.otherwords.org)



A RENDERING of the Gordie Howe Bridge between Detroit and Windsor.

Credit: Bridging North America

Gordie Howe Bridge goes up, down

(Continued from Page 1) done, the towers can be seen from miles around and are a very visible sign of the project's progress."

The Gordie Howe Bridge will have the longest main span of any cable-stayed bridge in North America – 2,798 feet or 0.53 miles – and will be the fifth longest of its type in the world.

The two massive bridge towers along with a complex cable system, will support the bridge deck. Each of the towers is supported by 12 shafts drilled into bedrock to a depth of 118 feet, equivalent to about 12 stories. Each of the shafts is filled with approximately 69,000 gallons of concrete and are connected by 5,250 feet of post tensioning cables.

Above ground, the towers will take a final shape as an inverted "Y." Each tower is comprised of two pylons, or legs. The bridge deck, which will have six lanes of travel, will be supported 138 feet above ground. The towers and cable will support more than 33 million pounds.

The \$5.7 billion project – paid for entirely by the government of Canada – has four main aspects: the bridge itself, the Canadian Port Of Entry, the U.S. Port Of Entry and the Michigan interchange.

There has been a lot going on already with road and bridge work that will allow bridge traffic to access I-75 in Southwest Detroit. The trades have started ramp work, and have demolished five pedestrian bridges and three road bridges over a 1.8-mile stretch of I-75. Reconstruction of four road bridges and five pedestrian bridges will be taking place over the next two years.

Bridging North America is the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority's private-sector partner, responsible for the design, build, financing, operation and maintenance of the project. They are the primary employer on the project.

"I like being out here," said Carpenters Local 687 steward Jeff Ponke, who has worked at the sprawling bridge and interchange site in Southwest Detroit for the past 18 months. "With a project like this, a bridge to Canada, we tell each other we're never going to see this opportunity again in our lifetime."

The 118-foot depth of the main towers are about as low as



A RE-ROUTED SEWER DRAIN ditch at one of the sites associated with the Gordie Howe Bridge gets checked by (l-r) Jason Duff, a carpenters pile-driving superintendent, and Carpenters Local 687 steward Jeff Ponke. A new sewer drain "siphon" bypass will be installed at the site in Southwest Detroit, in order to bypass underground construction at the new U.S. Point of Entry.

the project will go, but there's some other vital underground work going on. Jason Duff, a carpenters pile-driving superintendent, was brought in from New York in part to oversee the key re-routing of a sewer drain, or "siphon," on a site near Fort Street and Junction. "The existing pipe is basically in the way of the Point Of Entry, and we're diverting around it," Duff said.

The massive 12-foot-diameter, 102-year-old concrete-encased pipe, buried about 36-feet deep, is still in "excellent condition," Duff said. "As you can see, the old concrete lasts forever." He added: "This is the largest diameter pipe I've ever seen." Protected by 50-foot-long sheet piles, a crew will be cutting into the pipe and diverting it with new 3/4-inch thick, 11-foot-diameter steel pipe, which will also be encased in concrete.

The construction site of the U.S. Point of Entry will require the installation of 18 separate siphons, all smaller diameter than the one at Fort and Junction. Some 100 feet of old pipe will be removed, and replaced with about 200 feet of new diverted pipe. "Same reason, we're moving them because they're all in the way," Duff said.

Piles – and lots of them – are also key to supporting new ramps and bridges associated with the Gordie Howe Bridge. Construction of the new Clark, Livernois and Springwells bridges over I-75 are under way. At a new ramp under construction at Springwells, a forest of concrete piles were being driven to support the new road. Bob Vantiem, a Carpenters Local 687 pile-driving foreman, said individual concrete piles being driven at the site are about 15,000-17,000 pounds each, and 53-feet in length. They're being driven down with about 15 feet sticking up above the ground, just a few feet apart.

"There are about 234 piles in this group alone, and they will support the ramp to the main bridge," Vantiem said of the vertical collection on the south side of I-75. "Why so many piles? Shitty soil. All clay. Its very spongy around here." He said it take the crew about an hour to set each pile.

The area around the bridge tower and the back span on the U.S. side – east of Zug Island and roughly south of Jefferson Av-



BURIED FOR 102 YEARS, THIS 12-foot diameter concrete-encased sewer pipe still looks good, and it's still leak-free. It will be tapped into and re-routed around the U.S. Point of Entry in an area around Fort Street and Junction in Detroit.

enue and Green Street - has seen a wholesale clearance of buildings over the past few years. Building trades workers have been filling the space, prepping for the construction of the bridge and U.S. Point of Entry.

Rodbusters were busy earlier this month at the site constructing a series of templates which are built on the ground and lifted into place atop the tower. The forms conform to the

shape of the bridge tower as it goes up, are tied together, and then set in concrete.

Bridging North America said the total height of the tower will be comprised of 51 different segments – "jump forms" – that will progress vertically every 15 feet. Each tower will require 353,400 cubic feet of concrete and 4,960 tons of steel rebar.

Completion of the bridge is expected at the end of 2024.

"We are none of us infallible – not even the youngest of us."

–W. H. Thompson

"We must be willing to get rid of the life we've planned, so as to have the life that is waiting for us."

–Joseph Campbell (1904 - 1987)

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BUILDING MICHIGAN: Traverse City's State Theatre HISTORY IN THE MAKING



TRAVERSE CITY'S STATE THEATRE – reconstructed in 1949 – has survived two devastating fires, three closures and multiple ownerships to become one of the nation's premier small-town movie houses. It's Art Moderne/Art Deco exterior, dominated by its tile facade and classic signage, bears little resemblance to its predecessor(s).

When it comes to historic preservation projects in Michigan, there aren't many that are as untidy as the story behind the three-time resurrection of what is today one of the state's most notable theaters.

Today's State Theatre in Traverse City is considered an essential asset to the city's downtown, and also a magnet for film lovers attending the annual Traverse City Film Festival – at least during non-pandemic years. But the fact that the building is still around showing movies is remarkably unlikely, and a tribute to the local business community, movie lovers and historic preservationists who saw value in building, re-building and rehabilitating what is now an historic gem.

The venue opened as the Lyric Theatre, a movie house, at what is now 233 E. Front St. in Traverse City. According to the State Theater's operators, State and Bijou.org, on July 4, 1916, Julius Steinberg opened the Lyric Theatre at the site to complement his Grand Opera House immediately west of the property on Front Street. The

Lyric opened with 1,033 seats showing the silent film *The Iron Strain* starring Dustin Farnum. Ticket prices were 15¢ for adults and 5¢ for children.

On Jan. 17, 1923, the Lyric was destroyed in a fire and subsequently reopened on Dec. 20, 1923, with the silent movie *Hearts Aflame*. The Lyric showed silent films and also hosted weddings and other events.

In September 1927, Butterfield Theatres – which owned movie houses throughout Michigan – took over management of Lyric from the Fitzpatrick-McElroy chain.

At midnight on March 29, 1929, the Lyric showed *Lucky Boy* starring George Jessel, the first "talkie" film run in Traverse City. At this special showing, a short clip of Herbert Hoover's inauguration speech was also screened. The Lyric was the first theater in Northern Michigan to operate Vitaphone-Movietone equipment.

The Lyric was destroyed again by fire on Jan. 23, 1948. It was subsequently rebuilt and reopened on June 30, 1949 with a new name, the State Theatre. It

was reconstructed this time in the Art Deco or Art Moderne style, with its dominant architectural feature the red tiles that face the front of the building, not to mention the classic three-sided movie marquee and blade sign above ground level.

The first film shown at the 1,023-seat State was *It Happens Every Spring* starring Ray Milland and Jean Peters. Ticket prices were 35¢ for adults and

12¢ for children.

Since then, there have been no more fires at the theater, thankfully, but the State went through some more hard times over the ensuing decades that are familiar to downtown movie houses across the nation.

According to a timeline by *Cinema Treasures*, the State Theatre closed on Sept. 10, 1978 for remodeling into a twin screen cinema. The last movie shown in the single auditorium State Theatre was *The End* with Burt Reynolds. The theater was operated as a twin by GKC for several years before it closed again in 1996. The State Theatre Group and Rotary Charities kept the theater safe from weather and time while plans were made for its future.

"The Traverse City Film Festival – the invention of Michael Moore, its cofounder with John Robert Williams in 2005 – was urgently in need of a permanent home and venue for films, and finally drove the speedy and under-budget rehabilitation of the State Theatre to conclusion," reports *Archipedia*. "The festival people acquired the theater in 2007 from Rotary Charities of Traverse City, which holds a lien on the building.

"Now 440 new plush red seats fill the auditorium, up-to-date technical systems improve sight and sound, replicate Art Deco sconces crafted by metal artist Bob Purvis of Suttons Bay adorn the walls of the theater, and paintings by local artist Glenn Wolff depicting the theater's earlier appearance enliven the lobby. Renovations took



THE STATE THEATRE'S renovated interior. Photo credit: State Theatre

just six weeks for hundreds of industrious and enthusiastic volunteers and paid workers to accomplish. Today the State Theatre is a full-time year-round art house and film center for northern Michigan."

Travel History suggests the building is decorated in an Art Moderne style, "with its flashing marquee, glossy panels, and soffit lighting. The inside features a full balcony with a glorious starry ceiling that shows summer constellations."

With the number of beautifully kept and restored movie houses in Michigan alone, it's remarkable that Traverse City's State Theatre has enjoyed more positive press than most – but it's film festival has been a magnet for movie-goers, and that has likely helped its notoriety. In 2011 *USA Today-Travel* put the State Theatre on the national list of "10 great places to see a movie in splendor," citing its glow-in-the-dark "astronomically correct starry ceiling that replicates an August night in Michigan."

Senior editor Karen Palmer, placed the theater alongside classic movie houses in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago and other major cities. "These theaters have their own quirky elements and personalities that make them magical places to go sit for a few hours," Palmer said.

A 2007 feature in *The New York Times* singled out the work at Traverse City's State Theatre, as a "highly impressive endeavor by an Academy Award-winning director (Moore) in his adopted community, (but) it was not unique. The State is one of some two dozen historic movie and performing arts theater restorations occurring this year in small cities around the nation, according to the League of Historic American Theaters in Baltimore.

And in 2013, the State Theatre was awarded the No. 1 spot on a list of the 10 best movie theaters in the world by a film industry news site operated by the Motion Picture Association of America.

But the theater has been dark since the pandemic struck.

"While most other theaters have since reopened, however, the doors at the State remain locked," *Northern Express* reports. "Traverse City Film Festival founder Michael Moore has cited both the pandemic and needed repairs as necessary to reopening. In a recent interview with *Northern Express* sister publication, *The Ticker*, Moore noted the receipt of a federal PPP grant of \$933,000 should enable both the State and Bijou to make repairs and upgrades to theater equipment, ventilation, and air circulation systems, as well as address flooding issues at the State, but he declined to offer a timeline."



THE LYRIC THEATRE along Front Street in Traverse City, in 1936. Photo credit: Traverse Area Historical Society

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Endorsements

Absentee ballots have been mailed for voters to cast their ballot in this year's General Election.

The following candidates have been endorsed by local councils affiliated with the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council for the Nov. 2, 2021, General Election. The list reflects candidates who have requested an endorsement and have been screened by the local Political Action Committee.

Genesee County
Davison Twp. Clerk: Patrick Miller

Ingham County
East Lansing
City Council: Ron Bacon
Lansing Mayor: Andy Schor
City Council
2nd Ward: Jeremy Garcia (UALocal 333)

Jackson County
Jackson Mayor: Dan Mahoney

Macomb County
New Baltimore
Mayor: Tom Semaan
City Council: Ryan Covert
Roseville
Treasurer: John Chirkun
City Council: Stephen Wietcha

Oakland County
Berkley City Council: John Coggeshall
Hazel Park
Mayor: Michael Webb
City Council: Luke Londo, Alissa Sullivan
Madison Heights Mayor: Roslyn Grafstein
City Council: Sean Fleming, Quinn Wright
Novi
Mayor: Ajay Raman
City Council: Brian Smith
Oak Park
Mayor: Marian Meisner-McClellan
Pontiac Mayor: Tim Greimel
City Council
(District 1): Julia Ruffin
(District 2): Brett Nicholson
(District 3): Mikal Goodman
(District 4): Randy Carter
(District 5): William Parker
(District 6): William Carrington
Royal Oak
Mayor: Michael Fournier
City Commission: Monica Hunt, Brandon Kolo, Melanie Macey, Sharlan Douglas
Southfield Mayor: Ken Siver
City Council: Jason Hoskins, Michael Mandelbaum, Linnie Taylor
Sterling Heights City Council: Henry Yanez, Michael Radtke, Liz Sierawski

Washtenaw County
Saline City Council: Jim Dell'Orco
Milan City Council: Josh Kofflin

Wayne County
Dearborn
Mayor: Abdullah Hammoud
City Council: Erin Byrnes, Mike Sareini
Charter Commissioner: Hassan Abdallah, Hussein Hachem
Dearborn Heights City Council
Mo Beydoun, Tom Wencel
Detroit City Council
(At Large): Janeé Ayers, Coleman Young Jr.
(District 4): M.L. Elrick
(District 6): Gabriela Santiago-Romero
(District 7): Fred Durhal
Detroit Police Commissioner: Linda Bernard
Grosse Pointe Park City Council: Darcy McConnell
Livonia City Council: Dan Centers, Jim Jolly
Romulus
Mayor: Robert McCraight
City Council: Bill Wadsworth, Virginia Williams
Southgate City Council: Bill Colovos
Taylor Mayor: Alex Garza
City Council: Jill Brandana
Trenton
Mayor: Steven Zreppa
City Council: Dora Rodriguez, Timber Baun-Crooks
Westland Mayor: Bill Wild
Council: Debra Fowlkes



Strange days for the U.S. economy

(Continued from Page 1)

payroll employment in September barely registers on the chart, rising by 194,000 jobs. So far this year, monthly job growth has averaged 561,000. If we can get the virus under control, the recovery can continue stronger."

Then came news on Oct. 12 from the Department of Labor that the number of U.S. workers quitting their jobs has surged to record highs. The DOL reported that a remarkable 2.9 percent of the U.S. workforce, or 4.3 million people, quit their job in August.

"The phenomenon is being driven in part by workers who are less willing to endure inconvenient hours, compensation, or conditions because they know there are ample opportunities elsewhere," said an analysis by *The Washington Post*.

The quits last month came in large part from workers in restaurants, bars and hotels (892,000), and retail (721,000) and professional business services (706,000). An additional 534,000 workers in health care and social assistance also quit.

"These data are from the end of August when the Delta variant was fueling a rise in Covid," tweeted Nick Bunker, head of North American research at the employment website Indeed.com. "Impact clearly felt in leisure and hospitality as both job openings and hires declined in the sector. But the sector also saw a HUGE rise in quitting."

Analysts have said the numbers of quitting and migrating workers reflect that many employees were simply not willing to put up with potential exposure to the Delta variant, plus the knowledge that other employers have been willing to pay more. The lack of dependable child care may also be a factor for parents.

Overall, wages have risen this year, and that has likely caused workers to look elsewhere for employment. "Average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 19 cents to \$30.85 in September, following large increases in the prior five months," the DOL said Oct. 8. "The data for recent months suggest that the rising demand for labor associated with the recovery from the pandemic may have put upward pressure on wages. However, because average hourly earnings vary widely across industries, the large employment fluctuations since February 2020 complicate the analysis of recent trends in average hourly earnings."

Shierholz, of the labor-backed EPI, said "the strong wage growth in some industries this year is not a permanent shift in worker bargaining power, but a temporary result of the unique circumstances of this recovery. For sustained strong job growth for working people, we need things like the PRO Act, minimum wage increases, etc."

Some other tidbits from the federal employment numbers:

- "Construction employment rose by 22,000 in September but has shown little net change thus far this year," the DOL said Oct. 8. "Employment in construction is 201,000 below its February 2020 level."

- Jobless rates in construction (4.5 percent) and factories (3.9 percent) were below the national rate, but 7.7 percent of leisure and hospitality workers were still unemployed, the highest share of any industry.

- For 34.5 percent of the jobless workers, they have been unemployed for at least 26 weeks, meaning they've not only exhausted their jobless benefits, but their prospects for future employment often decline.

Eric Schweitzer, a career transition specialist, for Challenger, Gray and Christmas, said that "over half of employees surveyed in recent poll want to leave their current job. Top two reasons: 1) Employees felt their employers did not understand them or were not demonstrating empathy. 2) People want work flexibility. Also interesting — working parents nearly twice as likely to consider quitting compared to non-parents. Flexibility and purpose a greater motivator than security."

Said Jennifer Lee, an economist at BMO Capital Markets: The data is "highlighting the immense problems businesses are dealing with. Not enough people. Not enough equipment and/or parts. Meantime, customers are waiting for their orders, or waiting to place their orders. What a strange world this is."



Gordie Howe Bridge, going up...

ONE OF A SERIES of "templates" that will form the rising main tower on the U.S.-side of the Gordie Howe Bridge is lifted into place by an Local 324 operating engineer. Each section weighs about 40,000 to 60,000 lbs., and each are tied into the existing work before being covered with concrete. The templates were made by Iron Workers Local 25 rodbusters employed by Bridging North America.

Trade union apprenticeships, college degrees offer similar path to good pay

(Continued from Page 1)

graduates of two-year (associate's degrees) and four-year (bachelor's degree) programs. And union construction workers can expect to earn a significantly higher chunk of money than their nonunion counterparts.

The information comes according to a national study released Sept. 23 by the Illinois Economic Policy Institute, a pro-labor non-profit think-tank. The study is called *Union Apprenticeships: The Bachelor's Degrees of the Construction Industry, Data for the United States, 2010-2020*.

The study analyzed 10 years of data from the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement released by the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau. And it comes as Congress is considering more than \$1 trillion in new infrastructure investment that is expected to increase demand for skilled trades workers.

"The data reveals that broad stigmas that have long been associated with vocational training alternatives to college are simply not grounded in fact," said the institute's Policy Director, Frank Manzo IV. "Compared with two- and four-year colleges, joint labor-management apprenticeships in construction deliver a more robust training regimen, similar diversity outcomes, competitive wage and benefit levels, and comparable tax revenue for states and local governments, while leaving graduates entirely free of burdensome student loan debt."

The study also pointed out: "These outcomes are achieved without incurring \$39,000 in debt, which is the average loan burden for student borrowers across the United States."

Graduates of union apprenticeship programs achieve outcomes most similar to other workers with bachelor's degrees and associate degrees, while outcomes for nonunion construction workers more closely mirrored other workers with high school diplomas or GEDs, the study said.

College graduates with four-year degrees, on average, out-earn unionized construction workers. The study found that unionized construction workers earn an average income of about \$58,000 per year, almost halfway between all workers with associate degrees (\$48,200) and all workers with bachelor's degrees (\$68,600).

Overall, the study found that nonunion construction workers earned an average \$18,300 less per year than their unionized counterparts, were significantly less likely to have access to health insurance or a retirement plan at work, were more than twice as likely to be living in poverty, were nearly three times more likely to be reliant on Medicaid, and were significantly less likely to be married — a metric that other research has linked to social stability and upward economic mobility.

"The data unequivocally shows that attending college is not the only pathway into the American middle class," added Manzo. "However, it is clear that the most viable such pathway in construction runs through the joint labor-management apprenticeships and the unionized side of the industry."

Prior studies examining construction apprenticeship programs have shown that they also offer a substantially more rigorous training curriculum than either two-year colleges or four-year universities. Recent studies in Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois and Oregon have concluded that construction apprenticeships offer up to 41 percent more hours of training than bachelor's programs at public universities, and up to 183 percent more than associate degrees at community colleges.

In addition, relative to public universities, the research found that joint-labor management programs enrolled a higher share of Black or African American trainees in three of the five states studied, and a higher share of Hispanic or Latino trainees in four of the five states studied. Those five states in the study included Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Oregon and Wisconsin.

"By providing more people from more backgrounds with the in-demand skills needed to secure good-paying jobs, the data shows that joint labor-management apprenticeship programs consistently deliver bachelor's degree-level outcomes," Manzo said. "That's great news for workers looking for alternatives to college, and an instructive framework for policymakers looking for ways to grow America's middle class."

Michigan's prevailing wage law is resurrected

(Continued from Page 1)

with working people and unions who built the middle class. By reinstating prevailing wage, we are ensuring working people can earn a decent standard of living, saving taxpayers money and time on crucial infrastructure projects, and offering Michigan a highly-trained workforce to rely on as we build up our roads and bridges, replace lead pipes, install high-speed internet, and more."

Whitmer made the announcement in the friendly confines of the Lansing-based Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333 Training Center, in front of union members and other supporters of the law.

"The actions that have been taken today, help to restore confidence by workers and employers alike," said Steve Claywell, President of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council. "The restoring of prevailing wage provides a fair and equal bidding process allowing for highly trained men and women to be paid a good wage. We appreciate the courage of this governor and stand ready to build Michigan with her."

Michigan's Prevailing Wage Act of 1966 was repealed in 2018 after a successful citizen's petition drive sponsored in large part by the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan. The repeal petition was able to garner enough signatures, and then enough Republican lawmakers in the state House and Senate to adopt the language in the petition. Zero Democrat lawmakers voted for repeal, which passed 56-53 in the House and 23-14 in the Senate.

"Today's announcement from Gov. Whitmer is excellent news for every single resident of the state of Michigan," said Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber. "Requiring a prevailing wage to be paid in state contracting means safe, quality construction projects completed by highly skilled workers. It means working women and men getting paid a decent wage that can support a family. It means no more race to the bottom to find the cheapest labor while companies pad their bottom line. It also means a fair competitive bidding process for contractors. Michigan families will be better off because of Gov. Whitmer's action today."

The citizen's petition drive and subsequent 2018 vote in the Legislature to repeal prevailing wage took advantage of a quirk in the state Constitution that allows the passage of laws by bypassing the governor's veto. Whitmer's executive action on prevailing wage also seeks to take advantage of a possible quirk in the language of the repeal legislation, which repealed the law, but didn't have language preventing it from being employed again.

Whitmer's action issued an executive directive to order the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB), which oversees state procurement, to incorporate prevailing wages when negotiating state construction projects. Locally initiated construction projects that use state tax money are not affected by the governor's order.

Joining state Republican leaders in protesting Whitmer's order, the National Federation of Independent Business in Michigan, chimed in: "While we appreciate that the governor got used to unilaterally making decisions over the past two years, we are disappointed that she would once again be so blatant in her abuse of power and actually believe that it is in her constitutional purview to reinstate a law that had been repealed by the Legislature through an initiative petition," said the group's assistant state director, Amanda Fisher.

The Michigan ABC and their conservative backers didn't spend three years, and an estimated \$4 million on two prevailing wage repeal efforts (the first one failed because of signature irregularities, the second one nearly did) to let Whitmer's decision stand without a court battle. "Now she's signing illegal orders to undo laws that protect workers and taxpayers," said ABC-Michigan President Jimmy Greene. Greene told the *Detroit Free Press* he could not point to any studies or data showing the state has saved money on construction projects since the prevailing wage law was repealed.

Indeed, there have been no such studies that we have seen. But examples made by other states where prevailing wage repeal has taken place show taxpayers don't save any money, as promised by repealers, according to numerous academic studies. As we reported in our last issue, the latest example came from the Indiana Department of Labor, which released its own long-awaited study analyzing the impact of repeal. They too found that eliminating the minimum wage standards for construction workers on public works projects had "no significant impact" on overall project costs.

Other studies have found that repeal of prevailing wage cuts money available for training, creates labor cost uncertainty for contractors when it comes to bidding, drives construction workers to states where the pay is better, and results in less-safe jobsites.

"There's no reason a contractor on a public project should find a competitive edge on the backs of workers, it's just simply not right," said host Local 333 Business Manager Price Dobernick. "Good contractors that choose to take care of their employees should not have to compete against such unscrupulous contractors."

Dobernick, who is also president of the Michigan Pipe Trade Association, pointed out that prevailing wage helps both union and nonunion workers. And pointing to the constant drumbeat of the shortage of construction workers, he said prevailing wage is a recruitment tool that "helps training centers like this one across the state of Michigan thrive."

Just joking

It took a lot of courage, but I finally approached my wife during a quiet period at the end of the day, and told her, "I have a problem."

"No," she replied. "We have a problem. We're a couple, we're husband and wife, we're a unit. Your problem is my problem. We're in this together! Now, what's going on?"

Overwhelmed with relief, I told her how much I appreciated her generous, loving, helpful attitude.

"OK, so what's the problem?" she asked. I then explained, "we got your sister pregnant!"

...
A thief stole my diary and my Bible. In his getaway car, he got into a serious accident. I'm upset, but still, my thoughts and prayers are with him.

"To build may have to be the slow and laborious task of years. To destroy can be the thoughtless act of a single day."
— Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)

"You will find that the State is the kind of organization which, though it does big things badly, does small things badly, too."
— John Kenneth Galbraith (1908 - 2006)

Workers 'are refusing to return to crappy jobs with low pay'

(Continued from Page 1)

present new questions and challenges, the stakes remain fundamentally the same: Justice. Fairness. The right to organize, bargain and have our voices heard.

One of the most persistent questions reporters have been asking is: Are people refusing to work? An NBC headline in June put it this way: Is it a sluggish labor market – or workers positioning themselves for better opportunities?

The answer to that question can be found in workplaces and communities across America. As we gather here today, thousands of workers are on strike for a better deal and a better life.

Coal miners in Alabama, Nurses in Massachusetts, Steelworkers and Machinists in West Virginia, Distillery workers in Kentucky, hospital workers in upstate New York, Ironworkers in Pennsylvania, Kellogg's workers in four states, riding the momentum of their compatriots at Nabisco.

And at this moment, the 60,000 film and television workers (IATSE) who make our favorite shows and movies are bargaining for adequate sleep, meal breaks and living wages. They're ready to strike if necessary. 35,000 workers at Kaiser in California have made the same declaration. Some are calling this "Striketober." I call it Exhibit A for why we need to rebalance the playing field and put workers back in the center of our economy.

The headlines reporting a shortage of workers are missing the point. The pandemic laid bare the inequities of our system, and as we try to get beyond COVID, working people are refusing to return to crappy jobs with low pay. Essential workers are tired of being thanked one moment and treated as expendable the next.

The real headline isn't that there's a shortage of people willing to return to work. The real scarcity story is the shortage of safe, good-paying, sustainable jobs. And the good news is that workers feel a new sense of power and leverage and aren't willing to settle anymore. And the solution, once again, can be found in the labor movement.

Unions are how Americans have always turned bad jobs into good jobs. My focus as president of the AFL-CIO is building a modern labor movement that can meet this moment. A movement that dreams big and takes risks and isn't afraid to fail. A movement that is alive and well from Silicon Valley to the American South to all the places workers are trying to claim their share of the American Dream.

And a movement that leverages our power to bring women and people of color from the margins to the center – at work, in our unions and in our economy.

Our newest affiliate, the National Women's Soccer League Players Association, is showing us what a modern labor movement looks like. They are using their platform to speak out against harassment and abuse on the job.

The AFL-CIO is committed to building a professional sports world with more leaders like you and less people like Jon Gruden.

This solidarity guides everything we do, whether it's taking on Amazon or co-creating technology to empower workers—whether it's enshrining labor laws for this century by passing the PRO Act and the Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act—or whether it's pushing our elected officials to get President Biden's jobs bills across the finish line.

We have everything lined up. A pro-worker administration and Congress. 68 percent support for unions – including 77 percent among young people – the highest marks since 1965. And workers all across the country standing up, speaking out and taking risks. They see unions as the answer.

So this is our chance. We have a window. A historic opportunity. And we cannot and will not let it pass us by.



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

WARREN/LANSING – OCTOBER 2021 CHAPTER MEETINGS.

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

NOVEMBER 2021 CHAPTER MEETINGS, METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, November 02, 2021 is CANCELLED due to Election Day.

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, November 02, 2021 is CANCELLED due to Election Day.

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

HOUGHTON CHAPTER: Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 7:30 PM, Dave Raffaelli's, 37738 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, November 08, 2021 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, November 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the IBEW Hall, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the American Legion Post #35, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686.

BRICKLAYER APPRENTICE COMPETITION. BAC Local 2 hosted the Michigan Mason Contractors Association Region C Masonry Skills Challenge on Saturday, October 09, 2020 at the Metro Detroit Training Center. BAC Local 2 Apprentice, Nick Sobczak, won First Place in the third-year apprentice competition and will be heading to Las Vegas!

The Mason Contractors Association of America will be hosting the Annual International Masonry Skills Challenge on January 19, 2022 at the World of Masonry Competition which will be held at the World of Concrete in Las Vegas, NV.

20 apprentices competed from Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia. The overall placement is as follows:

1st Year Apprentices.

1st Place – Andre Smith (OH),
2nd Place – Jacob Place (OH/KY),
3rd Place – Thomas Pfaff (OH)

2nd Year Apprentices.

1st Place – Curtis Sutter (OH),
2nd Place – Grant Miller (OH/KY),
3rd Place – Garrick Manning (N. OH)

3rd Year Apprentices.

1st Place – Nick Sobczak (MI),
2nd Place – Joe Chick (OH), 3rd Place – Jordan Zimmer (MI)

We want to say THANK YOU to all of our Sponsors, BAC members who helped tend the Apprentices and those who judged for the competition!

DEATHS REPORTED. Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Thomas Manley** (Bricklayer) who passed away on September 25, 2021. Brother Manley had been a member for 57 years.

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. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get the same amount as a **Finders Referral Bonus** for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for 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. You can view the full Signing Bonus policy on our website.

ASPEEDY 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.

***IMPORTANT CHANGE**

Regarding Union Dues* All Local 2 Members are now eligible for a Union Dues discount, regardless of what month you are paid through currently. This offer is a great way to catch up on your monthly window dues by taking advantage of this annual dues discount.

We are making available to ALL Local 2 members the opportunity to pay for 6 months of union dues and receive credit for 12 months. An entire year for half the price!!

UPDATE - BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS. Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. Please contact our Training Centers at the numbers listed below for an appointment for annual RESPIRATOR FIT TESTS and other services.

DETROIT IMI TRAINING CENTER. To schedule appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

METRO DETROIT APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD: Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Metro Detroit Apprentice Worksheets are available for download at http://bit.ly/Apprentice_Worksheets. If you do not have a printer, you can pick them up during our monthly meeting or contact Howard Hipes at (517) 749-1102 to request them by mail. For more information on the Detroit Training Center visit: detroitroweltrades.org

LANSING TRAINING CENTER. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Lansing Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2021 online training classes.

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 <http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC> 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.

BAC 2 MI TEXTIN PROGRAM. We have been communicating by text message more frequently.

(Continued next column)



FINISHING part of the Livernois overpass at I-75 in Southwest Detroit is James Smith of Cement Masons Local 514. He's employed by Bridging North America.



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT - The next membership meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. will be in person. We will practice social distancing for everybody's safety. Masks will be required.

Membership gold cards- Congratulations!
Dino Ricciuti-25 Years
Jasen Thompson-25 Years
Arthur Adkins-30 Years

Please welcome Parrish Hill, our new Business Representative! His number is 313-220-7840 and he can be reached by email: parrishhill514@yahoo.com

Our deepest condolences go out to Bro. Richard Warner family. He passed away on September 6, 2021. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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.

Lawrence Nemeth is the Ap-

BAC 2, con't

quently with our membership lately. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our text messages by

-texting **2MI** to **877877**

-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!

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION
Bricklayers Metro Detroit Local Pension Fund (248) 641-4954 (dvtv.org)

Detroit & Vicinity Health Insurance (800) 435-4080 or (248) 828-6000 (dvtv.org)

BAC Holiday/Vacation Fund (248) 813-9800

MI BAC Health & Welfare & MI BAC Pension (800) 531-2244 (outstate funds, michiganbac.org)

Cement Pension & Holiday Funds (248) 645-6550 (detroitcementmasons.org)

CALL-A-DOC (800) 835-2362 (D&V Health Fund)

International Pension/Annuity Fund for Metro Detroit Brick, Cement and TMT (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)

prenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313) 350-0389.

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.

O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a satellite office in Flint, Michigan. We welcome Members 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.

Members working for non-signatory commercial contractors are having a negative impact on our market share. The work forecast this year looks better than last. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fines will be enforced. Let's work together to secure our future!!

We must stay vigilant in our effort to promote our trade. If you are working in a crew of 5 or more an Apprentice must be on the crew. Help out! Call the Local at (248) 548-0800. Training is the key to our future!!

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 CE-

MENT MASONS: You can track your annuity fund status at the Wells Fargo website. You may do so by logging on to: www.retirement.wellsfargo.com or call (866) 640-5138, you can also call the fund office at (248) 645-6550 with any related questions.

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. **PLASTERERS 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.

"Those that think it permissible to tell white lies soon grow color blind."
-Austin O'Malley

"Defer not till tomorrow be wise, tomorrow's sun to thee may never rise."
-William Congreve (1670 - 1729)

"I respect faith, but doubt is what gets you an education."
-Wilson Mizner (1876 - 1933)

"Few people can see genius in someone who has offended them."
-Robertson Davies

"Always and never are two words you should always remember never to use."
-Wendell Johnson

"Where facts are few, experts are many."
-Donald R. Gannon

"Trust thyself only, and another shall not betray thee."
-Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661)

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	

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The piles take a stand

SETTING CONCRETE PILES as part of a ramp to the Gordie Howe Bridge in Detroit are a group of Carpenters Local 687 and Millwrights Local 1102 members. The piles weigh up to 17,000 lbs each, and are spaced only a few feet apart. About 234 are to be planted for this ramp alone. On the crew are crane operator Jason Curry and oiler Daniel Ratliff of Operating Engineers Local 324, Carpenters foreman Bob Vantien, and Kyle Becker and Jeremy Bozick of Millwrights 1102.



Plumbers Local 98



Plumbers 98

DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98. Brothers and Sisters, Time is flying and it is already almost time for nominations for officers and delegates. Please note all of the important dates coming up here at Local 98. We have nominations on Nov. 4 and election day is Dec. 2. Mark your calendars and be sure to participate if you are eligible and let your voice be heard.

MEETINGS & Union Hall. **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING: The next Union Meeting will be a **Special Called Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 4 at 7:00 pm** at the Union Hall in order to nominate Officers and Delegates for the December election for Local 98. Please see below for more information on the offices up for election.

UNION ELECTION INFORMATION. Local 98's Officer and Delegate Elections – At the Special Called Meeting on Thursday Nov. 4, 2021 Nominations will be held for the following offices: (1) Business Manager; (1) Financial Secretary-Treasurer; (4) Business Agent; (1) President; (1) Vice President; (4) Executive Board; (1) Recording Secretary; (3) Examining Board; (3) Finance Committee; (1) Inside Guard; (16) Delegate.

Article 3 Section 1 of Local 98's Bylaws defines eligibility for running for office: *"Journeyman members eligible to hold office must have been in good standing in the local union for a period of two years prior to the election. Section 121 of the U.A. Constitution 2016 Edition."* If a member has any questions on his/her eligibility or the Union Election Process, please contact Financial Secretary-Treasurer Jon DeRoo at (248) 762-9238.

The regularly scheduled **Union Meeting** will be held on **Thursday, Nov. 11** at 7 pm in person. We will also be distributing turkeys to the members at this meeting. The meeting will take place indoors at our Union Hall and all Covid restrictions in place will be adhered to. Masks are required **WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE VACCINATED** as too many of our members are not adhering to the CDC recommendations as I thought.

E-Board Meetings. E-Board meetings are the first and second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. If you need to contact or see the board, please call V.P. Jim Cools at 734-307-9841.

Retiree Meetings. The next Retiree meeting will be **Wednesday, Nov. 10 from 12pm – 2pm** at the hall. Please note, any existing Covid-19 protocols are still being adhered to for these meetings.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. Plumbers Local 98 Training Center is NOW accepting applications for our Apprenticeship Program through Dec. 31, 2021. If you know anyone who is interested, please direct them to the Training Center's website plumbers98tc.org/apprenticeship.

For continuing education opportunities or classes, you can contact Training Center Coordinator Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435.

DUES. You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto-payments. If you have any questions or need to pay dues, please contact Kristina at 248-307-9800 ext. 4 or Jon DeRoo after hours, 248-762-9238.

NOTE ON DISABILITY/RETIREMENT. If you are filing for Social Security Disability you will need to file for your Local 98

Disability Pension at the same time in order to make sure you get all of your pension checks. Social Security normally takes at least a year and sometimes a lot longer. If you file for your Local 98 Disability Pension at the same time, when you receive your award from Social Security, we will be able to pay you all the retro money owed. If you are less than a year from retirement, we suggest you set up a meeting with Jon DeRoo prior to your retirement date.

IN MEMORIAM. Our deepest condolences go out to the friends and family of Brother Frank "Jeff" McMahon who passed away on October 13, 2021.

COVID-19 Information & Vaccine. Please visit ualocal98.com/covid-2 for the most current COVID-19 updates.

Our International is pushing for all employees and members to be vaccinated throughout our industry, at the halls, work places, and especially our training centers. I am just giving fair warning that anything in Washtenaw for training, apprentice contests, or any UA funded events will soon be mandating that you must have a vaccine for Covid-19. As I said this is coming sooner rather than later. In the meantime please wear a mask if you are not vaccinated. Over 700,000 Americans have now died. I may not be able to convince all of you as there is so much misinformation out there, I can only hope we can all stay safe until this thing runs its course.

SUB APPS/ OOW CHANGES/BENEFITS. SUB pay is hit and miss as we are experiencing manpower adjustments. It is always a go for medical or COVID related injuries. It is your responsibility to fill out a SUB App when you are laid off, you have 48 hours to report a layoff. Call the Agent on the Books or come down to the hall to fill out a SUB App. It is your responsibility to make sure you are on the out of work list and your contact information is correct. If you're still having unemployment issues call BAs Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams. Both officers are administrators on the Must/Most program, contact them if you need help.

For any issues that are unresolved at BeneSys, please get the name of the person you are dealing with and contact Carlo, Jon, or the Union Hall immediately.

GOOD/WELFARE. We are currently looking for Residential and Service Plumbers. 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.

In solidarity I remain, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98 TRAININGCENTERNEWS Phone # 248-585-1435

Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is now open, until December 31, 2021.

The Training Center is open. The mask mandate has been lifted. We are asking that people still practice social distancing while in the building. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

***Congratulations to Paul Baker* for winning the Fellow Award from the American Society of Sanitary Engineers. The Fel-**

low Award is a prestigious award presented to a candidate that has been a dues paying member in good standing for a minimum of five years. The candidate shall have served in an exemplary manner as an Officer, Regional Director or committee person for a period of not less than five years at either the chapter level or the national level.

Michigan State Plumbing License Renewal-There is not an update required to renew the Michigan State Plumbing License this year. In order to renew your license, go to Michigan.gov/lara and click on License Renewal. **Deadline was April 30th, you may be required to pay a late fee.

Monthly Code Class – Next class is Nov. 17, 2021 at 4:30 pm. 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.

6010 Medical Gas Installer Recertification - **All current Med Gas certification holders are required to take this update. **Do not wait, classes are limited**. Call Training Center for next available class, to register and pre-pay by check only, \$130.00, to hold your spot.

ASSE Backflow Tester Recertification exams are scheduled quarterly. Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. For those who are eligible, please call the Training Center to register and pre-pay by check only before the **deadline Dec. 17, 2021.** The next scheduled recertification class is Jan. 25 & 26, 2022.

OPEN WELDING - Fall is a great time to get some practice and upgrade your skills toward a welding cert. Call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext. 146 to reserve a booth. Looking to try something new? Ideas for a class? We're here to help.

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **WELDING Tests** will be Saturday, Nov. 6, 2021. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the class.

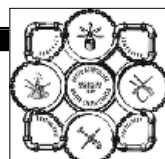
The next **BRAZING Cert** Session will be Friday, Nov. 5, 2021. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

2021 Course Hour reimbursement forms are now 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, 2021 to be eligible for the \$80 reimbursement.

OSHA Training - OSHA 10, available as an online class for \$25 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.



Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be a Special Called meeting on **Tuesday, November 9th** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be Finance Committee at 4:30 and Executive Board at 5:30.

NOTE: Nominations will be held at the November 9th Union Meeting under New Business. Per the UA Constitution Sec 121, no member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he/she shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election. Positions up for election are as follows:

1 Business Manager; 1 Business Agent; 1 President; 1 Vice President; 1 Recording Secretary; 4 Executive Board Members; 3 Finance Committee Members; 1 Door Guard; 5 Delegates; 3 Examining Board Members and 1 Trustee for both Health & Welfare and Pension with a 9-year term.

RETIREE MEETINGS: On the 1st Tuesday of every month, there will be a retiree meeting for **LUNCH.** The lunch will commence at 11:30 am at Travelers Café & Pub located at 5225 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 775-1775. If you have any questions, call Ken Willcutt at (269) 569-3492.

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. If you are not satisfied with the service you have received, please call, Ken Willcutt, at (269) 569-3492.

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 Members Access Your Information Here, then click on TIC International Corporation 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 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, remarried, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call TIC at the phone number above and 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 divorces. 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: to Ryan Bowman on his recent marriage.

Congratulations to Aaron Belanger on his recent marriage.

CONDOLENCES: to the family of life member, Robert Bogema on his recent passing.

Condolences to the family of Jon Pecoraro on the recent passing of his father.



Local 190

Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters,
Service Technicians,
Gas Distribution

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, November 8th and will start 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

UNION HALL CLOSED FOR AN UPCOMING HOLIDAY: For the Thanksgiving holiday the office will be closed on Thursday, November 25th, and Friday, November 26th. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

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.

Currently Local 190 is not accepting any apprenticeship applications. A note will be put in the paper when this current status changes.

ROBO CALLS: We are sending out Robo calls to keep you updated and informed, if you are NOT receiving these messages it means we do not have a current phone number on file for you, please contact the hall to update.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN WELDERS: Please remember it is very important to keep your continuity forms up to date.

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.

ATTENTION MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION & OHIO GAS DISTRIBUTION & BUILDING TRADES MEMBERS - UALOCAL 190 WEBSITE: If you have not already done so, please log in and look at our website www.ua190.org **Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card number. **** NEW ON THE WEBSITE ****:** Members can now view and sign up for job calls. The same procedure will be used as the call-in line. If you are laid off or go back to work, there are forms available to fill out on the website that will inform the hall.

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.

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK – IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS: 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.

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: NEW VISION PROGRAM – DAVIS VISION: Please be advised of the **January 1, 2021 change to your vision benefits. Effective January 1, 2021, your vision benefits are now being offered through Davis Vision. Welcome letters and cards, detailing your new benefits, were mailed during the month of December 2020. If you have not received this information, please contact the Fund office at #888-390-7473. You can also go to the Local 190 website www.ua190.org and go to the benefit section for more information.**

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 of benefits and much more. **Download: BCBSM**

AREPRESENTATIVE 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 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 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. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2022 Schedule - Mondays - **Jan 3, 2022, April 4, 2022, July 18, 2022 and Oct 3, 2022. All classes start @ 5:00pm**

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2021 Schedule - Monday - Oct 18, 2021 @ 5:00pm. Call Retha to be put on the list for this last class of the year. 2022 Schedule - Mondays - Jan 17, 2022, April 18, 2022, July 25, 2022 and Oct 17, 2022.

Welding Lab: Welding lab is open and runs on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. It is closed on Union Meeting nights and Holidays. Weld tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): 2022 Schedule: 1st course starts Jan 11, 2022 at 5:00 pm. Will run Tuesdays and Wednesdays for 5 weeks. Limit 8. 2nd course starts Sept 13, 2022 at 5:00 pm. Will run Tuesdays and Wednesdays for 5 weeks. Limit 8. Call Retha to be put into one of these courses.

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): 2022 Schedule: 1st recertification course will be Feb 15, 2022 and Feb 16, 2022. Limit 8. 2nd recertification course will be Feb 22, 2022 and Feb 23, 2022. Limit 8. 3rd recertification course will be Oct 18, 2022 and Oct 19, 2022. Limit 8. Please check your certifications to see what recertification course you will need to be in, to keep current. Call Retha to be put in the class.

Med Gas Installer and Brazier 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. Call Retha to be put on the list for this class. 2022 schedule coming soon.

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): Call Retha to be put into the next class. 2022 schedule coming soon.

Plastic Pipe Fusing (12hrs): This is a UA Certification and is scheduled for October 25, 26, and 27 from 5pm - 9pm. This class will teach butt-fusing of plastic pipe using manual and hydraulic machines. After successfully completing course, students will perform fuses and prep pipe straps for examination and testing to acquire UA PE certifications.

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 went through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Call Retha to sign up for this class. Once we have enough to put it on, we will schedule it.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Class will be 2 days and then the written exam. Call Retha to put on the list for the next class.

ICRA Certification (16hrs): Looking to put on another ICRA certification class. Class is limited to 12 participants. Call Training Center to get put on the list for the next class.

RETIREE MEETINGS – **SPADES AND BREAKFAST MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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.



Local 370
Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters
and HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday Nov. 9, 2021, at 7:00pm. Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, Local 370 will host our annual Service Award banquet and Holiday celebration.** Location will be at our new Hall and Training Center at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. Please note this date is tentative and may have to be postponed again if Covid cases continue to escalate. This year's awards will also include the previous year that was cancelled due to Covid. Cocktail hour will begin at 5:00pm. The service award ceremony will begin at 6:00pm with dinner following. Please call Karla at the Hall to reserve your seat for a night of dinner, dancing and celebrating members years of service and the Christmas Holiday.

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, November 9, 2021, at 4:00pm
- FMR Committee – Tuesday November 9, 2021, at 4:00pm
- PAC committee – Tuesday November 9, 2021, at 5:00pm
- Executive Board – Tuesday November 9, 2021, at 5:00pm
- Building Committee – Tuesday November 9, 2021, at 6:00pm
- Finance Committee - Tuesday November 9, 2021, at 6:15pm
- JATC Committee – Tuesday TBD, 2021, at 3:30pm

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.

Call Karla to see if you need to make sub-fund self-payments. All members were sent a Sub-Pay manual in 2018. If you did not receive one, please call TIC at (517) 321-7502 and ask for the 370 Sub Pay Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD)

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.

Sub Pay: Remember to qualify for sub pay when you are laid off, you must sign the out of work list. You can also collect when you are on Jury Duty and miss work. If you are traveling, call Karla to see if you need to make sub-fund self-payments. All members were sent a Sub-Pay manual in 2018. If you did not receive one, please call TIC at (517) 321-7502 and ask for the 370 Sub Pay Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD)

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. Member's present must have dues paid to date to claim award. 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 your 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 (Continued next column)



Local 111
Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC
Service
Local 111

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111 UPPER PENINSULA – The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette on October 28, 2021 @ 7:30 p.m. EST. Remember there is no union meeting in November.

Congratulations to Dustin Gentet, the new Local 111 JATC HVAC/R instructor.

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 Ann to have your information updated.

Don't forget to pick up your fall Hoodies, T-shirts, hat, knife or flashlight in stock now at either hall. Call ahead for available sizes.

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 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 online 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: The 2021 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. Call Ann at (906) 226-6511 ext. 4 to register. MSHA expires in one year.

Local 370, con't ning. 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 increments according to our bylaws. 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, Dan Gaudet for application and testing dates.

Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10 and fleece caps \$5. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 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.

"I am a deeply superficial person."
—Andy Warhol (1928 - 1987)



Local 671
Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671
Local 671

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671 MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for **November 4th, 2021 at 7 p.m. The Executive Board will also meet in person on November 4th at 5:00 p.m. If any Member wishes to see them, please contact the Hall prior to the meeting.**

Apprentices are expected to attend all Union meetings going forward unless otherwise notified.

Until further notice all members attending the Union Meeting will be required to wear a face mask.

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: There will be a Special Order of Business to address a small change to one of our By-Laws. This stems from a UA Constitutional Amendment from the National Convention back in August. The first reading will take place during a special order of business at our Union meeting on November 4th.

BY-LAWS: There will also be a By-Laws meeting on November 4th at 6pm at the Union Hall if anyone would like to attend to give input on any potential By-Laws changes.

Retirees: If any retiree is having issues with their current doctor accepting our new insurance, please call Mike or Carly at the Union Hall and let us know. Also, if you receive a bill for a doctor visit or medical test, please confirm that you actually owe that by calling Labor First at 734-234-6496.

Union Promotion: We have Hi-Vis long and short sleeve shirts at the Hall as well as black short sleeve.

Mobile App: Our Mobile App titled "UA Local 671" is available in the App Store for iPhone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card Number). The Password is just your book number.

We recently have sent Push Notifications out with important information such as Covid-19 updates and Informational Meeting notices. This mobile app is a great tool to stay current with all the latest information from the Union Hall. **PLEASE DOWNLOAD THIS APP SO YOU CAN KEEP UP ON CURRENT INFORMATION THAT THE HALL NEEDS TO GET OUT.** The App is available in the Google Play Store or on iTunes.

In Closing: With November comes elections; don't forget to get out and vote. The mid term election is as important as the Presidential Elections. If we elect labor friendly candidates locally, we can control our own destiny. We are supporting (3) candidates for Monroe City Council, John Iocoangeli, Gloria Rafko and Paula Whitman. "Vote and vote often."

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: **mike@ualocal671.com**
Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: **vinnie@ualocal671.com**

Carly Neely: Insurance Line (734) 241-6180 email: **carly@ualocal671.com**
Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692

"Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so."

—Douglas Adams (1952 - 2001)

"Patience has its limits. Take it too far, and it's cowardice."

— George Jackson (1941 - 1971)

"Nothing is worse than active ignorance."

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749 - 1832)

"Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony."

— Mahatma Gandhi (1869 - 1948)

"Anybody can observe the Sabbath, but making it holy surely takes the rest of the week."

— Alice Walker (1944 -),



Local 704
Sprinkler Fitters
Motor City
Local 704

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704 DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, November 10 at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Nomination for election of officers will take place at the November 10th, 2021 regularly scheduled union meeting. Nominations will be for the following positions: Business Manager/ Financial Secretary/ Treasurer, Business Agent, President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Inside Guard, Executive Board (4 members), Finance Committee (3 members), Examining Board (3 members), Michigan State Pipe Trades Delegate (4 members), Michigan State Building Trades Delegate (4 members).

Per the Constitution of the United Association, Section 121, Eligibility for Office in Local Unions: "No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member in of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election."

Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union...

Election of Officers will take place on Wednesday December 8, 2021. The polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M.

Per the Constitution of the United Association, Section 124 (a): No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for the period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to vote in any Local Union election...

COVID-19 vaccinations may become mandatory on certain jobsites in the Detroit area. No company can compel a member to receive the vaccine, it is completely a member's choice. Just be aware that if you choose not to get vaccinated, you will not be allowed on sites that mandate this stipulation.

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 its local union office.

NFPA All Access is available for all 704 members. Please contact the Local 704 Training Center for username and password. **Phone numbers to remember:** NASI is 1-800-638-2603 for information regarding Health and Welfare or Pension fund questions.

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

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

Continuing education classes are being formed. Please reach out to the training center for further information or future classes you would like to see added.

Please keep your information updated with the union hall.

A speedy recovery to all of our sick and injured members.

"A motion to adjourn is always in order."

— Robert Heinlein (1907 - 1988)

"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."

— Soren Kierkegaard (1813 - 1855)

"When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his friends."

— Japanese Proverb

"Often it does seem a pity that Noah and his party did not miss the boat."

— Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)



Local 333
Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333

LANSING – November's union meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 7:30pm at the Lansing Training Center 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

December's union meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021 at the Lansing Training Center 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906. Christmas dinner will be served at 6:30pm.

Effective January 1, 2022 Retiree's dues will be \$10 a month.

Nomination for Officers will be held Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021 at 7:30pm at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906. To be eligible to be nominated for office, the UA Constitution, Section 121 states: "No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two years immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union."

Those offices up for nomination are: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Inside Guard, Business Manager, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, Business Agents (3), Executive Board (4), Finance Committee (3), Plumbing Examining Committee (2), Pipefitting Examining Committee (2), HVAC Examining Committee (2).

For those members who will be unable to attend the November meeting and who wish to accept a nomination, they may send a letter addressed to the Lansing Office, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911, Attn: Trent Mauk, Local 333 President, stating the reason for not being able to attend the nomination meeting and the specific office for which you wish to accept nomination for. The letter needs to be signed, dated, and **MUST** include your card number. The letter must be received on or before November 17, 2021

Elections will be held Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021 from 12 Noon-7:30 PM at the Lansing Training Center 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, 48906. From 12:00 Noon-6:30 PM at the Jackson Union Hall, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr. Jackson 49201. From 12 Noon-6:30 PM at the Battle Creek Union Hall, 5906 E. Morgan St. Battle Creek, 49017. In case of a tie, the run-off election will be Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021 from 8 AM to 12 NOON at the same polling sites with the results read at a special called meeting at 1:00PM at the Lansing Training Center.

Weld Classes: If you are interested in taking the weld class please contact Diana for Trent, there are positions still available. 517-323-0333

If you're interested in taking the weld class please sign up at www.ua333.org or call Trent or Diana at 517-323-0333. There is a \$25.00 fee, please call your respective hall to pay for the class.

Lansing: (Tuesdays & Thursdays) Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson: (Tuesdays & Thursdays) 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

Battle Creek: (Monday's & Thursday's) (KCC) RMTc, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Weld Tests are the second Tuesday of each month at the Lansing Training Center.

Masters test prep is on Mondays and Wednesdays every week at the Lansing Training Center.

If you are interested in signing up for classes please go to our website at www.ua333.org or call the Training Center (517) 323-0333.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA, as of January 2019, all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired please contact Diana at 517.323.0333. Though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed; between changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. **Ultimately it's the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.**

If your Med-Gas Installer is going to expire within the next few months please sign up on our website to take the renewal class.

Pocket knives are available at all three halls; the cost is \$60.

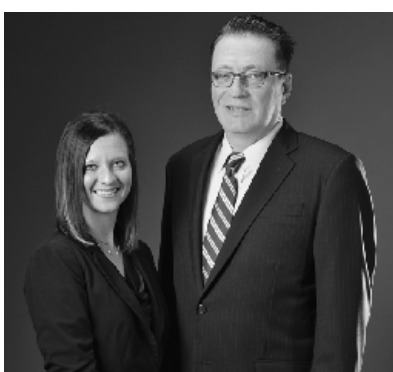
Deepest sympathies to Tom Dalton and his family on the loss of his father, and a Jackson member Richard P. Dalton. Richard passed away October 6, 2021; he was a journeyman plumber, retired in October 2007. Our thoughts and prayer are with you and your family.

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



Local 636

**Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,
Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning Service**

Pipe Fitters Local 636
DETROIT – **The Next Union Meeting will be on November 2, 2021. This will be a Special Meeting for the purpose of Nominations for Officers. It will be held at St. Georges Romanian Culture Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield MI 48075. It will start at 7pm. MASKS or FACE COVERINGS are optional, but temps will still be taken at the door.**

To be eligible to be nominated for Officer, the UA Constitution, Sect. 121 states: “No member shall be eligible to be nominated for Officer in any Local Union unless he shall be a Journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to election. Any Journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for Officer in any Local Union.”

Those offices up for nomination are: Business Manager, Secretary-Treasurer/Assistant Business Manager, Five Business Agents, President, Vice-President, Executive Board of four, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary, Examining Board of three, Inside Sentry, Three Financial Trustees, and (24) Delegates to the Michigan Pipe Trades convention.

For those Members unable to attend the November Nominations Meeting and who wish to accept a nomination, they may send a letter addressed to the Union Hall, Attn: Bill Helwig Pipefitters Local 636 President stating the reason for not being able to attend the nomination meeting and the specific office for which you wish to accept nomination for. The letter needs to be signed, dated and MUST have your UA Card number on it. All letters MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER than Nov. 1, 2021.

A special Meeting for the purpose of Pipefitters Local 636 Officers Election will be held on Dec. 7, 2021. Polls will be open from 11:00am - 7:00pm at St Georges Romanian Orthodox Cathedral of Greater Detroit, at 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield 48075. The results to be announced immediately after polls close and ballots counted.

To be eligible to vote in any Local Union election, Section 124 of the UA Constitution reads: “No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is taken for a period of one year immediately prior to the date of the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one year prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to vote in any Local Union election.”

In case of a tie vote developing for any of the offices, another election for that office shall take place from 2pm – 7pm immediately prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. Which will be held on Dec. 21, 2021 at the Local 636 Annual Awards Banquet, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia MI 48150.

The Next REGULAR Union Meeting will be held on Nov. 16, 2021 at the St. George Romanian Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield MI 48075. It will start at 7pm.

We are taking resumes for the Full Time Organizer Position. Please send Resumes via email to: tgilligan@pipefitters636.org or by mail ATTN: Terry Gilligan 30100 Northwestern Hwy. Farmington Hills MI 48334. Resumes must be received **NO LATER than Oct. 31.**

The JATC for the Pipefitting Industry and Pipefitters, Steamfitters, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Service Local Union #636 of the United Association will be accepting applications for our Apprenticeship beginning Dec. 13 thru Dec. 16, 2021: Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm; Saturday Dec. 18, 2021 9am – 11 am; Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021; 9 am – 6 pm

We will resume accepting applications Jan. 3, 2022 thru Jan. 13, 2022: Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday from 9 am - 4 pm, Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm and Saturday from 9 am – 11 am.

Qualifications necessary for

an applicant to be considered are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or older.
2. Complete the application and return to the Pipefitting Industry Training Center with:
 - a. A valid driver's license.
 - b. High School diploma or high school equivalency (GED) certificate.
 - c. There is a \$45.00 testing fee that will be collected when turning in application.

The Pipefitting Industry Training Center is located at 636 Executive Drive in Troy, MI between John R. and Dequindre, north of E. 14-mile Road. PH: 248-585-0636. **No resumes please.**

For more information, please contact our web site at: **www.pipefitters636tc.org.**

Pipefitters 636 extend our deepest condolences to the family of Retiree Sister Brenda White on the passing of her son Michael White, who passed away on Oct. 2, 2021. Also, to the family of Brother Dan Craffey on the passing of his Father Ric Craffey, who passed away on Oct. 12, 2021. Ric Craffey was the brother-in-law to Retiree Brother John McShane Sr. and Uncle to Brother John McShane Jr. And to the family of Retiree Brother Marco Fortuna who passed away Oct. 12, 2021.

The Women of Pipefitters Local 636 thank all of you who supported our fundraiser for The Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference. The drawing was held at our Sept. 21 Union Meeting. Congratulations to the lucky winners: 1st Place Christina Bilbrey, 2nd Place Sarah Leigh, 3rd Place Candice Locke, 4th Place Mary Schmidt. Once again thank you for your support.

Financial Advisor Jason May with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has a new contact number, 248-655-4048.

Pipefitters 636 informs the Local 636 members of the current Office Administrative changes, as follows (please notice the changes in the SUB FUND correspondence):

Receptionist/Dues/Address Changes/General Inquiries: Craig Harmon email: charmon@pipefitters636.org

Sub Fund Office: Kristina Springer. Please send all SUB Fund Requests to email: kspringer@pipefitters636.org 248-538-7065

Account Management/Death Notice: Margaret April email: mapril@pipefitters636.org 248-538-6636 extension 102

The Hall is now open to all foot traffic. Masks are OPTIONAL. Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone. SUB email is kspringer@pipefitters636.org

The Retiree Association Meetings have been cancelled until further notice. The election has also been postponed until further notice. – President David Evans

UA password good thru December 31, 2021: **ALWAYS ESSENTIAL**


Any member who is Retiring contact Benesys @ 248-813-9800 for your Retirement paperwork or if you want to meet with the Financial Secretary Treasurer, please give him a 7-to-10-day notice so that he can get all of your paperwork in order.

Dues: If you do not pay your Dues by the end of each quarter. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Initiation fee.

Defined Contribution Pension Plan: For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new number for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider no. is 7526.

You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's website. Just click on the “Defined Contribution login here tab” and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution website is www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys. All inquiries.

Are you “Work Ready”? Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at mstbSAFE.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 (Continued next column)**



Local 85

Plumbers & Steam Fitters

Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021 at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. starting at 7:00 PM.

The next **Northern Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021 at 7 pm at BJ's in Gaylord.

Seeking licensed plumbers to work in Alpena, if interested please call Clint Steele, (231) 499-7330.

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

ALL NON-CRITICAL INTERACTIONS is cancelled until further notice. Please utilize email and phone calls whenever possible.

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

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 jbador@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 rjanderson@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.

Local 636, con't

YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE BONUS PAYMENT'S.

Recovery Support Group: Pipe Dreamers, a Peer Support Recovery group for ongoing recovery from substance abuse and addiction meets the **second and fourth Tuesday** of each month at **4:30pm** at the office of “Work Life Strategies” 26789 Woodward Avenue, Suite 3105, Huntington Woods 48070. Call 248-545-8301 for details or any questions you may have.

Also, a Relations/Divorce Support Group meet on the **second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6pm.**

Worker Assistance Program: Work Life Strategies, LLC are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed, referral to other professionals. Call 248-545-8301 to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol and or drug addiction, bankruptcy, financial management, marital, depression, legal and family counseling.

Consultations with Work Life Strategies are a service paid for by the Insurance Fund. Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits. CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences which is still beneficial to all our members and their families. You can contact her @ 313-580-6887.

Training Center News. Call Kim at the training center for FIRST AID online class @ 248-585-0636. Please send all emails and weld continuities to info@pipefitters636tc.org

WELDING 4PM TO 8PM on Mondays & Thursdays. Cost is \$50 for 40 hrs.

DOWNHILL WELDING- Call Kurt to sign up 6 Saturdays, cost is \$75.00.

GMAW-Sat's Call Mike to sign up, cost \$50.

ORBITAL-3 Sat's Call Mike to sign up, \$50.

HDPE-1 Saturday Call Kim to sign up

RIGGING-Thursdays 5 weeks- Call Kim to sign up, \$50.

Starting the week of Nov. 8th, the following night classes will be offered:

Call Kim now to sign up, cost is \$50 each.

CHILLERS 2- Wednesday, Oct 6th. 5 weeks

REVIT 2- Thursday Nov. 8th. 5 weeks

CSD 2 - Monday, Nov. 15th. 5 weeks

Controls- Monday, Nov. 8th. 5 weeks

If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

The **new Facebook** page is live. If you are currently on the Local Eighty-Five Facebook account, invites were sent to have you join the new site. UA Local 85 page is our public Facebook account. UA Local 85 Members Group is our new members only Facebook. On this page, we will have important messages and reminders specific to our membership. Please like both and let us know what you think.

JATC News: Congratulations to our newest Journeyman Cameron Newelly!

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. If a holiday falls on a Friday, checks will be issued on Thursday and deadline will be moved up to Wednesday by noon.

Where to submit documents: Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Road, 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. **ALWAYS SAVE YOUR CHECK STUBS** 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: All retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up-to-date information.

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

“Never trust the advice of a man in difficulties.”

–Aesop (620 BC - 560 BC)

“Determine never to be idle...It is wonderful how much may be done if we are always doing.”

–Thomas Jefferson (1743 - 1826)

“It is only prudent never to place complete confidence in that by which we have even once been deceived.”

–Rene Descartes (1596 - 1650)

“Never bear more than one trouble at a time. Some people bear three kinds - all they have had, all they have now, and all they expect to have.”

–Edward Everett Hale (1822 - 1909)

“Drive thy business or it will drive thee.”

–Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

–Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

“If all the world's a stage, I want to operate the trap door.”

–Paul Beatty



Local 174

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – **Meeting Notice: Our next meeting will be SPECIAL CALLED for the purpose of nomination of Union officers (see below) and will take place on Tuesday, November 2nd at 7pm in the Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr. Coopersville MI 49404. The front office will remain open until the meeting begins.**

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

Special Notice: West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Services Trades Local Union No.174. Nominations and Election of Officers

Nominations will take place 7:00p.m. on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at Local Union No. 174 Assembly Hall, 1008 O'Malley Dr., Coopersville, Michigan, for the following Union Offices:
President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Inside Guard, Executive Board of four (4) members, Finance Committee of three (3) members, an Examining Board of three (3) members of which one shall be in the classification of plumber, one shall be in classification of fitter and one shall be in the classification of service, and three (3) Trustees for the Pension, 401k Savings Plan and Health & Benefit Funds of Local 174 (three year terms).

Eligibility for office in the Local Union Pursuant to Sec. 123 (c), U.A. Constitution: *No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in a mail ballot election in any Local Union unless he/she shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date which is seven days prior to the mailing of the ballots.* Pursuant to Sec. 121 *Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in the Local Union.*

Candidates must accept nomination at the time made, either in person, or if absent, in writing, and may accept nomination for one office only.

The election of officers of the Local Union will be conducted by mail balloting, and there shall be no manual balloting. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on Friday, November 12th, 2021, and are due back by Sunday, December 12 2021.

The ballots will be retrieved by the election committee and tallied on Monday, December 13th, 2021. Results will be released once the tally is complete. The results will be posted in the Assembly Hall of Local Union No 174, 1008 O'Malley Drive, Coopersville, Michigan and on the members only Facebook group.

In order to vote in the Local Union election a member must be in good standing on Friday, November 5th, 2021. Pursuant to Sec. 123 (c), U.A. Constitution: *No member shall be eligible to vote in a mail ballot election of officers unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date which is seven (7) days prior to the mailing of the ballots.*

In case of a tie vote, the ballots for a run-off election will be mailed out on Wednesday, December 15th, 2021, and must be returned by Friday, January 14, 2022. The results of any run-off election will be announced on Monday, January 17, 2022, once the tally is complete. The results will be posted in the assembly hall of Local Union 174, 1008 O'Malley Drive, Coopersville, Michigan and on the members only Facebook group.

Apprentice Banquet: Local #174 will be hosting an apprentice banquet for all current apprentices and recent graduates. The banquet will take place on October 29th at 6pm in the Assembly Hall. RSVP's were mailed out recently, please return them as soon as possible. PLEASE DO NOT RSVP IF YOU ARE NOT CERTAIN YOU WILL ATTEND.

Retiree Breakfast: The next retiree breakfast will be Thursday November 4th at 9am at New Beginnings in Coopersville. We will follow restaurant and CDC rules.

Member Update: Business Manager Ryan Bennett will host a member update on the Facebook members group on Thursday, November 4th at 5pm. Brother Bennett will provide a recap of the Union meeting and answer questions.

COVID Vaccine Incentive: Local #174 Health Fund will provide a \$50 Visa gift card for any member who gets their COVID vaccine or provides a doctor's letter saying they cannot get the COVID vaccine. This is for working participants only, not family members. Please provide that information to Cami in person or via email to cburris@ua174.org. Cami will submit a list weekly to TIC and TIC will mail out the gift cards.

DHE Plumbing and Mechanical: We would like to talk to DHE's workers. If you know of a jobsite where they're working please contact Chris Pelton.

Contact Information: If you have a change in contact information or to verify your contact info PLEASE CONTACT CAMI so we can keep our system up to date.

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

PAC Cards: Since the elimination of prevailing wage, the race to the bottom on wages and benefits for publicly funded projects has begun. Our political focus over the years to come will be electing people who support prevailing wage and wage standards in general. To do that we need to raise our PAC card participation. We currently have less than half of the local contributing to our PAC. Your PAC contribution DOES NOT COME OFF YOUR CHECK. When you sign the PAC card it allows us to move money from your working dues over to our PAC. Please call Cami today and find out if you have current PAC card on file.

Medicare Retirees: Effective January 1st 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are as follows:

Single Medicare	\$262.55
Retiree and Spouse Medicare	\$525.09
Retiree and Non-Medicare Spouse	\$677.55

Short Term Disability: The Local #174 Board of Trustees recently voted to increase the short-term disability amount from \$300 per week to \$400 per week. This increase will be effective September 30th, 2019.

Dispatch: We will be splitting 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: dispatch@ua174.org which both offices have access to. There is a dispatch phone extension that will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retirees Aetna: (888) 290-7241 Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108 Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616) 345-0788

Organizing Update: Please contact Chris Pelton if you know of any jobsites with a non-union plumbing or mechanical contractor or if you are interested in actively assisting with our organizing efforts. There are plenty of opportunities available, ranging from a one-day ride-along with a Business Agent or Organizer all the way up to full blown salting.

Dues: Please keep your monthly window dues current. You can find your dues balance on the website or by calling the Union office.

“Progress isn't made by early risers. It's made by lazy men trying to find easier ways to do something.”

–Robert Heinlein (1907 - 1988)

Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT-ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting is planned for Monday, October 25th, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

Attention all Apprentices, monthly OJL forms are now online at NEIEP which must be completed before the 9th day of the next month. If you are working out of your jurisdiction, laid off or a probationary, OJT forms must be filled out and turned into the Hall.

Attention all Members, All Testing must be done according to Code and your Companies Maintenance Control Program. Document all tests that are due and only tasks you have completed. Keep all job logs current with this information.

All Members, Local 36, Local 85 and the EIWP are holding outreach sessions on Monday nights, 6:00-8:00 pm. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes.

Reminder, the 3rd quarter dues cards must be in hand before October 1 and include an extra \$10.00 for the loss of 2 International Brothers.

Keep the hall informed of all jobs and have permit if required before starting. Inform the hall on any employment status changes as we need to inform the International.

All Members, you are obligated to keep current with the Local your contact information, including address, phone and email information, notify any changes including company phone numbers.

The Hall would like to pass its condolences on to the family and friends with the passing of Brother Steve Hansen (retired father Bob and son Wyatt Local 93) and Brothers Joe and Robert Steger with the passing of their mother.

Be Safe and Be Healthy!

Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers Local Local 149 DETROIT - Main Office - Southeastern Lower Michigan - Regular Membership Meeting. The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, Dec. 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Retiree's Association. Mark your calendar, the annual Retiree's Christmas and Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, December 11, 2021.

The Retirees' Association will also be holding an election for Officers and Trustees on Saturday, December 11, 2021. If you are a retired 149 member and are interested in joining the Roofers & Waterproofers LU 149 Retiree's Association, please contact Business Manager Brian Gregg at 313-961-6093.

SHAME ON THE CARPENTER'S UNION LEADERSHIP! The Carpenter's Union (UBC) has targeted the Roofer's & Waterproofer's Union and other union trades in an attempt to destabilize and bypass the jurisdiction of not just our industry, but other unionized construction trades as well.

If you are on a jobsite and any RAT Carpenter Agent approaches you or anyone in your crew about monopolizing the Roofer's & Waterproofer's Union, PLEASE NOTIFY THE UNION IMMEDIATELY at 313-961-6093! Tell the RAT Carpenter to go out and organize the carpentry market that is currently unrepresented.

We stand in solidarity with all sincere Trade Unions and with the Rank and File members of the Carpenters Union, who should openly condemn these heinous actions by their leadership in their name. Website for announcements, news, and updates www.rooferslocal149.com

Moving? If you have a new address please make sure to let the Union Hall know. We will take care of your account with the Union Hall that includes the Building Tradesman Paper, International Union, and Trust Fund.

Reminder. Members please call the Hall when you see a roofing project whether it is one of our signatory companies or not. The Hall needs this information for recruitment purposes, and hopefully to get a picture of our members for Facebook.

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.

Union Dues. Make sure you pay your monthly dues before the end of every month to stay in good standings. You can pay dues at the Hall with a cash, money order, credit, or debit card. Monthly dues can be taken out of your vacation check by filling out a form at the Hall (active Members only). The mailbox is only to be used for checks and money orders, do not put cash in the mailbox.

MID-MICHIGAN AREA - Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., Jan. 11, 2022 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SITTING ON THE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE? Are you a strong advocate for yourself (Continued next column)

Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47 LANSING - *The next Notified Union Meeting will be held on Friday, November 5, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. This is a Mandatory Meeting for All Apprentices. The meeting will be held at the J.A.T.C. Training center located at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48933.

To combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members to continue to work safe, and if you feel sick contact a doctor immediately.

Any retirees wanting to go to work, please call the office. The Funds Trustees have waived the 79-hour rule. All members should have received a letter from our International regarding the Asbestos Exposure Scientific Study. For more information on how to participate in this study, please contact Business Manager Patrick Welch at the main Local 47 Office number: 517-708-0665

Per the Rules and Procedures: Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed. Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked. Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

OSHA 10: Local 47 will be offering OSHA 10 to any Active Member who is not current with the program. The course is done online, so if you wish to take the course please contact the Local Union office with your email address and we will be more than happy to set it up for you.

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.

Local 47 has been receiving a lot of returned mail from our members. We ask that if you have a change of address or phone number to please call the Local Union Office right away so we can update your information throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International. It is very important to make sure your contact information is always up to date with Local 47.

The November 5, 2021 Notified Union Meeting is for the Nomination of Officers. The following positions are up for Re-Election: Business Manager-Patrick Welch, Executive Board-Bryon Stark and Joshua Scalici, JATC Trustee-Aaron Lewis, Market Recovery Committee-Joshua Scalici, Pension/Welfare Trustee-Joshua Kroell, Recording Secretary- Andrew Michalak, Sergeant-At-Arms- Devin Larkin, and Union Trustee- Jeremy Ott.

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 Number: (800) 323-8079 Telephone Number: (517) 321-7502 Fax Number: (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

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: Local 47 would like to Congratulate to Courtney Allen on the birth of her baby girl Clara Lee Allen born October 8, 2021

Local 149 cont'd

and your fellow Mid-Michigan 149 members? Have you ever considered being a part of your Union's collective-bargaining negotiating committee? The search for a collective-bargaining negotiating committee is coming. Nominations are being taken Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2022. 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, Jan. 11, 2022, or in writing via a nomination acceptance letter addressed to the Recording Secretary Gary Johnsen by Monday, Jan. 10, 2022, at 5:00 pm.

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

Mid-Michigan Training Center Information. Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Rick Baird at the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368, or midmicroofers149@gmail.com to make arrangements.

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 10/18/2021, 2:00p.m. In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149.

- "Without tenderness, a man is uninteresting." -Marlene Dietrich (1901 - 1992)
"Too many have dispensed with generosity in order to practice charity." -Albert Camus (1913 - 1960)
"I was going to buy a copy of The Power of Positive Thinking, and then I thought: What the hell good would that do?" -Ronnie Shakes
"Remember when life's path is steep to keep your mind even." -Horace (65 BC - 8 BC)
"Grief can take care of itself, but to get the full value of a joy you must have somebody to divide it with." -Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)
"If you go in for argument, take care of your temper. Your logic, if you have any, will take care of itself." -Joseph Farrell

Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD-SPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING-The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED for nominations. Apprentice attendance is MANDATORY.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: The Annual Local 25 Christmas Party will be held Saturday, December 11, 2021. The event will take place at Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia. Keep an eye on your mailbox as invitations and R.S.V.P. cards will be arriving soon.

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.

APPAREL: New Local 25 apparel is available at the Union Hall. New items include: knit hats and beanies, new hi-vis short and long sleeved t-shirts and hi-vis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

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.

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

LAY OFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within forty-eight 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 thirty (30) days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the thirty (30) days will be denied per the Plan Document.

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.

"Every mile is two in winter." -George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (Requester Publications Only) for The Building Tradesman, September 23, 2021. Includes fields for publication title, issue frequency, circulation data, and contact information.

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Outdoors

DNR does archeology, too



By Stacy Tchorzynski
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

Behind the broken plaster and lath, built up between the studs, was a curious cache of items: 13 morphine bottles, glass syringes, lace, a book and more.

We carefully recorded the finds before gently removing them from their hiding place of over a century. I imagined what life was like for the person who hid the items.

In 2000, I was a student in Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Field School at Fayette Historic State Park in Delta County. Fayette was a bustling 19th-century industrial townsite filled with working families. It is now listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a world-class regional history attraction.

Among other preservation trade skills, the field school was teaching us plaster repair within a building that would have housed company foremen or managers and their families.

We were working in the walls when the morphine bottles, syringes and other artifacts were discovered. Having had some archaeological training, I was asked to document and collect the finds. This was my first taste of state-land archaeology and historic preservation. I got hooked.

What is archaeology? Archaeology is the scientific study of the human past, using places and objects to understand changing people and environments. Archaeology shows that people have lived in Michigan for upwards of 14,000 years.

From the earliest evidence documented to date – mammoth and mastodon kill sites – to 20th-century logging camps, shipwrecks and neighborhoods, our ancestors have left traces of their everyday lives across the landscape.

Studying this heritage honors human experience on multiple scales, from the big and collective goings-on, such as community life in an industrial company town like Fayette, to small and sometimes deeply personal



MORPHINE BOTTLES, glass syringes, lace, a book and more discovered hidden in the walls of a house at Fayette Historic State Park, in 2000, in the Upper Peninsula.

(Photo credit: State Historic Preservation Office)

events.

Archaeological research celebrates diversity, reveals dynamic social relationships, contributes to environmental planning, supports heritage tourism and helps celebrate and galvanize communities with a shared past.

Like many of my colleagues who do history work, I believe that our study of the past can have a real impact on how we understand our present and help us plan the future. Our ancestors are never very far away from our lives and choices today.

Archaeology at the DNR. I was born in Chicago and grew up in Canton, Mich. After graduate school, a career in cultural resources management stretching from North Dakota to New York and 10 years of service in Michigan's State Historic Preservation Office, I'm now at home in a department that exists solely to manage – and get people excited about – natural and cultural resources.

I often return to Fayette, now helping manage the history that captured my imagination so many years ago. More broadly, I'm charged with leading the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' new state archaeology program.

Together with the DNR's Michigan History Center director Sandra Clark, maritime archaeologist Wayne Lusardi, and many state, federal and tribal partners,

I help look after our significant, fragile and often threatened archaeological record.

The DNR oversees approximately 4.6 million acres of public lands, including state forests, wildlife and recreation areas, parks and fisheries. The agency also oversees state-owned antiquities rights statewide on land and underwater.

I help manage archaeological data and collections, contribute to land and resource management plans, review a spectrum of state land projects, deliver public history programs and trainings, consult on museum exhibits, issue research permits and conduct fieldwork.

I admire the braided missions of our foresters, wildlife biologists, park planners, archivists and historians. I am excited to support their important work. I spend lots of time speaking with the public about historic places and things that mean a lot to them, and it just doesn't get any better than that.

The DNR also runs a robust museum system comprising the Michigan History Museum in Lansing and 12 additional museums and historic sites statewide.

One of my responsibilities that I'm most proud of, and most excited about, is serving as the historian for the Sanilac Petroglyphs Historic State Park in Sanilac County, our first state park co-managed with an American In-



THIS PETROGLYPH of Ebmodaakowet (the Archer) represents Anishinabek ancestors shooting an arrow of knowledge into the future. The Sanilac Petroglyphs include more than 100 teachings carved in stone. According to MI Place, stone tools and pottery found during excavations show that Native peoples occupied the area intermittently over approximately the last 8,000 years and help date the creation of the petroglyphs to within the last 1,400 years.

MDNR photo

dian tribe. The Sanilac Petroglyphs, or *ežhibiigaadek asin* (knowledge written on stone) in Anishinabemowin, is the largest known collection of early indigenous teachings carved in stone in Michigan. The petroglyphs represent the collective memory of the Great Lakes Anishinabek (Original People) ancestors.

In this effort, I work closely with our incredible partners – the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Zibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways – to protect and inter-

pret this special place.

Like most public servants, I have many responsibilities and wear many hats. There is so much important work to do.

Michigan Archaeology Day. National Archaeology Month is celebrated in all states each October with special events and educational programming. For many years, the Michigan History Center and the State Historical Preservation Office have worked together to create a very successful Michigan Archaeology Day event in Lansing.

Over the past few years, the event has drawn more than 1,000 public visitors and participants representing federal, state, tribal, municipal, university and avocational archaeology programs statewide.

"This day does an excellent job of making the public aware of how archaeologists discover Michigan's history and contribute to development, heritage tourism and scientific research," Clark said. This year, the event will take place on the grounds of the Michigan History Museum in Lansing on Saturday, Oct. 23. The all-ages event is free, courtesy of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, and runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

At the event, Michigan archaeologists share their research, show artifacts they have found and answer questions. The activities are geared toward families, especially school-aged children who are interested in science and history.

Since 2018, the event has featured the "Archaeology Roadshow," patterned after the popular PBS television program "Antiques Roadshow." Guests bring in items they have found to show experts in archaeology, geology and paleontology.

"Our team will assess and provide information about the items, as well as teach guests how to report potential archaeological sites," said Michael Hambacher, State Historic Preservation Office staff archaeologist and Roadshow expert. "This is a rare opportunity to identify and learn more about an artifact."

Please note that, to support the preservation of archaeological artifacts and sites, no monetary values will be provided for the items at this event.

This year's featured speaker

is Lusardi, who will speak about the legacy of the World War II Tuskegee airmen in the Great Lakes and the recent partnership to recover a Tuskegee airplane lost during a training mission over Lake Huron. The project has received national and international attention.

"The Tuskegee Airmen's impact on northeast Michigan, their contribution to the war effort and their ultimate sacrifice will long be remembered here and across the nation," Lusardi said of the project.

Discovery. The morphine bottles, glass syringes and other items found hidden in that wall at a house in Fayette would eventually lead us to some interesting questions and presumptions. The outer wrappers and foil seals had been carefully placed inside most of the bottles, and the corks replaced. Most were unbroken, as if they had been discarded carefully to avoid noise. Why were these bottles put inside a wall, instead of tossed in the trash? Together, these bottles once held 6 ounces of morphine sulphate, enough for about 9,000 doses.

Company foremen or managers and their families lived in this house. They were people who could afford to buy medicines but could not afford many luxuries. We have no record of their names.

The objects found inside the wall with the morphine bottles give us some clues: children's books, a romantic novel called "That Husband of Mine," a long length of lace, some scraps of cloth and a Viennese harmonica. There were also joke booklets and part of a book of household medical advice, both published by drug companies. These items all dated to the 1870s.

Morphine use was entirely legal in the 19th century. Why hide it? Morphine can cause serious health and behavioral difficulties for users, impacting work and family life. Artifacts found with the drug bottles are commonly associated with women and children, indicating that the person with the morphine problem was possibly the mother of the family.

This is discovery is one example of what archaeology can tell us about the stories of Michigan's people.

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