



**SHORT  
CUTS**



**Pope: Beware AI's  
'culture of power'**

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler issued the following statement on Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, which focuses on the moral and practical danger of unregulated artificial intelligence (AI):

"Pope Leo's choice to issue his first encyclical on the threat of unregulated AI is a testament to the urgency of this issue for working people. Workers are being surveilled, fired, hurt, and have even died in workplaces that recklessly use AI without guardrails and worker input. It's clear that if we don't harness it properly, AI is the single biggest threat to working people of our lifetime.

"This is what Pope Leo recognizes, echoing the same things I hear from working people around the U.S. and globally. He names the 'culture of power' driving the AI arms race, the corporate greed that puts profit over people, and the dehumanization that working people feel every time they are told to trust untested AI technology over their own experience and skill – even when lives are on the line.

"The guardrails he calls for – 'responsible planning, the assessment of human and social impact, the inclusion of the most vulnerable' – are the same principles for which the labor movement has advocated.

"Pope Leo writes that, 'Solidarity, then, is the concrete recognition that the future of each individual is connected to the future of all.' The AFL-CIO and our 65 affiliated unions have and will continue to answer his call to defend the dignity of working people."

**Road work zones  
hazardous as ever**

The results of a highway work zone-safety survey released on May 20 didn't build too much on what past surveys have widely established: that closely mixing traffic and construction workers can be hazardous to both drivers and Hardhats.

According to the survey results, nearly one-third of respondents reported experiencing five or crashes of a driver into a work zone during the past year. It also found that 60 percent of contractors reported experiencing at least one crash in that period. Like past years, the survey found that drivers and passengers are significantly more likely to be injured or killed in work zone crashes than construction workers.

"Summer construction season means more crews working just feet away from fast-moving traffic," said Associated General Contractors CEO Jeffrey D. Shoaf. "Too many drivers continue to speed, use their phones, or simply fail to pay attention in work zones, putting construction workers and motorists alike at serious risk."

The survey and results were conducted this spring by the Associated General Contractors of American and construction software producer HCSS. More than 700 highway construction contractors nationwide participated in the survey. Among contractors who experienced work zone crashes, 27 percent reported crashes that injured construction workers, while 33 percent reported crashes that injured drivers or passengers.

**Quotable**

"Whenever I hear anyone arguing for slavery, I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally."  
—Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)



LAYING A BRICK WALL at the new Cody High School project in Detroit are Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 masons Adrian Martinez, Matthew Woods, Armando Alvarado and Marco Garay. They're employed by Baker Construction.

**New building, new vision  
for new Cody High School**

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

DETROIT – Generations of teachers and students have taught and learned at Cody High School since it opened in 1952 during the huge post-war baby boom.

Cody has survived the closures of the city's other west side high schools that have taken place over the past several decades as Detroit's population has declined.

And in the fall of 2027, it

will be Cody staff and students' turn to see the closure of their school and experience a move to another building.

But this move will be much easier than others – it will involve only a short walk from their current building east to their new school – that they can watch as it's currently being constructed. And the same Cody name will go on the new building, too.

Managing the construction of the new Cody High School is the joint venture team of Brinker-

Christman. They are erecting a two-level, 127,500-square-foot school building, which is about one-third the size of the existing high school. Ground was broken during a ceremony at the new Cody last October.

"Today's groundbreaking at Cody High School reflects progress that is real, measurable, and happening in every part of our vision for the future of DPSCD," said Dr. Nikolai Vitti, superintendent of Detroit  
(Continued on Page 2)



MANEUVERING wire mesh to set in concrete at the Cody High School project in Detroit are (l-r) John Rizzo of Cement Masons 514 and Dion Coleman of Laborers Local 1075. They're employed by J.J. Barney Construction.

**U.S. construction  
spending, starts  
both on the rise  
from a year ago**

U.S. construction sector spending saw a mild uptick from March to April, but overall building project starts were up significantly during that period, according to the latest government figures.

Bureau of Labor Statistics numbers reported on June 1 that U.S. construction spending,

totaling \$2.17 trillion, increased 0.4 percent from March to April and 0.9 percent over the prior 12 months. As the 2026 orange barrel season kicked into gear, infrastructure and highway spending simultaneously rose as the primary drivers of spending.

The big jump in spending took place in "public construc-

**Stargate Data Center**

**Silver shovel event  
hails construction of MI's  
largest investment, ever**

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

SALINE TWP. – Ground had obviously been broken months ago at the massive Stargate Mich-

igan Data Center that's under construction here on former farmland. But there is a tremendous amount of work ahead to build the \$16 billion, 1.4-gigawatt campus, and a group of dignitaries

trade hours since the beginning of the year. The project is expected to be complete at the end of 2027.

The Saline Twp. plant is the first data center in the country to

be built under a first-in-the-nation project labor agreement executed under the National Maintenance Agreement, covering all 14 signatory affiliated skilled trade unions. It is also the first data center



DIGNITARIES mark the construction of the Stargate project in Saline Township.

"celebrated construction" on June 1 by breaking out the silver shovels to turn some dirt and mark the quick progress on the project.

Representatives of developer Oracle, and its partners Related Digital, Blackstone, OpenAI, were on hand for the event to mark construction of the data center, nicknamed "The Barn" as a nod to the historic red barn preserved at its Michigan Avenue entrance. They were joined by Walbridge, the construction company managing the project, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, and building trade union representatives.

"Our job at OpenAI is to make intelligence smarter, cheaper, and more abundant so that more people can build, solve problems, and expand what they're able to do. Delivering that for the many, not the few will require building new infrastructure," said Sam Altman, CEO of OpenAI. "OpenAI is committed to doing it the right way: paying our own way on energy, protecting water supplies, and building in partnership with the communities that host us."

Building Stargate will yield the single largest economic investment in Michigan's history. The project is expected to create some 2,500 union construction jobs during its course – the 250-acre campus currently has more than 700 Hardhats on site, who have logged in more than 300,000

While the current construction cost of the Stargate Michigan Data Center has risen to \$16 billion, the rising price tag for its internal electronic components is causing eyes to pop in the technology industry, CNBC and *The Tech Buzz* have reported.

**Stargate's  
hardware  
costs rise to  
'staggering'  
commitment**

The report added: "The disclosure puts Stargate in rarefied territory. We're talking about investment levels that rival entire national infrastructure programs, all dedicated to building the computational backbone for next-generation AI models. According to details shared during live updates, the companies are planning for scale that goes beyond anything the tech industry has attempted."

Driving the cost increases, *The Tech Buzz* said, are ongoing "exponentially more computing power" requirements than previous generations of cloud services." Each data center needs cutting-edge GPUs, massive cooling systems, redundant power supplies, and networking equipment capable of handling unprecedented data throughput. "When you're building at Stargate's scale," the publication said, "those component costs multiply fast."

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tion," where spending increased 0.4 percent in April but led all major categories with a healthy year-over-year rise of 3.7 percent compared to one year earlier.

The highway and street sector, the largest public construction category, rose 3.9 percent over the past year.

(Continued on Page 3)

**A lack of workers? Or a lack of planning?**

North America's Building Trades Unions, the umbrella group for 14 international construction unions, issued a statement on May 28 addressing the decade-long contention that the industry has a worker shortage.

The following position piece was issued under the heading, "The U.S. does not have a skilled

**Getting ready to build? Stop making skilled  
trades an 'afterthought,' NABTU chief urges**

craft labor shortage. It has a workforce planning crisis."

As executives and commentators warn of construction labor shortages tied to energy expansion, advanced manufacturing,

reshoring, and data center growth, North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) says the issue is not a lack of skilled workers, but a failure by some owners, developers, and national contrac-

tor groups to make long-term workforce planning a core part of project development.

"The United States does not have a skilled craft worker shortage," said NABTU President Sean McGarvey. "It has a workforce planning crisis. The unionized construction industry built the  
(Continued on Page 2)

**ENR's top contractors  
point to data centers  
as next big opportunity**

State's leaders: Walbridge, Barton Malow, Christman

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

The annual *Engineering News Record's* ranking of U.S. construction contractors was released last month, and to the surprise of no one, the term "data centers" was front and center in the accompanying article's lede.

"Top 400 Contractor revenue rose 11.8 percent to \$671.4 billion in 2025, propelled by a surge of data center projects that have intensified power generation and infrastructure needs in their wake," the *ENR* article said. "With an estimated nearly \$7 trillion that cloud service providers will spend to bring their artificial intelligence operations up to speed, contractors say the ongoing AI boom is a big opportunity for construction."

Every spring, the *ENR* releases its rankings, by revenue, of top U.S. construction contractors based on previous year's financial numbers.

Michigan typically places about 10 contractors on the Top 400  
(Continued on Page 2)



SET ON 255 ACRES in Saline Twp. in Washtenaw County, construction of the Stargate Michigan Data Center is already employing 700 building trades workers. The project is being managed by Walbridge, which ranked No. 26 in the nation by revenue on the ENR's annual contractor rankings. At \$46 billion to \$56 billion, it will be the largest single investment in Michigan history.

Photo credit: Oracle

## Viewpoints



### As always, it's big money vs. labor

Friends, it's impossible to understand American politics without also understanding the American economy (and vice versa). Politics and economics may be different disciplines, but they're two sides of the same coin.

This came home to me again when I saw the May 28 report on the U.S. gross domestic product.

Numbers can be pretty boring, but bear with me. Worker compensation – wages and benefits – grew 0.8 percent from the fourth quarter of 2025 to the first quarter of 2026. Corporate profits grew 2.7 percent.

When you adjust for inflation, hourly wages have risen 3 percent since the end of 2019. Corporate profits have risen 50 percent. Workers' share of the nation's income has now dropped to the lowest it's been since records began in 1947. Profits' share is the highest since 1950.

Most people who depend on wages for a living are struggling, while a small minority at the top who own most shares of stock and private equity – that is, people who rely on capital gains – have never had it as good.

The trend toward lower wages and higher profits began in the 1980s, increased in the 2000s, picked up speed after the pandemic, and is about to explode as artificial intelligence takes over.

In coming months, three companies centered on AI will go public – SpaceX, OpenAI, and Anthropic – with expected valuations of around \$1 trillion each (reflecting the gargantuan profits investors expect). But what about workers?

This is not just morally wrong. "Income from capital risks replacing income from labor," Pope Leo wrote in *Magnifica Humanitas*, his encyclical letter devoted to the effects of AI, released May 25. It also threatens the future stability of our economic and political system.

What accounts for the increasing shift of the American economy from wages to profits, even before AI? One big reason is monopolization. The economy has become concentrated in a few giant corporations with the power both to raise prices and keep wages down.

Sure, there are still lots of small businesses and mom-and-pop operations. But the gravitational center of the U.S. economy is now Amazon, Alphabet (Google), Apple, Microsoft, Nvidia, Meta, Walmart, Costco, Home Depot, Kroger, United Health, Cigna, CVS, AT&T, Verizon, ExxonMobil, Chevron, JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, Citigroup, Vanguard, Fidelity, Blackstone, Apollo, and KKR.

These giants control large swathes of the economy. They also exert significant political power. They're like black holes in space, sucking in vast sums of money.

Their political power makes it impossible to know whether government policy is based on the public interest or private gain.

Consider Trump's war in Iran and its resulting surge in energy prices. The energy-price rise has caused after-tax disposable income to drop and the profits of energy companies to soar. Did Trump decide to go to war because he thought it necessary, or because Big Oil nudged him into it?

Workers, meanwhile, no longer have any countervailing power. In the 1950s, over a third of workers in the private sector were unionized. That gave them enough bargaining power to claim a significant share of the total economy. Now, only 6 percent of workers are unionized. Their bargaining power has been further eroded by their easy replacement by lower-wage workers in Asia and by software. AI will further erode it.

This trend is not sustainable. It feeds growing anger at the system, which demagogues like Trump exploit for their own ends. What should be done? Let me list five steps (I'll go into each in greater detail in coming months).

1. For one thing, we're going to need a new era of antitrust. Giant corporations will have to be busted up.

2. We'll also need to tax those at the top, especially on the value of their ownership of capital. (California voters will likely be asked to vote on a billionaire tax in November.)

3. We'll need to regulate AI and simultaneously provide a universal basic income to cushion those who lose their jobs because of it.

4. Universal health care will be a necessity (perhaps via Medicare for all) along with subsidized childcare and eldercare.

5. Finally, we'll need to distribute capital far more widely, so that the broad American public has a palpable stake in the rip-roaring stock market and the AI tsunami.

None of these fixes will be easy. Even if all are implemented, they may still be insufficient.

But, my friends, we have no choice but to try. We've already witnessed what mass anger can do to America, in the form of Trump. Unless we act soon, we're likely to have Trumps, or worse, as far as the eye can see.

**Robert Reich**  
Former U.S. Secretary of Labor

## Anti-worker tools at Stanley

By Jim Hightower

In this day of AI smart tools, it's easy to forget that we humans once relied on "dumb" hand tools like saws, drills, screwdrivers, and wrenches.

For decades, a major maker of these trusty instruments has been a company in New Britain, Conn., appropriately named The Stanley Works.

Today, having taken over other big brands like Craftsman and Black & Decker, Stanley is a \$15-billion-a-year conglomerate, and many former workers are asking, "Stanley works for whom?" That's because corporate top executives have quietly orchestrated a decades-long move of Stanley factories out of our country, abandoning the skilled machinists who literally made the brand successful.

The final blow came last month, when Stanley shut down the last of its red brick factories in New Britain. An odd move, since workers there produced one of Stanley's most iconic products:

The "PowerLock" tape measure. It is enormously popular – indeed, I have two of them. Yet, corporate bosses claim that cheaper, foreign-made tape measures now dominate the market, so – Poof! – goodbye 300 American jobs.

But wait, Stanley didn't eliminate the jobs, it just moved them. To Thailand, where labor is paid 75 percent less than in Connecticut. Indeed, the major foreign competitor to Stanley turns out to be... Stanley! It has been building modernized production factories in Thailand, even as it divested in U.S. factories and increased shipments of its foreign-made tape measures to the U.S.

Stanley's CEO was paid \$7.6 million last year. Nice, but now, the paychecks of 300 more workers can be reallocated to global shareholders... and give another hike in the chief's pay. And that's how the Inequality Merry-Go-Round keeps spinning... round and round and round.

Another collection of groaners...

My wife asked me the other day where I got so much candy. I said, "I always have a few Twix up my sleeve."



I hate my job – all I do is crush cans all day. It's soda pressing.

### Just joking

I asked my date to meet me at the gym, but she never showed up. I guess the two of us aren't going to work out.

I used to run a dating service for chickens. But I was struggling to make hens meet.

## ENR's top contractors point to data centers

(Continued from Page 1)

list, and this year was no different.

Topping the Great Lake State's list was Detroit-based Walbridge (ranked #26 in 2025, -2 positions on the list from 2024). Walbridge's revenue in 2025 was a reported \$6.15 billion. Next was Barton Malow of Southfield (#38, -3). Barton Malow (\$4.35 billion in revenue in 2025) had been Michigan's top contractor for at least three decades; this was the second straight year it was bested by Walbridge.

Here are other Michigan-based construction contractors in this year's ENR Top 400 Contractor list, with their position on the list in 2025 vs. 2024 and their revenue:

The Christman Co., Lansing (#68 +7; \$2.1 billion); Granger Construction Co. Lansing (#173, +9; \$780 million); Pioneer General Contractors, Grand Rapids (#182, +62; \$717 million); Clark Construction, Lansing (#220, -41, \$612 million); Rockford Construction, Grand Rapids (#228, -10; \$589 million); Ideal Contracting, Auburn Hills (#234, +21, \$565 million); Commercial Contracting Corp., Auburn Hills, (#235, -120, \$562 million), Roncelli, Sterling Hts., (#255 -16, \$516 million).

Nationwide, Turner Construction of New York City topped the list in 2025 for the sixth straight year. The giant company's \$28 billion in revenue was 69 percent higher than the second-place company on the list, Bechtel (Reston, Va.). The other top spots were held by SFO Building Group (NYC), Kiewit (Omaha) and Whiting-Turner (Baltimore).

"Our growth is being driven by increasingly large and complex projects in high-growth sectors and by the strength of our integrated services platform," said Turner President Abrar Sheriff in a statement following the release of the list. "As we scale the company, we are investing in recruiting, retention, and the worker experience in an environment built on respect, dignity, safety, and operational excellence."

For smaller contracting firms with less capacity and labor resources, Louisiana-based Ampirical (#298) CEO Matthew Saacks told the ENR the question becomes: "Can we continue to meet increasing annual hiring targets across the engineering spectrum necessary for capturing the market potential that exists?" He added: "this is a time of unprecedented growth in the electric power space, but that growth is outpacing the supply of people required."

With the ongoing AI infrastructure being speedily built, Brad Kollar, executive vice president for industrial and strategic markets at Upright Construction (#297), said the industry needs to learn from previous mistakes, especially growing at a rate too fast for skill levels to catch up.

"As an industry, we've had to be honest with ourselves," he said. "Over the past few years, a lot of firms, including ours, have grown quickly to keep up with demand. In some cases, growth has outpaced availability of truly experienced talent."

"Be not ashamed of thy virtues; honor's a good brooch to wear in a man's hat at all times."  
—Ben Jonson (1572 - 1637)

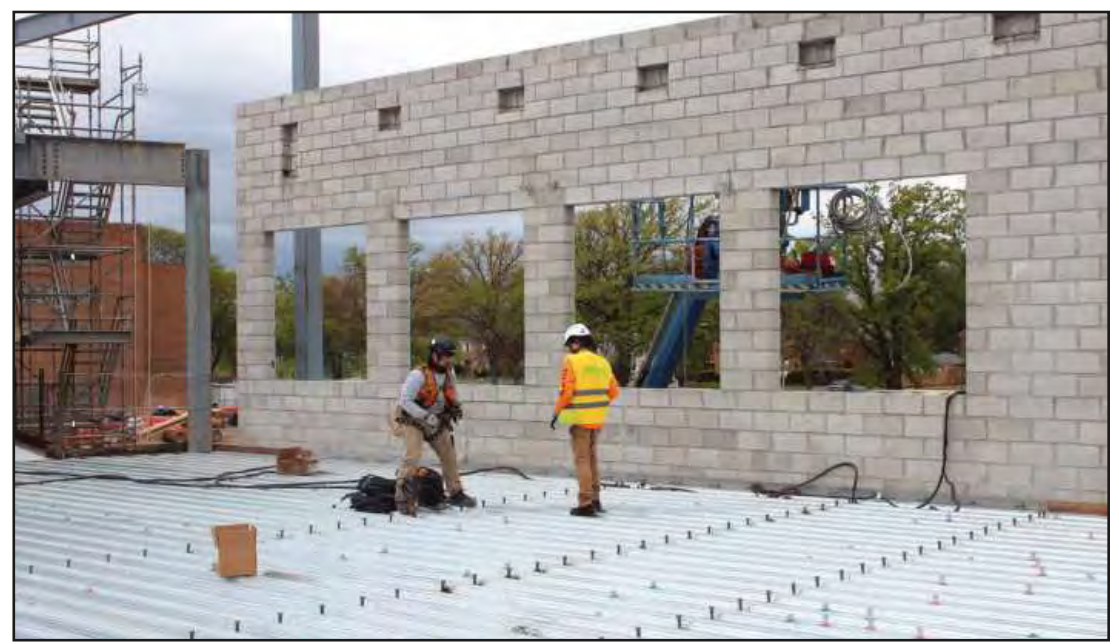
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Have you heard about those new corduroy pillows? They're making headlines.

People in Athens rarely get up before sunrise. Dawn is tough on Greece.

I was in a job interview the other day and they asked if I could perform under pressure. I said no, but I could perform Bohemian Rhapsody.



WELDING STUDS on the second floor of the new Cody High School in Detroit are iron workers Luke Brummett and Jorge Velez. The Local 25 members are employed by City Steel.

## New building, new vision for new Cody High School

(Continued from Page 1)

Public Schools Community District. "When we launched this work, we made a promise to rebuild our district – brick by brick, school by school – with our students at the center of every decision. This \$86 million investment is not just about a new building; it is proof that our vision is being realized. With each milestone we reach, we move closer to a future where every Detroit student learns in a world-class facility that reflects their potential, their pride, and their power."

Among the team leading construction on the project are Brad Anderson, project executive for The Christman Co., and Laura Gerencser, project manager for L.S. Brinker. They reported last month that about 50 tradespeople were toiling on site, a number that will peak at about 100 in October.

"We expect the new building will offer a life-changing experience for Cody students," Anderson said. "The new building will offer a beautiful, modern,

state-of-the-art design, and an elevated learning environment."

The school is being constructed on two levels next to the existing Cody High School, which is north of Joy Road and west of the Southfield Freeway. It is expected to serve a school population of about 750 students.

The new Cody High School marks the fourth major construction project launched under the school district's "20-Year Facility Master Plan" which follows the completion of the Southeastern High School Annex, and the groundbreakings at Paul Robeson/Malcolm X Academy and Pershing High School.

The work at Cody "has been a pretty straightforward job," Anderson said. "The tradespeople have been outstanding – we have a great group of skilled craftsmen bringing this project to life."

The new school is being erected on essentially empty land that included a former driver's education course and a baseball field.

For a new project in an old city, Anderson said the lack of old foot-

ings or other underground obstacles has made the project "surprisingly uneventful – we found far less than we expected to find."

Construction was proceeding last month with a variety of trades at work, setting structural steel, installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing, and performing masonry work.

"We're proud to be part of a project that will foster growth and opportunity for the students," Gerencser said. "The versatility of programs that will be available to students will benefit and impact students in this neighborhood for decades to come."

The new school building will support a variety of opportunities for Cody students – ROTC, modern space for art and design, as well as STEM labs, collaborative learning spaces and new athletic facilities. The new Cody will also build on its ties with local health care providers and include a "health hub" that will have convenient clinical space for the use of the community.

## A lack of workers? Or a lack of planning?

(Continued from Page 1)

training infrastructure, contractor partnerships, and workforce pipeline required to meet this moment. That capacity exists right now."

McGarvey said segments of the construction industry spent decades prioritizing short-term labor sourcing over long-term workforce investment, relying on low-wage, exploitable labor strategies instead of building durable training and recruitment systems capable of sustaining long-term demand.

By contrast, the unionized construction industry continued investing through collective bargaining, signatory contractor partnerships, and sustained private-sector funding, creating a scalable workforce model built to support complex energy, manufacturing, infrastructure, and mission-critical projects. Those decisions matter now.

NABTU's joint labor-management apprenticeship system is tuition-free, earn-as-you-learn, and designed to supply highly

skilled labor at scale.

Across the United States, NABTU and signatory contractor partners operate more than 1,600 training centers, invest over \$2.5 billion annually in registered apprenticeship and skilled craft training, and maintain a pipeline of more than 300,000 registered apprentices and trainees supported by more than 21,000 instructors.

"Workforce gaps in construction are not inevitable," McGarvey said. "They are the result of choices. The skilled workforce needed to build the projects driving the U.S. economy is not hypothetical. It is trained, available, and capable of expanding with demand. What is missing is the early commitment to incorporate workforce strategy into project planning."

McGarvey added, "Owners and contractors already plan early for specialized equipment, supply chains, permitting, and manufacturing lead times. Workforce strategy must be treated the same way: as a core project input addressed at the front end, not as an

afterthought once labor demand is already peaking."

Recent reporting on surging demand tied to data infrastructure, reshoring, and skilled trades retirements only reinforces NABTU's argument: the path forward is not panic. It is partnership. Owners, developers, and contractors should be engaging proven apprenticeship systems, community-based workforce on-ramps, and long-range labor strategies now if they expect projects to be delivered safely, on time, and at scale.

Independent research has found that projects using union labor are 40 percent less likely to experience skilled labor shortages, while also delivering higher productivity and lower overall project costs. For NABTU, that is the clearest proof point in this debate: when owners choose high-road labor partnerships and plan early for the skilled workforce major projects require, labor shortages become far less likely to derail project delivery.

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## BUILDING MICHIGAN: When winter work snowballed HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy

Wicked winters like the one Michigan experienced in 2026 slowed or even brought to a halt any number of construction projects. There were consecutive days in the northern Lower Peninsula and in the Upper Peninsula where heavy snow and ice kept tradespeople from leaving their own driveway for days at a time.

But during a “normal” or more mild winter these days, rare are the construction projects in the state that shut down for any length of time during the cold months. It hasn’t always been thus.

The movement toward keeping construction sites open year-round began, more or less, in the 1920s. It was mostly a booming decade for U.S. construction (book-ended by an era-defining economic bust in October 1929). As work picked up during the course of the 1920s, government leaders, business owners, contractors, architects, material suppliers and trades workers all began to look at the year-end, end of construction-industry operations in northern states, and collectively said: do we really need to close up shop during the winter?

“Why stop construction in the winter?” asked the editor of the *American Builder* in the publication’s October 1920 edition. “There was a time not so long ago when builders and contractors looked forward to the winter season as a period of inaction, but things have changed. Modern inventions have made this winter layoff period a matter of tradition and not fact. Engineers and architects have found ways and means to continue work right through the winter.”

Looking back on the “President’s Conference on Unemployment” five years prior, the Dec. 20, 1926, edition of *The American Architect* published an article under the headline, “Winter construction.” It said: “The investigation of this committee developed many illuminating and important facts bearing upon the tendency of building construction in northern latitudes to practically cease during the winter season. The principal cause for this cessation appears to have been custom rather than necessity.”

William Joshua Barney of the Barney Ahlers Construction Corp., made an address in 1926 before the New York Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, summarizing the situation. He said:

“From the beginning of the history of building it has been traditional that when cold weather sets in with first snow and sleet, construction must cease until the coming of spring. Until the use of steam heat, winter in the north meant freezing, frost and damage, except as guarded by open fires, always dangerous, especially around open construction work.

“In short, up to the time of our own childhood, we had all been taught that construction could not profitably or efficiently or satisfactorily be carried on in winter. I believe that the building industry should dedicate itself most thoroughly and wholeheartedly to spreading the gospel of all-the-year construction.”

The industry’s transition away from winter hibernation in the 1920s was spurred in good part by economic demand. Flush with cash and with a public that similarly had money to spend, owners wanted their factories, office buildings, movie theaters and skyscrapers erected as quickly as possible.

“When World War I ended, private construction activity, which had been substantially displaced in 1917 and 1918, resumed at a healthy pace,” wrote Robert Higgs in a paper for the Foundation of Economic Education. “Even during the brief depression of 1920–21, construction did not decline greatly, and as the economy recovered, building activity grew smartly, approximately doubling between 1921 and 1925. During the second half of the 1920s, construction remained on a high plateau....”

In February 1927, *The New York Times*, covering a speech by then-Commerce Secretary (and later president) Herbert Hoover, said “building operations for the first weeks of January, 1927 have continued active, and winter construction is greater now than

NOW COMMONPLACE, wintertime construction in the 1920s was experiencing a decade-long transition, with the re-thinking of resistance to building in the cold. The industry moved from a period of worker hibernation to, essentially, ‘hey we can all make good money working in January.’



Photo credit: American Architect, 1925



Photo credit: University of Michigan/Historic Detroit

THE DETROIT FREE PRESS Building is shown above under construction in January 1925. Below is the completed building shortly after it opened. Wintertime construction was a hot topic in the industry at the time. That month’s edition of *American Architect* used the above photo as an example of “a 13-story reinforced concrete structure, work upon which was continued throughout the winter. Note the protection on building where work is in progress.” Understandably the *American Architect* was excited to see construction progress during the winter, but we’re hard-pressed to take note of whatever protection from the cold they’re referring to. Indeed, winterizing buildings under construction was still a haphazard affair.

Another future president, Franklin Roosevelt, was president of the American Construction Council in the 1920s, and he pushed for year-round work. “During his tenure,” *The New York Times* later reported, “he actively championed the push for year-round construction to mitigate the severe economic impacts of seasonal unemployment and labor trade migration.”

*Seasonal Operation in Construction Industries, The Facts and Remedies*, a 1924 McGraw-Hill booklet in part written by Hoover, was prepared based on that president’s conference on unemployment, and was similarly gung-ho on wintertime building. The publication pointed out that not unlike today, “items of increased cost of winter construction consist principally of the equipment needed for protection and for artificial heat.” Building materials “can be obtained at somewhat slightly reduced cost because of smaller demand.”

Labor, the publication said, “in general is more efficient because the labor supply is greater and the workmen better appreciate the opportunity to work.” Regarding labor costs, it said, “under first-class management... the cost is apt to be actually less in winter.”

There were practical considerations to shutting down for the winter: the lack of proper earthmoving equipment for frozen ground. Water froze. Then as now, build integrity suffered if concrete were mixed at too-cold temperatures.

Workers didn’t have available, the kind of thermal-friendly outer clothes that are available today, so productivity suffered. Temporary heating systems were hardly efficient, a heated break area often came in the form of a scrap-lumber-

fueled firepit at the side of a building.

The profit motive by workers, owners and contractors – as well as subtle changes in technology – made working year-round more acceptable to the industry. Canvas tarps were made large enough to cover entire floors of buildings to seal in heat.

The invention of the “salamander” heater, which dates to 1915, also proved a boon for warm-blooded workers to work more comfortably in the cold, albeit with some major drawbacks.

“In the 1920s,” says *Construction Dive*, “salamander heaters on construction jobs were primitive, portable, cylinder-shaped stoves packed with burning charcoal or coal. Unlike the motorized, propane-fueled ‘torpedo heaters’ used on job sites today, 1920s salamanders relied entirely on simple radiant heat and natural convection without any electric fans. They were essential for winter masonry and concrete curing, but they were incredibly toxic, dirty, and a constant fire hazard.”

Salamanders emitted hazardous carbon monoxide and thick smoke but were essential for drying wet plaster, warming hands, and curing concrete.

“Braziers” – portable, open-fire metal containers or small stoves – were another warming device used by iron workers to heat rivets, and their hands. They were also employed by masons, to heat their hands and nearby mortar.

Despite their hazards, salamander-like heaters remained the standard for warming construction sites in the winter until the 1950s, when modern kerosene, propane, and electric forced-air heaters began to more safely warm workers, concrete and plaster.



THE MAGAZINE *Concrete Current Age* in November 1920 showed the since-demolished Wadsworth factory building under construction in Detroit with canvas tarps helping to keep in warmth on the upper floor. Under the headline “12 months’ season – the tidal wave in construction,” the publication said that the winter of 1919 and 1920, while “congested with incomplete buildings, showed remarkable progress in cold weather construction, involving placing of concrete at low temperatures. The demand for buildings, unprecedented in previous years, saw numerous owners and contractors rise to the occasion and continue important concrete construction continually through the long severe winter season.” Photo credit: *Concrete Current Age*, 1920

## U.S. construction spending, starts both on the rise from a year ago

(Continued from Page 1)

“Highway construction has been a major contributor to total nonresidential spending,” said Ken Simonson, the Associated General Contractors’ chief economist. “For the past several months, total spending has increased only when there was a rise in year over year highway construction activity.”

The BLS numbers revealed that activity in other nonresidential construction sectors was more varied. Overall, private nonresidential construction spending declined 0.2 percent in April and fell 2.1 percent compared to April 2025. And within that category, U.S. manufacturing construction continued to weaken sharply, dropping 18.5 percent over the past 12 months. But the next-largest private category, electric power and oil and gas-related construction, rose 0.6 percent for the month and 6.0 percent year over year.

Commercial construction spending rose 1.5 percent from April 2025. Private office construction, which oddly includes data centers, climbed 9.4 percent over 12 months, led by data center spending jumping 28 percent over 12 months. Dodge pointed to the Stargate data center project in Saline Twp. as one of the largest such projects in the nation.

Meanwhile, the latest analysis from the Dodge Construction Network said total construction starts rose 9 percent in April. Nonresidential building starts grew by 18.6 percent, nonbuilding (usually infrastructure) starts increased 7.0 percent, while residential starts fell 0.7 percent over the month. On a year-to-date basis, total construction starts were up 5.4 percent through April.

“April’s construction starts were robust with only three categories posting month over month losses,” stated Eric Gaus, chief economist of Dodge Construction Network. “Large data centers and energy generation supported the growth, but 9 of the 15 categories saw double- or triple-digit growth.”

## Silver shovel event hails construction of MI’s largest investment, ever

(Continued from Page 1)

Trades Unions (NABTU). The agreement was developed collaboratively with Walbridge, whose century-long relationship with Michigan’s building trades unions made the partnership possible.

“Projects like this demonstrate what is possible when workforce strategy is part of project planning from the very beginning,” said NABTU President Sean McGarvey, one of the silver-shovel holders. “The demand for AI and data infrastructure is growing rapidly, and the building trades and our contractor partners have spent decades preparing the skilled workforce, training capacity, and industry partnerships needed to build this next generation of infrastructure safely, efficiently, and at scale.

“Engagement with the building trades and our contractor partners means benefits for local workers, honest brokering with local communities and responsible development for years to come. America’s ability to lead in the next era of innovation depends, in part, on America’s ability to build, and our members are proud to be helping make that future possible.”

This is the largest project ever undertaken by Michigan’s biggest general contractor, Detroit-based Walbridge. All campus buildings are now actively under construction, with the first of three 550,000-square-foot, single-story, LEED-certified data center buildings nearing completion.

“Walbridge has been building in Michigan for more than a century, and we’re proud to continue that legacy here in Washtenaw County,” said Walbridge CEO Mike Haller. “This project reflects what we stand for – creating good union jobs, expanding apprenticeship opportunities for Michigan workers, and strengthening the next generation of skilled trades. We’re excited to be part of the team delivering the advanced infrastructure that will power the next generation of AI and innovation.”

The construction of the Barn is taking place amid strong public backlash to data center construction, which in many regions, including Michigan, is seen as the primary source of building trades jobs in coming years.

The developer said the Stargate project reflects Related Digital’s “commitment to responsible data center development.” The company added: “The LEED-certified buildings will utilize a closed-loop, air-cooled system that limits water use to levels comparable to a standard office building, protecting Michigan’s water resources and the Great Lakes. Related Digital is also committed to preserving 750+ acres of open space, farmland, and wetlands adjacent to the data center.”

In accordance with Michigan law, the data center will pay for 100 percent of the electricity it uses during operations. DTE Energy said it “is supplying all of the project’s power using existing resources, augmented by a new battery storage investment, financed entirely by the project, that will generate an estimated \$300 million in grid savings for DTE’s existing customers and strengthen local grid reliability.”

“The Barn will bring tens of billions of dollars of investment to Michigan, creating thousands of good-paying local jobs both in construction and tech,” said Whitmer. “In Michigan, we’re doing it the right way. We’re ensuring that any company that invests in our communities will pay their own way, fulfill their commitment to good-paying jobs, create energy savings for residents, and be good neighbors by protecting our precious air, land, and water. Let’s keep working together to grow our economy, invest in our people, and build a bright future.”

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## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – The next general membership meeting will be held Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083. Use the Banquet Entrance. The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held Wednesday, June 24, 6 p.m. at the Union Hall.

**ELECTIONS:** Elections will be held on June 26, 2026, from 12 (noon) – 8 pm at The Apprenticeship School, 64 Park St, Troy, MI 48083. A dues receipt is required to vote.

**Business Manager / Financial Secretary-Treasurer** (Vote for not more than 1) *Paul Gualdoni*

**Business Agent / President** (Vote for not more than 1) *Antonio (Tony) Silvestri*

**Vice President** (Vote for not more than 1) *W. Leon Weathers, Jason Csurgo*

**Recording Secretary** (Vote for not more than 1) *Allison Engeldardt, Chuck Garry*

**Warden & Conductor** (Vote for not more than 1) *Jordan Hicks, Austin Olson*

**Executive Board** (Vote for not more than 5) *David Brown, Anthony (Tone) Smiley, David Pistotti, Frank Lewandowski,*

*Lloyd McMillon, Jason Bolster, Cody Verkerke*

**Union Trustee** (Vote for no more than 3) *Quintin Turner, Denny Lau, Aaron McKeehan, Achilles Manolis*

The term of office will run from the Regular Membership Meeting on July 8, 2026, and serve a term of 3 years. **To be eligible for election June 26, 2026, dues for the month of June must be paid in advance, that is, on or before May 29, 2026.**

**RETIREES NOTICE:** The next Retiree Luncheon has been rescheduled to 6/18/26 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It's always nice to catch up and stay connected. Please get in touch with the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

**BENEFIT INCREASES EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026:** The Board of Trustees of Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Supplemental Unemployment Fund is pleased to announce the following benefit improvements effective June 1, 2026.

**Journeyman/Apprentice:** The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$225 to \$275.

**Classified A/B:** The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$102 to \$124

**Classified C:** The Benefit payable under this Plan will increase from \$30 to \$37

Please note that all existing credits will also be increased.

**LOCAL 292 ANNUITY/WAGE DEFERRAL:** Beginning 1/1/26 the Annuity Fund will offer both pre-tax 403 (B) and Roth 403 (B) contribution options. Check your mail for flyers from Local 292 & John Hancock explaining the new option.

**ANNUITY FUND ACCOUNT ACCESS:** You can now access your Annuity account online, by phone, or by mobile app. The phone number to reach John Hancock is 833-388-6466. To create an online profile and a PIN, visit [johnhancock.com/myplan](http://johnhancock.com/myplan) and click "register now." Be sure to choose a strong password. Keep your password safe and change it regularly. To establish your PIN by phone, call 833-38-6466 or 888-440-0022 for Spanish.

**Important Notice: Pension Benefit Payments Transitioning to Prudential Effective 8/1/25.** Pension benefit payments will now come from Prudential, starting with the transfer, Retirees will begin receiving monthly pension payments directly from Prudential Insurance. If your medical insurance premium was being automatically deducted from your pension, this will continue under Prudential. No action is needed.

**Advantages of the Pension Risk Transfer:** Greater Long-Term Security. The pension plan is being transferred to Prudential, a highly reputable and financially stable insurance company. Prudential specializes in managing long-term annuity payments, ensuring that retirees receive dependable monthly payments for life. Prudential's sole focus is managing and delivering retirement income. This transfer places retirees' pension under expert stewardship and reduces financial risk to the Union. The amount of your monthly benefit with not change. The payment schedule will continue on time and in full.

**MEMBER ASSISTANCE: Local 292 has a new partner for Member Assistance. UNION EAP.** Union EAP provides professional guidance for mental health, substance abuse recovery, and complex healthcare navigation for all active participants of the Health Plan. Beyond wellness, they offer expert assistance with legal consultations and financial planning to ensure you have the support you need for every part of your life, all completely confidential.

Available 24/7, 365 days a year. 1-855-500-1915.

**SMOIH HELPLINE:** Call 877-884-6227/ Available 24/7. For SMART 292 Members and their families experiencing an immediate crisis or who need a helpful ear.

**OUT OF WORK:** If you become laid off, you Must complete an Out of Work List Registration /SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List. **Please contact Paul or Tony for updated work opportunities.**

**SMART 292 APP:** Our new Local 292 App is now live. It is available to all dues-paying members. Download is available through your App Store. Search SMART Local 292. There will be a short waiting period for the verification process.

**WEBSITE / FACEBOOK:** Be sure to check our website – [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com); Facebook page – Sheet Metal Workers Local 292.

**TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION:** If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please get in touch with the Union Hall and we will make the change.

**TRUHEARING:** This benefit of premium hearing aids is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact TruHearing at 1-833-898-1255 for an appointment.

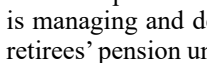
**SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS:** To access your MUST account, please go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) or access it through the "links" tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com). If you haven't already done so, you must create an account to access your information. If you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

**DUES:** Membership dues must be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday; therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paid online ([sheetmetal292.com](http://sheetmetal292.com)).

**ADDRESS UPDATES:** If you move, please contact the union hall to update your address.

**SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST:** Many members have received Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. The IRS requires this validation; the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the members' responsibility to ensure all requested documentation is returned to the Fund office promptly. By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

**UNION HALL HOURS:** Hall office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 (Continued next column)



PAUL GUALDONI



## Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

LANSING – NOTICE. This Newspaper Article shall serve as the Official Notice of ALL meetings for Local 7!

The next Statewide Meeting will be Aug. 13, 2026, at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 1 July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 July 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)

\*Zone 3 August 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 July 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 August 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Please be aware that we are all required to report into the Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction in which we are traveling outside of our home Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction per the SMART Constitution Article 16 Section 10. Failure to report could result in charges and fines that you alone will be responsible for. Do not rely on your contractor or others to report on your behalf, it is your responsibility. Call your Business Representative if you are unsure of who to contact, they will get you the correct reporting information.

Please register on our website at [www.sheet-metal7.org](http://www.sheet-metal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2026. Once you are registered it must be approved to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you have issues registering.

**SMART Union Labels:** Make the union label work for you! The new and modernized SMART Labels are an essential part to wage equalization, which means more money and work for you. Make sure that you are scanning labels to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at [www.labelscantireport.com](http://www.labelscantireport.com) and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

**Zone 1 Info:** Work in the Zone 1 area has started picking up recently and looks to remain strong throughout the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric and Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with Unemployment, ESTA, Insurance, or Pensions, please contact Eric or Vance for assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in any upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Zone 1 Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

**Monthly Retiree meeting:** 2nd Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm located at Sarah's Place 1100 Page Ave, Jackson MI 49203.

**In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders.**

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 is steady and looks good thru the summer. If your employment status changes please get ahold of me and apprentices let Tanner know as well. Don't forget about the Local 7 golf outing Sept. 12 at Briar Ridge Golf Course in Montrose. Keep in mind dues are always due prior to the first of the month, also keep me informed of any address or phone number changes. **Work Safe and Thank you, Mike Adams**

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Saginaw) Work in the area is picking up slowly. Next Zone 3 meeting will be at the Freeland hall 7/8/2026. Be sure your contact information is up to date with the Lansing office if there has been any changes (517)882-4064. Next Retiree meeting is June 23 at Ponderosa on Wilder Rd, Bay City. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Traverse City) Work is strong and will continue to be throughout the Fall. If anyone needs assistance with anything, contact me. It is up to you to make sure your monthly hours statements from Benesys are correct and make sure your phone and address are correct with the Hall and Benesys. Work safe and keep an eye on your brother or sister next to you. On a bigger note, men and women have died upholding our contract, please follow what is in it. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** Work in Zone 4 is busy again. It looks to be a great summer and fall. Thing are moving along pretty good at the new training center. We are very excited to get this done. For those of you who don't know we are looking at The MAAC in Clio MI to be our new training center we are keeping our fingers crossed that everything continues smoothly. Also don't forget about the Local 7 golf outing, it will be held at Briar Ridge Golf course in Montrose MI for this year and next, the registration forms will be available soon for sign up. Hopefully warmer weather is coming soon please submit some of your summer fun pics of travels or big catches and I can submit a photo or two to one of the upcoming newsletters. **Thanks your brother Scott Brotherton.**

**ZONE 5 Info.** Work in the UP is back in full swing. Don't forget to get your Mine Safety Training up to date. If you need a refresher please sign up for that at [www.upconstruction.org](http://www.upconstruction.org). If you have a change of address please call me or the Lansing hall to get that updated. **Reminder:** 2026 union meetings at the hall in Gwinn have been changed to Saturdays at 10 am. **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld.**

**Dues Department: \*Online dues payment is now available\*** Dues from all members of local unions shall be paid monthly or quarterly, but always in advance. To better serve our membership, we accept Credit Card Payments in lieu of your monthly dues. If you would like to take advantage of the Credit Card Service, a finance charge will be applied – Please call the Lansing office during regular business hours at 517-882-4064 to make your payment.

**Address/Telephone Changes: Article 8, Section 1** of Local 7 Work Rules: *Address Changes:* All members are required to keep the Financial Secretary informed of their correct address. A notice mailed to the last address shall be sufficient and legal. If you have moved or changed your telephone number, please contact the union hall to update your records.

**BENEFITS:** For Benefit questions please contact the area office. Zone 1 – BeneSys 866-822-7037, Zone 2 – TIC 866-887-4338, Zone 3 – BeneSys 800-451-5733, Zone 4 – BeneSys 800-842-2690 and Zone 5 – Wisconsin H & B Fund 800-654-2329.

**DEATH CERTIFICATES:** Please submit to the Union Hall a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased members. Additional benefits from the International may be available.

**CONTACT US:** 4931 Contec, Lansing, 48910-517-882-4064

**Local 7 Officers:**

**Samual Fuller** (Business Man./Fin. Secy.-Treasurer) **517-882-4064**

**Eric Farrington** (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) **517-242-3223**

**Vance Saunders** (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) **269-569-9200**

**Mike Adams** (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) **616-299-3752**

**Joe Dotson** (Agent-Saginaw) **989-225-0095**

**John Amalfitano** (Agent-Traverse City) **231-590-1112**

**Scott Brotherton** (Agent-Flint) **810-836-3552**

**Brandon Langenfeld** (Agent-Upper Peninsula) **906-372-9288**

### Local 292 continued

p.m. Monday through Friday.

**THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM:** The "4-plus" member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four certifications) with the 4 Plus logo, hard hat stickers, and bragging rights. If you would like to be a "4-plus" member, contact your Local 292 Training Center at: **313-623-9390** (Dave) or Quintin at 248.495.6764.

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any members interested in a Saturday welding class on June 13, 20, July 11, 20 & 25. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

Note: Anyone who signs up for a class must pay a \$40.00 registration fee that will be refunded on the completion of the class. These deposits are NON-Refundable if you do not show up for the classes. You can drop off the deposit between the hours of 7:00 and 3:00 at the Apprentice School.

Call the Apprentice School at 248-589-3237, Dave's cell 313-623-9390 or Quintin's cell 248-495-6764 to reserve a spot. Remember we must have the deposit before you will be scheduled for the class.



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

SOUTHFIELD – This paper serves as official notice for all meetings and elections.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield. The General Election will be held on this day. The polls are open from noon-8pm at the union hall.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** Next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16th at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield.

**CONTRACT & ALLOCATION VOTE NOTICE:** On Wednesday June 17, 2026 at 5:30pm members will be voting on the acceptance and the allocation of our contract. The meeting will be held at The Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Union Hall located at 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48076.

**ELECTION NOTICE:** 2026 is a general election year. The Election will take place on Tuesday June 23, 2026 from 12 noon – 8pm at the Local 80 Union Hall. Candidates are as follows in order of ballot draw:

**Business Manager/FST:** Jason Grunenwald, unopposed

**Business Agents:** 4 positions  
Jason Denison, Frank Livingston, Scott Lewis, Eric McPherson, Jason Constantine, Dave Angelo

**President:** Joe Brick, unopposed

**Vice President:** Aaron Griffin, unopposed

**Recording Secretary:** Khris Andrus, unopposed

**Conductor:** Shaun Allen, unopposed

**Warden:** Chris Peltier, unopposed

**Executive Board:** 5 positions  
Ryan Abke, Tony Stocker, Lawrence Ateman, Tom Brown, Richard Saharchuk, Tim Roberts, Sean T. Mulligan, Josh Taulbee

**Trustee:** 3 positions  
Mike Pilon, David Germain, Josh Marone, unopposed

**UNION HALL REGULAR HOURS** Monday through Friday 7:30 - 4:00, unless otherwise indicated.

**RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE:** 2026 Retiree Meetings: Monday June 15<sup>th</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup>, October 19<sup>th</sup> (annual party) & December 21<sup>st</sup>. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership-meeting schedule above.

**BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL:** Lashone will be in Monday - Thursday from 9-4pm. To schedule an appointment, please 248-813-9800 ext. 3254

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Ronald Maynor, Charles Flint Jr., Dave Angelo, Scott Lewis, Marc Reeder, Michael McCarthy, Mark Boyd, Matthew Schatzberg, Timothy Mulligan & Dennis Trinkle.

**GOLF OUTING: Tickets are SOLD OUT. Please contact the hall to be added to the waitlist.** Please join us on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$125 a ticket. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner. Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket! \*Payment must be received to lock in your ticket, there is no holding tickets without payment.\*

**DUES PAYMENTS: are due prior to the 1st of the month.** Books close at the end of business day on the last day of the month. Payments made on the 1st will be considered late. No exceptions - once the books are closed, they cannot be reopened. To help you stay on track, you will receive a text reminder before the end of the month. If you're not receiving these reminders, please contact the hall.

**WORKING IN OTHER LOCALS:** Please remember that if you are working in a jurisdiction outside of Local 80 you must call their union hall and check in as a traveler. It is the member's responsibility to do this, not the contractor's! If you have any questions please reach out to an agent.

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please ensure that you have designated or updated your beneficiary choices for all Local 80 and International Association benefits.

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall, which includes the tradesman paper. You will also need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 to update for insurance and pension documents.

**ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION:** Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500.00. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

**WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS:** must be reported by the steward by 3pm on Friday and signed forms returned on Monday to [staff@smw80.org](mailto:staff@smw80.org)

**LAY-OFFS:** All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off. You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. or SASMI benefits. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue a termination slip in accordance with our contract.

**OUT-OF-WORK LIST:** Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and September 1 through September 20. If you fail to re-register, you will be removed from the list. Your name will be removed from the list 14 days after receiving an assignment.

**SUB Application Deadlines and Requirements:**

**Submit your SUB application within 7 days of your layoff** to avoid forfeiting benefits.

**Layoff slips** must accompany your application to qualify for SUB benefits.

**Send proof of UIA benefit payments within 21 days** of the payment date to receive SUB benefits.

Send your unemployment proof to [smw80subfund@gmail.com](mailto:smw80subfund@gmail.com) or fax it to 248-557-0297. To ensure payment by Friday, proof due by **2:00 PM on Tuesdays.**

**Important:** Do not submit your UIA proof directly to the fund office. For questions, call the hall at 248-557-7575.

**SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY:** If you miss work due to weather, and you are not laid off, the company must provide written documentation confirming the loss of hours was weather-related. If you work 16 hours or less in a week, you may be eligible to collect SUB, but only if the hours worked are at the beginning or end of a layoff. To apply:

Complete the SUB application at the hall.

Provide a pay stub for the week.

The hall will submit your information to the fund office.

Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

**MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** If you're facing challenges in your family, relationships, or dealing with stress, emotional difficulties, grief, or substance use, please reach out to our Assistance Program **Ulliance** at 1-800-448-8326 or visit [www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com). Mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when you call.

**NOTARY:** We have a notary public available at no charge.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

Golf Outing – July 11; Picnic – August 1



**Local 190**

**Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters,  
Service Technicians,  
Gas Distribution**

UA Local 190

**ANN ARBOR - UNION MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 13 at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. All members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**UNION HALL CLOSING:** Our office will be closed at noon on Friday, July 3 to observe Independence Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

**LOCAL 190 SCHOLARSHIPS:** is available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. From Local 190, due back no later than June 26, emailed applications will NOT be accepted, please mail or return to the union hall.

**52nd ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:** will be held on Saturday, July 25. Our event will be held at *Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake*. Mark your calendar for this special event. Tickets are available to purchase at the union hall. **Check or cash payments only, no credit card payments.** If you have questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

**LOCAL 190 SUMMER PICNIC - save the date:** Aug. 29. More information will be released very soon.

**PAY UNION DUES ONLINE:** <https://mtp.ua190.org/mtpweb> Username will be your full social security no., temporary password is the last four digits of your social security no.. There is a 3% fee charged. Feel free to call the hall for a QR CODE.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF OR 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.

**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.

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** Please contact the union hall 734-424-0962 to make sure we have a current e-mail address.

**MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL:** Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY! For instructions and requirements, visit: [www.michigan.gov/bcc](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc). Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

**INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:** Annual physicals need to be completed by Oct. 31. Please remember to bring in the 2026 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus [bmaus@ua190.org](mailto:bmaus@ua190.org). This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org, go to documents, health care, 2026 annual physical verification form (towards the bottom of the page)

**NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP FOR YOUR SMART DEVICE:** you can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation benefits and much more. **Download: BCBSM**

Bernadette Maus will be available by phone Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or in person Mondays and Wednesdays at Local 190's office from 7:30 a.m. until Noon and 1-4:30 p.m., please contact her directly at (888) 390-7473 to schedule an appointment.

(Please Note: Bernadette's office entrance door is in the back of our building and is marked "Bernadette Maus - Benefits Manager")

**MEDICARE:** When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus.

**INFORMATION-TRAINING CENTER:** Congratulations to UA Local 190's 2026 Graduates! 12 individuals became Journeyman on May 1st, 2026.

Welder Re-Qualifications for Gas Distribution Welders will be held at the end of June at the training center. Any questions please contact Pat Duffy, 734-424-0962

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8 am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Please give Kristyn a call with questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online.

Please submit all continuities, certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date. Email: [kristyn@190jtc.com](mailto:kristyn@190jtc.com) or mail to 8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103.

**Available Journeyman classes:**

**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org/2026Schedule](http://ua190.org/2026Schedule) - Mondays - July 20, and Sept. 28. Each class will start at 5 pm.

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org/2026Schedule](http://ua190.org/2026Schedule) - Mondays - July 27, and Oct. 5. Each class will start at 5 pm.

**Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs):** This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the basic fundamentals of SMAW (Stick), and GTAW (TIG) welding. This course will cover welding procedures (WPS), UA certifications (UA-21, UA-22, UA-41), basic metallurgy, weld process selection, machine setup, welding symbols, welding positions, welding electrodes and consumables, weld preparation, shielding gasses, and welder safety.

Participants will receive training on the Lincoln Virtual welding machine (VR), before heading into the welding lab.

**Call the Training Center to secure your spot, dates to be announced later.**

**Open welding is closed for the summer.** The welding lab will reopen on Sept. 8. Welding lab is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday & Thursday nights from 4pm to 8:30pm. Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm. There is limited space and first come first served. Saturdays will only remain open with member participation. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2026 Schedule: Sept 8.** Courses run on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) **Must have a current State of Michigan Plumbing License to certify with ASSE.**

**ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE PRICE INCREASE** ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2026 Schedule: Oct 13.** Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) **Must have a current State of Michigan Plumbing License to certify with ASSE.**

**Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. **2026 Schedule: Sept. 1.** Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs):** This is a two-day course. **2026 Schedule: Oct. 6.** Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs):** This is a four-day course. **2026 schedule:** course to be announced later.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, (Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

**SOUTHFIELD -** The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, June 17, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Because of eligibility requirements there will be no election held on June 17.

Our condolences to the Buckner family on the passing of brother Larry Buckner, a 52-year member

In observance of the fourth of July holiday, the hall will be closed July 3<sup>rd</sup> and re-open at 7:30 am July 6th.

As a reminder, your dues payment is due the last day of the month.

Please sign up for MDLive. There is no cost for you or your family to use this App. You will be able to download it from the Apple Store or Google Play.

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 members. Any member violating this By-Law shall be brought before the Executive Board for a trial and be subject to a fine.

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

**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):** 248-540-2091 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

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

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

## Local 190, con't

to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class TBD. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs):** This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are to be determined according to demand. Register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**Michigan 2021 Plumbing Code Class (48 hrs.):** Journeyman members who are registered with the State of Michigan as Apprentice Plumbers with a minimum of 3 years and 6000 hours of documented work experience under a Master Plumber, can register for the Michigan 2021 Plumbing Code Class. This class will prepare members for the written code and practical sections of the State of Michigan Plumbing Test. Please contact the Training Center to reserve your spot. Dates will be announced when the class roster is full. Members must meet all the requirements to sign up.

**RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US** - The next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Thursday, July 2 at the Union Hall. Join us for card games, pastries, and coffee.

**NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PAPER:** Please contact Karen Spearin at the union hall, (734) 424-0962 Ext #210, if you would like to put a special notification in the paper.

*"Don't think there are no crocodiles because the water is calm."*

-Malayan Proverb

*"The best effect of fine persons is felt after we have left their presence."*

-Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

*"Never suffer youth to be an excuse for inadequacy, nor age and fame to be an excuse for indolence."*

-Benjamin Haydon

*"Choose your pleasures for yourself, and do not let them be imposed upon you."*

-Lord Chesterfield (1694 - 1773)



Local 357

**KALAMAZOO - UNION MEETING:** The next Union Meeting has been changed and will be on Tuesday, June 16th at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 6:00.

**WAGE ALLOCATION:** The Raise Allocation will be voted on at the Union Meeting on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to submit a wage proposal you will need to have it in to the Hall by Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**UA LOCAL 357 TRAINING INSTRUCTOR:** The UA Local JATC program is seeking a full-time Instructor. The position will be 44 hours a week at the Local 357 Foreman wage with the Local 357 benefits package to include UA Officers Pension, two weeks paid vacation and two weeks paid upgrade training. Please upload your resume by July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, to [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com). This link will be on the home page. All qualified applicants will be notified, after the date above, of requirements along with the date and time of their interview.

**UPCOMING UNION EVENTS:** Sportsman Alliance Dinner - Friday, July 10, 2026 (Limited Seats still available) - Must Check with Lori.

Growlers Baseball Game - Saturday - July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 - A Postcard with all the details was sent - RSVP by July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Annual Picnic - Saturday - July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 - A Postcard with all the details was sent - RSVP by July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Golf Outing - Saturday - September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 - Details to follow at a later date.

You can call Lori at (269) 679-3708 for details on any of the events.

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

**RETIREE MEETING:** Retiree lunch meetings will now be BREAKFAST on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at The Crew, 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone no. for the location is (269) 337-9800.

**CHANGE OF STATUS:** If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date and you only have 30 days from the date of the event to make the change. **There also 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:** Congratulations to Travis Robbins and family on the birth of a son, Jack.

Congratulations to TJ Collick on his new position as the Local 357 Training Coordinator.

*"Mathematics, rightly viewed, possesses not only truth, but supreme beauty - a beauty cold and austere, like that of sculpture."*

-Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

*"Dying is a very dull, dreary affair. And my advice to you is to have nothing whatever to do with it."*

-W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965)

*"To be nobody but yourself in a world which is doing its best day and night to make you like everybody else means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight and never stop fighting."*

-e cummings (1894 - 1962)



UA Local 85

SAGINAW, MI

**Local 85  
Plumbers & Steam Fitters**

UA Local 85

SAGINAW - The next Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 PM.

The next Zone 2 Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at the Grayling Eagles Lodge located at 602 Huron St., Grayling, MI 49738.

**Contact Information:** Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x8513 [jpomerville@ualocal85.org](mailto:jpomerville@ualocal85.org)

Tim Danieliak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x8514

[tdanieliak@ualocal85.org](mailto:tdanieliak@ualocal85.org) Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330 [csteele@ualocal85.org](mailto:csteele@ualocal85.org)

Andre Alexander, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x8515

[aalexander@ualocal85.org](mailto:aalexander@ualocal85.org)

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512

[rjanderson@ualocal85.org](mailto:rjanderson@ualocal85.org) Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511

[ktuthill@ualocal85.org](mailto:ktuthill@ualocal85.org) Please check the [ualocal85.org](http://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](http://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 No. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

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

**JATC News:** Work continues to be very busy, please keep a close eye on the website for upcoming classes. We need to continue to be trained and certified for many of these upcoming projects. If there is a specific class you need, please reach out to Training Coordinator Robert Mead at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8519.

**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](mailto: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](http://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:** The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, July 14 at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

**CONDOLENCES:** Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Don Raetz who passed away on June 3, 2026

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

## 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](http://www.ssdfighter.com)





**Local 370**  
Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters  
and HVAC Service

UA Local 370  
FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 16, 2026**. Please note the change to the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month** due to the State Pipe Trades Convention. This will be a refreshment meeting.

**Scholarship Applications** for the 2026-2027 school year are now available on our website at ualocal370.org. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 hall. Applications are due by the end of May.

**Retiree Breakfast** will be on Monday, **June 16** at 9:00 am.

**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is now available to all members and retirees as of March 1. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations on legal and financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**  
**STAR HVACR Prep Class** Test on May 14<sup>th</sup>

All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 Ext 15 or at training@ualocal370.org

**2021 Plumbing Code Books** now available. Cost is \$85. Check, money order or credit card.

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, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:00pm
- FMR Committee – Tuesday June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:00pm
- PAC committee – Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:00pm
- Executive Board – Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:00pm
- Building Committee – Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:00pm
- Finance Committee – Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:15pm
- JATC Committee – TBD

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

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

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

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

**Attention All Active Members in Good Standing.** The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 who 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.

(Continued next column)



UA Local 98  
DETROIT Membership of Plumbers Local 98.

**PLEASE NOTE: Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, JUNE 18, 2026 at 6:00pm.**

**The next board meeting is** Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 4:30pm prior to the regular monthly meeting. The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

**Marathon Health:** Our first two Marathon Health Clinics (Sterling Heights & Novi) are now open. For more information, please see their website at my.marathon.health or call 866-434-3255. Participants enrolled in the Fund's Medicare Advantage program are unable to utilize Marathon Health. Contact an officer with any questions.

**Retiree Dental:** We are proud to announce we've been able to add Dental coverage for our retirees. Information has been mailed to members and retirees. For questions, please contact BeneSys.

**Retiree Luncheon:** The next retiree luncheon is **Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at Noon** at the Plumbers Local 98 hall. Please contact Dave Schroeder or Dominic Fanto if you have any questions, or call the hall.

**Annual Summer Picnic** will be **Saturday, June 20, 2026 Noon to 4pm at Lake St. Clair Metropark.** Harrison Township (formerly known as Metro Beach Metropark), Boardwalk Picnic Shelter. Games, prizes, bike raffle, etc. Burgers, hot dogs, chips and soft drinks provided. Flyer is needed for complimentary entry. *Please download a flyer from our webpage or stop by the hall to pick one up. Any questions please call Business Agent Jimmy Cools.*

**Attention 98 Softball players:** Wishing our Local 98 softball team "Good Luck" at The 47<sup>th</sup> UA National Softball Tournament is June 26-28, 2026 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Local 98 Scholarship Committee** will be awarding scholarships to the children of Local 98 members and accepting Detroit Plumbers CARES Scholarship applications for the 2026/2027 academic year. You can find the requirements and application itself in Resource Tab at ualocal98.org or call the hall for more information. **Application deadline is June 29, 2026.**

**Detroit Plumbers CARES 2026 Scholarship Golf Outing** will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on **Saturday, Aug. 1, 2026.** 9am shotgun start. Call the hall or email us at golfouting@ualocal98.org to sign up your teams and for sponsorship opportunities. *Please be sure to sign up soon as spots are limited!*

**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is available to all members, retirees, spouses/domestic partners and dependents through the age of 26. This benefit has no out-of-pocket costs and includes confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and

**Local 370, con't**

**Our web site is up and running.** Check it out, [ualocal370.org](http://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.

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

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test can contact the Training Center for application and testing dates. Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10.00 and fleece caps \$5.00. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 dollars each. Hooded sweat shirts and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are \$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](http://www.shopunionmade.com). T.I.C. fringe administrators' toll free no. is 1-888-797-5862.

**Plumbers Local 98**



24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters, a discount program for goods and services, and free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

**Pipe Up** is the official podcast of the UA General President. The program offers monthly stories, skills and a look into the lives of our membership. Access the podcast at [ua.org/pipeup](http://ua.org/pipeup).

**In Memoriam:** Let us remember our family, friends, brothers and sisters who have recently passed: Brother James G. Pote, he was initiated 2-9-1961 on and a 65-year member.

**Membership Dues Reminder:** Friendly reminder to stay up-to-date on your membership dues to avoid suspension fees and/or being expelled. If you have not paid your second quarter dues yet, please pay them as soon as possible to avoid interruption to your benefits.

**Expelled Members:** We currently have two expelled members as of June 1, 2026, James Shimko and Michael A. Hubbard.

**SUB Apps/Out of Work List.** SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App whether you qualify for SUB or not. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. *We have a dedicated email to send your unemployment certifications and/or backup documents to receive SUB pay. Please email correspondence to: sub@ualocal98.org by Thursdays at 3:00pm to ensure ample time to process the payments.* Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Rufus Hamilton.

**Benefits.** We have dedicated BeneSys employees at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. In order for them to best track all issues **PLEASE CALL BENESYS at (248)641-4988 or (866)646-8919.** If they are on the other line, please leave a message and they will get back to you promptly.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. If you know anyone working Non-Union, have them call us.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at [www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship](http://www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship).

Additional information can be found at [www.ualocal98.org](http://www.ualocal98.org), Facebook and Instagram.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Hall Operating Hours 8am to 4pm

Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 [gglaser98@ualocal98.org](mailto:gglaser98@ualocal98.org)

Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 [dnixon98@ualocal98.org](mailto:dnixon98@ualocal98.org)

Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313) 542-2758 [rhamilton98@ualocal98.org](mailto:rhamilton98@ualocal98.org)

Jim Cools, Business Agent (248) 762-9221 [jcools@ualocal98.org](mailto:jcools@ualocal98.org)

Paul Smith, Business Agent (313) 938-2477 [psmith@ualocal98.org](mailto:psmith@ualocal98.org)

Jeff Kavalari, Business Agent (313) 938-1554 [jkavalari@ualocal98.org](mailto:jkavalari@ualocal98.org)

Luke Garcia, Organizer (248) 763-2187 [lgarcia@uanet.org](mailto:lgarcia@uanet.org)

**In solidarity, Gary Glaser, Business Manager Plumbers Local 98!** Protecting the health of Metro Detroit since 1893.

**TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435** [www.Plumbers98tc.org](http://www.Plumbers98tc.org)

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 10, 2026. Applications are submitted online only. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process. The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call the Training Center at 248-585-1435 if you have any questions.

**Monthly Code Class** – Next class is **pending**. This is **not** a code update class. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. **Please call Paul Baker** at the Training Center at 248-585-1435

ext. 123 to register.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026, we have two available evenings to come in and practice for it, Wednesday July 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Wednesday July 29<sup>th</sup>. **Call** the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test.

**CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN FALL 2026.** All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only.

All Fall classes will begin the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>, with a deadline to register by August 28<sup>th</sup>.

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

**4 hour recert class** July 21 & 22 Deadline is June 19

**4 hour recert class** October 20 & 21 Deadline is Sept. 25

**ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):** \$200

**ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification** \$100

**ICRA and Water Quality: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30** - \$200

**Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour):** \$200

**Hydronic Heating and Cooling:** \$100

**Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber:** \$100

**CAD/BIM:** \$100

**2026 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month.** If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **Welding and Brazing sessions** will be July 11, 2026. You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

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

**OSHA Training** - OSHA 10 (\$59), and OSHA 30 (\$159) available as an online class at [www.careersafeonline.com](http://www.careersafeonline.com). These OSHA classes are 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](http://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.

*"My grandfather once told me that there were two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition."*

–Indira Gandhi (1917 - 1984)

*"One ought never to turn one's back on a threatened danger and try to run away from it. If you do that, you will double the danger. But if you meet it promptly and without flinching, you will reduce the danger by half."*

–Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)

*"The only thing that makes life possible is permanent, intolerable uncertainty; not knowing what comes next."*

–Ursula K. LeGuin

*"Don't flatter yourself that friendship authorizes you to say disagreeable things to your intimates. The nearer you come into relation with a person, the more necessary do tact and courtesy become. Except in cases of necessity, which are rare, leave your friend to learn unpleasant things from his enemies; they are ready enough to tell them."*

–Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809 - 1894)

*"While we have the gift of life, it seems to me that only tragedy is to allow part of us to die – whether it is our spirit, our creativity, or our glorious uniqueness."*

–Gilda Radner (1946 - 1989)



**Local 671**

UA Local 671

**MONROE – The next union meeting will be held on June 18, 2026, at 7pm.** The Executive Board will also have a meeting on **June 18, 2026, at 5pm.** If anyone would like to come in front of the E-Board, please contact the Union Hall. There will be food and beverages at the June meeting.

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

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

Due to the National Convention, the August meeting has been moved to **Thursday, August 27th**. We will send a push notification out in the App.

**Congratulations:** I would like to congratulate Elyse Wickheiser and Alexis Schwartz. They were our Local 671 Scholarship award winners for 2026. They each received a \$2000 scholarship to help pay for their secondary education. Congrats Ladies and job well done.

**Golf Outing:** Brothers and Sisters, please come out and support our golf outing on July 11, at Green Meadows Golf course. Shot gun start at 8am and a 4-man scramble format. Tickets are \$100 each and must be purchased by July 7<sup>th</sup>. This is the only event that we have that raises money for our Scholarship and Benevolence fund. Come out and help us make it a great event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me (Mike Jewell) at the Union Hall or on my cell.

**Members:** To all Brothers and Sisters who helped man the outages, both at Fermi and Monroe Power plant, we thank you for another safe outage season. If you are currently laid off, we have work available and need your help to man some of the summer work. Please contact Kirk and he will get you lined out on jobs.

**Health & Welfare:** Just a reminder, If you use your MRA card to pay for dental or vision, make sure you inform Carly at the Union Hall so your MRA and be refunded from your dental and vision account.

Effective June 1<sup>st</sup> the hours required to qualify for Health insurance will go back to 145 hours per month. There will be a notice coming out in the coming weeks.

**Retiree Luncheon:** The next retiree luncheon will be Thursday June 25 at noon at the Union Hall. All luncheons are the last Thursday of the month. I hope to see you there.

**Local 671 App:** To keep up with the latest information, make sure you download Local 671 App. If you have questions or issues getting logged on contact Mike at the Union Hall.

**In closing:** We are now into the summer season; please carry your safety habits you use at work to home. There is always something to do around the house, when performing home maintenance or yard work, please use your PPE and good safety habits. Stay hydrated in the hot weather and always be on the lookout for potential hazards. Enjoy your summer and I hope I see you soon, God Bless Union Labor and Local 671!

Mike Jewell: email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)

Kirk Lavoy: email: [kirk@ualocal671.com](mailto:kirk@ualocal671.com)

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

*"Good advice is something a man gives when he is too old to set a bad example."*

–Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)



**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111**

UA Local 111

**UPPER PENINSULA – UNION MEETING:** The next Union Meeting will be held in **Marquette on Thursday, June 25** at 7:30 PM. All members are encouraged to attend.

**ONLINE REFERRAL PROGRAM** will go into effect on June 1, 2026. The user guide, along with mobile app and desktop login instructions, are available on the website at [lu111.com](http://lu111.com). If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft.

**REFERRAL RULES UPDATE:** Due to recent referral rules change, text messages from the Local are now more important than ever. If you are not receiving texts, call the hall to update your information.

**WORK OPPORTUNITIES:** Members interested in 1-day shutdowns should contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba Office. Call the Escanaba or Marquette Office for updates: Layoff Line – Extension #7; Job Line – Extension #8.

**MRA FUND:** The IRS requires substantiation for all MRA debit card transactions. Many members have received request letters from Zenith American Solutions. It is YOUR responsibility to submit the requested documentation promptly. Failure to respond will result in suspension of your card until documentation is received. You can review transactions and upload documentation through the Zenith Portal or App. For assistance, call 1-866-823-4730, ext. 1.

**NEW MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** Beginning December 1, 2025, our Health & Welfare Plan will partner with Ulliance to offer the Life Advisor Member Assistance Program (MAP). This confidential, no-cost benefit is available to members and covered dependents and provides 24/7 support for personal and work-related challenges, including stress, anxiety, depression, relationship concerns, substance abuse, eldercare or childcare referrals, and financial or legal guidance. Services include short-term counseling, coaching, crisis intervention, and community resources. To access services, call 800-448-8326 or [www.lifeadvisor.com](http://www.lifeadvisor.com).

**988 CRISIS HELPLINE:** If you or someone you know is struggling, call or text 988 anytime to connect with trained counselors for mental health or suicide prevention support.

**MEMBER RECORDS:** Please keep your records current by contacting April or Rose with any changes to your address, phone number, email, or family status.

**LAYOFF REMINDER:** Report layoffs immediately; the day you call is the date you are placed on the Out-of-Work List.

**APPRENTICES:** You are required to attend four union meetings each year.

**WELDERS AND CERTIFICATIONS:** UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the Hall. Certifications expire every six months, and it is YOUR responsibility to ensure forms are turned in on time. Please also update all Non-UA Certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA, etc.) by sending a copy to the Union Hall.

**DUES REMINDER:** Check your dues records regularly; a \$50 reinstatement fee applies once you are three months behind. Members are automatically expelled after six months of nonpayment.

**SAFETY TRAINING – LOCAL 111 WEBSITE:** Visit [lu111.com](http://lu111.com) and click Safety Links to complete your online safety training. Members must complete training for each site; trainings are valid for one year.

**MSHA TRAINING:** Registration and cancellations are handled online at [upconstruction.org](http://upconstruction.org) under the MSHA Calendar.

*"There is no human problem which could not be solved if people would simply do as I advise."*

Gore Vidal (1925 - 2012)



## Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

### UA Local 174

**COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** The retiree breakfast will be held **Thursday, July 9, 2026** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**Volunteers needed - Family Picnic:** This year's Local 174 family picnic will be held on Saturday, July 18 at Heritage Landing in Muskegon from 11 AM – 4:00 PM. Volunteers will be needed at the picnic for stations as well as set-up and take-down. Please call Therese at the office if you can volunteer. Thank you!

**Dave Reynolds Memorial Golf Outing:** Saturday, Aug. 1, located at The Falls at Barber Creek with an 8:30am Shotgun start. This is a 4-person scramble, \$80 per person, \$320 per team. Each team must have 2 UA members on the team. Please contact Therese at the front office to sign up. Space is limited to the first 30 teams to sign up and pay. Money must be paid no later than July 24.

**Operation United:** As we begin planning for next year's event supporting West Michigan Veterans, we are currently working to identify veteran Union members in need of assistance with yard work and minor exterior home projects next spring. If you know a veteran Union member who could benefit from help, please reach out so we can begin building our project list for 2027.

**Union Strong Phone App:** If you have not downloaded our app and would like to, reach out to the front office for the link or QR code.

**Plumbing Law Changes:** As of March 20, 2025, anyone performing plumbing work in Michigan must either be registered and in good standing with the State as a plumbing apprentice or hold a current journeyman or master plumbing license. The new legislation also establishes a ratio of one journeyman for every two apprentices, with significant penalties, including steep fines and the suspension or revocation of a plumbing contractor's license for non-compliance.

This is excellent news for our industry and presents a great opportunity to expand our market share in West Michigan. Make sure that your license or apprentice registration is up to date with the State. If your license has expired or you need to register as an apprentice, you must contact the State Licensing Division at 517-241-9316.

**Contract Ratification:** At the special called meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup>, the members voted to accept the bargaining committee's recommendation and ratify the new three-year collective bargaining agreement. The new agreement is as follows:

1st year \$4.20/ 2nd year \$3.30/ 3rd year \$3.30  
\$10.80 over 3 years.

**Language changes:** Section 13.2 - reduces the number from issuing orders from 4 to 2 to receive foremen pay.

Section 10.2 - Health care will be on hours paid not hours worked. \*The contractors will now be administering the ESTA benefit.

**Wage Allocation:** The 2026 wage allocation was voted on at the June 2, 2026 membership meeting. Results were \$2.25 increase on the check, \$0.05 increase to the Retiree Bonus Program, \$0.50 increase to the Pension fund, and \$0.50 increase to the Health Fund.

**Organizing Update:** *Brothers and sisters here's a little saying that I speak on a daily basis "We're all doing the same work, we're just not all getting the same wages and benefits!"*

*As of recently we allocated our contractual raise bringing our hourly wage to \$49.69 and our total package to \$76.36.*

*On average the non-union plumber that has a journeyman plumbing license makes \$33/hour and they must pay their own insurance, it's simply not fair. Those workers deserve better pay and benefits; they're doing the work! Instead, the business owner feels they need it more. If you were organized, reach out to your old workers, if you're working next to non-union workers, talk to them!*

*Better wages, benefits, insurance you don't have to pay for, and a defined pension - the message is clear; all workers deserve a UNION! Work safe, Johnny Ortiz: (616) 307-8551.*

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

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

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

**Health Insurance Contact Info: Active and NON-Medicare Retirees**

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

**Medicare Retirees:**

Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

**Current Health Insurance Premiums:**

Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33

Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10

Medicare Single \$123.63

Medicare Couple \$247.26

Medicare with Pre-Med care Spouse \$497.13

Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

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

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

**Retiree Dues:** If you are retiring, it is the member's responsibility to inform the Union Hall on the final day of work in order to request a reduction in window dues at the Retiree Rate. Additionally, it is the member's responsibility to call Ext. 17 to notify dispatch of your retirement, providing your name, phone number, contractor name, and the date of your last day worked.

**Autopay for Window Dues:** As a result of the rising postage expenses and the significant number of members who have opted for autopay, we have made a change in the way receipts are delivered. Going forward, members will receive their proof of payment via email instead of traditional mail. If you are currently enrolled in autopay but do not have an email address on record and would like a receipt, please contact our office to update your information.

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

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

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

**Labor Councils:** - Kent Ionia - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location.

Lakeshore - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of (Continued next column)



## Local 333 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

### UA Local 333

**LANSING – June's union meeting will be held June 17, 2026, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911 at 6:30pm. July's union meeting will be held July 15, 2026, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911 at 6:30pm.**

**August's union meeting will be held August 12, 2026, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911 at 6:30pm. THIS IS THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.**

**ATTENTION MEMBERS:** We have a new phone system, so when you call please listen carefully to the prompts as they have changed.

For members who have students going to college or trade schools, scholarship applications are now available by calling Joni at the Jackson office 517-784-1106 ext.4. Applications must be postmarked by June 25, 2026, or dropped off at the Jackson office by July 1, 2026.

**DUES: Effective immediately we are no longer able to accept money orders as a dues payment.**

**Retirees Golf outing will be held, June 24th 9:00 am shot gun. \$160 per team \$40 per man/woman. Hole prizes (Long Drive, Closest to pin, longest putt). 1st and 2nd place prize. 18 holes w/cart. (Doughnuts and coffee in AM. Hotdog, chips, pop at turn)**

Burr Oak Golf Club, 3491 N. Parma Rd., Parma, MI, 49269  
Team sign up by June 15th.  
Checks no later than June 22nd.  
Checks made out to Brandon Snyder and mailed to:

Local 333, Attn: Brandon Snyder, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr., Jackson, MI, 49201

## Local 174 cont'd

the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

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

**Training News: ATTENTION:** Members must notify the Training Office when licenses are renewed so records can be updated. Failure to report renewals may affect dispatch.

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month - unless otherwise noted), from 5:00pm-9:00pm. The next class will be held **Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

**MED GAS INSTALLER:** Scheduled to start on **Monday, Aug. 31, 2026 @ 5:00pm.** Class will run weekly on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings @ 5:00pm-9:00pm. Deadline to register is August 24, 2026.

**PLUMBING TEST PREP CLASS:** Scheduled to start on **Thursday, July 9, 2026 @ 5:00pm.** Class will run weekly on Thursday evenings and the dates are July 9, 16, 23, and August 6, 2026 @ 5:00pm-8:00pm. In addition, a Masters prep class is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 13.

**WELD TEST:** Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday. Next capabilities will be Wednesday, July 8th, and the test to follow Thursday, July 9th at 5pm.

**OPEN WELD:** Available on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month; evenings beginning **4/15/26 at 5:00pm.** Watch the Facebook "Local Union 174 Members" group page for any updates.

**WELDER CONTINUITY:** If you have weld certifications and have submitted your continuity, your **welder certification status cards are now being emailed** instead of sent via USPS mail.

If you have turned in your continuity but have **NOT** received an updated status card, please contact the Training Office to verify that we have your current email on file.

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

Please remember to sign up before attending weld class. We have limited space, and only those who sign up will be allowed to attend class.

Weld classes are ongoing  
**Lansing Training Center,**  
16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Monday and Wednesday 4-8pm  
Tuesday and Thursday 4-8pm

**Jackson Training Center,**  
3101 Allied Industrial Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201

Tuesday and Thursday 4-8pm  
Monday and Wednesday - we will schedule a class if we have sufficient sign-up

Battle Creek Weld Class

**(KCC) RMTC,** 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Monday and Thursday 4-8pm

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

**Please sign up for classes on the website or call the Lansing Training Center at 517.323.0333.**

**Battle Creek Retiree's Breakfasts** are held on the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Café. 2587 Capital Ave, Battle Creek, MI. at 9 am.

**Retirees' Breakfast in Jackson:** Retirees meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing Shopping Center.

*"The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and their families. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations on legal and financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326 or call your respective agent or Dustin at the Union Hall"*

**DO NOT opt out of health care coverage on your auto insurance. If you are injured in an auto accident our health care coverage will not cover you.**

**ATTENTION: WHEN YOU HAVE A LIFE CHANGE, MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, BIRTH OF A CHILD, CHANGE OF ADDRESS, OR PHONE NUMBER. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL OFFICE WITH THE UPDATED INFORMATION, REQUEST NEW BENEFICIARY PAPERWORK IF CHANGES NEED TO BE MADE.**

Sincere condolences to Cheyenne Burt, on the loss of her father Jackson member Clinton "The Mayor" Bolenbaugh who passed away May 30, 2026. Clint's celebration of life is June 27, 2026, at the Three Horse Club, 4793 Page Avenue, Michigan Center, MI. 49254, at 12 noon. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

*"The truth is that there is nothing noble in being superior to somebody else. The only real nobility is in being superior to your former self."*

—Whitney Young (1921 - 1971)

*"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."*

—Diana Spencer

*"The good life, as I conceive it, is a happy life. I do not mean that if you are good you will be happy - I mean that if you are happy you will be good."*

— Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

*"A bore is a man who, when you ask him how he is, tells you."*

— Bert Leston Taylor

*"Nothing is so awesomely unfamiliar as the familiar that discloses itself at the end of a journey."*

— Cynthia Ozick



## Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,  
Refrigeration &  
Air Conditioning Service

### UA Local 636

**DETROIT – Our next Regular Meeting is also a Special-Called meeting to vote on a dues money change on Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Drive) Southfield, MI 48075.**

**ATTENTION! The August regular meeting will be on August 25<sup>th</sup> due to the UA National Convention.**

The **2026 Rotary International Day Parade** will be held July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in downtown Port Huron. We need a few apprentices to volunteer. If you are interested in walking with us this year, please contact Business Agent Brandon Spaulding (248) 939-2636 for more details. There will be a truck available this year for anyone unable to walk.

**PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 636 ONLINE MERCHANDISE STORE IS LIVE!** Sign into the members section on our website [www.pipefitters636.org](http://www.pipefitters636.org) and click the link.

**REMINDER:** Please open all correspondence with the Local Union, BeneSys, and Insurance Providers you receive in the mail.

Following is a list of recent Retirees who have passed their tools and knowledge to the next generation. We thank them for their time in the field advancing our trade and the Brother/Sisterhood they continue to show in our local. **Congratulations on your retirement!**

**March 2026 –** Edward Bolin

**April 2026 –** Anthony Kleinsorge, Mark Petzke, and Mark Solomon.

**Deceased Members –** Lifetime Member Jerome Cool May 24, 2026; 44-Year Member Cindy Saunders May 15, 2026; Lifetime Member Robert Flowers May 11, 2026.

**Our Condolences** to Brian and Patricia Volante on the passing of their son Josh, June 1, 2026.

**Get Well Wishes to;** Rebecca Blair, Michael Ferrante, Robert Goodwin, Michael Kovak III, Raymond Kuhowski Jr, John Lilly, Anthony Lumetta, Jason McKim, Roger Pruitt, Carlton Stewart, David Stone, John Zemmer, Jeremel Ducharme, Herbert Loy.

**DUES – 2nd Quarter Dues are due now.** Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. As a reminder AUTO PAY is available.

The **Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is available to all members and retirees.

This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to [lifeadvisor.com](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326.

**988 crisis help line.** The UA and the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread awareness on the way we approach mental health and suicide prevention. With the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline, new resources are now available. When people call or text 988, they will be connected to trained counselors who will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources.

**636 Retiree Association!** The next meeting will be held June 21, 2026.

Informing all retirees and their significant others to attend our meetings at the Local Union Office in Farmington Hills, every third Thursday of every month at 11:00 am, excluding December. The meetings present speakers which are very helpful with regard to your retirement and officers are there to answer any questions, you are also brought up to date on the activities of Local 636. Lunch is served for \$7.00 with refreshments and desserts. Also, we have begun day trips and at this time two a year to different sites in Southeastern Michigan. Hope to see you at a retirees meeting. Secretary Michael N. Sylvester

**SUBPAY - NEWS.** Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing [subpay@pipefitters636.org](mailto:subpay@pipefitters636.org).

For direct deposit information, please contact the Union Hall or BeneSys.

**BeneSys** has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters 636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call **888-646-8920.**

**Financial Advisor Jason May** with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has a **new contact number 248-540-2091** or email him at [jason.may@ml.com](mailto:jason.may@ml.com)

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan.** The number for the Voice response unit is **877-410-9984.** Plan provider number is 7526. You can login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website, while logged in as a member Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the website [www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys](http://www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys). Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmddyyyy).

You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the "My Dashboard" page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

**Considering Retirement?** Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 888-646-8920 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork. **Please allow a 60-90-day notice that is necessary** to adequately process the requests for paperwork, getting the forms sent to the participant, the member completing it and returning it to the Fund Office for final processing.

**Are you "Work Ready"?** Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at [mustsafe.org](http://mustsafe.org) and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from January 1 – December 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.**

*"Inspiration does exist, but it must find you working."*

– Pablo Picasso (1881 - 1973)

*"Nothing is more admirable than the fortitude with which millionaires tolerate the disadvantages of their wealth."*

– Rex Stout (1886 - 1975)

*"Hollywood is a place where people from Iowa mistake each other for stars."*

– Fred Allen (1894 - 1956)

*"Habit is habit and not to be flung out of the window by any man, but coaxed downstairs a step at a time."*

– Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

**REMERICA**  
HOMETOWN

930 W Ann Arbor Trail  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
Cell: (734) 664-9090  
Office: (734) 459-6222  
Email: [louwasik@remerica.com](mailto:louwasi@remerica.com)  
Website: [hometownmoves.com](http://hometownmoves.com)

**Lou Wasik**  
Realtor

Longtime member of Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25



## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers Local 25

**NOVI – The June Union Meeting is Monday, June 29, 2026 at 7:00 pm.** All Union Halls will be open for in-person and Zoom will also be available. We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS for alerts & emails.** You can download our APP for android on google play or for iphone at the APP store just search “Iron Workers Local 25” Martinez web shop. Or sign up via our website ([www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)).

The Flint Steward meeting is Wednesday, June 17, at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting is Thursday, June 25, at 6 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting is Monday, June 29, at 6 pm. All are welcome.

**A HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE from the Fringe Benefit Fund office will be at the Novi Union Hall on Wednesday June 24, 2026 from 8am to 12 noon;** to meet with any member(s), to address health care issues or HRA substantiation concerns. Walk-ins are welcome! **A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL ON Wednesday July 1, 2026 from 8:00 am to 12 noon.** If you have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494. Walk-ins are welcome!

**June vacation checks** have been mailed; please allow mailing time. Any issues please call Dennis Aguirre.

**The 2026 Iron Worker Picnic** will be held on Saturday June 20, 2026 at the Local 25 Training Center, Wixom. Starting time approximately 11 am. Bounce house, music, food, face-painting, lots of fun!

**The 125<sup>th</sup> Iron Workers Local 25 Anniversary Celebration & Gala** is Saturday July 18 from 5-11 pm at the Athenium Suite Hotel in Detroit. Individual tickets (\$125.00 ea.) are available on our website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)

**Organizer Wanted:** We are seeking a Local 25 JIW in good standing to work as an Organizer to help build our Unions capacity by increasing our Market Share & Signatory Contractors throughout our jurisdiction. Requirements: Self-motivated, team-player, coachable, confident, exceptional listening skills, & high energy. Flexible work schedule. Please send your resume & cover letter by Friday July 31, 2026 to [union@ironworkers25.org](mailto:union@ironworkers25.org)

**If you have moved recently, please be sure to update the Union Hall 248-344-9494. We will gladly advise the Fringe Benefit Fund office of your move upon request.**

Apprentice applications accepted electronically. Visit our website ([ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org)) where you can apply online, make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in an application. We take appointments Tuesday – Thursdays! No walk-in foot traffic.

The ClickSafety program allows ironworker members to meet a variety of training requirements, offering over 100 online courses in English and Spanish that include many OSHA-authorized courses. Simply log in: <https://sms.copperrange.com/impact/sms/login/> The username is the member's book # and password is the FIRST 4 digits of your SSN.

**Apprentices:** located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find “Make-Up Days” & “Welding Test Certifications” where you can electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests. To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to our website ([ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org)); to view the 2026 Block Schedule, Roster or Raising Gang Schedule. Please make sure to download the TradeSchool Mobile App to submit your monthly work and school hours. These must be submitted monthly. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. Wixom Training Center Phone: 248-960-2130.

**24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing** for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org). **The phone no. is 866-635-2826.** Or pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

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

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

**FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:** 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. The mailing address for member BENEFIT related matters is: Iron Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue Cross Health Claims and Customer Service 877-790-2583. Delta Dental Claims and Customer Service 800-482-8915.

If any member is having problems with the HRA substantiation letters please call Dennis Aguirre.

Check your HRA/Benny Card Balance: [my.wexhealthcard.com](http://my.wexhealthcard.com) (where you can create a log-in)

Check your online benefit information: [ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/](http://ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/)

**HRA/Benny Card Audit is continuously under way via US Mail – please respond if you have been contacted. You need to save your receipts for three years.**

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees' Club. The meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, June 16 at 10 am. The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday July 7 at 8 am. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday July 7 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the Bay City Chapter & Picnic will be July 16 (correction); at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw Mi 48604 at 12 pm. All are welcome.

The Downriver Chapter next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be held 9 am July 31 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

The IRONWORKER Magazine To subscribe to the digital edition please use the following link: <https://www.ironworkers.org/s/ironworker-digital-sign-up>

**Veterans Crisis Line:** Dial 988, then press 1. Or, you can send a text message to 838255 to received confidential support 24/7. For more information visit [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

**Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan:** [www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/](http://www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/) Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041 Substance-use-disorder.

**When the World feels Heavy: FindTreatment.gov is where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health. Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis.** Call or text 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. You can also Chat at [988lifeline.org/chat](https://988lifeline.org/chat) (English & Spanish). Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

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

**In Memory:** Retired JIW John King Sr. #1034440 passed away May 18, 2026 at the age of 69. He was a 46-year member, survived by his son John King. Lifetime IW Jack Thompson #597450 passed away May 27, 2026 at the age of 97. He was a 59-year member survived by his daughter Susan. Lifetime IW Ralph Weise #752485 passed away May 10, 2026 at the age of 84. He was a 59-year member survived by his wife Judy. Lifetime IW Jonathan Mullens #893174 passed away May 18, 2026 at the age of 77. He was a 53-member of Local 25. **Our sincere condolences to all of the family and friends on the loss of your dear loved one(s).**

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (June 8, 2026 10:30 AM E.S.T.)-



**CONGRATULATIONS TO Glaziers and Glassworkers Local 826 member Marc Green, right, who is shown setting the last piece of glass in his career on May 29.** Marc and apprentice Brendan Gillespie are working for Lansing Glass. The project is the Fire Safety Complex/Public Works in Lansing. Marc said he is proud to retire from the trade and wanted to have his last day memorialized in *The Building Tradesman*. Mission accomplished! Enjoy your retirement, Marc!



## Michigan Painters District Council

### Painters DC 1M

WARREN – Dear Members,  
**DC1M WEBSITE:** [www.iupat-dc1michigan.org](http://www.iupat-dc1michigan.org)

### DC 1M UNION CARDS\*

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or if you have have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at: Warren: (586)552-4474 ext. 100; Free-land: (989) 695-6888

### PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP

Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP.

For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google Playstore

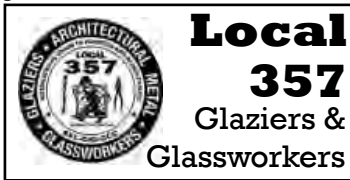
Search for “Painters and Allied Trades” download APP Username: your member id# Password: painters

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

### GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

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

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or FreeLand office# is 989-695-6888. New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so.



### Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN – The July union meeting has been cancelled due to falling close to the holiday.

Our next regular union meeting will be Monday, Aug. 3, 5 pm. Please make it a priority to attend.

We still have several Local 357 members currently laid off. Please make every effort to make sure your certifications are up to date. This will help get you back to work.

This year's annual STAR safety picnic will be held Sept. 19 at the Warren District Council. In order to be eligible to come, you must be an active working member in good standing, with at least 8 hours of upgrade training, and zero work related injuries.

The IUPAT pension has updated the pension website. There is new information that could be helpful. [iupatpension.org](http://iupatpension.org)

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal. You can find this in the app store, and it is a free app. Once you download this app, you will need your union member id to log in. You can find your member ID printed on your quarterly union card. Once you log into this app it's a helpful tool to track your hours worked, and it also has a digital copy of your union card. Keep your working status current; this helps protect your benefits if you have a mailing address and/or telephone number change, please notify the Union and Fund Offices of the changes.

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

When traveling to work out of town, all members are reminded that they must check in with the local that you are working in. (Continued next column)



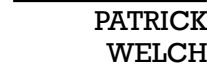
## Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

### Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Regular Meeting will be held on **Friday, July 10, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held at

Local 47's Union Hall at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

Reservations are now being accepted for this year's Golf Outing, which will be held on Saturday,



PATRICK WELCH

July 18. If you would like to participate, please call or text the Union Office at (517) 708-0665 with the names of your team members along with whether each person would like Chicken or Steak for dinner. The cost of this year's outing is \$85 per person or \$340 per team. Please do not wait until the last minute to register, as spots fill quickly. All teams must be submitted no later than July 3.

Please make sure to call or text all starts and layoffs to the Union Office. Be sure to leave your name, the contractor name, and the start or layoff date.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees continue receiving Robo Calls, please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. Several members currently have this number blocked and therefore are not receiving important notifications. These calls are only used for important notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and funeral notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Union Office so we can verify your phone number and ensure the number has not been blocked.

Please notify the Local Union Office of any phone no. or home address changes. We need current member information updated throughout our system, TIC records, and with the International. If you are a non-active Retiree or a Surviving Spouse and would like to continue receiving the Building Tradesman, please contact the Union Office.

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

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

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-9275 Toll Free: (800) 323-8079

Telephone No.: (517) 321-7502 Email: [joshkroell@insulators47.com](mailto:joshkroell@insulators47.com)

Joshua Kroell is available by phone to answer questions regarding Pension, Welfare, Vacation Funds, and Special Benefits.

To all Active Members: if you have not submitted your Coordination of Benefits Form, Spousal Form, or Birth Certificates for your children to TIC, no one will be covered under our insurance plan until these items are received. Please contact TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and submit the required documentation as soon as possible. Coverage will be reinstated retroactively once the information has been received.

Members with questions regarding Pension and Welfare Funds may contact TIC International at the numbers listed above or visit <http://www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org>. Please also remember to complete and return all Working Spousal Forms to TIC.

### JATC Coordinator Mitchell Carpenter (616) 375-0538.

Applications are now open (Continued on Page 5)



## Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

### Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

**SOUTHFIELD – UNION MEETING:** The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033.

We will be having a \$5.00 per ticket 50/50 raffle, with the proceeds benefiting the Breath of Life Foundation to support research for mesothelioma, lung cancer, and other asbestos related diseases.

**ANNUAL PICNIC:** Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Picnic will take place on Saturday, Aug. 1. The festivities will take place at Willow Metropark, Chestnut South Picnic Shelter, 23200 S. Huron Rd, New Boston, MI.

**INSTRUCTOR APPLICATIONS:** The J.A.T.C. is accepting applications for instructors. If you are interested in applying, please submit your resume to [marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org). If you have any questions regarding the positions, please contact the Apprentice Coordinator, Marty Allen.

**WEBSITE:** Visit our updated website at [www.heatfrostinsulators.org](http://www.heatfrostinsulators.org) to access helpful links and additional member resources.

**CONTACT UPDATE:** We are now using [admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org) as the primary email address for all communication with the Union Hall. Please update your contact records accordingly.

**REPORTING JOBS:** A reward will be provided to any member that reports non-union or union mechanical installing insulation under our scope of work. Members with valid leads should contact Eloan Rodriguez at (248) 750-4992 and you will receive a \$50.00 gift card.

**JOB STARTS:** As stated in Local 25's Constitution & Bylaws Article III Section 5. Failure to report a job start will automatically result in a fine of \$50. Future failures to report a job start will result in the amount of the fine being levied left to the discretion of the President. **PLEASE** call in all job starts so we can avoid fining members.

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

**M.U.S.T. SAFETY MODULES:** If you have modules expiring, contact the Union Hall to have the testing authorization activated. Please keep in mind, any modules completed outside the quarter requested in, will be paid the following quarter.

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:** All employment changes including hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within 48 hours. This includes employment changes for members, retirees, and travelers. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out-of-work list and your employment records remain current and correct. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50.00 fine.

**BENESYS:** When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the representative providing you information.

## Local 47, con't

for the Apprenticeship Program. Please call the Union Office or visit [insulators47.com](http://insulators47.com) to complete an application.

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 no later than ten days from the end of the current work week.”

### CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL

Aluminum - Copper - Brass  
Nickel - Alloys - Carbide  
Radiators - Lead - Batteries

**McNichols**  
Scrap Iron & Metal Co.  
6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott)  
[mcnicholsscrap.com](http://mcnicholsscrap.com)  
**(313) 365-6100**

**Detroit**  
Iron & Metal Co.  
8300 Dix (corner Lonyo)  
[detroitironandmetal.com](http://detroitironandmetal.com)  
**(313) 841-5100**

## Local 357, con't

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

If you are in need of safety modules, please contact your employer if you are employed or the union office @ 586-552-4478, if you're not. Any questions call the hall or call the Council @ 586-552-4474. Participation is very important try to make it to a meeting. -Business Rep. Don Stepp



**SETTING UP A VAPOR BARRIER on an a wall at the new Cody High School project in Detroit is Rob Keller of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. He's employed by Industrial Services.**



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

**DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday, July 21, at 7:00 pm. We will be having food and refreshments. There will also be an Executive Board meeting that day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to come and fellowship with your brothers and sisters.**

### Membership Gold Cards-Congratulations! June 2026

**Robert Atkin-25 Years**  
**Francesco Misuraca-25 Years**  
**Daniel Redmond-25 Years**  
**Rafael Santos-30 Years**  
**Lamberto Perez-40 Years**  
**Ferdinand Debacker-70 Years**

Marcus Martinez is the new Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313)-350-0389 or by email: mmartinez@opciami.org. Please get in touch with the local at 248-548-0800 or email your updated information to aajrouche@opciami.org. Please send your updated information promptly.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at www.Mustsafe.com to see how many modules you have. You must create a new username and password. **We will send ALL MUST drug authorization forms to the members' email addresses.**

**Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account.** To activate your Blue Cross member account online, go to bcbsm.com/register and select Register Now.

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

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

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

**Attention, all Apprentices: you will now 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."

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

**The Local's website is: www.opcmiami.org.**

**Please refer to the website for updated information.**

**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 negatively impacting our market share. This year's work forecast looks better than last year's. Members working non-union will be brought up on charges and fined.

We must stay vigilant in our efforts 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; some plant jobs require the MUST modules. You can go online at www.mustonline.org or call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

Please make sure we have all of your current contact information, address, and phone number so we can keep the fund offices updated on your health care and pension, and whether you are having your vacation checks mailed out. If you have moved, please get in touch with the Local, and we will update your address with all fund offices.

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

Access and make changes to your account in two easy ways:

Go online: Principal.com

**If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started.**

Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identity), and your ID number (this is either your Social Security number or a specific ID provided by your employer) or ZIP code.

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

If you don't provide your mobile phone number, you'll need to answer a few personal questions to confirm it's really you.

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

Select and answer three security questions to use if you need to call us. You now have access to your online account, and you'll get a confirmation email within a few minutes.

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

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

As always, if you have any questions or need help with any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office at (248) 645-6550 or 5600 New King Dr., Ste 330, Troy, MI 48098. The fund office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**Plasterers and Cement Masons:** It is your responsibility to complete reciprocity forms if you plan to work outside the Local 514 area. This will ensure your hours are returned to your home fund. If

(Continued next column)



## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

**WARREN – UPCOMING MEETINGS.**

**MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, at 6:00 PM, 1300 W Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

**FLINT CHAPTER:** Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee St., Lapeer, MI 48446

**LANSING CHAPTER: CANCELLED**

**METRO DETROIT CHAPTER:** Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 5:30pm, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 6:00pm, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

**BRETT KALAMAZOO CHAPTER:** Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

**HOUGHTON CHAPTER: CANCELLED**

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Jamie Burke** (Bricklayer) who passed away on 05/21/2026. Brother Burke had been a member for more than 30 years.

**APPRENTICE HOURS PORTAL:** We have moved the Apprentice Hours Portal to a new platform called WorkHands. You should have received an email or text message with an invitation to join the platform.

All monthly hours must now be submitted through the WorkHands app. After you submit your hours, they will be reviewed by your foreman or superintendent, who will complete an evaluation of your progress before forwarding them to the Training Center.

Submitting your hours monthly through WorkHands is a requirement of your apprenticeship and is necessary to stay on track for your scheduled raises. All submissions must be completed online and include detailed information about the work you performed during the month.

If you need assistance accessing the portal or help submitting your hours, resources are available online at: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>

You may also contact Nate Nestor at (313) 467-5382 for additional support.

For more information about the Training Centers, please visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

**BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS:** Both of Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST, or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Nate Nestor directly at (313) 467-5382. Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>, to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2025 training classes.

**UNION DUES:** Pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive the discount, you must be current on dues. **Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.**

**TEXTING PROGRAM:** 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 text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following:

Text **2MI** to **50607**

You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#)

Respond with your six-digit IU number and you will receive Local 2 Text Messages going forward!

**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.

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

**MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE:** The IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <https://bacweb.org/member-service/member-assistance-program-map> and are also available via telephone at 1-833-MAP TALK (1-833-627-8255) Monday – Friday 8 am – 7 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."

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION**

BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000  
CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362

Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550  
International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)

Michigan Masonry Trades Pension – (248) 641-4954  
Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

**Cement Masons 514, continued**

you have any questions or need any forms, please get in touch with 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: 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.



## Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers 169

**ALLEN PARK – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will take place on June 12, 2026, at 8:00pm** at the IBEW Local 692 1300 W. Thomas St. Bay City, MI 48706.

**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS – There will be a ratification meeting on June 24, 2026, at the union hall in Allen Park. This is to vote on a new CBA that will go into effect July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029.**

Our monthly dues will stay at our current rate of 55.85 for 2026.

**Attention members,** Scott Ivey Is the new Business Agent for Area 3, he will take over all the duties of agent including dispatching and the out of work list. His contact info: office (989)662-6491 cell (989)274-6974.

We will be having a Common Arc Weld Testing on June 25 and June 26, 2026. If you are a journeyman and interested in taking a test contact NCL Services at (586)477-1562. Apprentices will be given a date and time for their test.

Congratulations to the elected delegates to the Thirty Fifth Consolidated Convention. Mike Card and Don Fajardo by Office, Elected: Tony Herrera, Jamie Ratliff, Terry Sullivan, Scott Ivey and Brad Dame. These delegates will represent the members of Local 169 at the convention which will be held July 20 through July 23 2026.

Congratulations to Matt Root, he placed 2nd at the Great Lakes Apprentice of the year contest in Hobart Indiana the week of June 2<sup>nd</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup> and will represent Local 169 at the National contest in August. We wish him good luck.

Local 169 Golf Outing will be June 19<sup>th</sup> at St. Clair Golf Club 1714 River Rd. St. Clair, MI 48079.

If you are interested in participating contact the union hall at (313)584-8520.

Greg Jacobs will be having a retirement party on July 11<sup>th</sup> in Rhodes, Michigan. The time is 5:00pm until 10:00pm BYOB. Get more info on Facebook or call Greg at (989)859-5819.

### Boilermakers Local 169 Area Picnics.

**Area 1 - Picnic** will be August 8, 2026, at Camp Dearborn noon until 7:00pm. We will also have food, drinks, adult and kids raffle prizes, games, cornhole tournament, bounce house, face painting, and fun for the whole family. If you can meet at 8am to help set up, we could always use the help!

**Area 2 – Picnic** will be on September 7, 2026 (Labor Day) following the parade. More information to come.

**Area 3 - Picnic** will be August 1 2026, at Sanford Lake Park noon until 7:00pm. We will have food, drinks, adult and kids' raffles and prizes, fun for the whole family. Sanford Lake is filled up now and has a splash park for the kids. Please bring a dish to pass.

### Area 4 – Information will be coming soon.

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – [www.boilermakerslocal169.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com) for more information.

Any member interested in getting the Great Lakes Safety back-ground check for Corteva please contact Business Agent, Scott Ivey at (989)662-6491.

Any members interested in EPRI Rigging, which is required for working in the Nuclear Plants. Please contact Tony Herrera at 616-296-9131, or Jamie Ratliff at 313-584-8520. Your name will be added to the list. Once we have a full class, you will be notified when and where to attend. Per your International, any member with EPRI training will not be required to have Rigging 1 through 4 for placement on the BDS.

### Retiree luncheons:

**Area 1** Retirees luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar located at 4328 Oakwood, Melvindale, Michigan 48122.

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

**Area 3** Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11AM. The next lunch will be on June 17, 2026, at The Rema Tavern. The address is 118 W. Wheatland Ave., Rema, Michigan 49340. As always, everyone from all areas is welcome to attend.

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

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$50.00 XL and smaller 55.00 for 2XL, 60.00 for 3XL and 70.00 for 4XL. Payments can be made with cash or a check. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at [www.boilermakerslocal169.org](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.org) or on our Facebook page.

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

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

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

### What this country needs is more free speech worth listening to.

–Hansell B. Duckett

### If your head is wax, don't walk in the sun.

– Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

### The best way to keep one's word is not to give it.

–Napoleon Bonaparte (1769 - 1821)

*"It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has data. Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories, instead of theories to suit facts."*

–Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)

### I've decided that the key to happiness is low expectations.

– Laura Moncur (1969 - ),

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IBEW 557 SAGINAW – MEETING START TIME CHANGE - The next Local 557 Union Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7 at 5:30pm. A motion passed at the May Union Meeting to start the meetings at 5:30pm.

4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY - With the 4th of July falling on a Saturday, the holiday shall be observed on that Friday, July 3. Any worked performed this day shall be paid at the double time rate. Please enjoy the Holiday and much needed break from the daily grind.

GOVERNOR CANDIDATE CHRIS SWANSON ENDORSED – IBEW Michigan has endorsed Sheriff Chris Swanson to be the next Governor of the State of Michigan. Sheriff Swanson has been to Local 557 to address the membership and was well received. Please do everything you can to spread the word about this amazing candidate for governor who is a great friend of Labor and card-carrying union member.

LOCAL 557 GOLF LEAGUE – Tee times are 6:00pm every Thursday at Twin Oaks.

RENEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS – These meetings occur immediately following each Monthly Union Meeting.

JOBSITE SAFETY - Jobsite safety is and should always be #1 on all IBEW jobs. No deadline or profit should be placed ahead of the simple fact that members need to go to work and return home in the same safe state in which they were prior to their day of work. All members should be as diligent as possible when it comes to making sure work is completed in a safe manner.

LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING- Organizing is the lifeblood of any Local Union Rex and Gus are doing great work for Local 557 on the organizing front. Organizing is a tough task. Some conversations with unrepresented workers are harder than others. Please give Rex and Gus all the help they need to succeed and get results for the Local. If you see something and wish to point it out to them, please reach out to Rex at 989-890-4578 and Gus can be reached at 989-941-8046.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS- Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7am to 12pm, CLOSED for lunch, and re-open again from 1pm to 4:30pm. The Union Hall will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of the July 4 holiday.

BOOK SIGNING- If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 Book 1 referral or apprentice training assignment, you must come to the hall and register on Book 1 or the apprentice out of work list in-person. Many Locals throughout Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-town Books, please call the hall to arrange this. Book 2 members can have their Union Hall send an email to either jobline@ibew557.org or renee@ibew557.org

WORK OUTLOOK- Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, auto plants, waste water plants, and other various jobs. It is expected within the next month to have calls come in for a Battery Storage Project in Alma and also Merrill. Delays continue regarding the downtown Saginaw Medical Diamond. The Ingersol Twp. area Solar Farm has also been delayed.. There is also a solar project in the works in the Fremont Twp. area. Neither of these have been green-lighted as of yet, but we are hopeful they both will very soon.

BLUE CROSS APP- Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for “BCBSM” on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include the following: instant access to EOB’s, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOB’s can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt request.

WEX APP- To download the WEX app on your smartphone, search for “MI IBEW Special Fund” in the Google or Apple store. The app allows you to monitor your special fund balance (Continued next column)



IBEW Local 445

IBEW Local 445 BATTLE CREEK - First Aid/CPR JIW training The First Aid/CPR will be on Sept. 14, 2026, after the Union Meeting.

IBEW 445 Golf Outing Save the date for the IBEW 445 Golf Outing of July 25, 2026.

Paying dues late. If you pay your Monthly/Quarterly Union Dues late, you will be assessed a \$10 assessment for each month late. If you do not pay for the Late Fee Assessment, it will be added to your account as a delinquent amount due. If you are unsure if you have an amount due on your account, please call Wanda at the Hall to verify your status.

Death Benefit Assessments Please contact the Hall to verify if you have any Death Benefit Assessments due on your account before paying your dues so that you can add it to your quarterly due’s payment.

Organizing If you know of any Electricians interested in joining the IBEW, please contact Travis at (269) 339-8377. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 2022 Constitution states “The object of the IBEW is to organize all workers in the entire electrical industry”.

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

2025 dues structure The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Chicago, Illinois, during the week of May 9-13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

As of Jan. 1, 2026, the following due’s structure:

- JIW’s: Monthly \$61.00 Quarterly \$183.00 Apprentices: Monthly \$50.00 Quarterly \$150.00

IBEW Local 445 App/Website. The new app & website are now live. Local 445 Members can register to access the app. You are now able to pay your dues online via the app or website. Please visit the app & website to access the calendar of events. Please notify the Hall if you have any questions or concerns with the App or Website.

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

Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is IBEW445.com. Make sure you check out the Benefits Tab for important related websites.

2026 Personal information Please keep your address, phone number and email address up to date at the Hall. Also, contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall when you need to update them.

Executive Board E-Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m. Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary

IBEW 557, con’t

ance and other great features. JOB CALLS- Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK don’t forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3. Local 557 utilizes a bid system for job calls. If you see a call you would like, please place a bid on the telephone system and call backs will occur the next business day to fill the calls until they are gone.

STAY CURRENT ON DUES –Paying dues can now happen through the Local’s new website/app.

CONTACT NUMBERS- Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855) 633-4584. Website is: www.michiganelectrical.org In Solidarity, Evan Allardyce, Business Manager



IBEW Local 131

IBEW Local 131 KALAMAZOO – Local 131 Summer Schedule. 4th Year Conchhole Tournament, June 13 @ UA Pipefitter Hall: All proceeds go to Schoolcraft Friday Pack Inc. – a school to home lunch program. Same-day registration is available. Call (814) 232-6568 for registration details.

Media and Anniversary Photos: If you are able to take photos or videos at work, please send them our way! We are in need of media for our Downtown Media campaign and our 110-year anniversary. You can upload your videos and photos to our google drive folder using the QR below.

IBEW Local 131 App and Website Launch: Local 131 has launched its new app, which can be found on Apple Store and Google Play Store by searching “IBEW 131” or you can download the new app by scanning this QR Code below.

Ulliance is Local 131’s Member Assistance Program that offers mental health counseling, financial planning, legal assistance, divorce support, substance use support, parental counseling, elder care advice, and much more. If you or a friend could benefit from support, please call 1-800-448-8326 to speak with a professionally trained advisor and counselor today.

The next Renew & EWMC meeting will be held on Monday June 16th 5PM @ the hall.

Veteran’s Committee Meeting: July 2 @ South Haven American Legion Post 49, 129 Michigan Ave.

Executive Board: meeting will be held on Monday, June 16th @ 5PM

Brotherhood Night is on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the Month @ CJ’s beginning at 3:30. 1027 Schuster Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49001. Keep an eye out for location changes on the Local’s FB page.

Hall Hours: Monday thru Friday 8AM to 4:30PM – Lunch hour between 12:30 and 1:30

Upcoming Events: (Official) IO Steward Training – June 11

Retiree Quarterly Meetings – June 3rd @ 3PM, Union Hall – meeting to discuss retiree issues

Local 131 Picnic – August 1st Local 131 110th Anniversary – Sept. 12 @ Gun Lake Casino

Fall Member Orientation Breakfast – October 10.

Work Outlook: Blue Oval Battery Plant in Marshall continues to wind down. As work slows down there, more members are taking calls at Palisades Nuclear Facility. Some projects at Palisades are winding down, as well, but Westinghouse has mitigated the layoffs we have seen there with calls of their own. The work situation in and around Local 131 appears to be steady through going into summer, but there is uncertainty in the work picture for late summer and fall.

Diversifying our Work: As the industrial work picture in Local 131 appears to be slowing, the local seeks to create opportunities wherever possible. If any member is interested in developing their own IBEW contracting business, please reach out to me (jcurrent@ibew131.com). There are IBEW and entrepreneurial consulting resources that may help you on your journey. There is nothing better for the IBEW than its own members becoming signatory contractors who extend our market reach. We will support such endeavors for members loyal to Local 131 and do whatever we can to help them along the way.

Liberty Solar Project: This NMA project would employ 70 wireman and apprentices for a year, however local opposition has pushed the project out indefinitely. I attended the Richland Planning Commission meeting on May 27th. Virtually every reason to oppose this project was either superficial or inaccurate. Everything from soil erosion to decreased property values, to industrial waste was given as reason to delay the project. In just about every respect a solar field is less harmful than a corn field, but we know this is not about rational arguments. Trades people pushing back against the pro-

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR - 2026 LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS: President: Jeff Burdick. Vice President: Travis Stachlewitz. Recording Secretary: M. Lisa Grove.

Treasurer: Stacie Butler. Business Manager/ Financial Secretary/ Convention Delegate: Ryan Husse.

Executive Board: Dan Beck, Jake Church, Yohance Jennings, Dennis Locks, Geoff Morning, Erik Randall.

Examining Board: Brian Ellison, Robert Laraway, J. Randolph.

Convention Delegate: Dan Beck, Geoff Morning, Matt Schroder.

Any protests of the election are to be filed in writing with the International Vice-President of the District within 30 days following the election. The decision of the International Vice-President shall conclude the processing of a protest within the IBEW. In the event the protesting member is not satisfied with the decision of the International Vice-President, the member may submit his/her protest to the U.S. Department of Labor.

MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER: We are trying to update our list of employees that are currently NOT providing Earned Sick Time pay. Please email info@ibew252.org or call 734-424-0978 if your current employer is not providing ESTA pay.

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

TRAINING CLASSES 2026: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM

1. Journeyman prep- Every Tuesday beginning June 16 and ending on July 21

2. BICSI Fiber/ Tech- Every Monday beginning June 8 and ending Aug 31

3. Fire Alarm- Every Wednesday except Union meeting night, starting Sept 2 and ending Oct 21.

4. NICET PREP- Every Wednesday except Union meeting night, starting Oct 28 and ending Dec 23 (book purchase required, call the training center for more information)

5. Sept. 1 & 15, Dec. 1 & 8. Additional classes will be added as they become available. For interest in a class not listed, call the training center. All classes require a \$50 deposit. Call the school 734-475-1180 to add your name to the desired class ahead of time. All evening classes are held from 5-9 PM.

IBEW 252 APP FOR ANDROID: If you use an android phone, you must redownload the IBEW 252 app, which is now available in the app store.

RETIREES’ CARD GAME: The first Thursday of

IBEW 131, con’t

paganda suffocating our state’s infrastructure and development can help preserve our work and Michigan’s economic future.

Retiree’s Lunches at the following Locations:

The 3rd Wednesday of the month Lunches. All are welcome.

June 17, Roxie’s Breakfast & Lunch, 4010 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, @11AM

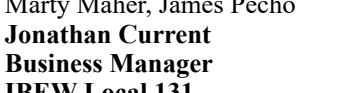
July 15, Red Lobster, 6535 S. Westnedge Ave. Portage, @ 11AM

Aug. 19, Old Mill Brewpub & Grill, 717 East Bridge St. Plainwell, @11AM

Death of Members: None to report.

Delinquent Members: Chad Arlington, Kenneth Chamberlain, Marty Maher, James Pecho

Jonathan Current Business Manager IBEW Local 131



IBEW Local 252

every month Local 252 and UA 190 retirees meet at the Union Hall for card games and donuts. The games start at 9 a.m.

RETIREES’ BREAKFAST: will take place on the second Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. (new time) at Leo’s Coney Island, 160 S. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances at both the front and rear of the restaurant.

DUES PAYMENTS ONLINE: We can now accept payments for union dues online. Visit our website www.ibew252.org and click on “Pay Dues”. Follow the instructions to create your account through the payment portal. Your dues receipt will be mailed to you.

DETROIT TIGER’S UNION DAY: will be on Sept. 26 against the Pittsburgh Pirates. Tickets are \$30 and include entry to the game, bus transportation, and \$10 fun money to spend at the park. The bus will depart from the union hall at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are first come, first serve, and will not be held until they are paid for. Call or stop by the union hall to sign up.

GEORGE PERROS GOLF OUTING: will be held on July 18 at Pierce Lake Golf Course. Registration at 7 a.m., 8 a.m. start. Cost is \$20/golfer. Retirees and first year apprentices are free. Please contact the hall at (734) 424-0978 to sign up.

UNION 4 LIFE GOLF OUTING: on Saturday, Aug. 22 at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St. Chelsea, MI 48118 for their charity golf outing to benefit University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center’s breast cancer research fund. This event will take place 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fee is \$125/player, \$500/team and includes 18 holes + cart, lunch, dinner, & drinks, contests & prizes. Contact Hope Salyer hopes@aaejatc.org/ (734) 475-1180 with questions. Register online at union4lifecharity.com.

VETERAN’S COMMITTEE: We are looking for veterans to join our veteran’s committee. The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Union Hall. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact John Gilbert at (517) 920-1422.

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

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

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Local 252 partners with Health Management Systems of America to provide Employee Assistance for several issues. For confidential 24/7 assistance, call toll-free 1-800-847-7240, or visit www.my-life-resource.com and use username: hmsa, password: myresource for more information.

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

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/2026, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for “A” members are \$143.25 by cash or check, or \$147.55 by credit card per quarter for 2026. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (April through June) are due now. Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, June 30, 2026.

IMPORTANT DATES: June 30: 11:30 a.m. Deadline for 2nd Quarter Dues

Sept. 9: Retiree’s Night

Oct. 24: Trunk or Treat

Dec. 12: Holiday Party



IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings. Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, Jul 13, 2026 @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting –The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is Scheduled for 7pm Monday, Jul 13, 2026.

Election Results: Officers to be sworn in on July 13, 2026

President – Nicholas Harris Vice President – Richard C. Cushman

Recording Secretary – Neil C. Carey

Treasurer – Shaine R. Kuczynski

Business Manager – Dylan C. O’Dwyer

Executive Board – Joshua J. Brown, Glenn A. Stein, Dane C. O’Brien, Matthew M. Bankey, Daniel J. Tuttle, Jeffrey G. Lane

Examining Board – Noah Lambertson, Hudson D. Richards, Ethan A. Wagner, Charles P. Grona, Austin C. Caldwell

Alternate to the International Convention – George Shumar

Resale Items – We still have T-shirts for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

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

Scholarship – Past charter member Brother Bob Dost has a scholarship “Robert Paul Dost Scholarship Endowment” for High School seniors in the 5-county area around Traverse City. To access it go to www.gtcf.org/scholarships/. Local 498 Union members’ children get preference to the endowment. A huge thank you in Memory of Bob Dost for his generosity and being a great union member.

Service Pins – Service Pins are still available at the union hall for those members who have not received them. Stop by and get yours today!

Email Addresses - Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communication to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at ibew@local498.net Thank you!

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax# 1-952-854-1632 Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-855-633-4584

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan) 3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425 NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES Jan 1, 2026 – \$164.10/Quarter.

Info Updates – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time.

Remember to check the hall recorder Job line at night after 4 pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext 2.

“Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.”

–George Washington (1732 - 1799)

“A moment’s insight is sometimes worth a lifetime’s experience.”

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BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON Real Estate Training Inc. 901 Tower Drive, Suite 120 Troy, MI 48098 www.middletontraining.com 248-885-8311



## IBEW LOCAL 58



### IBEW Local 58

**DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting:** will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

**UPDATE – Sub Pay** is available for **Limited Energy ONLY** at this time. **If you have any questions, please contact the Local 58 Union Hall 313-963-2130.** If you have any questions regarding the Port Huron office, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

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

**IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers-** are available for purchase, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line, \$100.00 Donation per Brick. Please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department** – The Dues Department will be **CLOSED** on Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day.

Please look at your Dues Receipt. If your paid through date shows 12-31-2025, you are not current and owe a reinstatement fee of \$30.00. If your dues are not paid by June 30, 2026, you will lapse membership. It is your responsibility to pay your dues on time, this could affect your retirement or death benefit. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. Dues statements for the third quarter have gone out. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone no.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Our next luncheon will be Wednesday, June 24, at The Gazebo Banquet Center, 31104 Mound Rd., Warren 48092. Doors open at 11 a.m. and lunch is served at 12:30. The cost is \$25 per person (payable to the Retirees Association), mail your reservations and checks to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees Association, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI, 48232-0756. Questions, call Elaine Crawford, 313 408-5885.

Our next board meeting will be on Wednesday, July 8 at the local union hall in the main conference room. Meeting starts at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

**Electrical Workers' Joint Boards of Trustees (Fringe Benefits Office)** – Any questions regarding Local 58 Pension, Annuity, Health insurance or Life insurance should be directed to the IBEW Local 58 Benefits Office at 586-575-9200. They also distribute the 1099R tax form for the Local 58 Pension.

**Retirement:** The NEBF pension applications are no longer available at the Local 58 union hall. They are available either by contacting NEBF directly at 301-556-4300 or through your online account at NEBF.com. Standard processing time for NEBF pension applications has been 90 days. Please allow at least 3 months prior to your retirement date to submit your application to NEBF directly for processing. The IBEW PBF (International Pension Benefit Fund) applications can still be obtained at the Local 58 union hall. For questions regarding the NEBF or IBEW PBF pensions, please call Rebecca, 313-963-2130 ext. 3013. Questions regarding the Local 58 Pension should be directed to the Local 58 Benefits Office, 586-575-9200.

**Detroit Electrical Industry Training Center-** Know anyone interested in learning the Electrical Trade? Please inquire with the Training Center at [www.detroitetc.org](http://www.detroitetc.org) for information on Apprenticeship and training opportunities.

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund:** Next meeting will be Tuesday July 7 at 5:30 pm.

On Friday, June 5, we hosted the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Gaudi Open Golf outing. It was a beautiful, sunny day for golf and we had a full course of golfers. The winning team was the Phil Terrill foursome that shot 15 under. Second Place team was the Shea Butler foursome that shot 13 under. A big thank you to all contractors and vendors that did hole sponsorships, donations and swag.

Also, all the Benevolent Fund Committee members, Local members and volunteers that

made this event happen.

Our next golf outing will be the Brad Ballard Memorial Golf Outing. This year it will be Friday, Aug. 28 at Pine Valley, a month earlier due to the IBEW International Convention. Make sure to save the date! Registration will be open after June 8.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 14 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 14, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall.

The fourth coin in the series for our challenge coin fundraiser is now available for sale. Our IBEW car flags are also in. We will be selling them at any upcoming union events and Membership meetings.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

**The IBEW Veterans Committee** serves all those who have served, building community and strengthening veteran voices within the IBEW and throughout the entire electrical industry. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm at the hall with an option to attend via Zoom. At our next meeting we plan on reviewing the Veterans Committee field manual that has been put together by the I/O.

In recognition of service to country and union, all IBEW members who have served in the military can claim their free challenge coin by visiting the website: <https://ibew.org/about-ibew/affinity-groups/veterans-committees/>

**Local 58's Women's Committee** – The next meeting will be Thursday, June 25, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Milam (586-291-8014) Email at [58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org).

**The Political Action Committee:** meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the Hall at 5:30 pm. If you have questions or concerns or would like to attend a PAC meeting, you can reach out to our registrars at [registrar1@ibew58.org](mailto:registrar1@ibew58.org).

**The RENEW Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 23 at 5:30 p.m. at the Hall and on Zoom.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings** take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

**Electrical Workers Credit Union:** Our website is <http://WWW.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060.

Electrical Workers Credit Union is offering a short term special for **Auto Refinancing** starting at 4.25%\* **Terms: Must come from another financial Institute, up to 60 or 72 months.** Give the Credit Union a call to see if you qualify! 313-963-6060. Credit Union hours are Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm; Closed Friday between 11:30 am – 12:30 pm for lunch). You may now apply for membership online. Go to [ewcu.net](http://ewcu.net).

Dormant accounts! Please call the credit union to see the options to make your account active.

**Be sure to keep the Union Hall updated with any changes** to your phone number, address, email and beneficiaries. If your marital status has changed, please

be sure to **update any beneficiary forms** for the Local 58 Pension and the IBEW.

**Local 58 Senior Softball:** Looking for seniors 55+ years old to join and have some fun. Beginning in May 2026 on Monday and Wednesday mornings. For more info please contact: Dennis Schwieger 586-725-0452 or Jim Miles 586-933-3551.

**Local 58 Senior Golf:** Looking for seniors 55+ years old to grab your clubs and join us for multiple dates of golfing and fun. Golfing starts at 9 am for each date.

July 16 – Rouge Park Golf Course 11701 Burt Rd Detroit, MI 48228

Aug. 13 - Rackham Golf Course 10100 10 Mile Rd Huntington Woods, MI 48070

Sept. 17- Bee Tee Golf Course 22871 21 Mile Rd Macomb, MI 48044

Oct. 8, 2026 Sanctuary Lake Golf Course 1450 E. South Blvd Troy, MI 48084

Please contact Jeff Gregory via phone call or text @ 248-240-7449. Thank you!

**Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members:** This year the 2026 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 306, Akron, OH on Aug. 18-21, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday Aug. 18. The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Double Tree by Hilton in Akron/Fairlawn, OH ((330)867-5000) with the overflow hotel being directly across the parking lot (you can easily walk between these 2 hotels without ever leaving the parking lot areas) at the Holiday Inn Express

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Thomas Andrews, Robert Benbow Jr., Dennis Landra, Robert Lower, Paul VanOss and David Vezina. We wish you all the best as you begin your new journey.

**Members that have passed away:** Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of our fallen Brothers and Sisters. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss. **Wanda Doerner**, Retired WXYZ News Videographer/Editor, two-time Emmy Award winner and retired Local 58 member; **Robert Dunbar**, Father to Pension member Bruce Dunbar; **James Lemond**, Pension member, 70 year IBEW membership; **Patrick J. Milton**, JIW, 31 year IBEW membership and son to the late Pension member Patrick Milton; **James Schwebs**, Pension member, 52 year IBEW membership; and **Laverne Wintermantel**, Widow to the late Pension member Warren W. Wintermantel; Mother to Warren C. Wintermantel, VP of Midwest Commercial Development at Conti Electric and Local 58 member; Grandmother to Jesse Stevens, JIW.

*"Next to trying and winning, the best thing is trying and failing."*

– L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

*"In answer to the question of why it happened, I offer the modest proposal that our Universe is simply one of those things which happen from time to time."*

–Edward P. Tryon

*"When a person cannot deceive himself the chances are against his being able to deceive other people."*

–Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)



**AT WORK IN A TRAILER** at the new Cody High School site in Detroit are electrical worker foremen Al Julian and Dakari Shaver. The IBEW Local 58 members are employed by Williams Electric.



## IBEW Local 692

### IBEW Local 692

**BAY CITY – Union Meeting.** The next monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, July 6, 2026.**

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 2026.**

**Message from the Business Manager.**

Brothers and Sisters, I have been having conversations with Training Director Casey Stoike and his team circling around the opportunity of offering classes to our membership who have surpassed the apprenticeship school in their career. The upcoming opportunities approaching for continuing education in the electrical industry are Arc Flash Training and also a class on Medium Voltage Terminations.

The first class revolves around Arc Flash Safety. The Arc Flash course will teach proper personal protective equipment, safety boundaries, and various other safety related topics revolving around Arc Flash potential. Please Contact Training Director Stoike at (989) 686-4890. A date for this class will be determined once we have the number of members interested.

A medium voltage cable terminating class will also be held in the near future. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Training Director Casey Stoike at (989) 686-4890. A certificate of completion will be offered upon completion of course. A class date will be determined once the class has been filled.

**Work Report.** The work report in our jurisdiction remains solid.

**AZCO** continues work at Consumers Energy's Karn Solar site in Essexville. Although weather has been an issue, more calls are still expected this spring.

**Bay Valley Electric** is working at a nice dorm project at Alpena Community College.

**Clements Electric's** work at the Mersen in Bay City and Midland's Center for the Arts and Dow Gardens Welcome Center continues, as work at the Bay County Health Department is wrapping up. Work on a mixed-use development in Downtown Bay City has started. Bay City Animal Control and Bay County Road Commission projects have been secured with work to start soon. Clements was also awarded a nice project out to Michigan Sugar.

**Conti Electric** has ongoing work at the Karn Generation Facility and Consumers Energy's dams along the Au Sable. Conti's ongoing work at Michigan Sugar may see a few calls. Phase 3 of Little Trout Solar in Hawks is

wrapping up early summer.

**Countyline Power** continues work at Midland Waste Water, has upcoming work on the Tittabawassee dams, and secured a high voltage termination project at Michigan Sugar.

**Escon Group** has some work in Midland's I-Park and McLaren's Bay City West campus (late spring). Escon was also awarded Bangor Schools (summer).

**John's Electric** continues work at Clear Lake and Hoeft State Parks.

**J. Ranck Electric** will be adding a battery storage facility on the Mission Road Solar project in Rosebush late this spring. J. Ranck has begun pole testing at solar sites in West Branch and Cheboygan to fully mobilize in 2027.

**Master Electric** continues work at Clare County Road Commission and has also picked up a couple nice projects out to CMU.

**Nelson Electric** is wrapping up projects at Bay City Powertrain and continues access control and security work at the Amazon warehouse in Clare.

**Northern Power** has secured spring and summer work at Alpena Schools.

**Northern Valley** continues work at the AMRIZE Cement Plant and has started Alpena's Meijer remodel. Their residential and generator divisions continue to secure a fair amount of work.

**S&G and Hardies Electric** are keeping their crews busy this spring on various projects.

**Swan Electric** has secured a decent upcoming project at TCE Charlton in Johannesburg.

**Teds Electric** continues work at Clare Schools.

**Van Ert Electric** continues work on their solar project in Gladwin, calls for this project will pick up soon.

Consumers Energy has recently announced plans for future work in our jurisdiction. Essexville's Karn site plans to add a new battery storage facility and two new gas-fired turbines to replace units 3 & 4. Three large solar sites will start civil and dirt work this spring and require substantial manpower in 2027. Those sites are in Prescott, Spruce, and Harrisville.

If you are looking for work, please do not hesitate to contact the Union Hall. Please note when calling the job line to use extension #1.

**In Solidarity, Ryan Charney Business Man./ Fin. Secretary Organizers' Report.**

Job calls are now posted on our website, [www.ibew692.net](http://www.ibew692.net). The out-of-work list has been updated with additional information such as ding detail, a job log, and a list of recently rolled members. Please note initial sign of the out-

of-work list should be in person at the hall. Re-signs after rolling can be done by emailing, texting, or calling Business Manager Ryan Charney.

Solar calls may become a great onboarding opportunity for unrepresented licensed electricians. If you know anybody currently working non-union who may be interested working those jobs, please have them reach out to organizers. The latest solar call has been filled with Book 2 and 3 applicants.

Apprentices will be receiving COMET and PAL training courses over the next two months. COMET stands for Construction Organizing Membership Education Training, while PAL stands for Politics, Activism, and Livelihood. Any members or retirees interested in sitting in for either course should contact Deon or Kevin.

Brendon "Deon" Baranek 989.327.4131 Kevin Klapish 989.252.9225

**Union Dues.**

There is no dues rate increase for the 2026 calendar year. Monthly dues will remain at \$49.20.

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

**Death Benefits**

Active Brother Christian Giddings, Card Number D612987, passed away May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Brother Giddings was born on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 1959 (67 years old). He was initiated on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1987. Chris resided in Midland. **#359 (Giddings)**

Local death fund assessment **\$10.00 each** (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692 1300 W. Thomas, Bay City, MI 48706

**Retirees Lunch:** The June retiree lunch is scheduled for 1 P.M. Thursday, June 18 at Coonan's Irish Hub, located at 1004 N. Johnson in Bay City.

**Fringe Benefits**

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

REMINDER: If you contact the Health Plan Office about going on short term disability, it is important for you to notify the Hall as well. A copy of your paperwork will need to be submitted to the Hall for your file. This will also freeze your position on the out of work list.

**Important links & numbers Health Plan & Pension Fund** 855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org) NEBF/NEAP: 301.556.4300 IO Pension: 202.833.7000



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IBEW Local 906  
UPPER PENINSULA—  
**MEETINGS:** There will be normal unit meetings for the month of June, 2026

Marquette- 119 S Front St. First Tuesday @ 7:00pm EST  
Iron Mountain- 1800 N Stephenson Ave. Second Tuesday @ 7:00pm CST

Escanaba- 1219 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S. Second Wednesday @ 7 pm EST  
**Work Outlook-** Work is starting to pick up. Upcoming projects include Amazon warehouse in Escanaba, Harden Hall 1<sup>st</sup> floor remodel in Marquette, VA Hospital in Marquette, Crystal Falls Compressor Station.

We currently have a 1 man call for Billy Electric in Escanaba, a 1 man call for B&B Electric in Escanaba, a 1 man call for K.A.T. at the Soo Locks, a 2 man call for Pieper Electric in Ironwood, and a 1 man call for Michels Power in Naubinway. Please call the hall 906-226-7497 if you're interested in either of these calls.

IBEW Local 906 accepts book 2 signing via email. Please email cflury@ibew906@gmail.com for all book 2 signings.

**Union Hall Hours of Operation-** Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm.

**Golf Outings-** IBEW Local 906 is once again the title sponsor for the Project Jade golf outing on Aug. 23 at Wawonowin Country Club in Champion, MI. Shotgun start at 9:00am. With local 906 being the title sponsor we get 2 four person teams, if you are interested in playing for local 906, please call the hall to sign up.

**Merchandise-** To all members interested, we have merchandise at the hall. It can be picked up or coordinated to be brought to a union meeting. Payment can be done in person, over the phone, or on the website/app under the Merchandise order form page. All products are available for viewing on the website/app. We have some new shirt designs so please be sure to take a look!

**Retiree Events-** There is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at Vierling Restaurant, Marquette, 11 am EST.

There is a retiree breakfast the first Saturday of every month at Hardees in Iron Mountain at 8:00am CST.

There is a retiree breakfast the fourth Thursday of every month at Burger King in Houghton at 10:00am EST.

**Website/App-** We have a new website and mobile app. Please reference those new tools for any new announcements and updates within the local. The website can be found at [ibew906.org](http://ibew906.org) and the app can be found under IBEW 906. Dues payments can also be made through the app and website. If you are in arrears, you will not be able to pay on the app or website. If you have any questions or are having trouble with the app please call the hall.  
**RENEW-** There is a RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next Generation Electrical Workers) zoom meeting held the first Thursday of every month at 8:00 pm est. To get the zoom link please reference the calendar section of the app or website.

**Union Dues-** A friendly reminder that dues are \$49.00 per month. Please keep this in mind if you are mailing a check for dues payment. There will be no Dues increase for 2026. If you are paying for the whole year at one time you receive a free tee shirt.

**Fringe Benefits-** Please make sure to make sure your beneficiaries are updated, especially if you've recently been married, divorced, had children etc. Beneficiary forms can be obtained at the union hall.

**Labor History-** IBEW Local 906 is looking for labor history for our local/union. If you have any information that you'd like to submit or meet up for an interview please call the hall.



IBEW Local 275  
COOPERSVILLE – **Work Outlook:** Work in the jurisdiction remains steady for journeymen with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275. We have solar calls coming as well as local contractors picking up jobs.

**Building Corp:** At the May Building Corp meeting, the body voted to pursue a new location for the union hall. We will be continuing our search with realtors and when we find a building that meets our needs, we will call another Building Corp meeting to vote on it. This process may take time, so we will keep the body updated on this.

**Healthcare coverage:** At the April 2026 allocation meeting the body voted to add vision coverage as an additional benefit. Benefits will be in effect as of August 1, we are still working with the administrators for the cards. Some members have reached out about their special fund cards expiring. Please keep an eye on your mail for new cards coming, your current card will remain working until the end of the month.

**PICNIC:** Mark your Calendars for August 8<sup>th</sup> to join us for the annual Local 275 picnic. The picnic will be held at the union hall with more details to follow. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to the hall or Niko Jend to sign up.

**Volunteer Info:** Please keep an eye out for future volunteer events.

**West Michigan EWMC:** Meetings will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm via ZOOM. The ZOOM link will be available on Local 275 Members Only Facebook group as well as on the Local 275 Mobile app. Please Join the EWMC on October 11<sup>th</sup> at Millennium Park in Grand Rapids as we walk to raise awareness for suicide prevention. Check in starts at 11, and the walk starts at 1pm. All are welcome to attend!

**RENEW:** If you have any interest in helping re-launch the Local 275 Renew committee, please reach out to Mark at the union hall.

**Veterans' Committee:** Meeting will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm. Please keep an eye on the app for locations.

**Training:** Code update will only be available online only going forward. Please go to the JATC website at [www.wmejatc.org](http://www.wmejatc.org) and click the Code Update Course link to sign up. The cost for members is \$40.

The JATC is now offering master's Exam Prep courses. Please reach out to the JATC for more information. [wmjatc@gmail.com](mailto:wmjatc@gmail.com)

Anyone interested in signing up for Foreman training or Steward training, please reach out to Jonas at the Hall to get on the list.

**General Info:** If you are working on a project in our jurisdiction and are told that you were selected for a random, DO NOT take it, call the Hall first. Randoms are part of the MUST program that was agreed by NECA and the IBEW in our contract. We've been seeing our contractors who are subs being told by the G.C. that one of our members were selected for a random through their program. We are not signatory to B&V, Barton-Malow or any other G.C., therefore we are NOT subject to their drug testing.

We've had a few instances of inappropriate comments on the job site. Be aware that the IBEW Constitution that we've all sworn an oath to uphold states, in part; "This Brotherhood will continue to oppose communism, Nazism, racism, sexism, fascism or any other subversive 'ism.'"

We have adopted a Zero Tolerance approach to these behaviors and NO ONE - black, white, brown, gay, straight, male or female should have to endure that treatment from anybody. If you are the victim of this behavior, let your Business Manager, Jonas Talbott know and it will be dealt with.

If you want to get added to

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948  
FLINT – **Membership Meeting** - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be July 13, 2026 at 6:00 PM.  
**Retiree Meetings** - Retirees next meeting will be July 7, 2026 at 9:00am.

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

**Work Outlook** - Our work outlook is steady with a slow ramp possible leading to the upcoming months. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and resigns.

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

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

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

**New Membership** - Welcome to our latest members Hunter DeVasher and Alex Gregory. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees** - Congratulations to Robert Bishop and Rolland Eastwood on your pension application. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

**Draping of the Charter** - Our condolences to the family of Keith McKenzie & Floyd Dodge. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

## IBEW 275, con't

our blast email list, please reach out to Nicole at the Hall to get on the list.

For any members still using the 1-800 number to call the Union Hall Offices, please note that we removed that line several months ago. If you are having trouble reaching the office, please double check that you aren't using that number.

As a reminder, the Local Union Hall offices have changed their hours. The offices will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4:30pm.

Monthly dues are still \$50.90 per month, and as of this writing we have not heard of an increase. If you pay for 1 years dues at once, there is a challenge coin that can be picked up at the hall.

**Delinquent Members:** At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Jonathon Alviar, Dave Daum, Andrew Kruthoff, Andrew LaFrance, Wade Langdon, and Mike Nielsen. Please make every effort to get caught up.

*"I have noticed that the people who are late are often so much jollier than the people who have to wait for them."*  
—E. V. Lucas

*"What we think, or what we know, or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence. The only consequence is what we do."*  
—John Ruskin (1819 - 1900)

*"I always remember an epitaph which is in the cemetery at Tombstone, Arizona. It says: 'Here lies Jack Williams. He done his damndest. I think that is the greatest epitaph a man can have - When he gives everything that is in him to do the job he has before him. That is all you can ask of him and that is what I have tried to do.'"*  
—Harry S Truman (1884 - 1972)

*"I am returning this otherwise good typing paper to you because someone has printed gibberish all over it and put your name at the top."*  
—An English Professor, Ohio University

*"Basic research is what I am doing when I don't know what I am doing."* —Wernher von Braun (1912 - 1977)



MOVING SCAFFOLDING at the Belle Isle Aquarium project in Detroit is Nate Mikulski of Laborers Local 1191. He's employed by Christman.



Laborers Local 1191  
(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

**DETROIT – LABORERS RISING:** Laborers Rising is a powerful initiative focused on building power and making a difference with our fellow sisters and brothers. Through Laborers Rising, Laborers Local 1191 will be asking its Membership to volunteer their time to support various issues that enhance the lives of working families. If you wish to join our Laborers Rising volunteer list, please call the Local Union at (313) 894-2241 M-F 8:00am – 4:00pm to provide necessary contact information.

**Regular Membership Updates:** Please check out our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org) and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

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

**Monthly General Membership Meetings:** All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays), unless the Membership receives notice of a meeting cancellation, rescheduling and/or a venue change.

**The July General Membership meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2026, in observance of Independence Day. The General Membership Meeting for August 2026 will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August, 2026.**

**Monthly Retiree Council Meetings:** Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The Retiree Council Meeting for June 2026 is scheduled for June 26, 2026.**

**The July Retiree Council Meeting is scheduled for the 31<sup>st</sup> of July, 2026. The August Retiree Council Meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2026.**

**Union Dues For 2026:** Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org)!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

*"Arguments are to be avoided; they are always vulgar and often convincing."*  
—Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

*"In a world where there is so much to be done. I felt strongly impressed that there must be something for me to do."*  
—Dorothea Dix (1802 - 1887)

*"Jealousy is the tribute mediocrity pays to genius."*  
—Rev. Fulton J. Sheen (1895-1975)

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

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

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

**Roll Call:** All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first five days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. \*Example: If your name is on the list in April and/or May and you don't re-register by June 5<sup>th</sup> your name will be removed from the list.

**Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules.** You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling (517) 625-4919 or by visiting the training school website at [www.mlta.org](http://www.mlta.org) to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTA's online training at <https://lms.mlta.org>. Types

of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well.** If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.mustbsafe.com](http://www.mustbsafe.com) to see how many modules you have.

**Beneficiary Reminder:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare fund documents. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable if/when no beneficiary has been designated. **Each of the above individual benefits needs to have a designated beneficiary.** **Death Certificates:** Please always submit to the Local Union a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased active or retired members. **FYI: The death certificate is required for any designated beneficiary to receive available benefits.**

**Available Scholarships:** LIUNA members can apply for scholarships for university, college, trade school and technical trainings through Union Plus. Learn more information about Union Plus scholarships at [www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships](http://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships).

**IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)

\* Telephone: (877) 645-2267

\* Fax: (517) 689-6016

\*Website: [www.michiganlaborers.org](http://www.michiganlaborers.org)

\*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

\*Telephone: (248) 641-4942

\*Fax: (248) 813-9898

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' Vacation Fund

TIC Midwest LLC

\* Telephone: (877) 645-2267

Michigan Laborers' Vacation Fund

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\*Telephone: (833) 389-0025

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## Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofer

### Roofers Local 149

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

**General Membership Meeting.** The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., July 7, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., July 7, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**Mid-Michigan.** The Mid-Michigan meeting is scheduled for Tues., July 14, 2026, at 6 pm. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

**Condolences.** It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of the following Brother.

William Kuchna. Brother Kuchna was 89 years old and a 57-year member. Brother Kuchna passed on 5/23/2026.

Rest in Peace Brother. Thank you for your years of service.

### Detroit Training Center Information

The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows: Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1- Monday, July 20, 2026  
Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2- Tuesday, July 21, 2026  
BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1- Wednesday July 22, 2026  
BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2- Thursday, July 23, 2026  
Apprentice 7 & 8 Hands On + Safety & Health- Thursday, July 23, 2026

All classes begin at 6:30pm  
Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members.

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-206-7620, or TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements.

### 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 the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368 to make arrangements.

**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 we will contact the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.

**Out-Of-Work.** When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Detroit Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (313) 961-6093 ext. 0 to be put on the out of work list. 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.

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

**Are you 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.

The publication above is as of 6/8/2026, 2:00pm  
- In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofer Local No.149



## Elevator Constructors

### Elevator Constructors Local 36

DETROIT – **ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED;** Our next regular membership meeting will be **June 22, at 5:30 pm** at 1640 Porter St. Detroit 48216. Our next Executive Board meeting will be **June 15, 2026, 5pm**, at the same location. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Tradesman Article or sent via email.

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

### Attention All Members,

#### Upcoming meetings:

June 8 – Probationary Meeting at 5pm  
June 15 – Executive Board meeting at 5 pm  
June 22 – General Membership meeting at 5:30pm.

**We will have a special guest speaker at our June 22, 2026 meeting with DeVerna & Co Financial to go over changes to empower, importance of the Roth 401K and answer any questions regarding retirement.**

**Save the date:** The Local 36 Annual Picnic will be July 25, at St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Picnic Grounds, 11541 21 Mile Road, Shelby. More Details will follow. Please contact Jon Bujan (586) 787-1114 if you would like to volunteer.

**Save the date:** The Kyle Owsley Memorial Golf Outing is Saturday, Sept. 26, @ Links of Novi 50395 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48374. More details will be available soon.

**If you haven't already signed up for the IUEC Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) Plan for short-term, Long-term, Life and AD&D insurance, the enrollment will be open from July 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026 and effective September 1, 2026. This will be the ONLY chance to sign up for this till 2027. www.IUECVIP.com or call (224) 487-5030**

Just wanted to remind everyone that we **DO NOT** provide personal identification as a condition of entering or working on a job. Please refer to the CBA Article XXII Par. 6, when your company tells you to give your license to enter a job.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is [vap@iuec.org](mailto:vap@iuec.org) or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Chairman @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWPF National Co-Chair @ 410-312-1474. Locally contact Scott Erison (Local 36 VAP Chair) (586)482-0768 or email him at [sanosire1973@gmail.com](mailto:sanosire1973@gmail.com) or Ricky Azzopardi (Local 36 Co-Chair) (586)719-7465 or email him at [rickyapardi@yahoo.com](mailto:rickyapardi@yahoo.com) if you would like to get involved or have questions.

**Local 36 website is up and running,** this is still a work in progress, and we would appreciate any feedback to improve the site to work for our members and retirees. Visit [www.iueclocal36detroit.org](http://www.iueclocal36detroit.org). Please be patient as we continue to improve the site. If you have any questions, contact the hall.

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you **MUST** report those jobs to the hall!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A. **When starting a new job please use the website job reporting at [www.iueclocal36detroit.org/job-reporting](http://www.iueclocal36detroit.org/job-reporting).** This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

**If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website. Mail a copy to the fund office and one to the hall.**

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the **fund**

office (800)523-4702 and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one week waiting period.

The IUEC would like all active members and Probationary Apprentices to sign up for Safety alerts. The only thing you will receive are safety alerts, nothing political, just safety alerts. **Text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email.**

**If you are unloading a job and you find the fishplates already attached to the rail, pre-drilled holes on machines/beams, door equipment already installed, or any other violation, take pictures and send them to the hall via email or text with the address of the job.**

**Attention All Mechanics,** just a reminder to Mechanics that passed the Mechanic's Exam on or after **July 9, 2022**, starting January 1, 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, each mechanic shall be required to successfully complete at least eight hours of online continuing education from the curriculum published annually by NEIEP. **Required Mechanics (including assistant mechanics) that do not comply with the continuing education requirements shall not receive the wage rate increase until completion of the required continuing education curriculum.**

**Attention All Apprentices,** if you are scheduled to sit for the Mechanic's exam, you must fill out your OJTs till you get your passing results. Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!**

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

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

**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can put you on the email list.**

We would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Fourth of July weekend and a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick and injured list.

*"Among those whom I like or admire, I can find no common denominator; but among those whom I love, I can: all of them make me laugh."*

–W. H. Auden (1907 - 1973)

*"Silence is one of the hardest arguments to refute."*

–Josh Billings (1818 - 1885)

*"Almost everything – all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure – these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart."*

–Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011)

*"Just think of the tragedy of teaching children not to doubt."*

–Clarence Darrow (1857 - 1938)

*"If you wish to know what a man is, place him in authority."*

–Yugoslav Proverb

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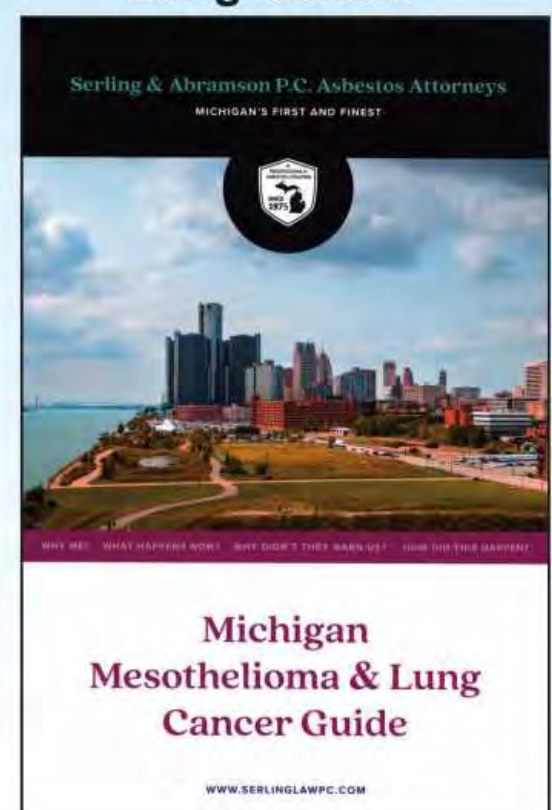
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# Outdoors

## Tahquamenon Falls, now up close and personal

By Heather Johnson Durocher  
Writer, Michigan Department  
of Natural Resources

For some visitors to Tahquamenon Falls State Park, the main attraction at Michigan's second-largest state park has always remained out of reach.

For those using wheelchairs, experiencing the iconic, 200-foot-wide, amber-hued Upper Falls up close was impossible. What stood in the way was a 94-step staircase that led park visitors to a viewing platform.

"We heard time and time again from people that because of accessibility, they had never been to the brink, had never been able to feel that spray hit their face or smell the river," said Kevin Dennis, park manager at Tahquamenon Falls State Park in the Upper Peninsula's Luce and Chippewa counties.

That has now changed with the long-awaited official opening May 14 of a new 1,100-foot, fully accessible boardwalk that replaces the aging staircase. The new feature will offer all visitors close-up, panoramic views of the Tahquamenon River as it rushes over the edge and drops about 50 feet.

"It's really exciting to be able to open it to the public," said Dennis of the renovation project that took nearly two years. "The public has been so patient during these past few years of hard work by a lot of people to bring this project to life. It feels great to see it finished, and most importantly, it feels good to watch as people use the new boardwalk."

Last month, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director Scott Bowen and other DNR staff and community members helped celebrate the new accessway to the Upper Tahquamenon Falls during a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the state park.

"Access to public lands for everyone is a priority for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and Tahquamenon Falls is a prime example," Bowen said during the ceremony. "Today, we celebrate the opening of this



PARK VISITORS enjoy the new 1,100-foot boardwalk to the brink of the Upper Tahquamenon Falls north of Newberry.

beautiful boardwalk, the latest feature furthering our legacy of partnership, collaboration and public access, not only here at Tahquamenon Falls but across our great state."

### Fully accessible waterfall viewing.

The new boardwalk to the Upper Falls is the latest effort at Tahquamenon Falls to make the state park accessible for all.

"With the Lower Falls boardwalk extension and island bridge project completed in 2021, and this new walkway at the Upper Falls brink, both the Lower Falls and Upper Falls are fully accessible for our visitors," said Kristen Kosick, chief of the DNR Parks and Recreation Division, during the ribbon-cutting ceremony. "We're here to celebrate one of our signature state park projects that really demonstrates our mission – preserving natural resources while also providing access to recreation."

The new boardwalk offers views of old-growth forest as it winds its way toward the brink. Five switchback landings will offer interpretive displays, benches and never-before-seen views of the river and the falls.

The walk or roll to the Upper

Falls using the new boardwalk will be longer for visitors compared to the days of the lengthy and steep staircase – it could be up to a half hour longer, depending upon stops along the way – but the journey will be easier. Visitors also can use one of the park's available wheelchairs or track chairs, Dennis said.

"We have had, and will continue to have, several wheelchairs available for visitors to check out for free in our interpretive area – we call it the 'fact shack' near the Upper Falls parking lot – and we also have two track chairs, one at the Upper Falls and one at the Lower Falls, that visitors may use," he said.

### 'There are no words.'

Missy Davert, 62, was a child

the last time she saw the Upper Falls up close. "I was here as a little girl," said Davert, who uses a wheelchair. "My dad had me in a backpack on his back." But until May 14, she hadn't been on the platform overlooking the Upper Falls in 50 years, she said.

"I thought I'd never come back down here again," she said while sitting at the brink next to her husband Ken Davert, who also uses a wheelchair. "This is one of my most favorite places in the world. This feels like heaven. I'm just so grateful. There are no words."

Missy and Ken Davert were among several wheelchair users who attended the ribbon-cutting and experienced the new accessible boardwalk for the first time.

MDNR photos



A ROARING Upper Tahquamenon Falls is shown in mid-April during high spring runoff at the state park in Luce County.

Bryan Wilkinson, co-chairman of the DNR's Accessibility Advisory Council, was a featured speaker at the ceremony and was invited to cut the ribbon.

He shared his own personal Tahquamenon Falls story and a passion for helping make the outdoors accessible to all.

In 2004, after hearing that the park had just opened a paved path to the Upper Falls, he rushed to visit the attraction with his then-girlfriend/now wife Breanne. Unfortunately, he was disappointed to find he could only go so far along the path toward the Upper Falls – to the top of the staircase – because he uses a wheelchair.

"I looked at her and said, 'I guess go check it out, I'll see you in 20 minutes,'" he recalled. On May 14, the 45-year-old father of two from Brighton was excited to be able to reach the Upper Falls brink for the first time. "Today I get to go the rest of the way," he said. "It's going to be awesome."

### A monumental project.

The DNR worked with design consultant OHM Advisors in Hancock and construction company ASI Environmental in Ludington to complete the approximately \$1.6 million project.

"The goal was to design and construct an accessible ramp system traversing an erodible slope covered in dense forest and a delicate understory with over 60 feet in elevation change from top to bottom," Kosick said. "No machinery was allowed on the slope to complete excavation of 430 footings, helical installation, staircase demolition, steel beam transportation or concrete pouring."

The total project cost was covered by \$70,000 in DNR capital outlay dollars and just over \$1.5 million in federal relief program funding as part of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's Building Michigan Together Plan.

That plan, signed into law in March 2022, included \$250 million in federal relief program funding from the American Rescue Plan Act to help tackle the backlog of critical infrastructure needs in Michigan's state parks system.

### Tahquamenon Falls: An historic state park.

In the mid-1930s, the only way for visitors to reach the Upper and Lower Tahquamenon Falls was by boat and foot. Back then, people were pushing for the area

surrounding the falls to be made a state park to avoid despoiling the site with roads, logging and commercial development.

Through partnerships and collaborations, the state park was established in 1947. Today, it is Michigan's second-largest state park at nearly 50,000 acres.

By the 1960s, M-123 had been constructed, which provided ample access to the Upper and Lower Falls, as well as the Tahquamenon River mouth. All three sites are part of the state park that provides access, camping, hiking, fishing and other recreation, as well as preservation of the attractions for the enjoyment of future generations.

The park, which stretches 13-plus miles in the U.P., attracts just over 500,000 day-use visitors each year. The park is home to multiple campgrounds, overnight lodging facilities, a boating access site, 35-plus miles of trails and multiple overlooks to the Upper and Lower Falls. The North Country National Scenic Trail travels 16 miles within the park and includes a route between the Upper and Lower falls. The Upper Falls, a breathtaking waterfall over 200 feet wide, is one of the largest in the eastern United States.

The river's amber hue is due to tannins from the surrounding cedar swamps. The falls' powerful force and the soft water create a distinctive foamy appearance. Just four miles downstream, the Lower Falls offers a series of smaller cascades around an island. You can explore both falls from the riverbank or the Ronald A. Olson Island Bridge or by renting a rowboat.

### How to help.

Many of the accessible features people enjoy in Michigan's parks and public spaces are made possible through the generosity of DNR friends' groups, community partners and individual donors.

"Whether it's a major project or small enhancement, every contribution helps expand access and create more inclusive donor experiences for everyone," said Michelle O'Kelly, fund developer for the DNR Parks and Recreation Division.

Anyone interested in supporting accessible recreation opportunities can contact O'Kelly directly at OKellyM1@Michigan.gov or contribute by visiting the donate to Michigan state parks, trails and waterways webpage.

## ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

### Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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

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

### \$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

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

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