



SHORT CUTS



See endorsements
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Michigan voters will go to the polls to vote in the statewide General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 3, but absentee ballots have already arrived in mailboxes around the state.

It's time to consider who to vote for in the general election. A list of candidates endorsed by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its affiliated councils appears in this issue on Page 4.

Union members are urged to research, support and vote for candidates who share the goals of organized labor.

Trump renews spat with federal workers

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Trump's battle with the federal workforce continues, as he has proposed that the 1.9 million civilians employed by the U.S. government get a zero percent pay raise in 2027, and zero cost of living adjustment. Those same workers received a 2 percent raise in 2025 and a 1 percent hike this year, plus cost of living hikes.

Since re-entering the Oval Office on Jan. 20, 2025, Trump and Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency eliminated the jobs of 300,000 federal workers, while ending union contract protections covering 1 million workers.

There are exceptions to Trump's "thrift": Military personnel would get increases from 5-7 percent and federal law enforcement officers would get 3.8 percent. The law enforcement officers would also get COLAs to help offset inflation.

The combination of raises for the few but not for the many outraged federal union presidents and a bipartisan group of 110 congressional allies. The lawmakers signaled, in a Sept. 24 letter to their own leaders, that they'd be happy with a 3.8 percent hike across the board for all the civilians. The day before, Trump stated a "national emergency" justified skimpy or nonexistent raises. He didn't say what the emergency was.

At a Sept. 23 press conference, National Federation of Federal Employees President Randy Erwin denounced Trump's zero raises proposal, claiming it would be more difficult for workers living in the expensive Washington, D.C. area, and that existing workers have even more tasks on their plate with the massive federal personnel reductions last year.

"Federal workers are ordinary, middle-class Americans living in every corner of this great country," Erwin said. "Regardless of where you live, they are your friends and neighbors, and like most people, federal employees just want to make a fair living and provide for their families. But for federal employees, that has become harder and harder to do."

"If Congress permits the pay freeze President Trump has proposed, in a way that is clearly political retribution for some perceived offense most federal employees had nothing to do with, it will make recruiting and retaining the workforce the American people need next to impossible."

—Mark Gruenberg, Press Associates

Quotable

"Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you."

Pericles (d. 429 B.C.)



TRADES WORKERS with Kokosing Alberici Traylor place concrete to top off monolith S25 at the New Lock at the Soo project in Sault Ste. Marie. Each concrete placement is about five feet deep, and each monolith takes nine to 14 lifts to complete.

(Photo credits: Kelsie Hall/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

It's halftime for the New Lock at the Soo

600 Hardhats work to make mega-project 50% complete

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

SAULT STE. MARIE — The New Lock at the Soo has reached a construction milestone — it's halfway complete. The agency with jurisdiction over its construction, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Detroit District, made the announcement on Sept. 29, and released a video and photos to show the work.

The \$3.21 billion new lock is a twin to the existing 1,200-foot-long Poe Lock, which opened in 1969. The new lock will provide a backup in case of a malfunction due to mechanical malfunction, an accident, or sabotage, as well as allow maintenance during warmer months. It is estimated that a six-month shutdown of the Poe Lock would trigger a six percent drop in U.S. economic activity and a national recession.

"Reaching the halfway point on this mega-project is a testament to the dedication of the Corps of Engineers team and the joint-venture contractor Kokosing Alberici Traylor LLC," said Corps Integrated Project Office Chief Mick Aubrey. "The progress made here is a direct reflection of the more than 600 people working on this"

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CONCRETE MONOLITHS take shape at the New Lock at the Soo project in Sault Ste. Marie. A total of 84 concrete monoliths — and a lot of rebar — will make up the new lock chamber, where 1,000-foot-long-plus freighters will traverse the locks.



RODBUSTERS in Iron Workers Local 8's jurisdiction tie rod at the New Lock at the Soo project.

(Image credit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

2025 was great for unions. Relatively speaking.

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

Sometimes you get reminded about the deep hole organized labor finds itself in.

The latest came in the form of very good news for American's unions that was announced last month by an Illinois-based group of researchers.

"Last year saw the largest growth in U.S. union membership in two decades," said the report's headline. Drawn from U.S. Department of Labor data, the study said the U.S. "added more than 411,000 union members in 2025, the largest one-year surge

in membership since 2008."

Unfortunately, that surge, while welcome, only triggered a 0.1 percent increase in U.S. union membership. It's a number that barely moves the meter on raising union membership — it rose from

9.9 percent to 10.0 percent.

The 12th annual *State of the Unions* report was released Sept. 7 and was compiled by researchers at the Illinois Economic Policy Institute and the Project for Middle Class Renewal

'Tis the season: organized labor deep into political outreach

WASHINGTON, D.C. — While the "union vote" is hardly a monolith of agreement for any one candidate or party, the AFL-CIO is doing its part to get its 14 million member-affiliates to cast

ballots on or before Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3.

In the final weeks before the election, the federation reported, "the labor movement is surging its grassroots field operation and

NLRB unleashed:

Unions gird for more mugging in the workplace

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI)—Crystal Carey, the union-buster whom President Donald Trump named as General Counsel for the National Labor Relations Board, plans a mass trashing of Biden-era pro-worker rules, starting with overturning the curbs on captive audience meetings, plus setting limits on union insignia workers can wear on their caps and uniforms.

And Carey's words carry weight. As the NLRB's General Counsel, she is its de facto chief of staff and, more importantly, its top enforcement officer. Before taking the GC post, Carey was a senior partner at Morgan, Lewis and Bockius, one of the nation's biggest union-busting law firms.

Which means once Carey gets done, worker protections instituted by the Biden-era NLRB and its general counsel, Jennifer Abruzzo, will disappear. One already has.

That's the one where Abruzzo convinced the Biden-era NLRB to enlarge the definition of finally making whole a worker whom the boss illegally fired for union advocacy, organizing or both.

The top lawmaker who protested all of this, in advance, was Sen. Bernie Sanders, (Ind.-Vt.), who heads the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee's minority. He spoke up at Carey's confirmation hearing. All the committee Democrats voted against approving Carey for the NLRB post.

"When Donald Trump fires the most pro-union general counsel (Abruzzo) in the history of the National Labor Relations Board and illegally removes a member of this independent board, he is not a champion of the working class," Sanders said. "He is a champion of unfettered corporate greed and union busters."

For decades, until Abruzzo took over, the NLRB's penalties for employers' illegal actions were small: Ordering the firm to post a *we-broke-the-law-and-promise-not-to-do-it-again* notice and to award the worker net back pay.

That was the difference between what the fired worker

would have earned between the time she was canned and the time the board ruled in her favor, minus whatever pay from other jobs she could line up to keep body, soul and family alive.

Except in unusual cases, where the NLRB sought damages, too, the amounts were small. And they didn't deter companies from breaking labor laws.

With the Biden board's OK, Abruzzo changed that. Net back

(Continued on Page 3)

NLRB on path to make sure on-the-job union insignia goes out of fashion

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

A U.S. Supreme Court decision handed down in 1945 clearly grants workers the right to wear union-related "insignia" on the job.

But in today's legal and political anti-union environments, it should come as no surprise that union-avoiding companies and their lawyers are seeking to convince judges that the law doesn't say what it says.

"The right to wear union insignia on the job has been one of the most heavily litigated labor law questions," wrote labor attorney Andrew Strom in a Sept. 14 report for the *On Labor* blog. "This is somewhat surprising because the one Supreme Court case that addressed the issue, *Republic Aviation Corp. vs. NLRB* (1945) upheld the National Labor Relations Board's determination that 'the right of employees to wear union insignia at work has long been recognized as a reasonable and legitimate form of union activity, and (an employer's) curtailment of that right is clearly violative of the (NLRA).'"

Strom continued: "Somehow, most judges have been unable to wrap their heads around the notion that workers simply have the right to wear union insignia, and instead, as a recent Second Circuit case involving Starbucks demonstrates, they insist on the need for a complicated balancing test that undermines this basic right."

A case that's being used to test the union insignia question was brought by Starbucks, whose attorneys have been battling unionization at their stores for the past several years. The case originated in 2022 and involves workers' dress at one of its "Reserve Roastery" stores, locations where Starbucks attempts to evoke a "hipster chic" or "steampunk" vibe by allowing workers wide latitude in how they dress, unlike their other stores.

Workers there are allowed to wear hats, t-shirts, ties and other accessories that can represent a number of Starbucks "partner"

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Construction markers outpace rest of economy

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

The latest indicators show a national economy overall that's doing... OK. But the construction industry is doing a bit better.

Construction employment and wages rose again in September as they have month to month for the first three quarters of the year — even as concerns over worker shortages and future job opportunities continue to cause some unease within the industry.

U.S. construction contractors added 11,000 jobs last month, the sector's jobless rate fell to 3.5 percent, and hourly industry wages rose by 4.3 percent, outpacing

Market 'resilient but sluggish'

the overall market. The economic numbers were released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics on Oct. 2.

"Nonresidential contractors are adding employees and raising hourly pay at rates far exceeding the broader economy," said Ken Simonson, the Associated General Contractors' chief economist. "But filling positions remains a

major concern as the pool of job-seekers with recent construction experience continues to shrink."

U.S. construction employment totaled 8,364,000 in September, an increase of 11,000 from August. Over the previous 12 months, the industry added 109,000 jobs, a gain of 1.3 percent, which outpaced the overall

(Continued on Page 2)

PAUSING FOR A PHOTO outside of the buckhoist he is running at the New Vision project in Lansing is Lewi Coleman of Operating Engineers Local 324. The new downtown tower project is one of many in the Capital region that are keeping the building trades busy.



Viewpoints



Wealth and power

Behind this election’s dominant issue of affordability lies the record concentration of wealth at the top of America. The richest 0.001 percent of Americans – a handful of extraordinarily wealthy men – now control more of the nation’s wealth than at any time in modern history.

To be sure, wealth is not a zero-sum game in which the riches of those at the top necessarily come at the expense of everyone else. But power is a zero-sum game, because the more of it that is held by some people, the less of it is held by others.

Wealth cannot be separated from power. Great wealth becomes great power through campaign contributions, media ownership, the ability to buy off opposition, the capacity to wage public relations campaigns, and the resources to deploy armies of lawyers who litigate on your behalf. Recent years provide abundant illustration of all this.

In these ways, great power also becomes great wealth. It buys changes in laws, regulations, and court decisions that bestow even more wealth on those with the power to alter the system to their benefit – and to siphon off resources from everyone else.

This power shift has also become clearly evident in recent years. In the Trump era it has taken the form of blatant corruption. But the political bribes, billionaire media ownership, PR campaigns, and well-financed litigation predated Trump.

For many years (with the notable exception of the Biden Administration), antitrust enforcement has been defanged to make it easier for big firms to monopolize. Among the most widely discussed findings about the U.S. economy is the rise of corporate concentration since the 1980s. The biggest firms, their top executives, and their major shareholders have all done wonderfully well. Consumers and employees, however, have faced higher prices, lower paychecks, and fewer choices.

At the same time, labor laws have been altered to make it more difficult to organize unions. In the 1950s, more than a third of private-sector workers were unionized. Now, fewer than six percent are.

Tax laws have been changed to reduce the rates and amounts paid by the super-wealthy, to the point where many pay no taxes at all – even though they have more wealth than ever.

This massive power shift is even more starkly illustrated by the billionaires, financial mavens, and tech bros who put Trump in power, who refuse to slow climate change, and who are now deciding on the future of AI and therefore humanity.

The question I keep coming back to is whether this can be reversed. There is historic precedent. After the first Gilded Age – which ran from the 1890s to the start of World War I, and which featured wide inequalities of income, wealth, and political power – America reacted in what came to be known as the Progressive Era.

Starting under Theodore Roosevelt, monopolies were busted up, corporations were regulated, a progressive income tax was enacted, and corporate political donations (bribes) were barred. Then, starting in 1933, under Teddy Roosevelt’s fifth cousin, power continued to be shifted to what became the largest middle class in world history. Then came the 1970s and 1980s, when the process began to go in reverse.

The challenge is arguably much greater today because wealth and power are more concentrated than in the first Gilded Age, creating a chicken-and-egg paradox: How can government enact and enforce the necessary reforms if it’s under the control of a power elite that won’t permit them?

Now, just two weeks from what could be a major political victory for the Democrats in taking back at least one chamber of Congress, this paradox should soon be the center of our national debate.

Robert Reich
Former U.S. Secretary of Labor

Construction outpaces rest of economy

(Continued from Page 1)

0.3 percent increase in total non-farm payroll employment.

Nonresidential construction firms accounted for all of the industry’s job gains, as they added 16,100 employees for the month and 142,000 (+2.9 percent) over the past year. Employment at residential builders and subcontractors combined declined by 4,900 workers in September and 32,800 (-1.0 percent) over the previous 12 months.

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory employees in construction, which covers most onsite craft workers as well as many office staff, increased to \$39.20 per hour in September. That figure is 20.2 percent higher than the \$32.60 average for all private-sector production employees. Construction pay rose 4.3 percent over the past year, compared with a 3.3 percent gain for production workers in the overall private sector, and a 3.0 percent gain for all non-farm workers.

The federal BLS keeps tabs on the number of people actively looking for work who had recent construction experience; and that number shrank to 359,000 last month, a decline of 11 percent, or 45,000, compared to September 2025. The unemployment rate among these jobseekers fell to 3.5 percent, not seasonally adjusted, compared to 3.8 percent a year



WORKING ON HEATING and cooling piping on the fifth floor of the New Vision tower project in Lansing is Scott Wilson of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333. He’s employed by Myers Plumbing and Heating. We will have more information and photos regarding this project in an upcoming edition.

earlier.

“The persistently low unemployment rate among experienced construction workers underscores the difficulty many contractors face in filling open positions,” the Associated General Contractors said.

The AGC cautioned that the construction industry’s outlook depends not only on finding enough workers, “but also on maintaining a strong pipeline of projects,” including highway work “a permitting environment that allows responsible data center projects.”

“Construction firms need both people to do the work and projects to keep those people employed,” said AGC CEO Jeffrey Shoaf. “That means expanding training opportunities, pursuing sensible immigration reforms, investing in the nation’s infrastructure, and avoiding unnecessary barriers to responsible data center development and other job-creating projects.”

The overall U.S. jobless rate was 4.2 percent in September, up 0.1 percent from August, but down from the 4.4 percent rate in September 2025. That left

7.1 million people counted as unemployed last month. Overall the U.S. economy added 29,000 jobs in September, which was below analysts’ expectations and below the prior 12-month average monthly gain of 45,000 jobs. RealPage economist Chuck Ehmman described the U.S. economy as “resilient but sluggish.”

Just joking

A sheepdog returns to the barn and tells the rancher, “I put 70 sheep back into the East pen.”

“But I only have 67 sheep, not 70,” the rancher replies.

The sheepdog gives him a withering look. “I’m aware of that. I rounded them up.”

...

What’s the difference between Dubai and Abu Dhabi?

People from Dubai don’t like the Flintstones, but people from Abu Dhabi do.

...

I had to cancel my bull-fighting lessons. They were charging me too much.

...

My friend went bald a few years ago, but he still carries a comb in his back pocket. He just can’t part with it.”



Nursing home seniors get benefits like it’s 1987

By Jim Hightower

What’s wrong with us? Our nation’s moral compass, I mean.

I don’t like being a downer, just focusing on wrongs, but some

w r o n g s stand out as morally abominable, such as this one.

It’s about hundreds of thousands of our low-income elders who, toward the end of life (when frail and most vulnerable) find themselves cast into a part of the Medicaid system that has been deliberately structured by Congress to subject them to needless deprivations and daily



indignities.

These are our loved ones with serious health problems who need long-term care in nursing homes, and two-thirds of them rely on Medicaid to cover their costs. To get this benefit, they surrender all of their income, which goes to defray their nursing home expenses.

Of course, for a decent existence beyond mere survival, we all rely on a few little things that are basic to our humanity. So, Medicaid authorizes each state to set a monthly “personal needs allowance,” so their elderly patients can cover hygiene and grooming products, a book or CD, a small gift for grandchildren, a chocolate bar, etc.

Good! But then Mr. Mingy walked in. In 1987, Congress set

the minimum for this allowance at a meager \$30 a month – under \$8 a week! Congress has not raised it in the decades since, and most states still provide only a pittance, despite inflation and monopoly price gouging on practically everything.

So, our state and national “leaders” (who freely dole out massive corporate subsidies and tax giveaways to billionaires) are leaving ill seniors with so little spending money that they must ration their toothpaste and scrimp pennies to buy a rare treat from the vending machine.

I know this is small in the global scale of human indignities, but that makes it an even bigger moral failure for our society. It would take so little to do so much for so many.

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The 'Cathedral of Finance' HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy

If you're in downtown Detroit, you appreciate architecture, and you only have time to see the lobby of only one skyscraper, then make it the Guardian Building.

Basically a 40-story work of art on much of the exterior and in its lobby, the Guardian Building was completed in April 1929, near the end of a golden period of construction in Detroit.

Originally funded by its namesake bank – the Union Trust Building – the tower reflected the city's growing influence and prominence, wherein high-rise buildings were visible signs of the city's affluence mostly wrought by Detroit's auto industry.

The Guardian's exterior was predominately comprised of two million eye-catching orange "Guardian" brick – which was unusual for the period, as granite and limestone were often the preferred cladding. But brick was less expensive at the time, and labor was relatively cheap.

Although, along the lower floors of the Guardian ran bands of pink granite, buff Mankato stone, and green, tan, and red-brown glazed tile and terra-cotta that architect Wirt Rowland used to help welcome the small depositors who formed the core of the company's business. The entrances offered more color, much of which came from tiles produced by Detroit's Pewabic Pottery, and featured stepped arches that became the building's primary motif.

The use of cheaper brick left more money available for interior ornamentation. And Rowland went nuts on the interior. In a good way.

"Architect Wirt Rowland of Smith, Hinchman and Grylls blended fine brickwork with glazed tile and terra cotta to explore new combinations of color, texture and form," says its writeup in the *American Institute of Architects Guide to Detroit Architecture*. "Art Deco is the prominent vocabulary. Italian travertine and black marble floors, and gaily colored patterns of mosaic and Pewabic tile, recall the ebullient Twenties. Window figures embody the building's recurring themes of security and fidelity. Nicknamed 'The Cathedral of Finance,' the Guardian was a lightning bolt of spirited inventiveness."

The Union Trust Building was erected at Griswold and Congress streets and went up in a hurry by any standard. First came the demolition of five structures at the site that began in March 1927. W.E Wood was the contractor on the \$12 million tower (\$231 million today).

Architectural historian Paul Goldberger described the Guardian as a "soaring, ebullient affirmation of American optimism and industrial strength." *The New York Times* called it "an Art Deco marvel." The building has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

The amazing lobby is referred to as an Aztec design with an Art Deco theme. Pewabic tiles figures, eagles, stained glass, Italian travertine, Belgian black marble, and blood-red Numidian marble from Tunisia are only part of the



Tradesman file photo

THE 40-STORY, 535-FOOT-TALL Guardian Building in Detroit was primarily clad in orange brick, which was a cheaper building material option when construction began in 1927. "The Guardian remains a magnificent Art Deco landmark, one of the most colorful skyscrapers ever erected," says Joseph Korom in *The American Skyscraper 1850-1940 – A Celebration of Height*. It's a sign of architectural exuberance when an architect employs such a significant amount of exterior decoration 40 stories above the street – difficult to see except from the top of neighboring buildings. Here we get a taste of architectural elements in the Guardian's lobby: bright, geometric and Aztec-inspired patterns.

architectural features. Even the elevator banks are wildly decorated.

"The Guardian Building's lobby is one of the most spectacular Art Deco lobbies in the United States," writes Rebecca Binno Savage and Greg Kowalski in their book, *Art Deco in Detroit*. "The Guardian is an unequalled skyscraper, which recalls the spirit of the Roaring Twenties."

The money for decoration went into the exterior and the lobby: while some executive Guardian floors above are nicely outfitted, most look like floors in any high-rise office building.

The near-collapse of the U.S. banking system and the start of the Great Depression during the last week of October, 1929 burst the bubble of the Union Trust Co., and it failed along with thousands of other U.S. banks during the 1930s. The Union Trust Co. was reorganized into the Union Guardian Trust Co., and the building became known as the Union Guardian. Then it was shortened to the Guardian Building.

The building had numerous tenants over the years, including the reorganized Union Guardian Trust Co., a U.S. Army command center for ordnance production, as offices for Michigan National Bank and then Michigan Consolidated Gas Co.

During a major restoration in 1983, painters had to lie on their backs – a la Michelangelo – to paint the canvas ceiling in the lobby. The painters took care not to saturate the canvas, thereby retaining the lobby's acoustics.

Many of the building's rich



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS on the Union Trust Building – later the Guardian Building – on April 9, 1928.

Photo credit: Detroit Public Library

details disappeared over time – modernization of the air conditioning system, for example, revealed two stained glass windows in the elevator alcoves. There were many extensive renovations over the years, and today the 450,000-square-foot building, owned by Wayne County, has essentially been restored to its original glory.

"The Guardian remains a magnificent Art Deco landmark, one of the most colorful skyscrapers ever erected," says Joseph Korom in *The American Skyscraper 1850-1940 – A Celebration of Height*.

The result of Rowland's design, writes Mike Hope in *Art Deco Architecture*, "is a series of Art Deco public spaces that are unrivalled anywhere in the world, and since their restoration the most complete evocation there is of Art Deco decoration at its gaudy and sumptuous best."



THE GUARDIAN BUILDING and its lavish lobby opened just months before the start of the Great Depression. "This marvel of modern construction suggested that the fortunes of Detroit and the Union Trust Company were on a certain and inexorable rise," wrote Max Chavez in his book, *Art Deco World*. But "the Guardian Building's exuberant explosion of color became a relic of the American optimism of the 1920s, the final gasp of an intoxicating decade."

Photo credit: Michael Barera/Wikipedia Commons

Unions gird for more mugging in the workplace

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pay became that sum plus reimbursing the worker for any extra expenses she shouldered while waiting for the board's ruling, from loans to take care of missed mortgage payments or rent to paying for health insurance to running up credit card debt for all of that, and more.

One of Carey's first acts on becoming general counsel was to remove those pro-worker reimbursements.

Now, according to management-side law firms, who anticipate the moves, Carey wants to dump even more of the Biden-era pro-worker rules. But to keep the changes under the radar, Carey's memo to NLRB regional officials stresses more cases must be settled there, not routed to Washington for review. In the meantime, Carey's on

2025 was great for unions. Relatively speaking.

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Day and beyond," said University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign professor and PMCR Director Robert Bruno.

The researchers also did a dive into the importance of resisting statewide right-to-work laws and doing more to protect laws that increase collective bargaining agreements – because of the benefits they bring.

"To better align with voter preferences, policymakers could consider repealing 'right-to-work' laws and other policies that have weakened unions," Bruno said. "The data conclusively shows these measures have only proven to depress wages for working families struggling with rising costs and to create additional welfare dependence paid for by taxpayers."

Following are some highlights from the report:

- There are 14.7 million union members nationally – that includes the 653,000 members who were added since the low point for numbers among American unions: 14.0 million in 2021.

- Unions raise average wages by 8 percent nationally and by at least 5 percent in 46 U.S. states. In Michigan, the "union wage premium" is 7.0 percent – ranking our state at No. 31.

- Worker earnings grew 3 percent slower in right-to-work states from 2019 to 2025, and workers now earn an average 8 percent less in right-to-work states after adjusting for cost-of-living differences – a wider gap than prior to the pandemic.

- Workers fare better in the 25 states that protect workers' rights to collective bargaining than in the 26 states with right-to-work laws. Union membership rates now average 14 percent in collective bargaining states and 5 percent in RTW states.

- No surprise: it's more difficult to organize union members in right-to-work states. In 2025 collective bargaining states added three times as many union members (nearly 305,000) as "right-to-work" states (almost 107,000).

- Construction remains one of the most unionized job sectors. Among the most organized: public administration: 30.7 percent; transportation and utilities: 20.6 percent; education and health services: 16.0 percent, and construction 11.5 percent.

- In collective bargaining states, average hourly earnings have grown by 33.7 percent since 2019 (not adjusted for inflation). In RTW states, average hourly earnings have increased by 30.6 percent. In 2025, worker earnings averaged \$32.68 per hour in right-to-work states, which was 15.3 percent less than the \$38.57 per hour earned by their counterparts in collective bargaining states.

"The data consistently shows that workers earn higher wages when they are union members and work in states that protect collective bargaining rights," said ILEPI economist and study coauthor Frank Manzo IV. "More Americans are turning to unions as a bulwark against the rising cost of living. While this membership surge has occurred across the country, it has been most significant in states that protect collective bargaining."

the lookout for cases that would allow her office to reverse the Biden-era rules. Other than the reimbursement rule, it hasn't reversed any yet. Now, as of August with Trump finally making appointments to set a new 3-1 GOP NLRB majority, labor law attorneys say Carey can start actively scoping out potential cases to use to reverse the Biden-era protections.

Besides restoring bosses' rights to discipline or even fire workers who won't attend captive audience meetings – where bosses and their union-busters can harangue, threaten and even outright lie about unions – and banning union insignia on uniforms, other items on Carey's agenda include:

- Restoring firms' rights to make "unilateral settlement offers" of cases to the board's administrative law judges, without having to negotiate them with the general counsel or with the union.

- Restoring employers' rights to make wide-ranging predictions, usually during the captive audience meetings or in one-on-one sessions with bosses quiz-

zing workers, about the negative impact of unionization. The only illegal predictions, Carey says, would be those which carry "retaliatory threats" against the workers for unionizing – such as threats to shut down.

- Restoring teeth to so-called "management rights" contract clauses.

- More "latitude" for bosses to have "reasonable work rules" in their employee handbooks, without the requirement that if a worker reads the work rule as infringing on her rights under the law, the work rule is illegal.

What does all this add up to? Sanders said: "It means that it will be far, far harder for workers to exercise their constitutional right to form a union and improve their standard of living."

"It means that during a union election, corporate bosses can illegally fire workers who vote to join a union. It means corporate CEOs have free rein to illegally intimidate and coerce pro-union workers without recourse. It means corporations can aggressively decide not to bargain in good faith with union workers or sign a first contract."

NLRB on path to make sure union insignia goes out of fashion

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affiliation groups.

"Starbucks allowed workers to wear an unlimited number of pins representing partner networks or Black Lives Matters, but it only allowed workers to wear a single union pin," Strom wrote. "Starbucks also prohibited workers from wearing any t-shirts with logos or writing other than t-shirts representing partner networks. Finally, Starbucks prohibited workers from wearing pins or buttons that advocate for a political, religious, or personal issue, again with an exception for partner network pins. Starbucks conceded that this rule would bar buttons advocating for a higher minimum wage."

Two Starbucks workers were threatened with discipline if they refused to remove union t-shirts, so their union filed a charge against Starbucks challenging the union t-shirt ban, the one union pin policy, and the policy against wearing buttons advocating for political, religious, or personal issues. The NLRB found that all three rules were illegal.

The Board found that Starbucks allowed workers to wear so many other pins and adornments that it failed to establish special circumstances that would justify limiting workers to a single union button. Citing a 2017 case involving Tesla before the NLRB, the Board held that Starbucks failed to establish that its rules outweighed the workers' right to wear the insignia. The NLRB similarly found that Starbucks failed to justify the ban on union t-shirts. Starbucks had argued that the ban on t-shirts with logos or writing was necessary to ensure that workers don't "stand out."

Fast forward four years, and on Sept. 2 the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued a ruling refusing to enforce the NLRB's order, essentially upholding Starbucks' position.

"It seems that the Second Circuit judges just couldn't believe that the Supreme Court actually meant what it said about union insignia in *Republic Aviation*," Strom wrote. "To give them the benefit of the doubt, they could have been confused because *Republic Aviation* addressed two different issues – workers' right to wear union insignia, and workers' right to engage in union solicitation at the workplace."

"The Board has long recognized that 'working time is for work.' What this means is an employer may lawfully prohibit all off-topic conversations during working time even if it infringes on workers' right to organize. While an employer may have other legitimate reasons for wanting to restrict the right to wear union insignia, workers should be able to continue focusing on their tasks when working side-by-side with someone wearing a union pin."

And the simple matter of the Supreme Court of 1945 continuing to allow a worker to wear a pro-union pin in the workplace in modern times has become such a threat that workplace apparel is now front and center on the NLRB's agenda.

"NLRB General Counsel Crystal Carey announced her policy objectives and priorities in a memorandum issued to regional offices in late August," said management attorneys Joshua Fox, Daniel Dorson and Rachel Edelson in their Labor Relations Update. "Her objectives include revisiting the standard for evaluating workplace dress code policies."

With the Republican-majority NLRB revising all manner of workplace rules to favor employers, expect union t-shirts and buttons in the workplace to become even more scarce.

"The court remanded the case to the Board with instructions to develop a 'more evenly measured balancing test,'" Strom wrote. "Apart from the fact that a test that gives more weight to employer interests will unnecessarily restrict workers' rights, a murkier test will simply mean that in many cases workers will have no effective right to wear union insignia."

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Mark Aiello



Local 36
Elevator
Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36
DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED; our next regular membership meeting will be **October 26, 2026, at 5:30pm** at 1640 Porter Street Detroit, MI 48216. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

Attention All Members,
Upcoming meetings:
October 19th – Executive Board Meeting at 5pm.
October 26 – General Membership meeting at 5:30pm.
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, there are two enrollment dates, the second enrollment will open September 1, 2026, to October 31, 2026, and effective November 1, 2026. This will be the ONLY chance to sign up for this till 2027. www.IUECVIP.com or call (224) 487-5030.

If you are performing an inspection with the City of Detroit or the State of Michigan that requires testing equipment that must be calibrated, make sure these types of equipment are up to date according to the manufacturers’ specifications and tags or paperwork are with the equipment when performing the inspection.

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 or call the hall.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is vap@iuec.org or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Chairman @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWP National Co-Chair @ 410-312-1474. Locally contact Scott Erison (Local 36 VAP Chair) (586)482-0768 or email him at sanosire1973@gmail.com or Ricky Azzopardi (Local 36 Co-Chair) (586)719-7465 or email him at rickenyardi@yahoo.com if you would like to get involved or have questions.

The Local 36 Veterans Committee is happy to announce its first annual Side by Side Ride, scheduled for Saturday, Oct 17. Registratoin is at 9 a.m., the ride starts at 11 a.m.. This fundraiser is to benefit the Charitable Support Fund at Michigan Veterans Homes at Chesterfield Twp. This event will be held at the Belle River Course. The ride will begin and end at the golf course with dinner to follow. Tickets are \$50 and are cash only. Tickets will be available at the union hall or through Ricky Azzopardi. Ricky is also in the process of securing a second location to purchase tickets. Ricky will keep you all updated through this paper, on Facebook, or if you like you can contact Ricky direct at 586-719-7465 or by email rickenyardi@yahoo.com. Also, if you ride dirt bikes or four wheelers you are more than welcome to join us. The more the merrier!!

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. 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.** 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.

If you are unloading a job and you find the fishplates already attached to the rail, predrilled 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 Mechanics 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 OJT’s till you get your passing results. Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJT’s, 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 a speedy recovery to all the Brothers and Sisters on our sick and injured list.

“In great affairs men show themselves as they wish to be seen; in small things they show themselves as they are.”
–Nicholas Chamfort (1741 - 1794)

“Let us be grateful to people who make us happy: They are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.”
– Marcel Proust (1871 - 1922)

“I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I needed to be.”
– Douglas Adams (1952 - 2001)

“Worrying helps you some—it seems as if you were doing something when you’re worrying.”
– L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

“What is written without effort is in general read without pleasure.”
–Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)



Local 149
Roofers &
Waterproofers

Roofers 149

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

The General Membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, Dec. 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216.

The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for Tues, Dec. 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

The Mid-Michigan Meeting is scheduled for Tues., Apr. 13, 2027, at 6 pm. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Detroit Training Center Information. 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 date of this publication above is 10/12/2026, 2:00pm -In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local No.149

“You can get everything in life you want if you will just help enough other people get what they want.”

–Zig Ziglar (1926-2012)

“Military intelligence is a contradiction in terms.”

– Groucho Marx (1890 - 1977)

“Self-importance is our greatest enemy. Think about it - what weakens us is feeling offended by the deeds and misdeeds of our fellowmen. Our self-importance requires that we spend most of our lives offended by someone.”

–Carlos Castaneda

“The intelligent man finds almost everything ridiculous, the sensible man hardly anything.”

–Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749 - 1832)

“Be to her virtues very kind. Be to her faults a little blind.”

–Matthew Prior (1664 - 1721)

‘Tis the season:
Organized
labor deep
into political
outreach

(Continued from Page 1)

about it by getting out to vote,” said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. “The union vote is going to be essential for winning congressional, gubernatorial and state races, and we’re confident that the number of union members in key states can make the difference to win working family majorities in taking back not only the House but also the Senate.

“But we don’t take anything for granted, and in these final four weeks, we’re laying it all on the line to elect pro-worker candidates – including for a record number of union members.”

The AFL-CIO isn’t counting on all union members to vote for what they consider labor-friendly candidates – usually Democrats.

But regularly, more than 50 percent of union members vote for Dems. For example, in 1984, President Reagan, aided by 35 percent of the union vote, defeated Walter Mondale in a landslide. In 2024, a VoteCast survey after that election conducted for the AP and Fox News found that 57 percent of union households voted for Harris and 41 percent for Trump.

Today, the AFL-CIO reported:

•Internal polling shows that 83 percent of union members are “extremely motivated” to vote in the 2026 midterms – up 10 points from the 2022 midterms.

•The labor federation’s Get Out the Vote operations are running in 140 field offices in 35 states.

•Since Labor Day, union volunteers with the national, state and local AFL-CIO have knocked on more than 700,000 union doors, made more than 2.5 million calls and had conversations at jobsites where unions have unique access to talk to our members. These are in addition to voters contacted through affiliated unions’ field programs, including independent expenditure operations.

•Ongoing is a seven-figure paid digital/streaming media campaign that hyper-targets key union members and householders in 37 key House and Senate races with content featuring real union members’ voices. The digital media program has already reached more than 1.5 million voters with more than 100 million impressions.

•Union POWER, a 50-state election protection program, is training thousands of union volunteers to protect every worker’s right to vote.

•A total of 1,245 candidates who are union members and their family members are running as part of the labor movement’s deliberate and growing effort to put union members on the ballot at every level of government.

The operation, the AFL-CIO said, “is backed by the labor movement’s unique credibility with voters – the most trusted institution in the country, including both political parties. A total of 71 percent of Americans support labor unions – including a majority of Republicans. Union support is at its highest level since the 1950s.” That comes from an annual Gallup survey.

“The stakes have never been higher than they are in this election,” Shuler said. “We have a real opportunity to elect a pro-worker majority that will start to level the playing field for everyday Americans, creating good jobs with better pay and affordable health care, ensuring guardrails on the use of artificial intelligence in the workplace and protecting the things we all depend on, like Social Security and Medicare.

“The labor movement has the credibility and trust to have real conversations with voters in person about what matters most to working people. Workers are ready to fight for an economy, a government and a country for the people, not the billionaires.”

(With reporting from the AFL-CIO)

Election: Tuesday, Nov. 3

Vote in the statewide Michigan General Election.

Here are Building Trades endorsements

Following are candidates endorsed by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its local affiliate councils for the statewide Nov. 3 General Election.

This list will continue to be updated prior to the election. Updates can also be found at www.michiganbuildingtrades.org

Governor: Jocelyn Benson
U.S. Senate: Abdul El-Sayed
Attorney General: Eli Savit
Secretary of State: Garlin Gilchrist
Michigan Supreme Court: Megan Cavanagh, Noah Hood
State Board of Education Trustee: Judy Pritchett, Tiffany Tilley
Michigan State University Trustee: Brianna Scott, Kelly Tebay Zemke
University of Michigan Regent: Paul Brown, Amir Makled
Wayne State University Board of Governors: Shreef Akeel, Richard Mack

U.S. House of Representatives

District 1: Callie Barr	District 10: Christina Hines
District 4: Sean McCann	District 11: Jeremy Moss
District 6: Debbie Dingell	District 13: Donovan McKinney
District 7: Will Lawrence	

Michigan State Senate

District 1: Justin Onwenu	District 13: Sean Carlson
District 2: Abbas Alawieh	District 15: Felicia Brabec
District 4: Darrin Camilleri	District 18: Anthony Pennock
District 5: Matt Koleszar	District 19: Julie Rogers
District 6: Mary Cavanagh	District 21: Sarah Anthony
District 7: Jason Hoskins	District 27: John Cherry
District 8: Dayna Polehanki	District 30: Carol Glanville
District 9: Theresa Brooks	District 31: Chris Kleinjans
District 10: Amanda Treppa	District 32: Rebecca Amidon
District 11: Veronica Klinefelt	District 35: Chedrick Greene
District 12: Kevin Hertel	District 38: Sara Cambensy

Michigan House of Representatives

District 2: Joanna Whaley	District 53: Brenda Carter
District 5: Candace Calloway	District 54: Sarah Pounds
District 6: Melanie Macey	District 55: Alex Hawkins
District 8: Helena Scott	District 56: Sharon MacDonell
District 13: Mai Xiong	District 57: Tom Turner
District 14: Mike McFall	District 58: Katrina Manetta
District 16: Stephanie Young	District 61: Denise Mentzer
District 17 Laurie Pohutsky	District 66: Ned Zimmer
District 18: Kelly Garrett	District 68: Matt Schlinker
District 19: Samantha Steckloff	District 69: Sarah Anthony
District 22: Lisa McIntyre	District 71: Stephen Shlaack
District 23: Jason Morgan	District 73: Julie Brixie
District 27: Jaime Churches	District 74: Harold Pope
District 28: Sherry Berecz	District 75: Penelope Tsernoglou
District 31: Shannon Dare Wayne	District 76: Angela Witwer
District 32: Jimmie Wilson Jr.	District 84: Khristian Silvis
District 38: Joey Andrews	District 86: Joseph McClusky
District 40: Matt Longjohn	District 87: Will Snyder
District 41: Jen Strebs	District 88: Kiel Reid
District 44: Jim Haadsma	District 91: Frank Lafata
District 46: Jan Maino	District 94: Amos O’Neil
District 48: Jennifer Conlin	District 96: Christopher Girard
	District 109: Anna Rink

Greater Detroit Building and Construction Trades Council
Macomb County
39th District Judge, non-incumbent (Fraser): Derek Boedecker
Cippewa Valley Board of Education Trustee: Denise Aquino, Ken Pearl

Oakland County
Oakland County Community College Trustee: Robin McGregor
Oakland County 6th Circuit Judge: Victoria King
Oakland County Probate Judge: Jessica Ann Hallmark (non-incumbent)
47th District Judge (Farmington Hills): Moneka Sanford
51st District Judge (Waterford): Carmen DeFranco
52nd District Judge (Novi): Travis Reeds

Wayne County
Wayne Executive: Warren Evans
Wayne County Commission- Dist. 5: Angelique Peterson-Mayberry
Detroit Board of Education Trustee: Bessie Harris, Theodore Jones, Jameel Montgomery Smith, Terry Whitfield
River Rouge Treasurer: Mike Bowdler

Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees: Brian Broderick, Jackie Coleman, Candy Little

Genesee, Lapeer, Shiawassee Building Trades Council
Flint City Mayor: Sheldon Neeley
Genesee County Probate Court Judge: Ashley Prew, Andrea L. LeGendre
67th District Court Judge (Fenton area): Cheryl A. Lopez

Upper Peninsula Building Trades Council
Marquette County Commission- District 1: Cody Mayer
Marquette County Commission- District 3: Jenna Smith
Ishpeming City Council: Collin Fleury (IBEW Local 906 member)
Gladstone School Board: Brandon Langenfeld (SMART Local 7 member)
Masonville Twp. Trustee: Travis Cary (IUPATDC Local 7 member)

Washtenaw Skilled Building Trades Council
Washtenaw County Probate Court Judge: Alethia Battles
Ann Arbor Mayor: Yousef Rabhi
Ann Arbor City Council: Sandy Aldrich, Jennifer Cornell, Ashley Hall, Cynthia Harrison, Aidan Sovo
Ann Arbor School District Board of Education: John Benson, Becca Hogan, Racheal Goldberg, Cassie Haynes, Gaurav Kulkarni, Rima Mohammad, Aaron J. Puno, Brandon Smith
Ann Arbor District Library Board: Racheal Goldberg, Cassie Haynes, Gaurav Kulkarni
Saline Mayor: Brian Marl

Southeast Building Trades Council
City of Jackson
Mayor: Derek Dobies
Jackson Board of Education: Tabitha Williams
Jackson School Board: Tabitha Williams
12th District Court Judge: George Lyons, Stormie Megee
Lansing Building Trades Council
Delta Township Supervisor: Andrea Cascarilla

The Building Tradesman

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Greg Herman President

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



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

UA Local 190
ANN ARBOR
SPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING: Please note the regular union meeting on Nov. 9 has been cancelled.

A Special Called Union Meeting is scheduled for WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. All members are urged to attend.

1st ANNUAL TRUNK-OR-TREAT - OCT. 24: Local 190's Entertainment Committee (Janie Ivey, Nate Knapp, Robert Cazan, Chico Thumudo, Brian Keating, Ralph Booth and Lori Joseph) will be hosting our 1st Trunk-Or-Treat with the IBEW 252 Local, Saturday, Oct 24 from 5-8 p.m. at the Union Hall.

Bring your decorated trunk and enjoy in all the festivities, we will be supplying the candy to pass out. There will be the Best Trunk Contest, Best Costume contest for kids 12 and under, games for all ages and a movie. Everyone is welcome, bring friends, neighbors and relatives. To reserve your parking spot please contact Melissa Wood at (734) 424-0962 ext. 200 Set up will start at 4 p.m.

MEDICARE INFORMATION MEETING: will take place at the Union Hall on Friday, Oct. 23 at 10 a.m. Blue Cross Blue Shield representatives and Bernadette Maus will be at this meeting to address any questions you might have.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION UNION MEETING: is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to Noon at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort, 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Mt Pleasant, MI. Hope to see you there!

UNION HALL CLOSED: For the Thanksgiving holiday the office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – 5th ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOR ALL: This year, UA Local 190 will provide 250 turkey dinners to families in need around Washtenaw Co. We need volunteers for putting together these meals and distribution to the families. There are two volunteer dates. First date is Saturday, Nov. 14 at 9:30 a.m. at the UA Local 190 Training Center: 8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, breakfast will be served and then we will assemble individual dinner packages.

Second date is Saturday, Nov. 21 at 9:30 a.m. will be distribution day (Karen will let you know location to report at 9:30 a.m.), we will be handing out the Thanksgiving Meal boxes to the families. We need 18 volunteers for each day, please contact Karen at 734-424-0962 ext. 210 to sign up. Let's all make this a great event!

REQUALIFICATION WELDING TEST: The following dates there will be a requalification weld test for Consumers Energy, DTE and Senco Energy at Local 190's Training Center located at 8040 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor MI.

Monday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 4

Monday, Dec. 7 through Friday, Dec. 11

Also please be aware there is a policy change with Consumers Energy and Senco. Welders must not exceed two calendar years between performing initial qualification requirements for all qualifications held. Please contact Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432 to schedule your test date, first come first serve!

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.

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

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 detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms."

ANNUAL PHYSICALS need to be completed by Oct. 31, 2026. Please remember to bring in the 2026 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus maus@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: Members 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.

MEDICARE: When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-390-7473.

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

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

Available Journeyman classes:

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.**

Welding Lab: is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday & Thursday nights from 4-8:30pm. closed for the holidays. There is limited space and first come first served. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. **2026/2027 schedule:** course to be announced later.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be **Winter/Spring 2027**. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: **2027 course to be announced later.** Please register through the website: ua190.org

Michigan 2024 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** (Continued next column)



Local 85
Plumbers & Steam Fitters

UA Local 85
SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2026**, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 PM.

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

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

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

Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330
csteele@ualocal85.org

(Continued next column)

Local 190, con't

Plumber, can register for the Michigan 2024 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.

Hiring: Full-Time Plumbing Instructor. The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC is seeking a full-time plumbing instructor for a highly important and stable year-round teaching position serving apprentices and journeymen pursuing upgrade training. This role is more than a classroom assignment, it is an opportunity to pass on proven trade knowledge, strengthen the future workforce, and help shape the next generation of skilled plumbing professionals.

The successful candidate will teach day and evening classes, support hands-on learning, and play a key role in preparing students for long-term success in a trade that remains essential to commercial, industrial, health care, data-center, and advanced construction markets. Candidates should have strong knowledge of the Michigan Plumbing Code, excellent communication skills, and proficiency in math and computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, and PowerPoint). Teaching experience is preferred. Travel is required throughout the year for instructor training through the UA ITF regional training program.

Responsibilities include:
Teach plumbing-related apprenticeship and journeyman-upgrade courses
Prepare lesson plans, demonstrations, and hands-on laboratory exercises

Evaluate student performance and maintain required records
Maintain a safe, professional, and respectful learning environment
Assist with curriculum development and updates

Maintain training equipment, materials, and classroom resources
Participate in instructor training and professional development
Mentor apprentices and help address individual learning needs
Remain current on plumbing codes, technology, and industry practices

The ideal candidate will hold the following credentials:
State of Michigan Plumbing License
Medical Gas Certification
ASSE Backflow Certification
Candidates must also have, or be willing to obtain, the following:
State of Michigan Master Plumbing License
Associate's degree in industrial training

This list is not final or exhaustive; additional coursework will be required as technology and trade practices continue to evolve. This position is paid at the UA Local 190 Journeyman Foreman rate and includes a full benefits package. Please submit your resume, Michigan plumbing license, transcripts, and certification documents to the UA Local 190 Training Center by **Dec. 1, 2026**. Qualified candidates selected for further consideration will be contacted for a scheduled interview after the December deadline.

RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US: The next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Nov. 5 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.

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

Andre Alexander, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515
aalexander@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. 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
SUB Application for Benefits: Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at the Hall.

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:
Address & Phone Update: Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone number changes at (989) 799-5261.
Beneficiary Cards: Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261.

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.
Insurance: When you are working out of another Local's jurisdiction, it may take up to 90 days for your Insurance and Pension to be reciprocated back to Local 85, which may cause problems with your Health Insurance. **ALWAYS SAVE YOUR CHECK STUBS** and fax them in to the hall at 989-791-3468 with the local you are working out of indicated. We will fax them down to BeneSys to keep your insurance up to date.

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, **Nov. 10, 2026** at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 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 Walter Siegel Jr. who passed away on September 18, 2026.
Fraternally,
Justin M. Pomerville
Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Local Union 85

"Never put off until tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow."
— Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"Never confuse movement with action."
—Ernest Hemingway (1899 - 1961)



Local 636
Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,
Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

DETROIT – Our **next Regular Meeting** will be at **7:00 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2026** at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Drive) Southfield, MI 48075.

PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 636 ONLINE MERCHANDISE STORE IS LIVE! Sign into the members section on our website 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.

Get Well Wishes to; Daniel Albergo, Rebecca Blair, Douglas Detomaso, Michael Ferrante, Daniel Foltz, Jacob Giacobbi, Jonathon Grinter, Ryan Hartmann, Winston Jones, Michael Kovak III, Anthony Lumetta, Ian Martin, Jason McKim, Roger Pruitt, Allen Snider Jr, David Stone, Jeremel Ducharme, Mike Marshall.

Congratulations to Connor and Gina Stennett on the birth of their daughter Emma on Sept. 29, 2026. Congratulations to Kelly Buskirk on the birth of her 1st grand child Rylana born Sept. 20, 2026 to Adam & Caitlyn Pascoe.

DUES – 3rd 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. Go to 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 Oct. 15. 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 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. -*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.

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. His number is **248-540-2091** or email jason.may@ml.com

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. The customer service number for Empower is **833-569-2433**. For account information please create log in at empowermyretirement.com or download the Empower mobile app.

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 **mustbsafe.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.

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 maintains offices in Sterling Heights, Livonia, Southgate and Novi. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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

www.ssdfighter.com



Local 370
Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters
and HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2026 at 7 p.m.** Retiree Breakfast will be Monday, Nov. 9 at 9:00a.m.

Great Lakes National Cemetery Headstone Cleaning will be Saturday, Oct. 17. We are going to meet at Local 370 Union Hall at 8:30a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2026 Local 370 will host our annual Service Award banquet and Holiday celebration. The location will be at our hall at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. Cock-tail hour will begin at 5 pm. The service award ceremony will begin at 6:00 with dinner following. Please call Karla or Kyara at the hall to reserve your spot for a night of dinner, dancing and celebrating members’ years of service and the Christmas Holiday.

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. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

October Welding: Oct. 5 thru Oct. 28. Mondays and Wednesdays. 4:30p.m.–7:30p.m.

October Welding: Oct. 6 thru Oct. 29. Tuesdays and Thursdays. 4:30p.m.–7:30p.m.

Rigging: Sept. 8 thru Oct. 8. 4-7:30p.m. Testing Oct 12-16.

Boiler 101: Oct. 5, 7, 19, and 21. 5-8:00p.m.

CSD-1: Nov. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. 5-8 p.m.

November Welding: Nov. 2 thru Nov. 25. Mondays and Wednesdays. 4:30p.m.-7:30p.m. *Days subject to change.

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, Nov. 10, 2026 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday Nov. 10, 2026 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2026 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2026 at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2026 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee -Tuesday, Nov. 10, 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 MUSTBSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form

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

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

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

Attention All Active Members in Good Standing: The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense.

Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC.

(Continued next column)



Local 357
Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters &
HVAC Service

UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO – **UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, Nov. 13** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 6:00.

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

RETIREE MEETINGS: On the 1st Monday of every month, retired members can meet for Breakfast that will commence at 9:00 am at **The Crew**, at 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone no. for the location is (269) 337-9800.

We are also planning a Retiree Breakfast at the Union Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 9am. A postcard has gone out with the details. Call Lori at the Union Hall (269) 679-3708 to RSVP by Oct. 16. **Note that this DOES NOT replace the 1st of the monthly retiree breakfast noted above.**

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 Levi Penning and family on the birth of a son, Greyson.

Congratulations to Joseph Mony on his recent marriage.

Local 370, con’t

Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact Local 370 JATC.

Mobile App. Our mobile app. is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search **UA Local 370**. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.

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

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 available. The sweat shirts are \$30 and the long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.

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

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



Plumbers Local 98

UA Local 98

DETROIT Membership of Plumbers Local 98.

Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2026 at 6:00pm. It’s also Turkey Night!

The next board meeting is Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 4:30pm. The Executive Board meetings are *generally* held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30pm and before all Union Meetings.

Retiree Luncheon: The next retiree luncheon is **Wednesday, November 11, 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.

Save the Dates: Thursday, November 5th, Executive Board Meeting; Thursday, November 12th Regular Monthly Meeting plus Turkey Night; Monday, November 30th 5pm to 8pm Annual Wrapping Party; Tuesday, December 1st 5pm to 8pm Children’s Christmas Party. Look for updates in the Tradesman article, check Local 98 website, Facebook and Instagram pages for updates.

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.

NOMI is part of our health care benefits which started August 1, 2026. The NOMI Health Network is an additional power network to make your healthcare experience more accessible, affordable and tailored to your unique needs. Information has been mailed to our active membership, under 65 and do not have retiree Humana health care. Any questions, please call BeneSys for additional information.

Benefit Update: To better serve you, Local 98 has changed record keepers for our Defined Contribution plan from BeneSys to Empower. Empower can be reached at (833) 569-2433. We have also changed our HRA tracking portal. Any questions on setting up your new accounts please call an officer. In addition, the monthly status reports will only include the past hours and contributions reported since the previous statement. To check your balances please go to fund-office.lh1ondemand.com The username is your first initial last name and last four of social security number. For additional information please call the hall or BeneSys.

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 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.

Membership Dues Reminder: Friendly reminder to stay up-to-date on your membership dues to avoid suspension fees and/or being expelled. You may do auto deduction, pension deduction, pay online, pay in person or call the hall.

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. This also includes notifying the hall for jury duty, bereavement, short term disability and worker’s compensation. *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 agen-

cies 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.

Additional information can be found at www.ualocal98.org, Facebook and Instagram.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Hall Operating Hours 8am to 4pm

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

Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 dnixon98@ualocal98.org

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

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

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

Jeff Kavalal, Business Agent (313)938-1554 jkavalal@ualocal98.org

Luke Garcia, Organizer (248) 763-2187 lgarcia@uanet.org

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

10/12/2026

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435 www.Plumbers98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, Dec. 18th, 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 the Training Center** to register.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for November 10th, 2026, we have two available evenings to come in and practice for it, Wednesday October 28th, and Wednesday November 4th. **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 2027. *All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only.*

All Spring classes will begin the week of March 1st, 2027 with a deadline to register by Friday, February 12th, 2027.

All Fall classes will begin the week of September 6th, with a deadline to register by Friday, August 13th, 2027.

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 January 19 & 20 Deadline is December 24, 2026

4 hour recert class April 20 & 21 Deadline is March 26, 2027

4 hour recert class July 20 & 21 Deadline is June 25, 2027

4 hour recert class October 19 & 20 Deadline is September 24, 2027

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

ASSE Repairer: * Prerequisite: Must hold a current (Continued next column)**



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, October 29th at 7:30 PM will be a Special Called Meeting for nominations for all elected positions. All members are encouraged to attend and participate in this important meeting.

2026-2027 CERTIFICATION/UPGRADE CLASS SCHEDULE is now available on the lu111.com website. Please contact Training Coordinator John Antoncew for registration or questions.

ONLINE REFERRAL PROGRAM will go into effect on **June 1, 2026.**

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 shut-downs should contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba Office. Call the Escanaba or Marquette Office for updates: Layoff Line – Extension #7. All job calls will be posted via our new **online referral program**. The user guide, along with mobile app and desktop login instructions, are available on the website at **lu111.com**. If you have any questions, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher Scott Pendergraft.

MRA FUND: Members are reminded that the Local 111 Health & Welfare Fund’s Medical Reimbursement Account covers **eligible expenses** such as copays, deductibles, coinsurance, eligible self-pay medical costs, non-covered dental and vision services, non-covered medical services and prescriptions, and durable medical equipment.

The MRA **does not** cover home exercise equipment, sporting equipment, hot tubs, saunas, mattresses or bedding, beauty products, recurring memberships, fitness trackers, vitamins, vacations, or other expenses that are primarily for general health and wellness. Please refer to the Summary of Material Modifications (SMM) for complete details or **contact the Fund Office at (866) 823-4730 with any questions.**

MRA cards can no longer be used for purchases through the on-line FSA Store or other vendors that use the same merchant category codes. Eligible items may still be purchased from these websites using another form of payment and submitted for reimbursement according to plan rules.

This change helps ensure compliance with plan guidelines and prevent ineligible purchases. Your MRA card may continue to be used for eligible expenses at approved providers and merchants.

For any questions or assistance, please contact the Fund Office at **866-823-4730.**

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.

NEW HEARING HEALTH BENEFIT: UA members have access to an exclusive hearing healthcare program through Amplifon Hearing Health Care. The program includes discounted hearing aids, a free hearing exam, a 60-day risk-free trial, warranty coverage, and follow-up care. To learn more about this valuable member benefit, check out page 45 of the *UA Journal* magazine or contact Amplifon at 866-488-3873

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.

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 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 under the MSHA Calendar.

Plumbers 98, continued

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 1st Saturday of the month.** If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **Welding and Brazing sessions** will be November 7th, 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 . 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. **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.

“Mankind have a great aversion to intellectual labor; but even supposing knowledge to be easily attainable, more people would be content to be ignorant than would take even a little trouble to acquire it.” –Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

“There are two kinds of light--the glow that illuminates, and the glare that obscures.”

–James Thurber (1894 - 1961)



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE CHANGE: The November membership meeting will be changed to Monday, Nov. 2, 2026 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. This is due to Election Day being on 11/3/26. 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, Nov. 5, 2026** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Condolences: It is with sadness that brother Joseph Balcom passed away 9/30/26. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Health Plan Open House: Local #174 Board of Trustees will host an open house with our health fund professionals on Thursday, Nov. 12 from 6-8pm to discuss the upcoming transition to Priority Health. Members and spouses are invited; drinks and snacks will be provided.

Hiring New Organizer: The Michigan Pipe Trades is currently accepting resumes for an organizer. Any UA journeyman member from Michigan can apply. If you have any questions or are interested in applying, please contact Ryan Bennett.

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.

Local 174 Peer Support Group: Sometimes talking with people who understand makes all the difference. Join fellow Local 174 members for an **anonymous, judgment-free, Peer Support Group at 6:00 PM the Tuesday after each Union Meeting.** Come talk, listen, share, or just be there. There is **strength in numbers** – the more members who participate, the more experiences, perspectives, and support we bring to the room. **No pressure. No judgment. Members supporting members.** Reach out to Chairs Phillips or Josh Herrick with any questions.

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.

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 1st, 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.

Organizing Update: *It seems the non-union worker is being told that if you're a union member you can't receive unemployment, you know that's the furthest from the truth. The non-union shops are doing their best to combat their workers from leaving or starting a union right there.*

Things like becoming employee owned, another tactic, even though they can't tell their workers exactly what that equates to, while we can because we have a defined pension. Knowledge is power and the more the unrepresented worker knows what we as members get, better wages

with opportunities and a voice... the better off we'll all be! I appreciate everyone's support and as always, thank you! 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.

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
*New rates reflected below effective 9/1/26.

Current Health Insurance Premiums:
Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,300
Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$926.00 with Non-Medicare Spouse/Dependents
Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$582.00 with Medicare Spouse/Dependent
Medicare Single \$123.63
Medicare Couple \$247.26
Medicare with Pre-Med care Spouse \$497.13
Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

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@ual174.org which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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 and the Lakeshore have merged their meetings and are now held on 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 pm in Local 174's Assembly Hall.

All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact Nathan Phillips for details.

Training News:
ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to the following apprentices on fulfilling their apprenticeship obligations and becoming Local 174's most recent Journeyman! Matthew Boomer, Hunter Cunningham, Eric Goodman, Robert Grant, Nathan Morell, Cameron Patin.

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

ASSE Recertification: Testing will be November 4th @ 5pm. ASSE requires 8 hours of training prior to test.

TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE FIELD: Build computer (Continued next column)



UA Local 671

MONROE – The next Union meeting will be held on Nov. 19, 2026, at 7pm. The Executive Board will also have a meeting on Nov. 19, 2026, at 5pm. If anyone would like to come in front of the E-Board, please contact the Union Hall.

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.

Training: Open weld nights are currently ongoing every Thursday evening when there is not a scheduled weld test or union meeting. Call Justin about availability. The Next scheduled weld test is set for Thursday November 5th. There will also be a Back flow re-certification class in November. Date TBD.

Congratulations: to brother Colin Andrus and his wife Kelsey on the birth of their son Rhett Jeffery Andrus 10/07/26.

Health & Welfare: We have launched a new website for our Health and Welfare. You should have received a notice in the mail about accessing the new website. You will be able to access important documents, and you are able to submit forms and other materials electronically using the secure website. For questions or help getting logged on contact Greg Smith at TIC at 517-327-2148.

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. There will be a new platform for the app coming soon. Stay informed about what's going on in the Local by using the app.

In Closing: As many of you are aware, hunting seasons are here. As we head to the woods, fields and lakes please be diligent and safety conscious. Whether in a blind, boat or tree be aware of your surroundings and practice good safety habits. Also, the midterm elections are quickly approaching. Make sure you are registered to vote. Hopefully you have received a list of our Labor- friendly, endorsed candidates in the mail. If you have any questions, please reach out to me and I will do my best to answer any questions.

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com

Kirk Lavoy: email: Kirk@ualocal671.com

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

Local 174, con't

skills for using technology in the field. Required before taking Mechanical Drafting. Dates: November 9–December 9, 2026, Mondays and Wednesdays.

PLUMBING CODE PREP CLASS: Prepare for the Michigan Journeyman Plumbing Exam. October 22 and 29; November 5, 12, and 19, 2026 5-8pm. Master exam prep will be November 24.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month – unless otherwise noted), from 5-9 pm. The next class will be held Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026.

WELD TEST: Capability demonstration will be Tuesday, Nov. 10 and the test event to follow Thursday, Nov. 12 at 5pm.

OPEN WELD: Available on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month; Watch the Facebook 'Local Union 174 Members' group page for any updates.

RIGGING: Class was postponed due to low enrollment. Class is scheduled for mid February.

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 Megan Colborn if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris) / Megan @ (616)837-0222 x30. Or via text Chris (906)322-1592 / Megan (231)288-8329.



UA Local 333

LANSING – October's union meeting will be held in Battle Creek, Oct. 21, 2026, at the IBEW Local Union 445 Hall, 4071 W. Dickman Rd, Springfield, MI. 49037. Meeting will start at 6:30pm.

November's union meeting will be held Nov. 18, 2026, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911 at 6:30pm.

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, please request new beneficiary paperwork if changes need to be made.

Congratulations to Jackson member and former Region 2 Business Agent Brian Brannick on becoming a Life member on Sept. 21, 2026.

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.

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, 10 weeks starting September 9, 2026, for all three Regions.

Lansing: Monday and Wednesday 4:30pm – 8:30pm. Tuesday and Thursday 4:30pm – 8:30pm. 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI 48906

Jackson: Monday and Wednesday 4:30pm – 8:30pm. Tuesday and Thursday will open only if Mon/Wed class fills. Limit 8 people. 3101 Allied Industrial Dr., Jackson, MI 49201

Battle Creek: Monday and Thursday 4:30pm – 8:30pm. Limit 12 people

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

Tube Bending Rigging: INDUSTRIAL RIGGING/SIGNALPERSON – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATES TBD 4:30 – 8:30PM. **need 6 people to hold class

INDUSTRIAL RIGGING/SIGNALPERSON – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATES TBD 4:30 – 8:30PM. **starting October 2026, rigging/signaling recertification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Backflow: ASSE BACKFLOW – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 4:30-8:30 PM. **must have a Journeyman plumber license and 5 years of piping experience or be in the 5th year of apprenticeship.

ASSE BACKFLOW – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 4:30-8:30PM **starting October 2026, ASSE Backflow certification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Medical Gas Installer: MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER – NEW CERT – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs). 5:00 – 8:00PM

MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER – RENEWAL – FALL 2026 DATE TBD (Tues & Thurs) 5:00 – 8:00PM **starting October 2026, med gas certification classes will only be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Pipefitting: LANSING: ADVANCED PIPEFITTING & LAYOUT – OCT 2026 DATE TBD ** must be a 2nd year or greater

JACKSON: ADVANCED PIPEFITTING & LAYOUT – OCT 2026 DATE TBD ** must be a 2nd year or greater

PIPEFITTING FUNDAMENTALS – OCT 2026 DATE TBD

Tube Bending: TUBE BENDING CLASS – OCT 2026. **must have 6 people to hold class

Trimble Robotic Station: TRIMBLE ROBOTIC STATION – OCT 2026 DATE TBD. ** limit to 6 people per class.

Blueprint Interpretation. Reading: INTO TO BLUE-BEAM – OCT 2026 DATE TBD. **limit of 6 people per class

Basic First Aid: BASIC FIRST AID – 1 NIGHT 4 HOUR CLASS – WILL SCHEDULE WHEN A MIN 6 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP

CPR: CPR – 1 NIGHT 4 HOUR CLASS – WILL SCHEDULE

October 16, 2026

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7

Local 704 Sprinkler Fitters



UA Local 704

SOUTHFIELD – The next regular business meeting will be held on Wednesday Nov. 11, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Any member interested in joining the local 704 hockey team please contact Mark Micolò at 248-841-5233

Congratulations to brother Steven Lee and his wife Juliana on their recent marriage Sept 18, 2026.

Local 704 will be hosting a health gauge event on Oct. 24 2026, see the website for a sign-up link. This service is open to members, spouses and dependents over the age of 18.

Local 704 will be having trunk or treat Oct. 24 from 6-8pm at the union hall parking lot. RSVP's through the link on the website are requested so that we know how many spaces to set aside and how many kids to plan for.

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 (2) 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 333, con't

ULE WHEN A MIN OF 6 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED UP

Please note for all certifications: 2 weeks before class begins, you will be notified of all class details. Please note moving forward, classes will be held quarterly. Please plan accordingly.

Please note for all certifications: Per the UA as of Jan. 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.

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. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326 or call your respective agent or Dustin at the Union Hall.



Boilermakers 169

ALLEN PARK – ATTENTION DATE CHANGE - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will take place on **Nov. 6, 2026 at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall, 1755 Fairlane Dr., Allen Park, MI. 48101.**



MICHAEL CARD

We have a very busy outage season coming this fall, let's keep safety and quality number one this season and show our owners and contractors why Local 169 is there best choice.

Congratulations to a member that was missing on the list, but just as important as all the other members who hit milestones this year. I am sorry if anyone else was overlooked. Pins will be mailed out soon. **60 years – Richard (Spanky) McEachran Local 169 Scholarship Winner.** Zeniya Dean, daughter of member Zerbin Dean, won 1st place. We congratulate her and wish her continued success in college.

We want to stress every year we do this competition and only 1-2 people apply. We should encourage all graduating children of current members to apply. It's money that will help them incur a bit less debt through their college career.

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

Any member interested in getting the Great Lakes Safety background 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.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons :

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

Area 2 Retirees hold luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11 am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant, at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon. 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 Oct. 21 at The Auburn Hotel and Tavern, 101 W. Midland Road, Auburn, MI. 48611. 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 in all sizes will be arriving at the Union Hall soon. The cost is \$50 XL and smaller \$55 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 or on our Facebook page.

CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL
Aluminum - Copper - Brass
Nickel - Alloys - Carbide
Radiators - Lead - Batteries
McNichols
Scrap Iron & Metal Co.
6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott)
mcnicholsscrap.com
(313) 365-6100
Detroit
Iron & Metal Co.
8300 Dix (corner Lonyo)
detroitironandmetal.com
(313) 841-5100



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – The October Union Meeting is Monday, Oct. 26, 2026 at 7 pm and will be IN PERSON ONLY. All Union Halls will be open. We would like to encourage members to come in person to the October meeting for solidarity & fellowship! 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).

The Flint Steward meeting will be Oct. 21 at 6:30 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, Oct. 26 at 6 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 29 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT AND HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL ON Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026 from 8 am to 2 pm NEW TIME. If you have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494. Walk-ins are welcome! 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.

The cut-off for any early checks before the freeze period takes place is Oct. 28, 2026 and this will be the last early check processing before the semi-annual disbursement for Dec. 5, 2026.

December vacation check schedule: The last day to call to have your December vacation check pulled for in-person pick up is Monday, Nov. 30, 2026 at Noon. Pulled checks will be available at the Novi Hall Thursday, Dec. 3, 2026 after 2 pm. All other checks will be mailed to you by the end of business day on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2026. **All members that a receive ACH deposits, your vacation check will be on deposit Friday, Dec. 4, 2026.** All Vacation checks will be dated Saturday, Dec. 5, 2026.

Apprentice applications accepted electronically. Visit our website (ironworkers25.org) where you can apply online, make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; 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 the 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); 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. **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 1-30).**

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 (where you can create a log-in)

Check you online benefit information: 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’s** meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 10 am. The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on WEDNESDAY, Nov. 4 at 8 am. All are welcome.

The **West Michigan Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** expected to be Jan. 21, 2027; 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 expected to be January 15, 2027, at Mom’s Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

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

Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan: www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/ Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041 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 (English & Spanish). Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT: <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text **HOME** to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

In Memory: Randal “Randy” Smith #893190 passed away September 29, 2026 at the age of 73. He was a 53-member of Local 25 and will be missed by his fellow ironworkers. JIW Shawn Gleason passed away September 30, 2026 at the age of 46. He was a 28-year member of Local 25. He is survived by his wife Vanessa & daughter Charlotte; His dad is Patrick “Shorty” Gleason #922938 and his mom former L-25 secretary Rise Gleason. He was predeceased by his grandfather Eldon Gleason #490133; he will be greatly missed by his fellow ironworkers. Russell Thayer #964047 passed away Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at the age of 87. He was a 50-year member of Local 340/25. His wife Elaine predeceased him. He is survived by his grandson JIW Randy Thompson #1663206. Paul Fortier #1164276 passed away August 26, 2026 at the age of 87. He was a 37-year member, survived by his wife Nancy. Edward Rieves #804183 passed away September 16, 2026 at the age of 88. He was a 58-year member, survived by his wife Alice. Carol Lewis passed away October 4, 2026 at the age of 93. She was the wife of the late Dewey Lewis #55515 & mother of Larry Lewis #930141. **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 (Oct 12, 2026 1:00 pm E.S.T.).



Michigan Painters District Council 1M

Panters DC 1M

WARREN – Dear Members,

DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org

DC 1M UNION CARDS*

Any questions regarding lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries

or if you have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:

Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

ROBERT GONZALEZ

FTI UP-

GRADE CLASSES. Warren FTI School- October 10th: Silica/Asbestos Awareness

Owosso FTI School- October 13th, 14th, 15th: LIFT TRAINING 5pm

October 17th LIFT TRAINING 9am

ONE UNION. ONE FAMILY. ONE FIGHT

OUT OF WORK/ BACK TO WORK: To keep work place-

ment efficient, please notify the office when you are laid off or going back to work.

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357

WARREN – Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be on Monday, November 2nd at 5pm. Please make it a priority to attend.

On Saturday Sept. 19 we had our 4th annual STAR safety picnic. Even with the rain coming down hard all day we still managed to have a great event. Thank you to the over 500 brothers, and sisters that took the time to attend. Congratulations to everyone who took the training throughout the year, and made this event a big success.

We had Union Tiger Game Day on Sept. 19. It was well attended by our DC1M Council group with over 300 of our brothers and sisters watching Verlander pitch for the last time. Thank you for coming out.

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.

Apprenticeship School is back in session. If you have a question about your schedule please reach out to Frank Tate, the apprenticeship coordinator.

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued next column)



District Council 1M

Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m.

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

Local Union 514

Business Rep: Scott Mikulen

Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826

Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman

Meeting date: 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

Business Rep – Ed Bracamontes

Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

Local Union 1052

Business Rep – Jake Fluty

Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovall

Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352

Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland

Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

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

Local Union 2353

Business Rep: Tony Parker

Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

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



Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 3, at 6:00p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 5:45 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Local 357 cont’d

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

– **Business Rep. Don Stepp**

“We hate some persons because we do not know them; and we will not know them because we hate them.”

– Charles Caleb Colton (1780 - 1832)

Laborers' International Union of North America

LIUNA! LOCAL 1191
Feel the Power

Laborers Local 1191

(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

DETROIT – Get Out to Vote in the 2026 State of Michigan General Election (Nov. 3, 2026). YOUR VOTE COUNTS!!

Get Registered to Vote: Get Registered to Vote by Monday, Oct. 19, 2026 online at <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voting/register-to-vote>. Michigan voters are encouraged to register as early as possible before an election.

Methods and requirements for voter registration depend on the following deadlines: If there are 15+ days before an election, voters can register online, by mail, or in person. Within 14 days of an election, and on Election Day, voters may only register by visiting their local clerk’s office to register in person with proof of residency documentation. Voters can check their voter registration status and look up their local clerk information at <https://www.michigan.gov/vote>.

Early in-person voting: Early in-person voting is available now! Find your early voting sites at <https://www.michigan.gov/vote>.

Absentee Ballots: A registered voter in Michigan may request an absentee ballot to cast a vote in the 2026 General Election. Request an absentee ballot online at <https://www.mvnc.sos.state.mi.us>, by mail or in-person at your local clerk’s office. **Voters must submit an absentee application form by 5 pm on the Friday before the election (although it is recommended that you apply at least 2 weeks before Election Day to avoid mail and processing delays).** Ballots must be received by local clerk’s office by 8pm on Election Day (Tuesday, November 3, 2026) to be counted.

Vote in-person on Election Day (Nov. 3, 2026): At your local polling location. Please visit <https://www.michigan.gov/vote> to find your local polling location. **In order to vote in person, voters will need to either bring photo ID (or an alternate acceptable ID) or sign an affidavit verifying their identity and stating they are not in possession of picture ID at the polling site.** Affidavits can be challenged if there is a reason to disbelieve a voter’s attestation. If someone is found to have lied on such an affidavit, their vote is thrown out. It is illegal to lie on such an affidavit, and the voter will also face legal consequences.

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 Mon-Fri 8 AM – 4 PM to provide necessary contact information.

Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org and the “**Laborers’ Local 1191**” Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

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

All Monthly General Membership Meetings: are held on the first Friday of every month at 7 PM at the Local Union, 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 General Membership Meeting for November 2026 will be held on Friday, Nov. 6 at 7 PM. The December Membership Meeting will be held on Friday, Dec. 4, 2026 at 7 PM (Note: At the Dec. 4 Membership Meeting there will be a holiday meal served to all Members in Good Standing in attendance).

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: are held on the last Friday of each month at 11 AM at the Local Union, at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The October Retiree Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 30, 2026, at 11 AM. (Note: The October Retiree Council Meeting is the last meeting of the 2026 calendar year. At the October 2026 meeting, a nice holiday meal will be served to all Local 1191 Retiree Council Members present).**

Union Dues For 2026: Regular monthly dues are **\$35.00 for Active Members.** Retiree monthly dues will remain the same at **\$8.00.** Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org!!! To make online dues payments, click the “Pay Dues” tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments **timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check** and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the “Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction” forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to have one mailed to you.

FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay six months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!

Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and 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.mltai.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 MLTAI’s online training at <https://lms.mltai.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.mustsafe.com to see how many modules you have.

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all 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 training through Union Plus. Learn more information about Union Plus scholarships at www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships.

IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Michigan Laborers’ Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension & Vacation)

Wilson McShane Corporation, 6452 Millennium Dr., Ste. 100 – Lansing, MI 48917 Telephone: (877) 645-2267 * * Website: www.michiganlaborers.org

***Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149**

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers’ (Pension)

***Telephone: (248) 641-4942 or (888) 822-4142**

***Fax: (248) 813-9898**

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers’ (Healthcare)

TIC Midwest LLC *Telephone: (800) 228-0048



Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **November 11, 2026, at Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083.** Use the Banquet Entrance.

The **E-Board/Stewards meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, October 28, 2026**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.

RETIREEES NOTICE: The next Retiree Luncheon will be on 12/3/26 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 contact the union hall via our website, www.sheetmetal292.com. Click 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.

HRA BENNY CARD APP: We want to share an important update regarding your Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) and your Benny Card. Effective June 8, 2026, your HRA will move to a new platform designed to make managing your benefits easier, faster, and more convenient. To access the Mobile App, search for the **BeneSys Member Reimbursement** app in your app store. Our Member Services team is still here for you. If you have questions or need help during the transition, please don't hesitate to contact the Fund Office at 248-641-4992.

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 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.

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.

SMOHIT 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 get in touch with 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; 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 or access it through the "links" tab at 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).

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

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The latest Constitution and Ritual of the 3rd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall now has hard copies if anyone is interested in having one.

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.

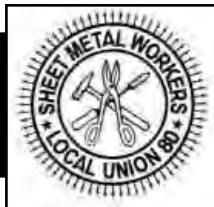
UNION HALL HOURS: Hall office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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 October 24, October 31, November 7, November 14, and November 21. 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 are 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: Next General Membership Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 27th at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield.

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

RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE: 2026 Retiree Meetings: October 19th (annual party) & December 21st. 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. 3250.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Jason Higgs, Ronald Grundberg, Edward May, Nicholas Audet, Michael Garlow, Michael Groce, Luke Grohman, Michael Wilson, Chris Emmons, Cameron Edmonds, Thomas Domanski, Alexander Tarnowski, Stephen Gucwa, Michael Frasson, Vincent Vackaro, William Harding, John Mastalinski, Daniel Hedrick, Doug Glaspie, Luke Garza, Timothy Dilla, Dean Hoskey and Joshua Black.

CONDOLENCES: Our condolences go out to the family of Lawrence "Larry" Kosowski. Larry passed away on September 21, 2026 and was a member of Local 80 for 37 years.

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

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 fourteen (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 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. Mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when you call.

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

Training Center News.

Apprenticeship Entrance Exam.

The Entrance Exam for the next **Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Building Trades Apprenticeship** class is scheduled for Wednesday January 27, 2027. Applications will be accepted until all available testing spots are filled.

Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver's license and applicants must be 18 years old by April 5, 2027. Applications must be submitted in person by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call the Local 80 Training Center @ (586) 979-5190.

"I'm not sure I want popular opinion on my side – I've noticed those with the most opinions often have the fewest facts."

–Bethania McKenstry

"Why is it that our memory is good enough to retain the least triviality that happens to us, and yet not good enough to recollect how often we have told it to the same person?"

– Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

"We all have a few failures under our belt. It's what makes us ready for the successes."

–Randy K. Milholland

"Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city."

–George Burns (1896 - 1996)



Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting (*Special Order of Business*) will be held in Lansing, MI at 4931 Contec Drive at 6:00 p.m. will be held on October 8, 2026. *Installation of Officer will take place.

Regular Area MEETINGS are as follows:

Zone 1 – (Dec. 9, 2026) – 6:00 p.m. held at 1612 Brooks Drive/ Marshall

Zone 2 – (Dec. 8, 2026) – 6:00 p.m. held at VFW 5209 Grand Haven Rd Norton Shores

Zone 3/Sag – (Dec. 2, 2026) – 6:00 p.m. held at Xmas mgt Back Orchard Barn 11001 Wilkinson Rd Freeland

Zone 4 – (Dec. 1, 2026) – 6:00 p.m. held at 4070 Dolan Drive/Flint

Zone 5 – (Dec. 4, 2026) – 10:00 a.m. held at 511 Avenue D Gwinn

Zone 3/TC - (December 3, 2026) – 6:00 p.m. held at 406 Hyde St Kalkaska Traverse City

Business Manager. 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.sheetmetal7.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.

ZONE 1 Info: Work in Zone 1 has slowed down a bit as we head into fall but still looks to remain strong. 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 remains the same with just a few members on the out of work list. If you become unemployed please contact me. The next scheduled Zone 2 meeting is December 8th that will be our annual Christmas party hope to see you there it should be a great time. Dues are always due by the first of the month and let me know if you have any address or phone number changes. **In Solidarity, Mike Adams**

ZONE 3 Info: Work in the area remains steady. Make sure to contact me if you are out of work, there is travel work available. Be sure to check your dues receipt to make sure you are current; dues are due before the first of every month.

Please contact the Lansing office if your address or phone numbers have changed.

The next Zone 3 membership meeting is December 2 at the Back Orchard Barn at 6pm.

Next Zone 3 Retiree meeting is December 1st at the Ponderosa on Wilder Road in Bay City. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

(Traverse City Info). Work is slowing down in the area. Please keep your phone and address updated with the Hall and Benesys. Contact me if you get laid off as there is going to be work available in other areas in the state. Good luck in the woods and on the waters this Fall. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

ZONE 4 Info: Work in Zone 4 is starting to slow down a bit there is talks of some work coming to get us through the winter. I want to let everybody know that we recently closed on the new building in Clio The Mac we are super excited about that we're going to have a new training center next year. Also don't forget to get with the training center regarding upgrade classes for this winter. Fall is now upon us, I hope everybody is having good success in the woods. **Thanks Scott Brotherton**

ZONE 5 Info: Work in the UP is holding steady. Don't forget to get your Mine Safety Training up to date. If you need a refresher please sign up for that at upconstruction.org. If you have a change of address please call me or the Lansing hall to get that updated. Our first Journeymen upgrade class (CPR/First Aid) went great. Thank you to everyone that participated. Our next upgrade class will be on Duct Load and Calculation. Please reach out to me if you would like to be on the list. - **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld**

NEWS: Local 7 – **Union Hoodies/ T-Shirts** will be available soon through the Lansing office

Dues Department: Dues of all members of local unions shall be paid monthly or quarterly, but always in advance. To better serve our membership we would like to announce that we are now accepting 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 noticed 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.

CONTACT US: 4931 Contec Drive/Lansing, MI 48910– **517-882-4064** or visit us online at www.smwlu7.org.

Local 7 Officers:

Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) **517-882-4064**

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

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

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

Joe Dotson (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**

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IBEW 557
SAGINAW—NEXT UNION MEETING: The next Local 557 Union Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 5:30pm. This is also Election Day. Please make plans to vote before the meeting either through early voting, absentee, or in-person prior to the Union Meeting.

LOCAL 557 GOLF NIGHT
—Tee times are now moved up to 5 pm every Thursday at Twin Oaks. Earlier tee times will continue until the end of the golf season.

2026 MID TERM ELECTIONS—As you may have heard before, this year’s election is the most important of our lifetime. We have an opportunity to place Labor-Friendly candidates in Lansing and nationally. The IBEW and the AFL-CIO do an excellent job recommending candidates that should do the best for working families. If you are interested in helping the cause, many door-knocking and phone banking opportunities are available and all the help we can get is greatly appreciated. Please either reach out to Gus or someone at the Hall for further details.

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

JOB SITE SAFETY— Job-site 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 next observed holiday through the Local’s CBA is Thanksgiving. The Union Hall will be closed both Thursday and Friday of that week, Nov. 26-27.

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 the State of 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, wastewater plants, and other various jobs. Some of their jobs are winding down at the moment. The Saginaw Township schools re-light project is in full swing. Calls have slowed but are still coming in for Battery Energy Storage System (B.E.S.S.) projects in multiple locations within the Local’s jurisdiction.

Locations include Alma, Merrill and Fairgrove. New contractor W.S.G. has the Freemont Solar job and are currently waiting for permitting to go through before beginning the work. The Ingersoll Township Solar Farm has been delayed with no clear resolution in sight. Conti has started to pick up work around Hemlock Semi Conductor and the Wafer Plant again.

HEALTH CARE- Don’t forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended.



IBEW 948

FLINT—Meetings.
Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be November 9th, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings - Retirees next meeting will be November 3rd, 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. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

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

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

Retirees - Congratulations to Douglas Roth and Arnold Shangle 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 Christopher Clark. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brothers in our hearts.

Local 557, con’t

Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

BLUE CROSS APP— Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for “BCB-SM” on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include the following: instant access to EOBs, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOBs 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 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. You can also view job calls for the day through the Local 557 website and the accompanying smartphone app as well. 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

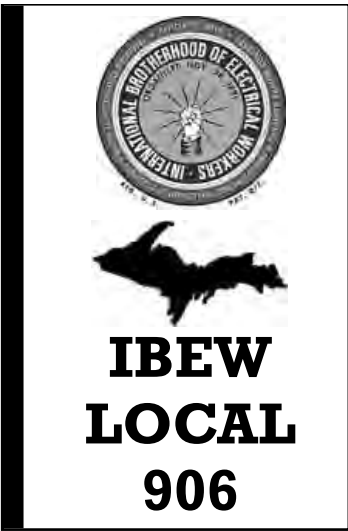
—In Solidarity, Evan Allardyce, Business Manager

“Give what you have. To someone, it may be better than you dare to think.”

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)

“Nothing you can’t spell will ever work.”

—Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)



IBEW 906

UPPER PENINSULA—MEETINGS. There will be normal unit meetings for the month of November, 2026.

Marquette— November 3, 2026 @ 7:00pm EST. Located at 119 S Front St, Marquette, MI 49855

Iron Mountain— November 10, 2026 @ 7:00pm CST. Located at 1800 N Stephenson Ave, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Escanaba— November 11, 2026 @ 7:00pm EST. Located at 1219 1st Ave S, Escanaba, MI 49829

Work Outlook- Work is holding steady. Upcoming projects include: Veterans home in Marquette, Republic Solar, Brimley Solar.

We currently have a 1-man foreman call for MJ Electric, a 4 man call for J. Ranck Electric in Sault Ste. Marie and a 1 man call for Code Electric in the Marquette area. Please call the hall 906-226-7497 if you’re interested in any of these calls.

IBEW Local 906 accepts book 2 signing via email. Please email cfleuryibew906@gmail.com for all book 2 signings.

Union Hall Hours of Operation- Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm Eastern Standard Time.

Upcoming Events-

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 new baseball caps and new broadcast tee shirts.

Retiree Events- There is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at the Vierling Restaurant in Marquette at 11:00 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 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 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 and ask for Collin.

RENEW- There is a RE-NEW (Reach out and Engage Next Generation Electrical Workers) zoom meeting held the first Thursday of every month at 8 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 your beneficiaries are updated, especially if you’ve recently been married, divorced, had children etc. Beneficiary forms can be obtained at the union hall.

New Journeyman- None

Retirements- None
Members that have passed away- Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends our of fallen Brothers and Sisters.

Brother **Dean Johnson**, Pension member, 52- Year Member

Labor History- IBEW Local 906 is looking for labor history in the Upper Peninsula 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.

“Before we set our hearts too much upon anything, let us examine how happy those are who already possess it.”

—Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)



IBEW 498

TRAVERSE CITY—Meetings.

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, Nov 9, 2026 @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting—The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Nov 9, 2026.

First Aid/CPR- Classes are scheduled for:
Nov 30th at 12:00 pm
Nov 30th at 5:00 pm

Please contact the JATC to get signed up for the class 231-943-4193.

DEC. 2026 Meeting Date Change—Regular Meeting change to Friday, Dec 11, 2026 to help with traveling Brothers and Sisters to attend the Christmas Party after the General meeting. Please bring a dish to pass. Postcard reminders will be sent out soon.

Chili Cookoff— The 4th Annual cookoff will be on Monday, Nov 9, 2026 from 6-7pm. Call or text Dylan if you want to compete. 231-649-9157. Prizes awarded to top three winners.

The Santa Party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 12. Please bring your kids! We need your kids here to meet Santa and submit their Christmas wish lists. Food and snacks provided. Postcards will be sent out in November to RSVP. Please remember to RSVP so we can plan for supplies and gifts for everyone attending.

Retiree breakfast- Several of the retirees meet at Sparky’s Diner off of South Airport road 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.gtcrf.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, 2027 \$164.10/Quarter.

Dues increase July 1, 2027 \$170.10/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 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext 2.

“So, let us not be blind to our differences - but let us also direct attention to our common interests and to the means by which those differences can be resolved.”

—John F. Kennedy (1917 - 1963)

“A desk is a dangerous place from which to watch the world.”

—John le Carre (1931 - 2020)

IBEW Local 275’s column – See page 12



IBEW 131

KALAMAZOO—General Membership Meeting: Tuesday November 10th 6PM @ The Hall
RENEW Meeting: Tuesday Nov. 20th 6PM @ The Hall
Veteran’s Committee Meeting: TBD

Executive Board: Oct. 19th 2026, 5PM @ the Hall

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

FREEE WMU Broncos Football Season Tickets—Local 131 has once again partnered with WMU athletics, which includes 50 season tickets to see the Broncos @ Waldo Stadium all season long! Any member can go to every game if they choose (so long as tickets are available). Please call the hall or text Jon Current @ 269-716-7577 to reserve your tickets!

Upcoming Games:

Saturday October 31st : WMU vs Bowling Green -Free Tickets Available

Tuesday Nov. 17th : WMU vs Eastern Michigan University Free Tickets Available

Tuesday Nov. 24th : WMU vs Miami OH Free Tickets Available

Parties and Events:
Retiree Holiday Lunch will be at the Fieldstone Grill on December 16th @ 11AM

Face Book Open Enrollment! Local 131’s Facebook group is normally hidden and private, but we are temporarily making it visible so new members can request access.

Media and Anniversary Photos: If you are able to take photos or videos at work, please send them our way! If you took photos at the anniversary party please send them our way!

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.”

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.

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.

Work Outlook: Palisades work came to an abrupt halt this month as Holtec seeks licensing to remove a dislodged fuel package from the reactor. At the time of this writing, there are 69 Book I JIW on the out of work list, though most are working elsewhere. The immediate work picture is slowing outside of Palisades as we have several apprentices on the books waiting for assignment. Everyone still seems to be finding work in neighboring jurisdictions.

Retirees’ Lunches at the following Locations:

October 21: Berries Famous Pancake House, 5585 Gull Rd, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

November 18: Marjo’s West, 325 N Grand St, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

December 16: Fieldstone Grill, 3970 W Centre Avenue, Portage, MI 49024

January 20: Main Street Pub, 5462 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Death of Members: None to report

Delinquent Members: Bryan Chai, Jason Fairfield, Jason Fitch, Tyler Hall, Nathan Jones—Jonathan Current, Business Manager, IBEW Local 131

“The most erroneous stories are those we think we know best - and therefore never scrutinize or question.”

—Stephen Jay Gould (1941 - 2002)



IBEW 665

LANSING—GET OUT AND VOTE LIKE YOUR JOB DEPENDS ON IT !!!

Local 665 has emailed the endorsed candidate list to its members and is asking you to VOTE for our endorsed Labor friendly candidates !!!

WORK OUTLOOK: Local 665 continues to be busy for the rest of 2026 and next year in 2027. Notable jobs include the LG Battery Plant, various jobs on campus at MSU, and an upcoming GM LGR extended shutdown.

UPCOMING EVENTS:
Oct. 1st, 2026, is the start of IBEW Locals 665 Annual Food drive and goes until Nov. 20, 2026. Please drop your donation off at the hall.

The RENEW Committee will be hosting a Euchre Tournament on Oct. 17, 2026, at the Hall. Look for the Flyer in your email.

EVITP TRAINING PROGRAM: If you are interested in completing the online Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program please contact the LEJATC at 517-483-9688 to register.

HARASSMENT TRAINING: has been adopted as part of our contract. It is required for all our members to complete it. Contact the LEJATC to register at 517-483-9688.

APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS: To apply to Local 665’s apprenticeship program, go to www.lejatec.org and navigate to the application page on the website. Applications are accepted on the **THIRD** Monday of each month.

FIRST AID CPR CLASS: The next First Aid / CPR Class is scheduled for December 10, 2026. Contact the LEJATC to register at 517-483-9688.

CONDUIT BENDING CLASSES: We are offering a Conduit Bending Class this fall starting next month. This will be at LCC West Campus starting promptly at 4:30 pm

Class Schedule is as follows:
Day 1- Monday, November 9
Day 2- Monday, November 23
Day 3 Monday, November 30
Day 4- Monday, December 7
Day 5- Monday, December 14
Day 6- Monday, December 28
Day 7- Monday, January 4

Contact the LEJATC to register at 517-483-9688

DRUG TEST / MUST MODS: If you are planning on doing any NMA or GM jobs this year, please make sure you are current on your 18 MUST mods or OSHA 30 certification and MUST drug test. Contact the hall if you need your annual drug test, 18 MUST Mods or OSHA 30.

OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall.

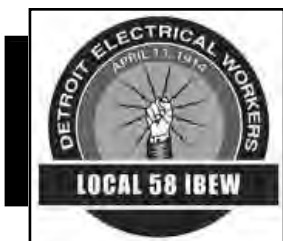
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS: are on the second and third Monday of each month starting at 5:00 p.m.

DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS: Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #370. Please look at your dues receipt to ensure that you are current.

BENEFICIARIES: If you have recently gotten married, divorced, had children, etc., please make sure you update your beneficiaries. Forms are available at the hall.

IN REMEMBRANCE: In remembrance of 665 local members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal.

Brian Thompson 05/26/26, Charles Vanhorn 05/09/26, Steven Goodine 03/17/2026, James Foster Jr. 02/28/2026, Joseph Perkins 02/20/2026, Bruce Pettinger 12/01/2025, Charlie Fabiano 12/21/2025, Richard Dunlap 12/11/2025, Darold English 11/28/25, Michael Quintieri 11/15/25, Douglas Maki 09/17/25, Randolph Dehate 07/01/25, Glendon “Bill” Toaz 06/10/25, David McLellan 05/28/25.



IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting: will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2026. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

UPDATE – Sub Pay is NOT available 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, 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- To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

Local 58 Dues Department – Please check your dues receipt. If your dues receipt has a paid-through date of 03-31-2026, you have lapsed your membership and need to call the union hall to make an appointment to see the Executive Board. If your dues receipt has a paid-through date of 06-30-2026, you owe the \$30 reinstatement fee, plus dues, and will lapse at the end of the 4th quarter if your dues are not paid. Dues Statements have been mailed. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: The October luncheon will be happening on Wednesday, Oct. 28 at the Gazebo Banquet Center, 31104 Mound Rd., Warren 48092. Doors open at 11 and lunch is served at 12:30. Tickets are \$25 per person, (checks payable to the Retirees Association), please send your checks and reservations to IBEW #58, Attention Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756. Questions, call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

The next Retirees Board meeting will be at 10 a.m. Nov. 11 in the Retirees Room in the lower level of the union hall.

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 at 313-963-2130 ext. 3013. Questions regarding the Local 58 Pension or Annuity should be directed to the Local 58 Benefits Office at 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 for information on Apprenticeship and training opportunities.

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): Next meeting will be Tuesday Nov. 3, 2026 at 5:30 pm.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 10 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). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact

the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 10, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m. Trunk-or-Treat and Brew & View will take place on Saturday Oct. 17. Trunk-or-Treat will take place from 12-3:00pm, with family, friends, and the community invited. The Brew & View starts at 6pm with karaoke, food, and beer & wine along with a grand prize for best costume.

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

We appreciate being able to give back to the community and will continue to support efforts that make a difference in the lives of the children and families that we engage with. It’s that time of year again so get ready to be involved in our annual Kids Coat Give-Away and the Adopt-A-Child Christmas Christmas Program. Happening Friday, Nov. 13, 2026 - our “Tux & Chucks Casino Night Party.” Please share the flyers and FUNdraising information with family, friends, coworkers and the other building trades. We want to be able to help all of the children and families that we can.

The Grassroots Committee - meets on the second Thursday of every month at 5:30 P.M. at the Local 58 Union Hall. Food will be provided and a Zoom meeting option will be available.

Mission Statement: Our continuing mission is to educate, include and involve members from every aspect of our Local into learning, engaging in and becoming more active members. To improve and promote solidarity and unionism. To share stories and experiences that share and provide insights to our union history and that allow us to see the direction we are headed in.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, Oct. 13, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee - 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 3rd 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, Oct. 22 at 5:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Milam (586-291-8014) Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org.

The Political Action Committee: PAC 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.

The RENEW Committee: The meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 27 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 *New Auto loans* starting at **3.99%** and *Used Auto loans* starting at **4.99%** Give the Credit Union a call to see if you

(Continued next column)



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – ESTA MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER: Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America have filed a new federal lawsuit regarding ESTA. We continue to get favorable decisions from Michigan Wage and Hour Division, but those decisions are currently on hold due to the new lawsuit. If you are requesting ESTA payment from your employer, we are asking you to email those requests to your employer. If denied ESTA pay, please file a complaint to the State of Michigan Wage and Hour Division at <http://www.michigan.gov/wageclaim>. The act references substantial fines and penalties for failure to comply, but you must file your complaint with the State.

AMERICAN INCOME LIFE- All active and retired members will be receiving a mailing from American Income Life (AIL) in the next few weeks. AIL provides an accidental death and dismemberment policy at no cost. They also offer many other programs including a no cost will kit, no cost child safe kit, and many other useful programs. You do not need to fill out the beneficiary form you receive in the mail to receive accidental and dismemberment benefits. If you do fill the form out you will be contacted by AIL to discuss other options that AIL offers. Please contact the hall if there are any issues with AIL.

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 p.m.

1. First Aid/ CPR- Sept 1, Sept 8, Dec 1, Dec 8

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

3. 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)

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 download the IBEW 252 app, which is now available in the app store.

IBEW 58 con’t

qualify! 313-963-6060.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Johnnie Day Sr, James Kruse and Michael McMurray. We wish you all the best as you begin your new journey. Thank you for your years of service with the IBEW.

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. **Thomas McGrail**, Pension member, 47 year IBEW membership and **Craig Miller**, Journeyman Inside Wireman.

RETIREES’ CARD

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

RETIRES’ BREAKFAST: will take place on the second Wednesday of each month at **9 a.m. (new time)** at Leo’s Coney Island, 160 South 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.

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.

TRUNK OR TREAT: Renew’s 8th Annual Trunk or Treat will be on Oct. 24 at the union hall from 4-8 p.m. Activities include best trunk contest, best costume contest for kids 12 and under, festive games for all ages, and movies on the projector. Set up will start at 4 p.m. To reserve your parking spots or if you need any additional information, contact Dan Beck at (810) 858-0033.

E W M C W A R M CLOTHES DRIVE: Help keep our community warm this winter by donating new or gently used coats, hats, gloves, scarves and other winter essentials. Donations can be dropped off at the school or hall through Dec. 5. Donations will benefit Dawn Farm. Contact Yohance Jennings at (313) 283-3294 if you have any questions.

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.

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. For a full list of required documents please contact the Union Hall.

CONDOLENCES: The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Randall Currie who passed away on Oct. 4, 2026.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 9/2026, 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. Dues for “BA” members are \$73.80 by cash or check, or \$76.01 by credit card per quarter for 2026. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your fourth quarter dues (October through December) are due now. **Payments for fourth quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on December 31, 2026.**

IMPORTANT DATES: Oct. 24, 2026: Trunk or Treat Dec. 12, 2026: Holiday Party



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The next monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, November 2nd, 2026.**

The next Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, October 19th, 2026.**

Message from the Business Manager. 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 decent. We have had open calls recently in Zones 1 & 2.

ABI out of Indiana has a decent IsoPhase project at Karn in Essexville, 6-10’s for two months.

Clements Electric continues work at Midland’s Center for the Arts, as work at the Bay County Health Dept. is wrapping up. Work on a mixed-use development in downtown Bay City, Water Street Lofts, continues. Bay City Animal Control, Bay City Community Center pool, and Bay County Road Commission projects continue. Clements was also awarded a few projects out to Michigan Sugar, in addition to a handful of other local projects. Their residential division is busy.

Conti Electric has ongoing work at the Karn Generation Facility and MCV.

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 and Bangor Schools.

John’s Electric has some work at Alpena Airport, a decent project in Clear Lake, and plenty of residential work.

J. Ranck Electric will be adding a battery storage facility on the Mission Road Solar project in Rosebush this fall. J. Ranck will have calls in West Branch for an Enbridge switchgear replacement project.

Nelson Electric continues work in Bay City Powertrain.

Northern Valley’s residential division has been busy.

Northern Power has secured upcoming work at Cheboygan Hospital.

S&G and Hardies Electric are keeping their crews busy on various projects. Hardies will have a fair amount of work open up in Indian River over the next couple months.

Van Ert Electric is wrapping up work on their solar project in Gladwin.

Consumers Energy has recently announced plans for future work in our jurisdiction. Essexville’s Karn site plans to add a new battery storage facility (Rauhorn Electric) and two new gas-fired turbines to replace units 3 & 4. Three large solar sites will start civil and dirt work this summer 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 Manager / Financial Secretary

Organizers’ Report. Job calls are now posted on our website, 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.

-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 of Members. We regret to inform you of the death of retired Brother Charles Miller, Card Number D612984, who passed away on September 26th, 2026. Brother Miller was born on February 18th, 1964 (62 years old). He was initiated on January 6th, 1986. Charles resided in Bay City.

#361 (Miller) Local death fund assessment **\$10.00 each** (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692, 1300 W. Thomas, Bay City, MI 48706

American Income Life Accidental Death Benefit. The first mailing has gone out recently regarding the \$3,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit available through a partnership with the IBEW and American Income Life. All active and retired members are eligible for this benefit.

The letter states that you need to return the enclosed yellow card in order to qualify and name your beneficiary. Please note you are **NOT REQUIRED to return this card** in order to name your beneficiary; the beneficiaries you have on file at the hall are sufficient. The \$3,000 benefit would be paid to your named beneficiary, not to your estate. American Income Life does offer other policies and services. If you are interested in having a representative contact you to discuss available options, you may return the yellow card in the postage paid envelope provided. If you have any questions, please contact the hall at 989-684-4510.

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



45 years of providing full-service third-party administration

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Comprehensive software solutions for self-administered funds

BenefitDriven.com 217-801-8911



BeneSys Inc.
700 Tower Drive, Suite 300
Troy, MI 48098



IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE – Work Outlook: Work has started to pick up with calls coming in for various projects and contractors. Please be sure to call the recorder if you are interested in taking a call at home.

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 Aug.1 and we are being told by the administrators that there will not be an additional card but would be the same information as your delta dental cards. They also have an app that we will work on distributing. 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.

Building Corp: We are approaching the final stages of the building in Walker. Please be sure to keep an eye out for more information as it comes. If you have stopped by the union hall recently, you may have noticed the for sale sign out front. The realtors understand that the building cannot be sold until we are able to take possession of the new one but wanted to get it on the market to gather interest. We will let the body know the plans for moving once everything is finalized.

Volunteer Info: Please keep an eye out for future volunteer events.

West Michigan EMMC: Meetings will be held monthly on the 4th 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. A big thank you to those who attended the walk with us on Oct. 11! Please keep an eye out for future events.

RENEW: Renew continues to meet monthly and discuss future events. If you are interested in joining, reach out to Mark for the next date.

Veterans’ Committee: Meeting will be held monthly on the 4th Tuesday of every month, 6pm. Please keep an eye on the app for locations.

Training: Apprentices- Please pay attention to Tradeschool for upcoming schedules for classes for the 26/27 year.

The JATC is now offering master’s Exam Prep courses. Please reach out to the JATC for more information. wmjate@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 to 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.

If you want to get added to our blast email list, please reach out to Nicole at the Hall to get on the list.

For members still using the 1-800 number to call the Union Hall Offices, please note that we removed that line several months ago.

As a reminder, the Local Union Hall offices have changed their hours. The office will be open from 8am-12:30pm, 1pm-4:30pm and is closed from 12:30-1pm for lunch.

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: Jon Alviar Jamie Butcher, Tim Davis, Matt DeJong, Damien Keglovitz, Cade Kohler, Kevin Koon and Andrew LaFrance. Please make every effort to get caught up.



Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators 25
SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is **SPECIAL CALLED** for nominations. Apprentice attendance is **MANDATORY**.

NOMINATIONS: The following positions will be up for nomination at the Nov. 12, 2026, Membership Meeting:

President- 1 position, 1-3-year term, Incumbents: Connie Vincent

Vice President- 1 position, 1-3- year term, Incumbents: Marty Allen

Financial Secretary- 1 position, 1 -3 year- term, Incumbents: Joshua Claxton

Executive Board- 3 positions, 3-2-year terms, Incumbents: Micah Vincent, Mike Lassen, Eloany Rodriguez

Pension Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term, Incumbents: Mark Grzelak

Welfare Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term, Incumbents: Micah Vincent

S.U.B. Fund Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term, Incumbents: Connie Vincent

J.A.T.C. Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term, Incumbents: Connie Vincent

Union Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term, Incumbents: Dan Stevens

Entertainment Committee- 2 positions, 2-1-year terms, Incumbents: Connie Vincent, Dan Stevens

Sgt.-At-Arms- 1 position, 1-1-year term, Incumbents: Dammion Hunter

Please be reminded, if a position is vacated by a member for any reason between now and nominations, nominations to fill the vacated position will be taken immediately and the open position will appear on the December election ballot.

PANCAKES WITH SANTA: The Union will be hosting Pancakes with Santa at the Union Hall on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2026, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Santa will be joining us from 9 a.m. until noon.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Mark your calendars for the Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 6-11 p.m. This year’s celebration will be held at **The Henry, 300 Town Center Drive, Dearborn, MI, 48126**. Invites have been mailed. Please RSVP using the QR code on the invitation.

WEBSITE: Visit our updated website at www.heatfrost-insulators.org to access helpful links and additional member resources.

CONTACT UPDATE: We are now using **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 who reports nonunion or union mechanical installing insulation under our scope of work. Members with valid leads should contact Eloany Rodriguez at (248) 750-4992 and you will receive a \$50 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 report all job starts promptly so we can avoid having to fine members. Reporting is now easier with our **QR code** --- simply scan, fill out and submit your jobs. Visit our Facebook page for additional information and access to the QR code.

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 fine.

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



Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators 47
LANSING – The next Notified Meeting will be held on Friday, Nov. 6, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at



PATRICK WELCH
This is a Mandatory Meeting for ALL Apprentices. The purpose of this meeting is

for the Nominations of Officers.

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.

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.

ATTENTION RETIREES: Effective Oct. 1, 2026 the 79 Hour rule will not be in effect.

Notice: Nominations of Officers will take place during the Notified Meeting being held on Friday, Nov. 6, 2026. The following positions are up for election:

***Vice President-**Paul McKeey (3 yr. Term)

***JATC Trustee-**Joshua Scalici (3 yr. Term)

***Recording Secretary-**Joshua Kroell (1 yr. Term)

***Sergeant-At-Arms-**MaryJo Hidalgo (1 yr. Term)

***Union Trustee-**MaryJo Hidalgo (3 yr. Term)

***Market Recovery Committee-**Mitchell Carpenter (3 yr. Term)

***Pension/Welfare Trustee-**Walter Wilson (3 yr. Term)

***Executive Board (3 Seats)-**MaryJo Hidalgo, Gerald Weller, and Phillip Wilson (3 yr. Term)

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

Allied Workers’ Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917 (800) 323-8079

Email: 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.

Auto and motorcycle accidents are not covered under our plan. These claims should be covered through your personal automobile insurance policy.

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 for the Apprenticeship Program. Please call the Union Office or visit 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 10 days from the end of the current work week.”

“The most savage controversies are those about matters as to which there is no good evidence either way.”

—Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)



BAC Local 2
WARREN – UPCOMING MEETINGS.

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, Oct. 19, 2026, at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2026, at 6 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706

DETROIT CHAPTER: November meeting - CANCELLED

ANNARBOR CHAPTER: November meeting - CANCELLED

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026, at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee St, Lapeer, MI 48446 – *Apprentice meeting starts at 7:00 PM*

LANSING CHAPTER: Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026, at 6 PM, 3321 Remy Dr, Lansing, MI 48906.

GRANDRAPIDS: Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026, at 6 PM, 233 Fulton St E, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026, at 6 PM, 11847 Shaver Rd, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

HOUGHTON CHAPTER: November meeting - CANCELLED.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Edward Graves** (Bricklayer) who passed away on 10/02/2026. Brother Graves had been a member for over 60 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Jerry Witz** (Bricklayer) who passed away on 09/10/2026. Brother Witz had been a member for over 57 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 **(Continued next column)**



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers’ and Cement Masons’ Local 514
DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday, November 17, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.An executive board meeting will also be held that day at 5:30 p.m.

Membership Gold Cards-Congratulations! October 2026: Josh Cyman-25 Years • Secundino Jimenez-25 Years • James Quinn-25 Years • John Carducci-30 Years • Antonio D’Orazio-50 Years • Marvin Ervin-60 Years

We are pleased to announce that Patrick Tejkl is our new Outstate Business Agent for the Flint area. Members with any questions or concerns are encouraged to contact Patrick directly at 517-719-2316. Please join us in welcoming Patrick to his new role!

We are pleased to announce that Membership Gold Cards will be distributed to our members at this year’s Christmas Party. We encourage all members to make every effort to attend this special event and receive their Gold Card in person. The date and additional details for the Christmas Party will be announced soon. We look forward to celebrating the holiday season together and recognizing our valued members!

Marcus Martinez is the new Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313)-350-0389 or by email: mmartinez@opcmiami.org

Please contact the local office at 248-548-0800 or email your updated information to aajrouche@opcmiami.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 OPCMIA Local 514, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension, and Healthcare funds. The law requires that, in the event of an untimely death, your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each 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 no., 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 get in touch with 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. Let’s work together to secure our future!!

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. Call the Local at (248) 548-0800.

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.

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **Road Builders** 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 at 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.

BAC Local 2, continued

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.**

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) 828-6000

Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

It's halftime for Soo Locks work

(Continued from Page 1)

project. They come to work every day committed to the successful completion of the new lock."

Ongoing work this year has addressed the project's \$1.9 billion Phase 3. Work on Phase 3 includes constructing a cofferdam at each end of the new lock, demolishing the existing Sabin Lock (completed in 1919) and filling in the existing Davis Lock (1914). The New Lock at the Soo will be constructed in the footprint of the Sabin Lock and will share the Poe Lock's dimensions (1,200 feet long, 110 feet wide and 32 feet deep) to allow the passage of the longest Great Lakes freighters.

Other Phase 3 tasks have included excavating bedrock, constructing the new lock's chamber walls and floor, fabrication and installation of miter gates, installation of mechanical and electrical systems, installation of an innovative hands-free mooring system, rehabilitating the downstream approach walls and constructing a new pump well.

The Corps of Engineers awarded the base contract on July 1, 2022, to Kokosing Alberici Traylor (KAT) LLC, of Westerville, Ohio. The new lock is expected to open in 2030.

The current focus of KAT and the trades through the end of August 2026 has been on mass concrete placement for the concrete walls, the lock floor and new pump well construction.

Offsite fabrication of the steel structures, including the miter gates, ship arrestors and culvert valves are also in progress. It will take approximately 400,000 cubic yards of concrete to complete the new lock.

"The New Lock at the Soo is one of the highest-priority commercial navigation projects in the United States," the Corps of Engineers said. "Its completion will ensure the reliable passage of raw materials crucial for American steel production, protecting thousands of jobs and reinforcing the domestic supply chain for decades to come."



THIS IS AN ARTIST'S rendering of the completed New Lock at the Soo project. The new lock is being constructed in the footprint of the former Sabin Lock, and it will be the same size as the Poe Lock (completed in 1968, 1,200 feet long, 110 feet wide and 32 feet deep). The 800-foot-long MacArthur lock, at right, was completed in 1943. The locks are indispensable in allowing Great Lakes shipping to traverse the 21-foot drop in elevation at the St. Mary's River.



DEMOLITION OF THE Sabin Lock, which was completed in 1919, has been necessary in making way for the New Lock at the Soo.



BUILDING TRADES WORKERS get ready for a concrete pour at the New Lock at the Soo project in Sault Ste. Marie.



WORKERS WITH Kokosing Alberici Traylor prepare formwork on the New Lock at the Soo project in Sault Ste. Marie. The workers are setting the formwork for concrete monolith placements which creates the new lock chamber.



RE-BAR FOR CONCRETE monoliths take shape at the New Lock at the Soo project in Sault Ste. Marie.

(Photo credits: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers photo by: Kelsie Hall, Louisville District)

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Outdoors

Hey DNR – put fish in my lake!



By Tim Cwalinski and Marcie Wardell
Michigan DNR

When an angler finds out that you work for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division, one of their first questions is usually “Why don’t you stock (insert body of water here)?”

It seems like a simple question, but there is a lot that goes into the decision to stock or not to stock a lake or stream.

Things like the existing fish community, habitat suitability, water temperature and quality and cost of rearing fish, and their availability have to be accounted for, among many other considerations.

Plus, stocking is only one of the tools that DNR fisheries managers have at their disposal to enhance fisheries and protect ecosystems. Fishing regulations, habitat improvement and invasive species control are also essential for maintaining healthy fisheries and waters.

So, why wasn’t your favorite fishing hole stocked? Let’s dive into some of the reasons.

Strong natural reproduction. Most of the fish caught in Michigan are not stocked, including panfish, smallmouth and largemouth bass, northern pike and many inland trout. Bluegill, the most popular species for recreational anglers, is not stocked or raised by the DNR.

Why? There’s no need. Bluegill and other fish in the centrarchid (sunfish) family reproduce prolifically on their own, naturally. Rather than producing and stocking more of these fish unnecessarily, their populations are managed through fishing regulations. The same goes for bass, such as smallmouth bass in Lake St. Clair.

The population there is thriving entirely through natural reproduction, despite disruption from invasive species. The Detroit River and Lake Erie, which are connected to Lake St. Clair, are considered the “walleye capital of the world,” and there is no stocking of walleye in these systems.



BEFORE STOCKING, Michigan Department of Natural Resources fisheries staffers work to insert passive integrated transponder tags for tracking into young muskellunge at the Thompson State Fish Hatchery in Schoolcraft County.

These fish reproducing in the wild have ebbs and flows in their populations – some years their populations are higher, some lower. This is natural and expected, based on factors in the environment, and it’s not something that fisheries managers need to offset by fish stocking.

In many cases, fish are stocked with the goal of establishing a population that can reproduce naturally, so that stocking becomes unnecessary. A naturally reproducing population that can sustain harvest is a mark of a functioning and intact ecosystem.

An example of this is walleye in Saginaw Bay. Walleye in the bay declined in the 1940s, due to unrestrained fishing and declines in water quality and habitat. The DNR stocked walleye to maintain the population at a relatively low level, and when the population recovered in the early 2000s (after the collapse of alewife), stocking was discontinued.

Today, the population is fully self-sustaining with natural reproduction. There is no need for stocking, and the fishery is considered to be world-class.

Survival. Naturally reproducing fish maintain better survival rates than stocked fish, for several reasons. That doesn’t mean that stocked fish can’t survive well, but it does mean that the decision to stock shouldn’t be taken lightly if it’s going to be successful in adding mature adult fish to a body of water.

The process of transport from a hatchery to a new body of water can stress fish, and the change in water conditions when they’re stocked in a natural body of water can also cause stress.

The hatchery environment has no predators, so stocked fish will face new challenges to their survival as they grow to full size in their new home.

Naturally reproducing fish also have some genetic advantages over stocked fish. Hatchery-raised fish come from a limited number of parents and so have less genetic diversity than fish spawned in the wild. Genetic diversity is valuable, as it can increase the prevalence of helpful adaptations and reduce the occurrence of less advantageous traits, as well as improve resistance to disease.

Reproductive selection is complex, and the best outcomes often occur when fish are able to choose their own mates and survival is defined by the environment, instead of artificial selection by humans.

Cost. Stocking fish is a costly endeavor. It requires hatcheries with heavy equipment for bringing in water, collecting broodstock, collecting eggs and milt, keeping water temperature, dissolved oxygen and other conditions right for the species being raised, and maintaining power during outages.

Skilled staff are needed to operate and maintain this equipment, drive stocking trucks, collect eggs and milt, test for and treat disease, and feed the fish.

Fish food is expensive. Just like grocery costs have been rising, fish food costs have been going up. Feed costs have increased by more than 70 percent over the last 10 years. The DNR Fisheries Division spends 31 percent of its annual budget on fish rearing and stocking. In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, that cost totaled over \$11 million.

The DNR has only six state

fish hatcheries, along with some outdoor rearing pond facilities. With this limited infrastructure for rearing fish, the hatchery system is only able to produce coldwater and coolwater species, including trout, salmon and a limited amount of walleye and muskellunge.

DNR fisheries managers have standing stocking requests for several species, including steelhead, coho salmon, walleye and muskie, that extend beyond production capacity.

The DNR is unable, given budgetary and facility limitations, to produce as many of these fish as the agency would like to stock. Warmwater species like panfish and bass, which reproduce well in the wild, aren’t raised in state fish hatcheries.

Plus, Michigan has a lot of fresh water: nearly 11,000 inland lakes, 56,000 miles of rivers and streams and 3,300 miles of Great Lakes coastline. It’s not feasible financially to stock so many lakes and streams, and many of these waters are also not suitable for stocking.

Stocking fish in these waters might seem desirable to create a new fishing spot, but if the stocked fish can’t survive, it isn’t worth the cost.

If conditions aren’t right to sustain a fishery, stocking may not make financial sense. Just like with purchases in daily life, one needs to consider the cost-benefit ratio of stocking decisions.

trout and salmon require cooler water temperatures, such as in streams and rivers in the northern part of the state. An impoundment (basin) created by a dam, for example, will have warm water.

Even if cool-water species brook trout are stocked there, they’re unlikely to survive, let alone create a robust fishery. Fish also need the proper habitat for spawning, as well as protected areas for young fry to hide from predators or rest, away from strong currents.

Fish spawn in a variety of locations, from sandy lake bottoms to clean riverbed gravel, submerged vegetation or even rocky reefs in the Great Lakes.

Each species has its own unique needs. If fish don’t have access to the right kind of spawning habitat because they’ve been stocked in a body of water that doesn’t have it, they won’t have much success reproducing.

Fish community. Fisheries managers need to balance the desires of anglers with the requirements of ecosystems. In some waters, stocked fish will compete with the wild fish already present. This is an outcome that fisheries managers seek to avoid, whenever possible.

In some cases, stocking fish in a lake isn’t appropriate because of the effects it will have on the existing fish or other aquatic animal or plant populations.

While it can be disappointing for anglers or lake residents, often the best management action is not to stock. When this is the outcome, fisheries managers can explain to interested parties the underlying impacts, tradeoffs or limitations behind it.

Private property. The DNR manages Michigan’s public waters, but some bodies of water in Michigan are privately owned. The private property owners are responsible for maintaining these ponds and lakes.

As long as the body of water is not permanently connected to any other and does not have public access, the owner can stock it with fish at their discretion (within the bounds of the law), but the DNR can’t.

If you’re unsure whether the lake or pond that you’d like to stock is publicly or privately owned and whether a permit is required for stocking, contact your local fisheries biologist for assistance.

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