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THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

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

VOL. 73, NO. 21

65 Cents

October 18, 2024



SHORT CUTS

See endorsements this issue on Page 4

Michigan voters will go to the polls to vote in the statewide General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 5, but absentee ballots have already arrived in mailboxes around the state.



For many it's time to consider who to vote for in the 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. The list includes candidates who have requested an endorsement. Union members are urged to research, support and vote for candidates who share the goals of organized labor.

End of the line for 100% of lead pipe

It started with the scandal of the tainted drinking water in Flint, and the subsequent replacement of all the city's lead water pipes.

Now the effort is going nationwide, as the Biden Administration on Oct. 8 issued a final rule requiring drinking water systems across the country to identify and replace lead water pipes within 10 years.

The *Lead and Copper Rule Improvements* rule "also require more rigorous testing of drinking water and a lower threshold requiring communities to take action to protect people from lead exposure in water. In addition, the final rule improves communication within communities so that families are better informed about the risk of lead in drinking water, the location of lead pipes, and plans for replacing them," the administration said.

The final rule will require improved communication regarding lead in drinking water, finding the location of lead pipes, and making plans to replace them. "This final rule is part of the President's commitment to replace every lead pipe in the country within a decade, making sure that all communities can turn on the tap and drink clean water," the administration said.

In addition, the Environmental Protection Agency announced the availability of \$2.6 billion in funds for drinking water infrastructure funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. "We've known for decades that lead exposure has serious long-term impacts for children's health. And yet, millions of lead service lines are still delivering drinking water to homes," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan.

Roofers Local 149's John Doyle passes

Condolences are extended to the family of John Doyle at long-time officer of Roofers and Waterproofers Local 149, who passed away Sept. 15, 2024.

Local 149's business manager upon his retirement, John, 82, was an effective labor leader and a strong proponent of organized labor. He also had a great sense of humor. He will be missed.

Quotable

"Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want, and deserve to get it good and hard."

—H.L. Mencken (1880-1956)



AFL-CIO PRESIDENT Liz Shuler, an IBEW member, leads a response to a speaker at the 14th annual Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference, sponsored by North America's Building Trades Unions. Held in New Orleans, it was the world's largest gathering to date of building trades workers – 5,200 attended.

Photo credit: NABTU

Largest-ever trades conference:

'5,000 fierce, determined, and powerful women' gather

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

NEW ORLEANS – It was a big, big gathering of tradeswomen in The Big Easy.

The weekend of Sept. 27-29 saw 5,200 tradeswomen from the U.S. and Canada, along with top government, labor and industry leaders, gather for North America's Building Trades Unions 14th annual Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference. It was the largest-ever gathering of tradespeople in the world.

"This weekend, we were filled with immense pride and gratitude," said NABTU Tradeswomen Committee Chair Vicki O'Leary (Iron Workers Local 1, Chicago). "TWBN is not just a culmination of our hard work; it represents a pivotal moment in our commitment to advancing tradeswomen and fostering collaboration across the industry



PLUMBERS LOCAL 98 (Detroit) members stand behind their banner, and in front of the convention space in New Orleans where the Tradeswomen Building Nations conference was held. Pictured are (l-r) Mandy Morrison, Dawn Melancon, Madeline Rose, Patti Wolff, Hannah Tas and Erin Garavaglia.

Photo credit: Jon DeRoo

and government. The magnitude of this event is unparalleled, and the tremendous shared insights will shape the future of our field."

TWBN has become the largest annual building trades conference in the world, bringing together union

tradeswomen from the U.S. and Canada. The event at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside included plenary sessions, workshops, panels, a mile-long banner parade and networking

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MEMBERS OF PLUMBERS and Pipe Fitters Local 333 (Lansing), Local 671 (Monroe) and Local 370 (Flint) take part in the parade at the Tradeswomen Building Nations Conference New Orleans.

Broken roads sounds like a broken record: repair money still missing in action

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – Michigan needs to spend more money for roads.

That well-worn message – repeated raised and mostly ignored in the Michigan Legislature since the 1990s – was brought up again Oct. 1 by MITA, the Michigan Infrastructure Transportation Association.

MITA delivered a media release that day to the entirety of the

Michigan Legislature on its last session day before the November election. It asked lawmakers to honor Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's pledge to fix the damn roads by coughing up some long-term funding to do so.

The group cited a 2023 report from Public Sector Consultants, which found that Michigan is faced with a \$3.9 billion annual funding shortfall for fixing roads

and bridges. And that's expected to grow as inaction on funding solutions continues. MITA is a statewide construction employer association consisting of 500 companies, many of which are major union affiliates.

"For decades, Michigan has failed to meet road and bridge funding needs," said Rob Copersmith, executive vice president

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'The U.S. made a remarkable recovery from the pandemic recession'

—Dean Baker

Facts, not the media, say the economy is 'damn good by any measure'

By Dean Baker
Center for Economic Policy Research

Yes, inflation has been punishing. But there is a mountain of good news that media have barely reported. Here's the real record the Democrats can run on.

As always, the president takes the lead role in setting the economic course for the administration, but throughout Biden's term in office, Harris was standing alongside him.

The Republicans will surely blame her for everything that went wrong and many things that didn't. On the other hand, Harris can take credit for what went right, and there is much here to boast about. Indeed, she can (and should) run on the outstanding – and criminally underappreciated – economic record of the Biden administration.

Under Biden, the U.S. made a remarkable recovery from the pandemic recession. We have seen the longest run of below 4.0 percent unemployment in more than 70 years, even surpassing the long stretch during the 1960s boom. This period of low unemployment has led to rapid real wage growth at the lower end of the wage distribution, reversing

much of the rise in wage inequality we have seen in the last four decades.

The burst of inflation that accompanied this growth was mostly an outcome of the pandemic and the invasion of Ukraine. All other wealthy countries saw comparable rises in inflation. The rate of inflation in the U.S. has fallen back almost to the Fed's 2.0 percent target. Meanwhile, our growth has far surpassed that of our peers.

Furthermore, the Biden administration really does deserve credit for this extraordinary boom. Much of what happens under a president's watch is beyond their control. However, the economic turnaround following the pandemic can be directly traced to Biden's

(Continued on Page 3)

Trump talks a good game about labor - then we read Project 2025

By Kenneth Cooper
IBEW President

Brothers and sisters, in less than a month, you will be heading to the polls. In many states, early voting has already started.

I have been clear about where I stand and why I support Kamala Harris and Tim Walz. Their record at every step of the way has been 100 percent pro-worker and pro-union, and they have earned the IBEW's support.

But every IBEW member's vote is their own choice, and I respect whatever decision you make in the voting booth.

However, my job as international president is to take a hard look at where each candidate stands on the issues that matter to the IBEW: jobs, our rights as workers and the place of organized labor in society. And tell the truth about who is on our side and who isn't. Not just in words but in deeds.

Former President Donald Trump likes to talk a good game about supporting workers.

That is why every undecided IBEW member must take a good look at Project 2025, which reveals just how hollow that talk is.

Project 2025 is a 920-page policy manual designed as a roadmap for a second Trump presidency. It spells out what Trump and his allies hope to accomplish if he gets another shot at the White House.

This includes recommendations to abolish prevailing wage and project labor agreements, put an end to overtime as we know it, and even loosen child labor laws. It also recommends allowing companies to take away unions mid-contract, banning them from voluntarily recognizing unions and making it easier to retaliate against union organizers.

That is just the labor section. On energy, it calls for repealing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act, which would kill tens of thousands of IBEW jobs nationwide.

It also calls for the elimination of federal support for nuclear power and clean coal technology, which would be disastrous for our members.

If any of Project 2025's recommendations went into effect, it would mean fewer jobs, lower pay and a weaker voice at work for IBEW members.

The Trump campaign claims he does not take Project 2025 seriously and that it does not represent his platform.

(Continued on Page 4)

Federal loan delivery to unleash Palisades work

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

COVERT TWP. – One historic "first" took place on Sept. 30 at the dormant Palisades Nuclear Power Plant, with the announced close of a \$1.52 billion federal loan to fund the re-start of the plant.

Now comes the hard part, and the building trades will be major players: doing the work to rehabilitate the shuttered plant over the next 12 months, and bringing to the power grid the plant's output of 800 megawatts of carbon-free energy. That's the second historic first: no dead nuclear power plant has ever been brought back to operating condition in the Western Hemisphere in the history of nuclear power.

Owner Holtec's restart of the Palisades plant is now the first project to receive a loan through the federal Department of Energy's Infrastructure Reinvestment program, under the Biden-Harris administration's Inflation Reduction Act. Combined with financial support from the State of Michigan and Holtec, as well as a long-term power purchase agreement that's in place for the plant, means "this critical

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DELIVERY OF A FEDERAL loan of \$1.52 billion will resurrect the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant, and the tasks ahead will employ hundreds of building trades union workers.

Photo credit: Holtec

Viewpoints



No surprise: Harris endorsed

So, you don't like or agree with your union's endorsement of Kamala Harris for U.S. president, and its non-support of Donald Trump?

Nearly the entire labor movement in the U.S. has endorsed Harris – including all 14 building trades international unions, as well as the AFL-CIO and its affiliates. (Yes, the Firefighters and the Teamsters declined to make a presidential endorsement).

Those labor endorsements matter to some, maybe not so much to others. We all have the right to free speech, and it's one of the things that makes America great. And ultimately that free speech takes place at the ballot box, when we decide who we think will best lead the nation for the next four years. Some will be outraged by their union's endorsement of Harris, others will be mildly angry, or disgusted, or indifferent.

Of course, react any way you'd like. But logically, there's one word that you can't use when it comes to understanding why Harris is overwhelmingly endorsed by organized labor: "surprised." That's because among the building trades, employment is at extraordinary levels, and is on track to be this way for years. Biden-Harris pushed through the CHIPS Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the Infrastructure Act, which combined are just now starting to fund construction activity to the tune of more than \$1.5 trillion over the next decade.

Higher wages have been a result of the boom times. Biden/Harris, literally asked labor unions what they need, and with the answers came presidential executive actions and budgetary resources that have instituted federally backed prevailing wage standards and project labor agreements. Worker-friendly overtime rules have been instituted. Union pension plans have been made whole. Biden-Harris bolstered OSHA and put decision-makers on the National Labor Relations Board who aren't union-busters, like Trump did.

The building trades unions' endorsement of Kamala Harris is a no-brainer, frankly. And please, that's not meant to demean your opinion if you're a supporter of Donald Trump. It's the result of actions and policy: obviously, the building trades have never, ever, seen a more friendly presidential administration. Not Clinton. Not Obama. Not Trump. As president of the Senate in her role as vice president, Harris cast the deciding vote for nearly all of the infrastructure and related work that will keep building trades workers employed for years.

The U.S. construction industry contributes about 4.5 percent to the nation's gross domestic product. It's a massive sector of the economy, and within it, the historic role of the nation's construction unions has been to maintain or bolster members' health, safety, wages, pensions, employment and their ability to collectively bargain. Biden-Harris has basically told labor unions: "we're here to help." But there are union members who think, somehow, that unions should also consider a candidate's position on other issues, like abortion, immigration rules, transgender rights or Second Amendment rights, that simply aren't in labor's wheelhouse.

Under that logic, shouldn't the National Rifle Association, Right to Life or other advocacy groups add the promotion of prevailing wages to their core mission? Don't hold your breath. Until then, the building trades unions will stay in their historic lane: supporting jobs, safety and the incomes of members – essentially, pocketbook issues; your livelihood.

And no matter what Fox News might be reporting, the economy is in very good shape, and for years to come, the outlook for the building trades is terrific. (If you want to knock the Biden-Harris administration for soaring inflation – it happened, although, the rate has come back down to more normal levels in the past three years. And corporate greed never seems to get much blame for why prices remained high).

Still, a lot of union members are going to vote for Trump, and also wonder why their union isn't endorsing him. There are other reasons for that non-endorsement. One among many, is that he's the same guy who said in his first campaign for president, "I like right to work." As a developer Trump actively screwed union contractors building his properties by refusing to pay what he had agreed to. He aggressively dismantled pro-union federal policies and appointed anti-labor judges and department heads while he was president.

More recently, Trump praised fellow billionaire Elon Musk on Aug. 13 for firing striking workers, and considered his fellow billionaire to lead a "government efficiency commission." "Well, you, you're the greatest cutter. I mean, I look at what you do," Trump told Musk. "You walk in and you just say, 'You want to quit?' They go on strike. I won't mention the name of the company, but they go on strike and you say, 'That's okay. You're all gone. You're all gone. So every one of you is gone.' And you are the greatest. You would be very good."

At a rally in Pennsylvania on Sept. 29, Trump shared how he really feels about workers and paying overtime. "I know a lot about overtime. I hated to give overtime, I hated it," Trump said. "I'd get other people – I shouldn't say this, but I'd get other people in. I wouldn't pay," Trump said, basically admitting to wage theft and hiring replacement workers.

To summarize: why are labor union leaders advocating for the election of Harris? Because she's been part of the self-described "most pro-union administration in history," and Biden-Harris have consistently backed up their slogan with concrete actions.

And why are unions shunning Trump? Because of his administration's four-year, anti-union record, and because his most recent comments prove that he hasn't changed. Moreover, just look at some of the anti-worker, pro-billionaire "features" of the 900-page *Project 2025*, which was developed by scores of Trump's associates as a Big Business template for resetting government, labor, taxation and social policies should Trump win the presidency again.

For whatever reason, of course you can disagree with your union's endorsement of Harris. But should you really be surprised by unions endorsing her? This is a presidential administration that demonstrably has shown that they believe in unions' higher training standards, better pay, and advocacy for safe working conditions. And for the past four years Biden-Harris have instituted policies and allocated funding to show that the high road taken by unions is the best path for the nation.

I mean, who do you expect your union to endorse, when Biden-Harris has advocated for organized labor in every possible way?

Marty Mulcahy
Editor, *The Building Tradesman*

To the Editor,

I recently saw that the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters endorsed Kamala Harris for president. At the same time, I heard that the Teamsters were not endorsing any Democratic candidate for the first time in many years, apparently due to the opinion of the members. I also saw that the Queens, New York local fitters may be supporting Trump at a rate of two to one.

While I have voted Democrat for decades, I can see the need for a change. The policies of the party have changed from the middle-class workers towards the extreme left-wing policies such as men in women sports and locker rooms, massive amounts of immigrants we will have to compete against, defunding the police, using tax dollars to pay off college debts for 160,000 college students, and eliminating industries that employ our members.

I tell everyone about the hard-working young guys with families I work with, I cannot believe this is the future they are working and looking for.

Mike Kowalczyk
Hadley, Mich.

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and to shorten them. Please sign the letter and include a way to contact you.

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NORTH AMERICA'S BUILDING TRADES Unions President Sean McGarvey addresses the Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference Sept. 28.

'5,000 fierce, determined, and powerful women' gather

(Continued from Page 1) opportunities geared towards empowering tradeswomen and increasing skills and knowledge to help them succeed and be fulfilled in their careers.

The conference featured speeches and participation from rank-and-file tradeswomen, national government officials including President Joe Biden and Department of Labor Secretary Julie Su, and labor leaders including AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, herself a union electrician.

"This isn't just a conference: it's a movement for empowerment, leadership, and changing the game for women in the trades," Shuler said, who called it a "gathering to show what sisterhood, mentorship, and leadership look like."

The event also underscored what NABTU called "the significance of the Infrastructure Generation – this once-in-a-generation workforce being created from the unprecedented federal policy wins delivered for working families in the construction industry – and emphasized the importance of the November election."

Biden told the conference

Let's use the law to corral price gouging

By Jim Hightower

Corporate lobbyists and politicians recently jumped all over Kamala Harris for her proposal to outlaw price gouging by food giants and grocery chains.

The partisans piled on Harris, sputtering like old Joe McCarthy that she was pushing "Soviet-style" government price-setting. Of course, these

latter-day McCarthyites were either lying, ignorant, or both. Far from promoting price-setting, Harris was blasting price gouging. Big difference.

The ugly truth is that most public officials have quietly been pro-gouging for decades. By refusing to enforce anti-trust laws, they've helped conglomerated food giants steadily amass monopoly power over the production, processing, and marketing of food in nearly every American community. Big brand names then use that brute force to crush independent competitors, cheat customers, and consolidate even more power for themselves.

That is illegal. We have national laws, like the 1936 *Robinson-Patman Act*, that prohibit corporations from rigging the rules to control markets and rip off consumers. But, since unlimited corporate campaign donations have flooded into our elections, monopolists have essentially bought off officials in both parties who now ignore antitrust law, rebranding such market thuggery as "free enterprise" efficiency.

Thus, local and state governments routinely hand out millions of our tax dollars to subsidize big name supermarket chains, meatpacking factories, dollar stores, and other giants – all in the name of "consumers" and "competition." No one mentions that these public giveaways provide the monopolistic market clout that allows the national outfits to clobber independent businesses, shrivel local competition and – voilà – gouge consumers.

This is Jim Hightower saying... So, Harris is right to call out grocery gouging and to push stronger actions to stop it, but action number one is to enforce the anti-monopoly laws already on the books.

that the number of women in apprenticeships in the U.S. has increased by 50 percent during his administration. He pointed to an iron worker from Cincinnati who joined her local union 20 years ago. "The job helped her raise a family. The career gave her pride in her community. Her union "helped build Cincinnati's skyline," Biden said. "And because of the historic investments we're making, she's going to be working 10 stories over the Ohio River, building a new billion-dollar bridge – literally building a bridge to American dreams. That's all of you."

Biden added: "I spent my whole career believing in unions. I'm honored to be considered the most pro-union president ever, and I make no apologies for that."

"The three-day conference and the entire TWBN movement cultivate leadership, mentorship, activism and sisterhood to address vital issues facing Tradeswomen worldwide. This year's conference theme was "Let the good jobs roll."

"In my 20 years at NABTU and throughout my career, I have always aspired to make sure that the next generation is even stronger," said NABTU President Sean McGarvey. "Looking out at the TWBN audience, at the sea of over 5,000 fierce, determined, and powerful women – living proof of our progress – I am more than confident that it will be."

Just joking

A blonde man calls 911 and shouts frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!"

The 911 operator tells him to calm down, and that help is on the way. "Is this her first child?" asked the operator.

"No!" he replied, "this is her husband!"



A blonde man spots a letter on his doormat. Stamped on the envelope, it says, "do not bend." He spends the next two hours trying to figure out how to pick it up.

A blonde man is in the shower. His wife calls out, "did you find the shampoo?"

"Yes, he called out, but it says it's for dry hair and I just wet mine!"

Broken roads sounds like a broken record: repair money still missing in action

(Continued from Page 1)

of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association. "Poor roads and failing bridges contribute to accidents, traffic jams, and fatalities, which drive up repair costs. As we continue to underinvest in infrastructure, fixing the problem becomes more and more expensive. We can no longer afford to keep kicking the can down the road."

If enacted, a \$3.9 billion annual funding boost to Michigan's infrastructure network would help get Michigan's roads and bridges back in good condition and provide needed stability for Michigan's construction industry tasked with maintaining road quality, MITA said.

In the 2023 report card for Michigan's infrastructure, issued by the American Society of Civil Engineers, Michigan received a grade of "D" for roads and a "D+" for bridges. The Transportation Asset Management Council found in their 2023 roads and bridges report that 33 percent of Michigan's federal-aid roads were in poor condition. That percentage is forecasted to increase to 52 percent by 2035 as federal and state funds dedicated to fixing infrastructure dwindle. Adding to the transportation troubles, the Michigan Transportation Fund, which is funded through the state gasoline tax, has consistently dropped with the rise of electric vehicles.

The brief, year-end lame duck session will see the Legislature in session with only 12 days to allocate additional road money.

"This is our purpose: to make as meaningful as possible this life that has been bestowed upon us; to live in such a way that we may be proud of ourselves; to act in such a way that some part of us lives on."

—Oswald Spengler (1880 - 1936)

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Doing the right thing in Bay City

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy

Winston Churchill once (supposedly) remarked, “Americans can always be trusted to do the right thing, once all other possibilities have been exhausted.”

In the spirit of that quotation, we make an admittedly oddball pivot to Bay City. Located south of Lake Huron’s Saginaw Bay, the town of 32,000 was once the self-proclaimed “Lumber Capitol of the World,” using its location on the Saginaw River to float logs and feed lumber mills that built all manner of homes, ships and businesses in the Midwest in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

That economy created prosperity in Bay City, which saw the construction of some classic homes and public and private buildings. But like the auto industry in Detroit, the furniture industry in Grand Rapids, and mining in the Upper Peninsula, the glory days of single-industry towns rarely last forever. And in many cases, neither do the aforementioned classic buildings.

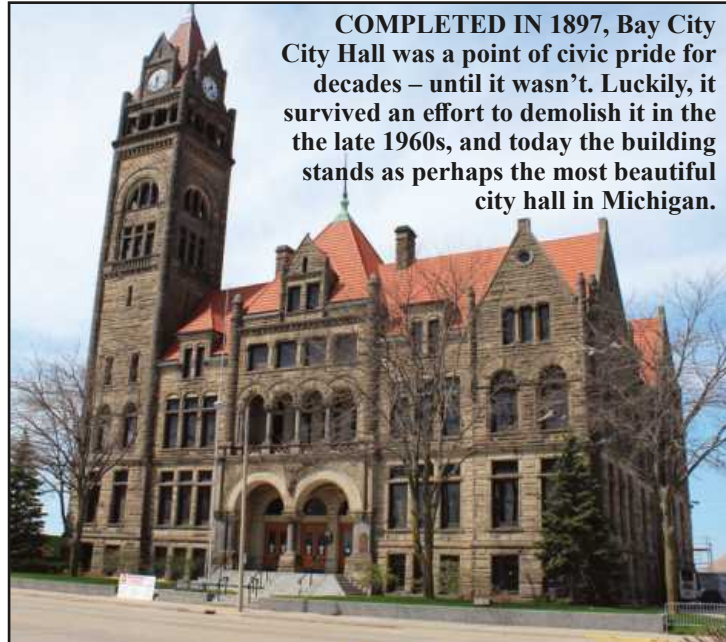
Bay City, like most other communities in Michigan, has a spotty win-loss record when it comes to historic preservation of buildings. Following are three examples of “wins.” But they also roughly illustrate Churchill’s observation that the right thing was done – once all other possibilities had been exhausted.

BAY CITY CITY HALL— You can argue otherwise, but architecturally, there isn’t a more beautiful city hall in the state of Michigan.

The City Hall was built from 1894 to 1897 at Washington and Eighth Streets, clad with a Michigan sandstone exterior. It “is an excellent example of municipal architecture in the American Romanesque style,” says the *Historic American Buildings Survey* by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

From the Society of Architectural Historians: “Led by Alderman Kroenke, voters approved in 1889 a bond issue to erect a modern new building to satisfy the needs of a growing and prosperous city. They conceived of an office for all time, one with ample capacity, convenience, and beauty. The Bay City Hall is a massive and magnificent public monument designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style.

“Its corner clock and bell tower soars 180 feet above the east bank of the Saginaw River in a gesture of civic spirit and pride. The city hall is constructed of granite and of light grayish-yellowish-brown Berea sandstone quarried at Amherst, Ohio. Inside, a spacious atrium extends from the



COMPLETED IN 1897, Bay City City Hall was a point of civic pride for decades – until it wasn’t. Luckily, it survived an effort to demolish it in the late 1960s, and today the building stands as perhaps the most beautiful city hall in Michigan.

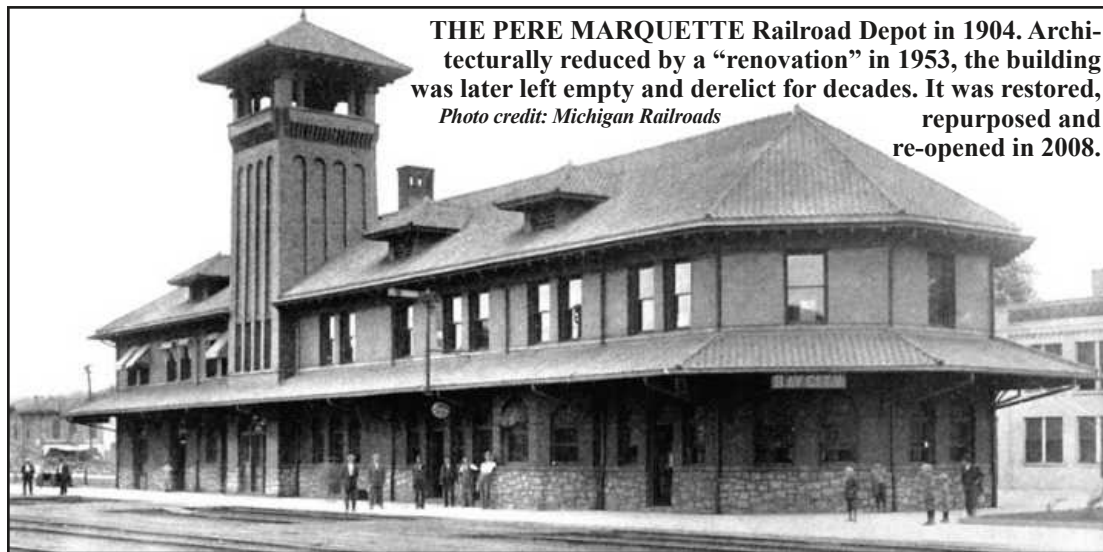
ground floor some 65 feet to a huge skylight.

“A splendid staircase with an elaborately scrolled cast-iron banister rises through all four floors of the building. The interior offers a rich display of ornamental metal and woodwork.”

And, in the spirit of urban renewal, lack of money for needed repairs, and a cultural blind spot for historic buildings that dominated the 1950s through the 1970s, Bay City City Hall was nearly demolished. In 1968-69, a study recommended that

it be torn down in favor of a newer, modern facility.

But it wasn’t demolished, and city fathers did the right thing and kept the building standing, due to a lack of \$2.5 million in funding for a new building. In 1975 came a turnaround in thinking, and a renovation upgraded its mechanical systems. The building survived a fire in 2010 caused by a spark on a re-roofing project, leading to a glorious remodeling of the building in 2013 that maintained its original appearance.



THE PERE MARQUETTE Railroad Depot in 1904. Architecturally reduced by a “renovation” in 1953, the building was later left empty and derelict for decades. It was restored, repurposed and re-opened in 2008. Photo credit: Michigan Railroads

PERE MARQUETTE RAILROAD DEPOT— When it was completed in March 1904, Bay City’s new train station wasn’t exactly a hit with the local newspaper.

“The exterior, with its tile roof, and odd surroundings, presents a quaint appearance and many will probably say upon looking at it from the street, that it is not good enough for this city,” said the *Bay City Evening Times*. Although, the interior drew the paper’s praise for its “comfort, convenience, and accommodation.”

Constructed in the Prairie style by Saginaw architect William T. Cooper and built by local contractors, the depot’s design was uncommon in Michigan, but the *Evening Times*’ description seems a bit harsh.

The Pere Marquette depot was located at Adams and 4th Streets in downtown Bay City. It was built by the Pere Marquette Railroad, which was incorporated in 1899 and operated in the Great Lakes region

for several decades. The station was used by the Pere Marquette until its formal merger with the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad in 1949. In 1951, passenger service was discontinued from the depot.

It was converted into a bus terminal—and then they wouldn’t leave well enough alone.

“In 1953, the 9,300 square-foot depot underwent an atomic-age modernization to convert it into a Greyhound bus terminal,” said *Building Design + Construction*, in a 2010 article featuring the renovation. “Classical features like the 66-foot-high observation tower, wraparound canopy, ornamental metal brackets, and porte-cochere were demolished. After the bus station closed in 1969, the property sat vacant for more than three decades.”

A history provided by the Bay Area Community Foundation, the current owner of the depot, said the “renovated” building (they used the quotes) saw the roof’s clay tiles replaced with asphalt shingles, and the

rails and sidings removed to make way for a concrete parking lot. Several windows were converted to door openings and vice versa. “A second floor was inserted into the two-story waiting room, damaging the decorative frieze.”

Greyhound left the building in 1969, and the former train station was left to rot: empty, vandalized and unused for 38 years. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982, and only resistance from local residents prevented its demolition.

In 2003, the Great Lakes Center Foundation purchased the depot, and began a \$6.2 million restoration. The water tower, canopy, and porte-cochere were reconstructed, and the waiting room was returned to its original two-story design.

In June 2008, the depot was open for the first time in nearly 40 years. A law firm and the Bay Area Community Foundation are housed in the building, which also hosts community events.



THE CHEESE GRATER siding is partially removed, at left, from the Crapo Building in 2018. At right is a summer 2024 photo of the restored building at Washington and Center avenues.

THE CRAPO BUILDING— In 2018, general contractor Spence Brothers and building trades union workers, as part of a project to renovate the Crapo Building in downtown Bay City, removed the white aluminum siding that had covered and “Modernized” the entire exterior of the building since it was a bank in 1959.

The removal of the metal panels was obviously the right the to do, but it raised the question – what the hell were you thinking? – to whoever signed off on covering the beautiful masonry facade in 1959. Thankfully, Acosta Development appreciated the beauty of the building, which was erected in 1892. They underwrote a \$12 million total renovation of the 60,000-square-foot structure. Originally built by William Crapo, a former director of the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad, it was transformed into “The Legacy,” which houses 26 residential apartments and commercial spaces.

As we reported in 2018, during the renovation, while the center portion of the skin had been removed, developer Jennifer Acostas said “the town was kind of blown away to see such a beautiful building. People kept asking me, ‘when are you going to take away the rest of that cheese grater?’”

Facts, not the media, say economy is ‘damn good by any measure’

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recovery package, along with his infrastructure bill, the CHIPS Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act, all of which have sustained growth even as the impact of the initial recovery package faded.

While the CARES Act, pushed through when Trump was in office, provided essential support during the shutdown period, it was not sufficient to push through the recovery.

Finally, the negative assessment that voters routinely give the Biden administration on the economy seems more based on what they hear from the media or elsewhere. They generally rate their own financial situation positively and say that the economy in their city or state is doing well. It is only the national economy, of which they have no direct knowledge, that they rate poorly.

Let the good times roll. (First) I’ll just state the obvious. Tens of millions of people are struggling to get by, or not getting by at all. This is a horrible situation, which we should be trying to change every way we can. However, this has always been the case. We have a badly underdeveloped system of social supports.

It’s also the case that the spurt of inflation in 2021 and 2022 was a shock after a long period of low inflation. People found themselves paying considerably more for food, gas, shelter, and other essentials, and in many cases their pay did not keep up, especially at the time these prices were soaring.

But the Biden administration has taken important steps to directly improve the situation for low- and moderate-income people, notably by making the subsidies in the exchanges created by the Affordable Care Act, or ACA, more generous and expanding the Child Tax Credit.

We have made an enormous amount of progress in improving living standards during Biden’s presidency. Just as President Obama faced an economic crisis when he took office, and rushed through a stimulus, Biden also faced a crisis. Obama went in with a modest package, due to both political constraints and concerns about the deficit. The result was a slow recovery.

Biden seemed determined not to repeat this mistake, proposing a \$1.9 trillion (3.9 percent of GDP) package to be disbursed over two years. This included a number of items to protect people against the impact of the pandemic, such as enhanced unemployment benefits and the \$1,400 stimulus checks.

In addition to addressing immediate needs, the money was supposed to kick-start the economy, and it did. It is not generally recognized that job growth had slowed to a crawl in the period just before Biden took over. Job growth averaged just 140,000 a month in the last three months of the Trump administration. At that pace, it would have taken us five and a half years to get back the jobs we lost in the pandemic. Thanks to Biden’s recovery package, we got the jobs back in less than a year and half.

In the two years after the American Rescue Plan (ARP) was passed, the economy generated almost 11 million jobs, an average of more than 450,000 a month. The unemployment rate had fallen to 3.9 percent by the end of 2021. It ticked up to 4 percent in January 2022, but then fell back below 4 percent the following month. It had been below 4.0 percent, until it just crossed over to 4.1 percent in June. This is the longest streak of below 4.0

percent unemployment in more than 70 years.

It is important to emphasize that the ARP was entirely Biden’s work. Not a single Republican in either house of Congress voted for it. He and his economic team recognized the mistake of the Obama administration: that it didn’t go big enough in responding to crisis.

While the news reporting was filled with gloomy stories about employers being unable to find workers, the much happier – and far less widely reported – flip side of this was that workers, including those at the bottom rung of the pay ladder, gained unprecedented market power. These workers had the ability to quit jobs that paid poorly, had bad working conditions, offered limited opportunities for advancement, or where the boss was a jerk.

The result was that the huge burst of job shifting did allow tens of millions of workers to end up in better jobs. The Conference Board’s survey on workers’ self-described level of workplace satisfaction hit a record high in 2023.

We have seen very impressive wage growth at the lower end of the labor market. A recent paper by Arindrajit Dube, David Autor, and Annie McGrew found that much of the wage inequality built up over the prior four decades was reversed in the recovery from the pandemic.

An analysis by the Economic Policy Institute showed workers in the bottom decile getting real wage gains of 12.1 percent since 2019. Workers in the second-lowest quintile saw real wage gains of 5.0 percent. Given decades of stagnant or declining real wages, this is a big deal.

The real inflation story. As we all know, we have seen the largest spike in inflation in more than four decades. This was bad news, but it was inevitable after the pandemic, which disrupted economies all over the world, reducing production in many areas. It also led to a huge increase in demand for goods, as people unable to spend their money on travel, restaurants, and other services instead looked to buy cars, computers, and refrigerators. This led to the massive supply-chain problems that featured prominently in news stories in the first two years of Biden’s presidency.

The impact of the pandemic was compounded by the fallout from Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. This sent oil and gas prices soaring, in addition to the price of the grains that Ukraine was at least temporarily unable to export. The good news is that inflation by many measures has fallen back to nearly its pre-pandemic rate. Over the last year, the inflation rate in the Consumer Price Index, excluding owners’ equivalent rent, was 2.4 percent in September. That compares to 2.2 percent in January 2020 before the pandemic hit.

Biden’s Big Three: Infrastructure, CHIPS, and IRA. In addition to the ARP, Biden managed to get three major economic packages through Congress. In the fall of 2021, Biden got Congress to approve a bipartisan infrastructure package. The bill provided \$1.2 trillion (2 percent of federal spending) for maintaining and improving infrastructure.

While Trump had repeatedly tried to push infrastructure, he never produced a bill that came close to passing. In addition to the standard bridges and roads infrastructure, Biden’s bill included funding for replacing lead pipes, spreading internet access to currently underserved areas, and building a nationwide network of charging

stations for electric vehicles.

The CHIPS and Science Act was the second bill, passed in the summer of 2022. This was a package of incentives and research spending designed to put the U.S. at the forefront in the production of cutting-edge semiconductors. It addresses our current dependence on foreign suppliers, most notably Taiwan. The package is projected to cost \$80 billion (0.1 percent of the federal budget) over the next decade.

The third package was the Inflation Reduction Act, or IRA, which provided an array of subsidies and direct payments to support the transition to a green economy, as well as tax measures to cover the cost.

Given the chaotic situation Biden faced in trying to push legislation through an almost evenly divided Congress, if Biden had planned the timing, he could hardly have done better than the way it turned out. The spending from these measures is kicking in just as the boost from the ARP is waning. This is not only on the government-spending side, but more importantly in the private sector.

The path going forward. The Biden administration has also taken direct steps to limit or end some of the most abusive practices of corporate America. The administration got authority in the IRA to negotiate the price that Medicare pays for a number of important drugs. This will translate into billions of dollars of savings each year. Biden also capped the price that seniors pay for insulin.

In a similar vein, the Biden administration has arguably been the most pro-union since FDR. Biden took the unprecedented step of walking a picket line during the United Auto Workers’ successful strike last fall. He has appointed solidly pro-labor people to the National Labor Relations Board. This can have a large effect over time, but laws and corporate practices have become hugely tilted against labor over the last half-century, so reversing course will not be easy.

However, big contracts won by the UAW, the Teamsters with UPS, and several other major unions provide a serious basis for optimism.

Yes, the economy is good. The media have taken every opportunity to exaggerate or even invent bad news about the economy, while largely ignoring the positives. When the endless repetition of bad news gets amplified in social media outlets like X/Twitter and TikTok, it is not surprising that most people would have negative views of the economy.

When we tell people that the economy is good, it is this disinformation that we are contradicting, not people’s own experience of their economic situation. As a useful benchmark in this discussion, we should acknowledge the fact that if we had the exact same economy and Donald Trump was in the White House, he would be constantly saying “greatest economy ever!” Every Republican politician and pundit in the country would be repeating this line. And the media would likely be telling us how the strong economy will make it difficult to defeat Trump in November.

It is important that people rely on the facts about the economy and not what the media tell them to think and say. The Biden economy is damn good by any measure, and he deserves credit for it. That’s the real deal.

(This article was condensed. Baker is the co-founder for the Center for Economic Policy Research, a left-leaning policy center).

The Building Tradesman

ISSN-007-3717

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

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Visit our website: www.michiganbuildingtrades.org

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


Phone: (313) 961-3800
Fax: (313) 961-2467

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

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



MICHIGAN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL
BUILDING MICHIGAN UNION

Printed at Grand Blanc Printing, a union shop



Endorsement List

for the Nov. 5 General Election

Below are candidates endorsed by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its local affiliate councils for the statewide Nov. 5 General Election.

President/Vice President of the United States
Kamala Harris/Tim Walz

Michigan Supreme Court Justice
Kimberly Ann Thomas
Kyra Harris Bolden

Representatives in Congress
CD-1: Callie Barr
CD-2: Micheal Lynch
CD-3: Hillary Scholten
CD-4: Jessica Swartz
CD-5: Libbi Urban
CD-6: Debbie Dingell
CD-7: Curtis Hertel
CD-8: Kristen McDonald Rivet
CD-9: Clinton St Mosley
CD-10: Carl Marlinga
CD-11: Haley Stevens

Michigan House of Representatives
District 1: Tyrone Carter
District 2: Tullio Liberati
District 3: Alabas Farhat
District 4: Karen Whitsett
District 5: Regina Weiss
District 6: Natalie Price
District 7: Tonya Myers Phillips
District 8: Helena Scott
District 9: Joseph Tate
District 10: Veronica Paiz
District 11: Donovan McKinney
District 12: Kimberly Edwards
District 13: Mai Xiong
District 14: Mike McFall
District 15: Erin Byrnes
District 16: Stephanie Young
District 17: Laurie Pohutsky
District 18: Jason Hoskins
District 19: Samantha Steckloff
District 20: Noah Arbit
District 21: Kelly Breen
District 22: Matt Koleszar
District 23: Jason Morgan
District 24: Ranjeev Puri
District 25: Peter Herzberg
District 26: Dylan Wegela
District 27: Jaime Churches
District 28: Janise O'Neil Robinson
District 29: Kyle Wright
District 30: Rick Kull
District 31: Reggie Miller
District 32: Jimmie Wilson
District 33: Morgan Foreman
District 34: John Dahlgren
District 34: Michael Malmborg
District 36: Erin Schultes
District 37: Angela Jones
District 38: Joey Andrews
District 40: Matt Longjohn
District 41: Julie Rogers
District 42: Austin Marsman
District 43: Danene Shumaker
District 44: Jim Haadsma
District 45: Doug Murch
District 46: Daniel Mahoney
District 47: Carrie Rheingans
District 48: Jennifer Conlin
District 49: Andy Wood
District 53: Brenda Carter
District 54: Shadia Martini
District 55: Trevis Harold
District 56: Sharon MacDonell
District 57: Aisha Farooqi
District 58: Nate Shannon
District 61: Denise Mentzer
District 62: Michelle Levine-Woodman
District 64: John Anter
District 65: Shirley Tomczak
District 68: Matt Schlinker
District 69: Jasper Martus
District 70: Cynthia Neeley
District 71: Mark Zacharda
District 72: Mike Mueller
District 73: Julie Brixie
District 74: Kara Hope
District 75: Penelope Tsemnoglou
District 76: Angela Witwer
District 77: Emily Dievendorf
District 79: Jason Rubin
District 80: Phil Skaggs
District 81: Stephen Wooden
District 82: Kristian Grant
District 83: John Fitzgerald
District 84: Carol Glanville
District 86: Abby Klomparsens
District 87: Will Snyder
District 88: Tim Meyer
District 92: Tim Odykirk
District 94: Amos O'Neal
District 96: Rudy Howard Jr.
District 101: Christopher Crain
District 102: Kathy Pelleran-Mahoney
District 103: Betsy Coffia
District 105: James Wojey
District 106: Trina Borenstein
District 108: Christiana Reynolds

United States Senator
Elissa Slotkin

University of Michigan Board of Regents: Denise Illitch, Shauna Ryder Diggs

Wayne State University Board of Governors: Mark Gaffney, Rasha Demashkiah

Northern Michigan University Board of Trustees: Katie Barglind, Elise Matz

Northern Michigan Building Trades Council Grand Traverse County Commissioner
District 2: Lauren Flynn
District 3: Ashlea Walter
District 4: Fern Spence
District 5: Trenton Lee
District 6: Jan Wyant
District 7: TJ Andrews
District 9: Pam Kiaser

Genesee-Lapeer-Saginaw Building Trades Council Genesee County Sheriff: Chris Swanson
Prosecutor: David Layton
Clerk/Register of Deeds: Dominique Clemons
Drain Commissioner: Jeff Wright
Treasurer: Sam Muma
District Court Judge
7th District: Marry Hood
67th District: Jeff Clothier

Mundy Twp Supervisor: Tonya Ketzler
Grand Blanc Twp. Supervisor: Scott Bennett

Tri-County Building Trades Council Bay County Executive: Jim Barcia
Clerk: Katie Zanotti
Register of Deeds: Brandon Krouse
Drain Commissioner: Bill Jordan

Bay County Commission District 2: Kathie Marchlewski
District 3: Colleen Maillette
District 5: Tom Herek
District 7: Marnie Westphal

Bay City Commission Ward 2: Craig Kokaly

Saginaw County County Commissioner
District 3: Tarsha Works

Public Works Commissioner: Brian Wendling
Saginaw City Council: Carly Rose

West Michigan Building Trades Council Muskegon County County Commission
District 3: Sandra Boone Thomas
District 4: Chris McGuigan
District 5: Charles Nash

Kent County County Commission: District 3: Marshall Kilgore
District 5: Vanessa Lee
District 8: Chris Herweyer
District 10: Roslund Harris
District 12: Monica Sparks
District 20: Nancy Morales

Clerk Register of Deeds: Scott Urbanowski

Grand Rapids Mayor: David LeGrand
Trustee: Tim Russ

Grand Rapids Twp. Supervisor: Justin Sheldon

Ottawa County Commissioner
District 2: Chris Kleinjans

Lansing Area /SE Michigan Building Trades Eaton County Commission
10th District: Jacob Toomey

Ingham County Clerk: Barb Byrum
Prosecutor: John Dawane
Circuit Court Judge: Shauna Dunning, Jim Jamo, Lisa McCormick



Ingham County Commission District 5: Myles Johnson
District 13: Tanya Pratt
District 15: Michelle Rosa

Lansing Community College Trustee: Ryan Smith

Meridian Township Supervisor: Scott Hendrickson
Clerk: Angela Demas
Treasurer: Phil Deschaine
Trustee: Nicklos Lentz, Peter Trezise

Jackson County Commission District 7: Darius Williams
District 8: John Willis

Jackson Community College Trustee: Daniel Mackey

Jackson Board of Education
Scott Damich, Tabitha Williams

Washtenaw County City of Saline Mayor: Brian Marl

Greater Detroit Building Trades Council Wayne County Prosecutor: Kym Worthy
Clerk: Cathy Garrett
Sheriff: Raphael Washington
County Commission District 1: Tim Killeen
District 2: Jonathan Kinloch
District 3: Martha Scott
District 4: Cara Clemente
District 5: Irma Clark Coleman
District 6: Monique Baker McCormick
District 7: Alisha Bell
District 8: David Knezek
District 9: Terry Marecki
District 10: Melissa Daub
District 11: Allen Wilson
District 12: Glenn Anderson
District 13: Sam Beydoun
District 14: Alex Garza
District 15: Joseph Palamara

Wayne County Third Circuit Judge: John Larkin
Wayne County Probate Judge: Macie Gaines

Schoolcraft College Bd. of Trustees: Dillion Breen, Candy Little

Canton Township Supervisor: Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
Treasurer: Dian Slavens
Clerk: Michael Siegrist
Trustee: Kate Borninski, Sommer Foster, Tani Ganguly, Ammara Ansari

Dearborn Board of Education Trustee: Robbin Makled
35th District Court Judge: Michael Woodyard

Detroit Board of Education Trustee: Sherry Gay Dagnogo, Boyd White

Garden City City Council: Brenden McArthur, Jeff Dold

Livonia 16th District Judge: Jim Jolly

Redford Township Trustee: Lily Cavanagh

Macomb County Prosecutor: Christina Hines
Treasurer: Matthew Churchwell
Sheriff: Anthony Wickersham
Probate Judge: Aaron Hall

Macomb County Commission District 5: Megan Kola
District 11: Harold Haugh
District 12: Michael Howard

Clinton Township Supervisor: Paul Gielegem
Treasurer: Tammy Patton
Trustee: Shannon King, Julie Matuzak, Iona Means

New Haven Bd. of Education Trustee: Val Pod Romeo
Village Trustee: Nolan Kare



Elevator Constructors Local 36

Elevator Constructors Local 36
DETROIT- ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED; Our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE October 28, 2024, at 5:30pm at 1640 Porter Street, Detroit, MI. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

Don't forget Tuesday Nov. 5, 2024, is election day. Get out and vote!

If you haven't enrolled in the IUEC's new National Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, we've entered the second enrollment window for guaranteed approved disability and life insurance coverage.

Active Members can enroll by Oct. 23 in any or all these supplemental coverages for a Nov. 1, 2024, coverage effective date: To learn more or enroll, go to <https://iuecvip.com> or call the IUEC Service Center, 224-487-5030.

These tax-free benefits can help you continue to get paid when you're unable to work due to illness, injury, surgery, mental health conditions, substance abuse treatment, or death. The benefits are paid in addition to other benefits you may receive, providing a financial safety net when you need it most.

Dan Tovrog from Union One Insurance will be at the October meeting to answer any question.

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

IUEC Local 36 has started a Veteran Assistance Committee. Scott Erison has volunteered to chair the committee and will be working directly with Jason Gray, IUEC VAP National Chair. Once we get a schedule figured out, we will have monthly meetings to get information out to our veterans.

You don't have to be a veteran to be part of this committee, like myself, my father is a Vietnam Vet and I have witnessed firsthand what the veteran's benefits has done for him and I'm a big supporter of these programs and our veterans. Contact Scott Erison (586)482-0768 or email him at sanosire1973@gmail.com if you would like to get involved or have questions.

There will be a Veteran's Day Parade on Sunday November 10, 2024, I sent out an email with details on the parade and you can also visit <https://www.detroitveteransdayparade.com/> to register, find parade route, parking and times. Contact the hall with any questions.

The picnic assessment will be \$45 per member and will be



Oakland County Executive: Dave Coulter
Treasurer: Robert Wittenberg
Clerk: Lisa Brown
Prosecutor: Karen McDonald
Sheriff: Michael Bouchard
Water Resources Comm.: Jim Nash
6th Circuit Judge: Nicole Huddleston
44th District Judge: Andrew Kowalkowski
46th District Court Judge: Robin Dillard Russaw
52-3 District Court Judge: Laura Polizzi

Oakland County Commission District 1: Dave Woodward
District 2: Penny Luebs
District 3: Ann Erickson Gault
District 4: Brendan Johnson
District 9: Angela Powell
District 11: Marcia Gershenson
District 14: Ajay Ram
District 15: Gwen Markham
District 16: William Miller
District 17: Yolanda Smith Charles
District 18: Linnie Taylor
District 19: Charlie Cavell

Troy City Council: Edward Ross

Waterford Township Supervisor: Mary Craite
Clerk: Johnathon Wertheimer
Trustee: Robin McGregor, John Paul Torres

assessed with fourth quarter dues.

The Elevator Industry Work Preservation Fund (EIWPF) has developed a "Code Liaison" at every local to help members with code questions and holds no less than two (2) Code Outreach Sessions each year. Local 36 has appointed Brother Scott Tucker as our "Code Liaison" and we are in the process of setting up Code Outreach Sessions in the near future. This program is in the infant stages, but we hope it takes off and helps members understand code and how important it is to our industry. If you would like to contact Brother Tucker, his phone number is (248)318-3564 or email him questions @ qeicodes@gmail.com or contact the hall for more information.

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

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office (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 (1) week waiting period.

If you are off for a work-related injury, there is a separate form you must fill out to extend your insurance. Call the hall with any questions.

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

If there is a Red Tag on the disconnect from the State of Michigan or the City of Detroit inspector, you are required to call that inspector before starting work on the equipment.

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 email the hall @ Local36@iuec36.org with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanic's phone numbers, how many teams, type**

of equipment installing, how many stops and jobsite hours. This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

Attention All Mechanics, when filling out Probationary Apprentices OJTs, give them an honest evaluation, if you are having issues with them, state it on the OJTs. They will be evaluated at the JAC meeting, and if necessary, bring them in to try and correct any issues.

Attention All Apprentices, if you are scheduled to sit for the Mechanic's exam, you must fill out your OJTs till you get your passing results. Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!**

If you are eligible to sit for your State of Michigan or City of Detroit class A journeyman's license, study the code books and schedule a time to sit for them. If you pass your mechanic's exam and don't have your licenses you are not eligible to work in the State or City as a Mechanic without them. Getting your licenses and any certificates/training only makes you more valuable as an employee. If you need help with any part of the process, call the hall.

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

We extend best wishes and a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick list. Be safe and stay healthy!

Trump talks a good game about labor - then we read Project 2025

(Continued from Page 1)

But there is an old Washington saying: personnel is policy. Former Trump officials authored most of Project 2025's chapters, including the labor section. Some are veterans of Trump's anti-union Labor Department.

Donald Trump may not be concerned with the details of policy-making, but Project 2025's authors are, and it is more than likely that many of them will run the show regarding labor policy if he is elected this November.

Project 2025 represents a clear and present danger to the IBEW and the labor movement.

We have made so much progress under the Biden-Harris administration in the last four years. Joe Biden appointed officials supportive of organized labor and ensured that we had a seat at the table regarding legislation and rules that directly affect us. Kamala Harris and Tim Walz have shown in action they plan to stay the course, and I am committed to fighting to keep our nation moving forward when it comes to workers' rights.

Federal loan delivery to unleash Palisades work

(Continued from Page 1)

financial milestone positions Palisades to be back online by the fourth quarter of 2025," the company said.

That's likely an ambitious re-start date - numerous federal regulators will have to sign off on the plant's re-start, a process which could possibly take a couple of years.

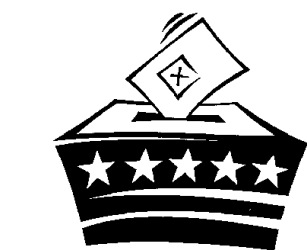
"This loan funding is not only a critical financial milestone but a bellwether for the vital role that nuclear energy will play in securing our clean energy future," said Dr. Kris Singh, Founder and CEO of Holtec International. "The repowering of Palisades is a testament to our dedication to revitalizing the nuclear industry and ensuring a sustainable, carbon-free energy source for generations to come. It is also a tremendous credit to the strong backing we have received from our partners in the federal government, State of Michigan, local community, and throughout the nuclear industry."

The announcement took place at the plant before a large gathering of Holtec associates, skilled trades, community members, government leaders, and other guests. The building trades are expected to work thousand of personnel-hours on the project.

The Palisades plant, located on the Lake Michigan shoreline in Van Buren County, began operation in 1971. It was shut down in May 2022 because its operation was no longer "economically viable," according to Holtec. With the state and federal governments taking a second look at the loss of those important 800 megawatts of carbon-free energy, both put up money to re-start the plant.

Before its scheduled shutdown, Palisades operated in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's highest safety category and was recognized as a top performing plant within the industry. In years past, however, it had a checkered reliability history.

The third historic "first" at the plant: the building trades will be installing a pair of "small modular reactors" at the site, which will add a total of 600 megawatts of power capacity. They are expected to come online in 2030, and would be the first of their type installed in the nation.





Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **November 8, 2024**. This meeting will be at Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. The address is 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI. 48101.

Please make every effort to attend our December Union Meeting at our Union Hall. Dinner and refreshments will be provided immediately following the meeting. I encourage all active and retired members to come out and share some fellowship with your union brothers and sisters.



BOB HUTSELL some fellowship with your union brothers and sisters.

A current list of candidates that are endorsed by Boilermakers Local 169 and the Michigan Building Trades Affiliates is available on our website at www.boilermakerslocal169.com. I encourage all members to make their voices heard this election year.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be October 16, 2024, at 11am. The location is Sporty's Wing Shack, 4502 N. Huron Road, Pinconning, MI. 48650. Retirees from all areas are welcome.

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

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45.00. Payments can be made with cash or check. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

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

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

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers

(Continued next column)



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is **Tuesday, November 19, at 7:00 pm. There will also, be an executive board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm.** Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters. We will be serving food and refreshments before the meeting.

Membership gold cards- Congratulations! November 2024

**Jose Hernandez-25 Years
Labaron Dixon-30 Years
Sidney Wilder-40 Years
Albert Psujek-50 Years**
Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to: abest@opciami.org Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

For any questions regarding the Apprenticeship program, contact Tommy Sanchez, the new Apprenticeship coordinator, at (313) 350-0389.

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

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

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

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

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

Attention all apprentices, now you will need to go to the website: www.micementplasterertraining.com to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice"

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

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

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

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

Please make sure your modules and drug test are up to date, there are some plant jobs that do require the MUST modules. You can go online at: www.muston-line.org

Local 169, con't

ers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

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

line.org Call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

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

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

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

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

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

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Plasterers and Cement Masons: It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local.

Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local.

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

Plasterers and Commercial Cement Masons can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and toll free 1-877-876-9357.

All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. **For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.



ERECTING A CASTLE TURRET as part of a theme at the Bavarian Inn waterpark in Frankenmuth are (l-r) masons Bryan Carveno, Nate Pepora and Nathan Rytlewski. The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 members are employed by McMath Masonry.



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2

WARREN - **OCTOBER 2024 CHAPTER MEETINGS.**

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, October 21, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

NOVEMBER 2024 CHAPTER MEETINGS.

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, November 05, 2024 is CANCELLED due to Election Day.

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, November 05, 2024 is CANCELLED due to Election Day.

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, November 06, 2024 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, November 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, November 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Thursday, November 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Road West, Traverse City, MI 49685

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: **NEW LOCATION & DATE** The Local 2 Christmas Party (GOOD STANDING MEMBERS ONLY) will be held on **SATURDAY, December 14, 2024** at Laurel Manor located at 39000 Schoolcraft Rd in Livonia (between Eckles and Newburgh Road). The doors for this event will open at 5:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you on December 14!

UNION DUES UPDATE: As of **January 01, 2024**, the dues discount has changed. It is now pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive a discount, you must be

current on dues. **Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.**

TEXTING PROGRAM: Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following: Text **2MI to 50607**

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

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

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

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

SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS: Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors.

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

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

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2024 online training classes.

APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS: Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice

Worksheets **MUST** be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>. For more information on the Training Centers visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE: 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)

Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954

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

Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

"The world is moving so fast these days that the man who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it."

–Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878 - 1969)

"A sense of duty is useful in work, but offensive in personal relations. People wish to be liked, not be endured with patient resignation."

–Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

"If the people who make the decisions are the people who will also bear the consequences of those decisions, perhaps better decisions will result."

–John Abrams

"Would those of you in the cheaper seats clap your hands? And the rest of you, if you'll just rattle your jewelry."

–John Lennon (1940 - 1980)

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UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 11 and will start at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. At this meeting the reading of the annual audit will take place. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

(MEETING VIA ZOOM) FOR GAS DISTRIBUTION MICHIGAN & OHIO MEMBERS - We will have a meeting on Monday, Oct. 28 at 6 p.m. via ZOOM online. Information will be sent out via text message on how to join the virtual meeting. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings. We are sending out Robo calls (caller ID "Oklahoma City, OK") to keep you updated and informed, if you are NOT receiving these messages it means we do not have a current phone number on file for you, please contact the hall to update.

REQUALIFICATION TEST FOR CONSUMERS ENERGY AND SEMCO ENGERY: The following dates there will be a requalification weld test for Consumers Energy and Semco Energy at Local 190's Training Center at 8040 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor MI. Monday, December 2nd through Friday, December 6th Monday, December 9th through Friday, December 13th

Also please be aware there is a policy change with Consumers Energy and Semco. 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!!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – 3rd ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOR ALL: This year, UA Local 190 will provide 190 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. 16 at 9 a.m. at the UA Local 190 Union Hall, breakfast will be served and then we will assemble individual dinner packages. Second date is Saturday, Nov. 23 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!!

UNION HALL CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS: For the Thanksgiving holiday the office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

For the Christmas holiday the office will be closing at Noon on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and will be closed all day, Wednesday, Dec. 25. Merry Christmas to all of you and your family members.

For the News Year's Eve holiday, the office will be closing at Noon on Tuesday, Dec. 31 and will be closed all day, Wednesday, Jan. 1. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS - LAID OFF/BACK TO WORK: All members who get laid off or report back to work please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work. PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN: If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades. Please contact Kristyn at out Training Center to get information on a UA 21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1 for Kristyn

FUSING CLASS: Anyone interested in registering for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy, (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth, (734) 369-1432.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION - E-Mail address: Please contact the union hall 734-424-0962 or Pat Duffy 734-368-4423 to make sure we have a current e-mail address.

MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

CREDIT CARD MACHINE: You now have the ability to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit card or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A surcharge of 3% is added to your card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

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

BERNADETTE MAUS IS OUR FULL TIME BENEFITS MANAGER: Bernadette 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.

2021 State of Michigan Plumbing Code Update is scheduled for Nov. 4, 2024, at the UA 190 Union Hall, at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103. From 5-8:30pm. Please show up at least a half hour early for check in. Late arrivals will not be registered and must be rescheduled. Participants must bring their State Photo ID, Union Card, and current Plumbing License to attend. Participants must also be a member in good standing with the UA to attend. Please call Kristyn at the training center to be scheduled. Class size is limited to 100 participants, this class is a State of Michigan requirement to renew your plumbing license.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL APRIL 2025, classes will fill up fast. The Training Center will be closed Nov. 28-29 in observance of Thanksgiving Day. The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5:00pm. Friday 8am. to 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. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. Check your certifications to make sure that you are current!

Please submit all certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date.

Welding Lab: Open welding lab will run from Sept. 3 to Dec. 14, 2024, and run Monday through Thursday 4pm to 8:30pm and Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm. There is limited space and first come first served. Saturdays will only remain open with member participation. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). 2024 Schedule: First course starts on Jan 9, 2024. The second course starts Sept 10, 2024. Courses run on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE PRICE INCREASE ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this re-certification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). 2024 Schedule: The third course starts Oct 15th, 2024. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call

Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters,
Service Technicians,
Gas Distribution

Local 190



Local 357
Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters &
HVAC Service

UA 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

NOTE: Nominations will be held at the November 12th Union Meeting. Per the UA Constitution Sec 121, no member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he/she shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to the election.

Positions up for election are as follows: 1 Business Manager; 1 Business Agent; 1 President; 1 Vice President; 1 Recording Secretary; 4 Executive Board Members; 3 Finance Committee Members; 1 Door Guard; 5 Delegates; 3 Examining Board Members; 1 Trustee for Pension (9 year term) and 2 Trustees for Health & Welfare (3 and 9 year term).

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 MEETING: Retiree lunch meetings will now be BREAKFAST on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at The Crew located at 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 337-9800.

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

There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorcees. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents.

(See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Jerin Jameson on his recent marriage.

Local 190, con't

the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. 2024 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 Fall 2024. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Course schedule to be announced later. Please register through the website: ua190.org

RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Nov. 7 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.



Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,
Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

DETROIT – Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Nov. 19, 2024 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (at the Lodge) Southfield, MI 48075.

Special Called Meeting is scheduled for nominations for the offices of Business Manager, Financial Secretary-Treasurer Assistant Business Manager, (5) Business Agents, (1) President, (1) Vice President, (4) Executive Board, (3) Examining Board, (1) Recording Secretary, (1) Assistant Recording Secretary, (3) Financial Committee, (1) Inside Sentry, (25) Michigan Pipe Trades Delegates. The Meeting will be held on Nov. 5, 2024 at 7:00 pm at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48075.

Nominees must be a member in good standing for 2 years prior to the election to be eligible. Nominations may be made in person at the Nominations Meeting including self-nominations or in writing. Written nominations should include the address, phone number and UA card number of the nominee and must specify the office for which the nomination is made and should be signed by the nominee.

Written nominations must be received by President Bill Helwig by email – bhelwig@pipefitters636.org and please cc Jake Regits email – jregits@pipefitters636.org. Written nominations must be received by Nov. 4, 2024 by 4:30 pm.

A candidates' meeting will be held following the nominations meeting. It is very important that candidates make every effort to attend this meeting. The rules for candidates running for election will be discussed.

Special Called Meeting for Elections of Officers and Michigan Pipe Trades delegates will be held on Dec. 3, 2024 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48075. Polls will open at 11:00 am and close at 7:00 pm with a meeting immediately after for the reading of the results. All members must be in good standing for 1 year to vote. Members should be prepared to present a membership card; drivers license or other form of identification at the polls.

In the case of a tie vote developing for any of the offices a run off election will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024 from 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm prior to our regular scheduled meeting for our Annual Awards Banquet at Penna's of Sterling 38400 Van Dyke Ave Sterling Heights MI 48312.

CHANGE OF VENUE FOR OUR DECEMBER MEETING /AWARDS BANQUET, THIS YEAR WE WILL BEAT PENNAS OF STERLING 38400 Van Dyke Ave., Sterling Heights, MI 48312. Doors open at 6:30 pm with meeting, awards and dinner to follow. Look forward to seeing you all there.

Office Hours are 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday.

CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held Nov. 21. The Retiree Association is looking to recruit more retirees to their meetings. The meetings are a great place to catch up, find out helpful information and enjoy very informative guest speakers. The Retirees will be meeting the 3rd Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall.

PLDF. For those still owing on PLDF we are only able to take checks or money orders for payment.

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

Deceased Members – Lifetime Member James Loop, Sept. 17, 2024;

Get Well Wishes to; Paul Franjesh, Andre Cadaret, David Hochstein, Daniel Creps, James Jacobone, and Thomas L. Williams Jr. Timothy R. Marciniak, Brandon Kandler, Tom Tabin, Denver Malenfant, Jason McNamara, Ryan Seitz, Jeff Stebner, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Marty Elwart, Jason Howe, Buddy Woods and Matthew T. Miller.

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

June: Charles Thomas. **July:** Steven Shepherd, Joel Williams, Andrew Robertson, Bruce

Sankey. **August;** Deward Smith, Mark Stocker, Joesph Winslow. **September;** Jeffrey Donofrio, Richard George, Wallace Lively, Gary Tenant, John Towle. **October;** Wayne Granger, Matt Gallagher, Dennis Kelley, Dean Beiring, George Nevejans.

Dues – 4th quarter dues are due now. Your dues receipt will now be emailed to you; this will help us save on the cost of mailing receipts. Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

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. There are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.

New 988 crisis helpline. 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.

S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE for SUBPAY. Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing subpay@pipefitters636.org.

The SUB Fund office will no longer be able to cut checks for walk-ins, only process SUB request. The SUB Fund office will have all payments entered in the SUB System by 10am on Wednesday. After 10am every Wednesday, BeneSys will generate the checks in the SUB System and have them printed and mailed from Troy production.

Direct Deposit is now available, members choosing direct deposit will have the payments deposited into their accounts on Fridays. That is the reason for processing being done on Wednesdays.

Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement forms for SUBPAY were mailed by BeneSys and can be found on our website or you can call the Local for one. BeneSys has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters 636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call 248-641-4936 or 888-646-8920.

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NUMBER for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution corrected website is www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys. Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmd-dyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the "My Dashboard" page.

Considering Retirement? Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 248-641-4936 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork.

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 re-licensing (Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday Nov. 13, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Nomination of Officers will be held at the Nov. 13th meeting. Positions up for election are the following: Business Manager/ Financial Secretary/Treasurer (1), Business Agent (1), President (1), Vice-president (1), Executive Board (4), Recording Secretary (1), Sergeant at Arms (1), Joint Apprenticeship Committee member (2), Finance Committee (3), Examining Board (3), Defined Contribution Trustee (2), Supplemental Unemployment Benefit Trustee (2), Michigan Building Trades Delegate (5), Michigan State Pipe Trades Delegate (5).

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

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

Election of Officers will take place Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024 at the Union Hall. Polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 5:30 P.M.

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

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

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

Phone numbers to remember: NASI is 1-800-638-2603 for information regarding Health and Welfare or Pension fund questions.

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

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

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

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members

Local 636, con't

new call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.**

Training Center News. Regular night welding runs through the Fall/Winter: Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8 Starting Nov. 11th

Mitsubishi Certified installers class: Monday and Thursday nights from 5-8 with Jason for 5 weeks

CSD 2 class with Kevin: Mon. and Thur. nights from 4-8 for 5 weeks.

120-hour MES 1 class: Mon. and Thurs. nights from 5-8 Certified safe handling of A2L

Refrigerants class with Dan: starting Wed nights Nov. 13th from 5-8 for 5 weeks.

Cert. Rigging and Signalperson class with Doug: Mon and Thurs nights from 5-8 begins Nov. 18th


Trimble class: Thus nights for 10 weeks from 5-8.

Revit class: Thurs. nights for 10 weeks from 5-8.

Certified Fusion class Sat. Nov. 9th from 7-3.

Steam boilers with Todd starting Wed. Nov. 13th from 5-8

Please call Kim at the 636 Training Center to sign up.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service
Local 111

UA Local 111
UPPER PENINSULA – **ATTENTION: This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.**

The next scheduled union meeting will be in Escanaba on **October 31st, 2024 @ 7:30.**

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

Anyone interested in **1-day shutdowns**, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba office.

Call Escanaba or Marquette and try out 111's new Lay Off Line; Extension #7 and Job Line; Extension #8.

MRA FUND - *IMPOR-TANT* This is your reminder that you are required by the IRS to supply proper substantiation for your MRA debit card usage. Many members have received Substantiation Request letters from the Local 111 Benefit Fund office; Zenith American Solutions. IRS regulations require that use of the MRA 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 member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation is returned to the Fund office promptly. You will want to sign into the Zenith American Solutions Portal website or App to verify if receipts are required.

By not responding to the Substantiation Request letters, your MRA Card will be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. Claims prior to Jan. 1, 2024 may result in a 1099, and be charged with income tax per the IRS. **If you have any questions, contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1 or the Union Hall.**

New 988 Crisis Helpline: The UA & the MCAA have made a joint investment to spread awareness on how we approach mental health and suicide prevention. New resources are now available with the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services 988 Lifeline. Call or text 988 to be connected to trained counselors who will listen & provide support and linked to resources.

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

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

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

Reminder to Welders/Welding Forms: The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the hall. Certifications expire every 6 months and it is **YOUR** responsibility to get your welding forms turned in on time. Please update all Non-UA certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA etc.) by sending a copy of your certification to the Union Hall.

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

Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site lu111.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

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



UA LOCAL 85
SAGINAW, MI
Local 85

UA Local 85
SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, October 23, 2024,** at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 PM.

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 7:00 PM at the Grayling Eagles.

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

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

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

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

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 (Continued next column)



LOCAL 671 MONROE
PLUMBERS, PIPEFITTERS, HVAC & WELDERS
Local 671

UA Local 671
MONROE - The next **Union Meeting** is scheduled for **November 7, 2024, at 7pm.**

There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on November 7, 2024. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

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

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

Elections: There will be a meet the candidate and canvassing event at the Union hall on Saturday, October 19th at 10am. We will meet between 10 and 11am and then after will go out and knock on doors and drop literature for some of the Local and Statewide candidates. All are welcome. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

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 Vinnie at the Union Hall.

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

Retiree Luncheon: The last Retiree Luncheon for 2024 will be on October 31st. We hope to see you there!


Open Weld Shop Nights: The open weld shop nights are now **Tuesday nights** from 6pm-10pm now that school is out of session. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on the Friday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first come, first served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

The next UA weld test session is tentatively scheduled for November 21st at 5pm. Contact Justin to sign up.

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

In Closing: "One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors." That is exactly what happened in 2016. Let's not go back, make sure you get out and vote. God bless Union Labor

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com
Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ualocal671.com
Carly Neely: Insurance Line (734) 241-6180 email: carly@ualocal671.com



PRIORITY LIST
#1. A Safe and Healthy Workplace

Local 85, con't

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, December 3, 2024 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.

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



WORKING WITH natural gas piping at the Bavarian Inn waterpark project in Frankenmuth are John Musinski and Justin Behmlander of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 85. They're employed by Remer Heating and Cooling.



Local 333 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 333

LANSING – November's union meeting will be held Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 6:30pm, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Lansing, MI. 48911.

December's union meeting will be held Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 7:00pm at the Lansing Training Center 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906. Christmas dinner will be at 7:00pm. Election results will be read during dinner.

Nomination for Officers will be held Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. To be eligible to be nominated for office, the UA Constitution, Section 121 states: "No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two years immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union.

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

For those members who will be unable to attend the November meeting and who wish to accept a nomination, they may send a letter addressed to the Lansing Office, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911, Attn: Dave Mull, Local 333 President, stating the reason for not being able to attend the nomination meeting and the specific office for which you wish to accept nomination for. The letter needs to be signed, dated, and **MUST** include your card number. The letter must be received on or before Nov. 20, 2024

Elections will be held Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024.

From 8:00am-6:30 PM at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing, 48911. From 8:00am-5:30pm at the Jackson Union Hall, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr. Jackson 49201.

From 8:00am-5:30 PM at the Battle Creek Union Hall, 5906 E. Morgan St. Battle Creek, 49017.

In case of a tie, the run-off election will be Saturday, December 21, 2024, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 NOON at the same polling sites with the results read at a special called meeting at 1:00PM at the Lansing Training Center.

Training Center News.
Fall Session Weld Classes
Lansing.

Starting September 3, 2024, Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30pm-8:30pm

Starting September 9, 2024 Advance weld class: Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30pm-8:30pm. (10 weeks)
Jackson

Starting September 3, 2024 Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30pm-8:30pm

Advanced Weld Class: Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30pm-8pm

Starting September 10, 2024

Advanced pipefitting, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-8:30. (10 weeks)

Battle Creek. Starting September 9, 2024, Mondays and Thursdays 4:30pm-8:30pm. (10 weeks)

MIG CLASS: Must have UA21 – Class will begin when 6 members have signed-up.

Tube Bending: Starting October 29, 2024, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5pm-8:30pm, 4-week class.

CPR and First Aid: Class will begin when 10 members sign up.

Lansing Orbital Welding: 40 hours. You must have your UA21 and UA41 – Class will begin when 6 members have signed-up.

Backflow Certification: Starts September 9, 2024, Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30pm-8:30pm

Please sign up on the Website – ua333.org. If you need assistance call the Training Center 517-323-0333.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA as of January 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certification. Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call Diana at the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333.

Even though the Training Center sends everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it is the mem-

ber's responsibility to make sure their certifications are current.

The first 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code update will be December 4, 2024, from 4:30 pm to 8pm. Please call Diana at the Lansing training center to be added to the list.

Additional Class dates in Lansing, Jackson, and Battle Creek will be posted in the Buildings Tradesman.

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. Please spread the word.

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 whole life of man is but a point of time; let us enjoy it."
–Plutarch (46 AD - 120 AD)

"Regret for the things we did can be tempered by time; it is regret for the things we did not do that is inconsolable."
–Sidney J. Harris

"Never go out to meet trouble. If you will just sit still, nine cases out of ten someone will intercept it before it reaches you."
–Calvin Coolidge (1872 - 1933)

"Never spend your money before you have it."
–Thomas Jefferson (1743 - 1826)

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 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174 COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Our next meeting will be SPECIAL CALLED for the purpose of the nomination of Union officers (see below). It will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

Special Notice: NOMINATION AND ELECTION NOTICE – Mail Ballot Election of Local Union Officers – Local Union No. 174

This is your official Notice of Nominations and Election, pursuant to Section 122(a) of the UA Constitution.

NOMINATIONS MEETING: Nominations will take place 7:00pm on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at Local Union No. 174 Assembly Hall, 1008 O'Malley Dr., Coopersville, Michigan, for the following Union Offices:

President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Inside Guard, four (4) Executive Board Members, three (3) Finance Committee Members, three (3) Examining Board Members, and three (3) Trustees for the Pension, 401k Savings Plan, and Health & Benefit Funds. Officers will be elected for a three-year term commencing in January 2025.

Nominations: Nominations can be made in person or in writing. Candidates must accept nomination at the time made, either in person, or if absent, in writing, and may accept nomination for one office only. Candidates are allowed to self-nominate.

Eligibility to Run for Local Union Office: As provided in Section 123(c) of the UA Constitution, no member shall be eligible to accept a nomination and run for office in a Local 174 mail ballot election unless he or she shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and Local 174 in good standing for at least a period of two (2) years immediately prior to Friday, November 8, 2024, which is seven days prior to the mailing of the ballots. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two (2) years immediately prior to November 8, 2024, shall not be eligible to be nominated for office. As provided in Section 160(c) of the UA Constitution, no member who holds a financial interest in any business directly connected with the plumbing and pipe fitting industry may run for or hold union office until six months after the member has terminated such financial interest.

CANDIDATES MEETING: A meeting of the candidates will be held at Local 174 immediately following the Nominations Meeting.

ELECTION: The election will be conducted by mail ballot. There will be no manual balloting.

Eligibility to Vote: As provided in Section 123(c) of the UA Constitution, no member is eligible to vote in any election of officers unless he or she has been a member in good standing in Local 174 for a period of one (1) year immediately prior to November 8, 2024, which is seven days prior to the mailing of the ballots. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to November 8, 2024, shall not be eligible to vote in the election.

In addition, as provided by Section 160(a) of the UA Constitution, any member who has entered business legitimately for himself or herself, or who holds a financial interest in any business directly connected with the plumbing and pipe fitting industry, shall not have the right to vote in any election unless six (6) months have passed since the member has terminated his or her business or financial interest in such business. As provided in Section 148(b) of the UA Constitution, apprentice members who satisfy the foregoing requirements shall be eligible to vote if they have successfully completed their third apprenticeship year as of November 8, 2024.

Ballots will be mailed to voters on Friday, November 15, 2024, and are due back by Monday, December 16, 2024. The counting of the ballots will take

place on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at the Local Union 174 office. The results will be released once the tally is complete. Results will be posted in the union's Assembly Hall and on the members only Facebook group.

Resolution of a Tie Vote: In the event of a tie, the runoff election will be as follows: ballots will be mailed to voters on Monday, December 23, 2024, and are due back by Wednesday, January 22, 2025. The counting of the ballots will take place on Thursday, January 23, 2025. The results will be released once the tally is complete. A coin flip may be used instead of a runoff election to decide the winner if both candidates agree.

Nominations and election rules are set forth in the United Association Constitution and the Local Union No. 174 By-Laws which are available upon request.

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

Condolences: It is with sadness that brother James Peets passed away on 10/4/24. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Wage Allocation: The 2024 wage allocation was voted on at the June 4, 2024 membership meeting. Results were \$1.27 increase on the check, \$0.05 increase to the Retiree Bonus Program, \$0.60 increase to the Pension fund, and \$0.30 increase to the Training Fund.

Organizing Update: If you're working next to a non-union worker, embrace them! In earlier years this wasn't the way it was, unfortunately. We have more in common with them than what divides us, they also have families they're providing for. It has never been a more perfect time to organize with the workload that is here, but it is definitely a team effort! The message is clear, you deserve better wages, benefits and representation, which is why you need a UNION! -Work safe, Johnny Ortiz (616) 307-8551

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

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

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

Health Insurance Contact Info: Active and NON-Medicare Retirees

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

Medicare Retirees

Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

Current Health Insurance Premiums:

Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33

Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10

Medicare Single \$123.63

Medicare Couple \$247.26

Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13

Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

Solxsys, Aetna, Retiree First: If you have issues with any of our fund service providers, contact Ryan Bennett at rbennett@ual74.org. Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

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

Autopsy for Window Dues: As a result of the rising postage expenses and the significant number of members who have opted for autopsy, 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 autopsy 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@ual74.org which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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

Metal Trades, Helpers, and Trainees: Please remember that if you are working as a Metal Trades, Helper, or Trainee 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 - 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location

Lakeshore - 3rd Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

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

Training News: PLEASE NOTE: We have a problem with people signing up for a class then not being available for the class or missing times during the course. These classes are afforded by the contributions of our members. If you sign up for a course, it is expected to you make your schedule work for these classes.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month), from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, November 14th and December 12th, 2024

WELD TEST: Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday. Next capabilities will be Wednesday, November 6th and the test to follow Thursday, November 7th at 5pm

OPEN WELD: Open welding will be closed until rescheduled. Update will be given soon

WELDER CONTINUITY: If you have weld certs and have turned in a continuity, the welder certification status cards are now being emailed, rather than sent via USPS mail. If you have turned in continuity and have NOT received an updated status card, please contact the Training office to verify we have your current email.

Plumbing Code: 2021 Code update class will be offered on Saturday, December 14th, 2024. Michigan adopted the 2021 code this past March. Plumbers will need to take an update class before their 2025 license renewal. There are 2021 code books available to purchase through the training center.

Medical Gas Installer: NFPA 24 is the newly adopted Medical Gas code. New code books are available at the Training Center for purchase. We will have a new installers class available early next year. If you have a current Installer and Braze certification, you are not required to recertify under the new code until your regularly scheduled recertification date.

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

"Remember not only to say the 'right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."

-Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)



THANKS TO ALL the Local 98 brothers who came out and helped with our Macomb County Mike Kalso Memorial Adopt-A-Highway project on Saturday, Sept. 21. We broke last spring's attendance record with a total of 46 volunteers. We were fortunate enough to have had the best weather we've had in a very long time. We came together and picked up well over 100 bags of trash and multiple items too large to bag on I-94. It's always a great get together and an excellent way for us to give back to our community. - Gary Glaser



Plumbers Local 98



DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98

The officers and staff at Local 98 hope you and your family are enjoying our fall season!

Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits, the Training Center, and more can be found on our web site. Go to UALOCAL98.COM

Meetings & Union Hall. SPECIAL CALLED MEETING - will be Thursday, November 7th at 7:00pm. This is a Special Called meeting for nominations for officers of all positions at Local 98. Our regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 7:00pm which will include swearing in of new apprentices and organized members; and annual Turkey night.

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

Election of Local 98 Officers & Delegates: Nominations for the offices of (1)-Business Manager, (1)-Financial Secretary/Treasurer, (1)-President, (1)-Vice President, (3)-Examining Board, (3)-Finance Committee, (4)-Executive Board, (4)-Business Agents, (1)-Recording Secretary, (1)-Inside Guard and (16)-Delegates will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2024 at the Union Hall at 7:00pm. Located at 555 Horace Brown Drive Madison Heights, Michigan, 48071.

Nominations may be made in person at this meeting including self-nominations or write-ins. Written nominations should include the address, phone number and UA card number of the nominee. It should be signed by the nominee and must specify the office/position they are running for. Nominations must be received by the Business Manager prior to meeting by 3:00pm, Thursday, November 7, 2024. The election will be held Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 9:00am-7:00pm at the Union Hall.

There will be a candidate meeting following nominations to explain rules for candidates on running an election and campaign lists. To vote in the election all members must be in good standing for 1 year prior to election, and 2 years in good standing to run for an office. Members are asked to bring an ID or Union Card to the polls for verification.

In the event of a tie, a runoff election will be held Thursday, December 12, 2024 from 3:00pm-7:00pm at the hall.

UPCOMING DATES OF IMPORTANCE in 2024:

*Saturday, Oct. 26, Noon – 3:00pm Trunk or Treat at Local 98 parking lot for members and their families;

*Thursday, Nov. 7, 7:00pm "SPECIAL CALLED MEETING" for nominations of officers for all positions at Local 98;

*Wednesday, Nov. 13 Noon – 2pm Retiree Meeting/Luncheon at Local 98 hall;

*Thursday, Nov. 14, 7:00pm Regular monthly union meeting, swearing in of new apprentices & organized members, and annual Turkey Night;

*Monday, Dec. 2, 5-8 pm Annual Wrapping Party at hall for Children's Christmas Party;

*Tuesday, Dec. 3, 5-8 pm Annual Children's Christmas Party for members and families;

*Thursday, Dec. 5, 9am-7pm Election of Local 98 Officers & Delegates all positions at the hall;

*Wednesday, December 11, Noon – 2pm Retiree Meeting/Luncheon at Local 98 hall;

*Thursday, Dec. 12, 3:00pm-7pm Run-off election in the event of a tie (TBD);

* Thursday, December 19, Regular monthly union meeting

and swearing in of new Officers & Delegates.

Retiree Meetings. The next Retiree Meeting/Luncheon is Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 12pm-2pm at Local 98!

Halloween Trunk or Treat: The Local 98 Annual Halloween Trunk or Treat party will be on Saturday, Oct. 26 from Noon to 3pm. Please come early to decorate your vehicles and set up your treats! Hot chocolate, hot dogs and hamburgers will be served. Dress in your spookiest costumes! Any questions please call John Linardakis, 989-324-8551.

Fall Food Drive: Local 98 will be hosting a Food Drive at the Union Hall on Saturday Nov. 9, from 9am-Noon. We will be accepting all donations of non-perishable food items and bottled water. No donation is too small or too big. Cash or check donations will be accepted and will be used to purchase more food for the donation.

Food can also be dropped off at the hall at the Union meeting or throughout the prior weeks of the food drive. All donations will be delivered to a local food pantry to help those in need. There is a need and we can all help! Contact BA Dan Nixon with any questions. Apprentices who help with the food drive will receive a credit

for a Union meeting. Attention 98 Hockey Players: Any Local 98 member interested in playing on the 98 Hockey Team, please contact BA Dan Nixon, 248-752-3702 for details.

Apprentice Clothing Drive: The Apprentice Council will be conducting an ongoing Clothing Drive. Anyone who would like to donate new or gently used clothing, winter clothing, winter gear etc. can bring the donations down to the hall during normal working hours or on Union meeting nights. Please contact John Linardakis @ 989-324-8551 or BA Dan Nixon with any questions.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at www.plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship.

Dues: Check your mail and update your email and contact information at the hall, it's not your spouse/significant other's fault your dues fall behind. We have several options to pay your dues; in person, online, automatic deduction from an account and pension deduction for retirees. Contact the hall for more information.

Those of you who read the paper please bring it in and put (Continued on Page 9)

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Local 370
 Plumbers,
 Pipe Fitters
 and HVAC Service



UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Nov. 12th, 2024, at 7:00pm** and has been designated a **special called meeting for Special Election results of Executive Board and Pension/ Insurance trustee.**

Election will take place Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024 at UA Local 370 assembly hall at 2151 W Thompson Rd. Fenton, MI. The polls will open at **2:00pm and close at 7:00pm.** In the event of a tie vote, a runoff election will be held November 19th.

The following positions are up for special election Executive Board, Pension/ Insurance Trustee

Per section 124a of the UA Constitution: “No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he/she has been a member in good standing in the local union where the vote is being taken for a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one (1) year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to vote in any local union election.” Apprentices that have successfully completed their 3rd year are now eligible to vote if they meet the requirements above.

Charlie Mack There will be a graveside service, Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Starts at 11:00 am. St. Paul Cemetery. 1639 N. Chipman Road. Owosso. A luncheon will follow at Greg and Lou’s. 1460 N. M-52, Owosso.

Saturday, December 7th, 2024 Local 370 will host our annual Service Award banquet and Holiday celebration. The location will be at our hall/ training center at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. Cocktail hour will begin at 5:00pm. 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.

Retiree Breakfast is scheduled for Monday, October 21st at 9:00 a.m.

Retiree Education is here at the hall Tuesday, October 29th at 3:00p.m. If you are thinking about retirement or newly retired, this class will be helpful.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

October Welding Oct. 3rd thru Oct. 28th - Mondays and Thursdays 4:30 – 7:30

November Welding Nov. 4th thru Nov. 25th – Mondays and Thursdays 4:30 – 7:30

Rigging Sept. 9th thru Oct 16th - Mondays and Wednesdays 4:00 – 7:00

Practical Tests 10/21, 10/22, 10/23 and 10/24
 Refresher test will be on October 9th.

Med Gas Jan. 6th thru Feb. 26th – Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30 – 7:30

Refresher test will be on March 4th.

Backflow Mar. 3rd thru Apr. 2nd – Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30 – 7:30

Testing will be on April 7th and 9th.

First Aid & CPR March 19th, 2025 and September 17th, 2025
A2L Class October 7th, 8th, 10th, 14th and 15th. 5pm – 7pm.

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

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, October 8th, 2024 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, October 8th, 2024, at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee -Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee – TBD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

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

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

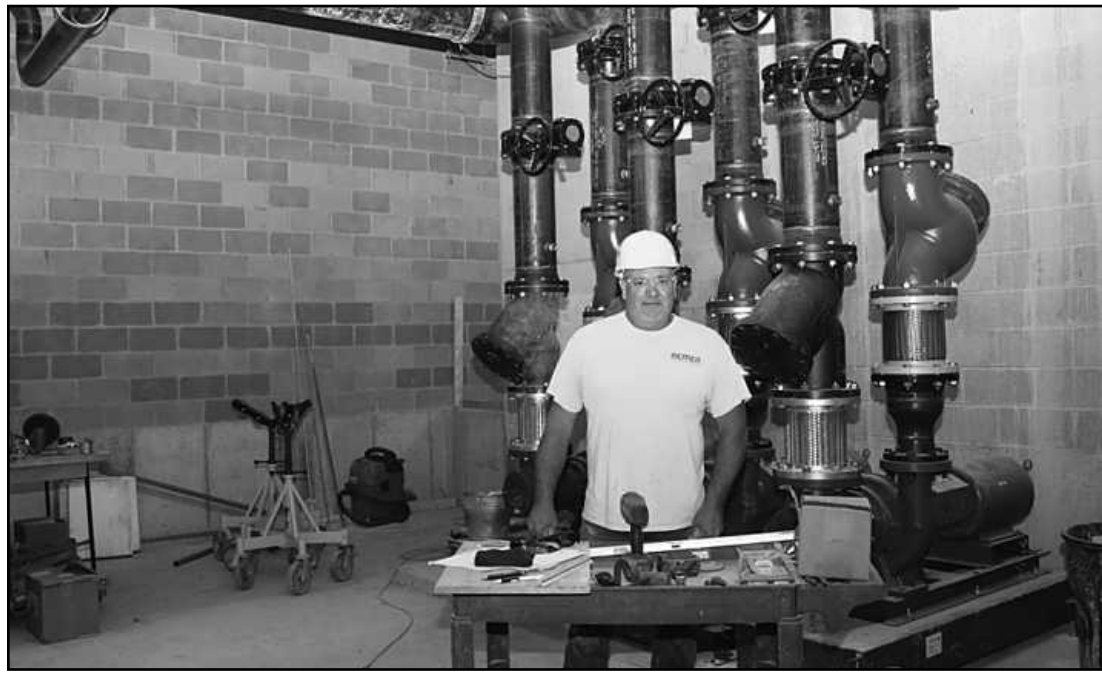
T.I.C. fringe administrators’ toll free number is 1-888-797-5862.

“In these matters the only certainty is that nothing is certain.”
 –Pliny the Elder (23 AD - 79 AD)

“We’ve heard that a million monkeys at a million keyboards could produce the complete works of Shakespeare; now, thanks to the Internet, we know that is not true.”
 – Robert Wilensky

“When a person can no longer laugh at himself, it is time for others to laugh at him.”
 –Thomas Szasz

“Beware of no man more than yourself; we carry our worst enemies within us.”
 – G. K. Chesterton (1874 - 1936)



WORKING IN THE BOILER ROOM, foreman Patrick Dunham of Remer Heating and Cooling works on the heating supply and return system at the Bavarian Inn waterpark project in Frankenmuth. He’s a member of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 85.



Plumbers Local 98



(Continued from Page 8)
 on your break table.

SUB Apps/Out of Work List. SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App whether you qualify for SUB or not. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. We have a dedicated email to send your unemployment certifications and/or backup documents to receive SUB pay. Please email correspondence to: sub@ualocal98.org Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702.

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. The Local 98 Health Insurance office is receiving the calls coming into Local 98. In order for them to best track all issues please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 and select option #2. If they are on the other line, please leave them a message and they will get back to you promptly.

2024 Presidential/State/Local General Election: Vote for the Labor Friendly candidates on Nov. 5, 2024 or by absentee ballot. The Local 98 PAC and officers along with BM Carlo Castiglione are proud to announce they are supporting Vice President Kamala Harris and Governor Tim Walz as the President and Vice President candidates in the upcoming 2024 USA Presidential Election! Local 98 has posted a list of candidates we have endorsed on our website. An email and a text will also be sent to members. The endorsed list has candidates from both sides of the aisle.

We endorse and support the candidates who support labor, jobs, back Unions and who support the issues of Organized Labor as well as our existence to be heard! Get out and vote! En-

“It is possible to store the mind with a million facts and still be entirely uneducated.”
 – Alec Bourne

“There is nothing like the razor sharp tongue of a good friend to cut through the lies we tell ourselves.”
 – Laura Moncur (1969 -)

“Since we cannot know all that there is to be known about anything, we ought to know a little about everything.”
 – Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

“I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.”
 – Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)

“Many people despise wealth, but few know how to give it away.”
 – Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

“It’s all right to have butterflies in your stomach. Just get them to fly in formation.”
 – Dr. Rob Gilbert

“Accept the pain, cherish the joys, resolve the regrets; then can come the best of benedictions - ‘If I had my life to live over, I’d do it all the same.’”
 – Joan McIntosh

“Wisdom doesn’t automatically come with old age. Nothing does - except wrinkles. It’s true, some wines improve with age. But only if the grapes were good in the first place.”
 – Abigail Van Buren

“Mistakes are a part of being human. Appreciate your mistakes for what they are: precious life lessons that can only be learned the hard way. Unless it’s a fatal mistake, which, at least, others can learn from.”
 – Al Franken

courage your family and friends to vote too!

Local 98 member **Nolan Kare** is running for Village of Romeo Trustee. Anyone living in Romeo, please let your family and friends know to support and to vote for Brother Nolan Kare for Trustee! In addition, our brother at Local 636, Val Pod, is running for New Haven Community School Board. We wish them well!

Worker Assistance Program. Work Life Strategies, LLC. Are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling.

All this is confidential and lead by or health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887. If you cannot go to her office she can do phone conferences, don’t wait ask for help when you feel issues are affecting your life.

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

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

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435

The Training Center’s website www.Plumbers98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, Jan. 24, 2025. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions. The State of Michigan

Plumbing Division has instituted the 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code beginning in March of 2024. Books are available for order through the ICC. The Training Center has a limited number of 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code books available for sale. Plumbing Code Update classes will be available at the Training Center beginning in late fall and run through spring.

THE TRAINING CENTER IS CURRENTLY SCHEDULING MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER UPDATES. Please call the Training Center to get in the next available class. This is an update to a new standard.

Monthly Code Class – Next class is PENDING at 4:30 pm. This is not a code update class. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul Baker at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for Nov. 12, 2024, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for it. The 2 dates are Wednesday, Oct. 30, and Wednesday, Nov. 6. 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.

List of 2025 classes will be released near the end of October.

Medical Gas Installer Update. Please call the Training Center to sign up for the next available session.

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

****2024 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 Nov. 2. 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.

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

It is each member’s individual responsibility to keep all their Certifications current.

Local 149
 Roofers &
 Waterproofers



Roofers 149

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

Happy Halloween. Have a great and safe Halloween to our Members, Friends and Families. From the Officers, Staff and Members of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers Local 149.

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Dec. 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tues., Dec. 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for Jan. 7, 2025 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

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 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.

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

Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit. Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas. To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall. Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., and name of Financial Institution.

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 the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

Mid-Michigan Training Center Information. The next term for all Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows:

Every Tuesday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm until further notice

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.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368 to make arrangements.

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 Building Tradesman Paper, International Union, and Trust Fund.

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

The publication above is as 10/14/2024, 1:00p.m.

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

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Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2024 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2024 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2024 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: Oct. 21 (holiday party) and Dec. 16. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

RETIREE NEWS: Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL: There will now be a representative from Benesys at the union hall to help our members with anything related to benefits or funds. She will be available all day on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-4pm. If you are interested in setting up an appointment, please contact Lashone at 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

CONDOLENCES: Harry Green passed away Sept. 16, 2024 on his 85th birthday. He was a member of the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 for over 60 years. He worked the majority of his career for Limbach Corp. Harry was a well-liked man who will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. There will be a memorial service held at A.H. Peter's Funeral home in Warren on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 10 am.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Michael Hix, Cameron Edmonds, Corey Devers, Jack Hernandez, Casey Duquette, Sherri Long, Corey Burkhard, Roger DuMars, Ronan LaRoy, John Mastalinski, William Opalewski, Max Delonis, David Hartsuck, Luke Grohman, Henry Slavick, Robert Turner, Dean DuPuis, Jason Kaczmarek, Hunter LaCroix, Justin Brotherton.

DUES PAYMENTS: YOUR DUES PAYMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR TO THE FIRST OF THE MONTH. The books will close at the end of the business day on the last day of the month. **Payments made on the 1st of the month are considered late for that month. There will be no exception; once the books are closed, it cannot be undone.** Members will receive a text message dues reminder prior to the end of the month. If you are not receiving our text messaging, please call the hall. **REMINDER:** We ONLY take Visa, Master Card & Discover and do not accept American Express.

BENEFICIARY REMINDER: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your Local 80 and international benefits. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your spouse first and if there is no spouse to your children UNLESS you designate otherwise in writing with each specific benefit. Depending on your classification, you could have benefits due to your heirs from Local 80 pension, insurance, annuity and from international and SASMI. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary unless you want it to go to your spouse or children. As always, seek the advice of an attorney.

ADDRESS CHANGES: If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall, which includes the Tradesman paper. You will also need to call Benesys, 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. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each member's name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.

WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Everyone must obtain a work assignment prior to starting work. If you fail to do so you could be written up on charges.

LAY-OFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES: Lay off slips must accompany all applications for sub pay. Without lay off slips you cannot collect sub pay. It is the member's responsibility to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue one in accordance with our contract.

S.U.B. BENEFITS: Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Send your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax to 248-557-0297. Proof needs to be in by 2pm on Tuesdays to be paid that Friday. If you have any questions, please call us at 248-557-7575. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work week due to weather, you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the beginning or the end of a layoff. You may NOT collect if you are not laid off. You must complete the SUB application at the hall. Provide a pay stub for that week and the hall will submit it to the fund office. If you are not laid off and miss days of work due to weather, the company must provide written documentation that the loss of hours was weather related.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. Ulliance is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and childcare resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisor.EAP.com. **Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling.**

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. The Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee is accepting resumes for the position of Local 80 Training Director. The position will be open as of Dec. 1, 2024 and interested applicants would be asked to start prior to that date to facilitate a successful transition. Please submit your resumes in person at the Training Center to the current training director or by email to the Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee at td@smw80jac.org.

The Committee will also accept resumes in the same manner for Full-Time Instructor. Candidates for either job should have several years experience as a Sheet Metal Worker and a strong desire to promote the Sheet Metal trade through education. Please direct questions to the current Training Director at (586) 979-5190 or matt@smw80jac.org.



TIM MULLIGAN



Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be December 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 1 December 11th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 2 December 10th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3 December 4th at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

*Zone 3 December 5th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

*Zone 4 December 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 5 December 6th at 6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2024. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.

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



SAM FULLER

ZONE 1 Info. Work in the Zone 1 area continues to be busy and will remain this way through the end of the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance.

Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

ZONE 1 Training Center Info. There are new changes to the testing procedure in Zone 1. Applicants will need to register for the Zone 1 entrance exam. Registration will open at the beginning of the exam month. You will receive your exam time during registration. Please contact the training coordinator to register (269) 781-7183.

ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:

1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, (Retirees, please notify Vance or Eric of any changes or additions you would like)

Exercise your right, get out and vote. - **In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders**

ZONE 2 Info: Work in zone 2 remains the same, if your employment status changes please let me know. There is a lot at stake in the upcoming election, let's get out and vote on November 5th. Please inform me of any phone number or address changes. Our next zone 2 meeting is December 10th, that is our annual Christmas Party. I hope to see you there. To all the outdoorsmen out there shoot straight and tight lines.

Work safe and Thank You, Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the area is still going well. The Phoenix project in Hemlock should be starting soon both siding and HVAC. Please make sure to schedule your physicals this year as this is a yearly thing members will have to do, it keeps your deductible at the enhanced rate at \$250. Also, SASMI is still giving members \$200 for getting physicals and \$100 for family members up to \$400 total per family. Please make sure you pay your dues on time and also updating your phone number or address if there are any changes. Next Zone 3 meeting at the Freeland office is December 4th at 6 PM. Hope to see you there. Next retiree meeting is December 3rd at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Road at 12 PM noon. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Work in the area is starting to slow down, call me if you want to travel. If you see any out-of-Zone contractors in our area please let me know. Don't forget to set up your yearly physicals and go to www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/benefits to register for your H&W and Local pension status. Many still have not activated your active HRA benefit through SASMI. Please go to SASMI.org and activate it, contact me if you need any help in activating or getting reimbursement for your physicals.

In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: Hard to believe Labor Day has come and gone, we are starting to have some cooler nights and mornings. Summer has flown by fast. I hope everyone had a fantastic summer. Work in Zone 4 is doing great, we continue to stay strong. We are waiting on some big news regarding a mega site in Genesee County, keep your fingers crossed! Don't forget if anyone is interested in upgrading classes to reach out to Kurt S at the training center and get signed up for fall and winter classes. Also, with a lot of hard work we have received a great deal of grants for the training center and recently purchased some great new equipment for the school, don't hesitate to stop by and check things out. **Thank you, your brother Scott Brotherton,**

ZONE 5 Info Work in the U.P. is busy and should stay that way going into winter. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next several years so if you don't have your mine safety training make sure you get signed up for that at unproconstruction.org. Don't forget to get out and vote next month. Let your voice be heard. **In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld.**

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

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

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

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

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

Local 7 Officers:

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

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

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

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

Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112

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

Brandon Langenfeld (Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288

"A love of tradition has never weakened a nation, indeed it has strengthened nations in their hour of peril; but the new view must come, the world must roll forward."

-Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)



Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024, at 6:00 pm. Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on October 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE: Please remember, Local 292 partners with Ulliance, an Employee Assistance Program designed to assist members and their eligible family members who may be struggling with emotional, domestic, or substance abuse issues, as well as legal and financial referrals. If you and/or a family member feel this may benefit you, contact Ulliance at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Services are of no cost to members and their dependents.

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.

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION Michigan offers online voter registration. You can register by mail to vote in Michigan by printing a voter registration form, filling it out, and mailing it to your local clerk. You can also register to vote in person if you prefer. You can register to vote online and by mail up to 15 days before Election Day. Within two weeks of Election Day, you must register to vote in person at your local clerk's office.

SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. Applications are being accepted for the Sheet Metal Scholarship program. Eligibility requires that an applicant be an active member, a covered employee, or a dependent spouse or child under the age of 25 of a member or covered employee. The applicant must also be a full-time student or be accepted to be a full-time student at an accredited college or university. Obtain an "Application Request Form" by visiting <https://smart-union.org/why-join-smart/scholarships/sheet-metal-scholarship-programs/> click on the "Sheet Metal Scholarships" tab to download the form or call 202-662-0858 to request the application form by mail.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: Plans are underway for the 2024 Children's Christmas party. The party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 11 am - 4 pm (Dinner being served from 12 noon-2 pm). Again, we will be raffling off a \$600.00 Gift Card to Bavarian Inn Lodge and Waterpark. Tickets are available from your steward and the Union Hall. The festivities will be held at the Knights of Columbus, 870 Main Street in Clawson. The cutoff date for reservations for you and your family is **NO LATER THAN NOV. 22.** Please contact the Union Hall at (248) 589-2502 and let us know if you and your child/children plan to attend the Christmas Party. All children ages 15 and under, whose parent or guardian is a member of Local 292 are invited. Please contact the hall as soon as possible to ensure this event is a great time for all who attend!!!

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.

RETURN TO WORK BY NORMAL OR EARLY RETIREES: Consistent with the actions of the Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, the Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 292 Pension Fund ("Fund") have decided to provide a limited waiver of the Fund's suspension of benefit rule from March 22, 2023 through Dec. 31, 2024 only, without limitation and without incurring a suspension of benefits then in pay status. This means that, during this period, if you are working as a sheet metal worker for an Employer that contributes to the Fund, you will receive your monthly pension benefits from the Fund no matter how many hours you work in any one month. This waiver is based on the current demand for sheet metal workers and is not expected to be continued indefinitely. Call Paul for more information or if interested.

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

TRUHEARING: 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. Remember that your Username is your full S.S. number and your Password is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

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

ADDRESS UPDATES: If you move, please get in touch with the union hall to update your address.

RETIREES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The 2024 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree Luncheon is as follows: the last one for 2024 will be on Dec. 5. NEW LOCATION*** Madhouse Bar & Grill @ 12:30 pm, 32787 Stephenson Hwy., Madison Hts., MI 48071; Located on Stephenson Hwy 1 block south of 14 Mile on the west side of the street. Please contact the union hall via our website www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the "Contact Us" page if you want to be added to the retiree email list. Please join us for lunch, great conversations, and storytelling. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old!

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 member interested in a Saturday welding class on Oct. 19 & Oct. 26. Nov. 2, 9 and 23rd. 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 and 3p.m. 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. We must have the deposit before you will be scheduled in the class.

Laborers Local 1191
(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

DETROIT – Get Out to Vote in the 2024 General Election (November 5, 2024). YOUR VOTE COUNTS!!

Get Registered to Vote: Get Registered to Vote by Monday, Oct. 21, 2024 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 2024 General Election. Request an absentee ballot online at <https://www.mvic.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, Nov. 5, 2024) to be counted.

Vote in-person on Election Day (Nov. 5, 2024): 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: Laborers Rising is a powerful initiative focused on building power and making a difference with our fellow sisters and brothers. Through Laborers Rising, Laborers Local 1191 will be asking its Membership to volunteer their time to support various issues that enhance the lives of working families. If you wish to join our Laborers Rising volunteer list, please call the Local Union at (313) 894-2241 M-F 8:00am – 4:00pm to provide necessary contact information.

Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important info about your Local Union.

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

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

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on the 1st of November, 2024. December's General Membership meeting and Christmas Dinner will be held Dec. 6.

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The next Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 25th of October, 2024.** The Retiree Council does not meet in November or December 2024. **January's Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 31st of January, 2025.**

Union Dues For 2024: Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our web-

site at www.laborerslocal1191.org!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

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

Roll Call: All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first (1st) five (5) days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. *Example: If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't re-register by June 5th your name will be removed from the list.

Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules. You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling (517) 625-4919 or by visiting the training school website at www.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.must-safe.com to see how many modules you have.

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare fund documents.

Available Scholarships: LIUNA members can apply for scholarships for university, college, trade school and technical trainings through Union Plus. Learn more information about Union Plus scholarships at www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships.

IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)
* Telephone: (877) 645-2267
* Fax: (517) 689-6016
* Website: www.michiganlaborers.org
* Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149
* Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)
* Telephone: (248) 641-4942
* Fax: (248) 813-9898
* Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)
* Telephone: (800) 228 0048
* Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' AND Michigan Laborers' Vacation Funds
WPAS (833) 389-0025 EXT. 3359

Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Insulators Local 47
LANSING – The next Notified Meeting will be held on Friday, November 1, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., and will be held at the J.A.T.C. Training Center, located at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. **This is a Mandatory Meeting for ALL Apprentices. The purpose of this Meeting is for the Nomination of Officers.**

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

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

If you are Non-Active retiree or Surviving Spouse and would like to continue receiving the Building Tradesman please contact the Union Office to let us know.

The November 1, 2024 meeting is a Notified Meeting for the Nomination of Officers. The following positions are up for re-election this year:

- Business Manager
- JATC Trustee (1 position)
- Recording Secretary
- Sergeant-At-Arms
- Union Trustee (1 position)
- Market Recovery Committee (1 position)
- Pension/Welfare Trustee (1 position)

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

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671 Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds

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

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

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

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

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

*Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

Good and Welfare: *Please stay in good health

Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators 25
SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING - The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED for nominations. Apprentice attendance is MANDATORY.

NOMINATIONS: The following positions will be up for nomination at the November 14, 2024 Membership Meeting:

Business Manager- 1 position, 1-3-year term

Executive Board - 3 positions, 3-2-year terms
Pension Trustee - 1 position, 1-3-year term
Welfare Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term
S.U.B. Fund Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term

J.A.T.C. Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term
Union Trustee- 1 position, 1-3-year term
Entertainment Committee- 2 positions, 2-1-year terms

SGT-At-Arms- 1 position, 1-1-year term

Recording Secretary- 1 position, 1-3-year term

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, December 7, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. with Santa being there from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Please join us for the fun!

CHRISTMAS PARTY: Save the date for the Annual Local 25 Christmas Party on Friday, December 13, 2024. The event will take place at Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia from 5:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

SUB FUND BENEFIT: Please be reminded, documentation for SUB Fund benefits must be received by 2:00 p.m. Thursday to receive a benefit check on Friday. Any documentation submitted after the deadline will be issued the following Friday.

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

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

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

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

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.

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Michigan Painters District Council

Painters DC 1M
WARREN – Dear Members,
DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupat-dc1michigan.org
DC 1M UNION CARDS*

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:
Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100
Freeland Office: (989)695-6888

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

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

UPGRADE CLASSES AT THE DC 1M FTI OF THE GREAT LAKES

Lift Certification Class- Oct. 15-19, 2024, at the Owosso Training center, 1111 E. M-21, Owosso, MI 48867

Blue Print Reading- Oct. 26, 2024 @ 9AM, Warren Training Center, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren MI 48088

To sign up or for more information contact FTI Director Shawn Oneill at dot@iupatdc1m.org or 517-304-4425.

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

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

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.

Local 357 Glaziers & Glassworkers

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357
WARREN – Our next union meeting will be held on Monday Nov. 4 at 6 p.m. We will be having a BBQ cook out before the union meeting, with food, and shirts given out.

The STAR picnic is on Saturday Sept. 21 this year. If you had 8 hours of upgrade training last year, and worked at least 600 hours without a recordable injury you are eligible. Postcards have been mailed out. Please rsvp through the QR code on the postcard asap.

IUPAT DC1M Union Hall 14587 Barber Ave. Warren Michigan 48088

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.

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

(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 – Fred Frederickson
Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

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

Place: 7677 Midland Road, 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 December 3, at 5:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Local 357 cont'd

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 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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

– Business Rep. Don Stepp

CASH FOR SCRAP METAL

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

<p style="text-align: center;">McNichols Scrap Iron & Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) mcsnicholsscrap.com (313) 365-6100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Detroit Iron & Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) detroitironandmetal.com (313) 841-5100</p>
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IBEW LOCAL 557
SAGINAW - IMPORTANT - CHANGE IN REFERRAL POLICY- Local 557 has updated its Referral Policy as of Sept. 1. The biggest change to the policy is the switch from a 6 month re-sign policy for Group II through Group IV. Re-signs throughout much of the IBEW and the State of Michigan typically occur during the 10th of each month until the 16th. Local 557 will now observe this system as well.

Registrants on the out of work list can re-sign one of 3 ways: In person, via fax, or via email to jobline@ibew557.org. Please include your name, telephone no., card no. and original sign date in either an email or fax. The current "bid" system will remain in place as it has been for quite some time. Members interested in calls through the 557 Hall should call the Job Line after 4:30pm at 989-781-0516, and dial Ext. 3 to bid on job calls. For the complete Job Referral Policy please visit our website at www.ibew557.org.

UNION NEWS- A complete list of Local 557 endorsed candidates can be accessed on the homepage of the Local website. Please reference this when voting in the upcoming election. Be sure to complete the backside of your ballot as the non-partisan section is extremely important this year when it comes to Judicial candidates.

The upcoming election in November will be the most important election of our lifetime. Yes, this is said repeatedly, but this year is vitally important to the Labor Movement. In the past few years, many great laws and policies have been passed and written that are key to the IBEW and its future. Keeping those policies in place will have an impact on every single member of the IBEW.

Brothers and Sisters, it is very simple – the current work picture can only be preserved by continuing to support the candidates that have given us these advantages. Please remember this when voting. Members that have been in the trade for a long time will mostly agree they have never seen work as busy as it is. That same group of members also remembers the hard times and when work was not as plentiful. Sometimes this meant members having to seek work all across the country. Please research the Project 2025 plan that could be implemented if the Trump Administration is placed in power again.

Particular attention should be given to page #697. A typical JIW working through this Local for 40 hours per week could see the policy implemented and be stuck with an additional \$29,000 to pay taxes on. Members are encouraged to vote towards the IBEW's interests.

Keeping the current the fringe benefit system in place is most definitely in the best interest of the IBEW. Health Plans and Pension plans could be under attack if we do not elect Union-friendly candidates. Please reference the previously mentioned endorsed candidate list. As Union members, we all need to stick together. Vote for the candidates that keep you working and protect your Union benefit programs.

ENDORSED CANDIDATES- A complete list of Local 557 endorsed candidates can be found online on the Local's website homepage. Please visit www.IBEW557.org to view the list. Be sure to reference this list when you vote or fill out your absentee ballot. You may still register to vote up until Oct. 21. You may register by going to www.michigan.gov/sos/elections.

PHONE BANKS and CANVASSING- Local 557 is looking for volunteers to contact other members of the Local as well as other Union members. The message is simple - get out and vote in November. Those volunteers will also want to educate members on the importance of keeping the right people in power to further help the IBEW and keep our work situation strong. If you have not been contacted already regarding this, please reach out to either Evan or Rex to help the cause. We will need all hands on deck in the months leading up to Nov. 5.

LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING- Rex and Gus are doing great work for Local 557 on the organizing front. Organizing is a tough task in the IBEW and in the trades in general. 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.

PROJECT PHOENIX- Work is now kicking off for all 3 contractors at the mega project happening across the street from Hemlock Semiconductor. The job has been labeled Project Phoenix. Please keep a look-out for more calls on this large-scale project. **PROJECT PHOENIX** could provide this Local with an amount of work that has not been seen in this area in a long time. There is the potential for an even more massive amount of work that could spin off from the first expansion. If our Local is to see the full benefit of all this work, there is only one way that can be accomplished – our members will need to come home to man the work. Local 557's membership should be depended on heavily for the success of the project. It will take all of us to make it work. It cannot be understated how important this work could possibly be to the future of the Local. Please start thinking about where you may fit into this project.

GOLF LEAGUE- Golf League Night at Twin Oaks will continue as long as the weather cooperates. There is no set schedule for golfers, just show up and golf. **Tea times start at 5 on Thursdays.** Format: 2-person scramble.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS- The next membership meeting is Nov. 5 at the Hall at 5:30pm.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS- Normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7-4:30pm.

BOOK SIGNING- If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 referral, you must come to the hall and sign Book 1 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

WORK OUTLOOK- Members of other Locals can sign Book 2 by contacting their Hall for a simple email to be sent on your behalf, if in good standing. Calls for Project Phoenix are coming in and will continue. Solar work is wrapping up for the year. More solar projects will happen in 2025. Van Ert Electric from Wisconsin continues to work on the Wheeler Dairy Farms. Weinstein Electric from Local 948 continues work on the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in Frankenmuth. Overtime has been added to this job. Master Electric has begun a job at SVSU. Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, some auto plants and other various jobs.

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

WEX APP- You will need to download the WEX app for your phone. Search for "MI IBEW Special Fund" in the Google or Apple store. After doing this step, it will work the same as the old app, only more efficiently.

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.**

STAY CURRENT ON DUES –Please check to see if you are current. The Hall can accept credit cards. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee for the service. You can pay for these purchases over the phone if you wish.

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



WE ASKED THIS GROUP of electricians to gather for a photo as they were pulling wire and setting up a 480v electrical panel at the Bavarian Inn waterpark project in Frankenmuth. They are (l-r) James Brandt (IBEW Local 557); Drew Chernauckas (Local 557); Aaron Fisher (Local 557) and Andrew Parker (Local 948). They're employed by Weinstein Electric.



IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – Health-care & Pension Benefit Seminar. There will be a seminar on Nov. 21, 2024, at 5pm at the Hall. It is to help everyone understand your Local 445 Pension and retiree healthcare benefits and how they pertain to you. All members of Local 445 are invited. Even if you are an apprentice or young JIW, the seminar will benefit you. It is never too early to plan for your future. Please RSVP to Wanda at the Hall so that there will be enough food available.

Battle Creek Christmas Parade – If you are interested in helping with the Parade Float Build, please contact the Hall for additional information. The Parade this year is on Nov. 23.

Local 445 Book Signing – To sign Book 1 & 2, initial signs are still in-person only.

Code Update Classes, Online Courses are also available. Please contact BCEJATC at (269) 300-8002 to get signed up for the online course.

IBEW Local 445 App/Website The new app & website are now live. Local 445 Members can register to access the app. You are now able to pay your dues online via the app or website. Please visit the app & website to access the calendar of events.

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

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

The General Membership Meeting is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall.

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

2024 Personal information Please keep your address, phone number and email address up to date at the Hall. Also, contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall when you need to update them.

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

"To keep the heart unwrinkled, to be hopeful, kindly, cheerful, reverent – that is to triumph over old age."
 –Thomas Bailey Aldrich

"Toil to make yourself remarkable by some talent or other."
 – Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)



IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – General Membership Meeting will be held on November 4, at 6 p.m.

Renew meeting will be held on October 21, at Nob Hill at 5 p.m.
Executive Board meeting will be held on October 16, at 5 p.m.
The Veterans Committee Meeting will be held on November 7, at Union Hall, at 5:00 p.m.

Woman in the Trades Meeting will be held on November 19, at 6:00 p.m.
EWMC meeting will be held on October 29, at Union Hall, at 5:00 p.m.

Brotherhood Night is on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at CJ's from 3:30 to 5:30p.m.

The Work Outlook continues to be steady. Today we have over 25 open calls for Champion Services, KEI, Hi-Tech, and IBID. We have crews working on the Pfizer, Zoetis, Gun Lake Casino, Abbott Labs, and Palisades. Lots of 40-hour calls. Give me a call if you want to go to work.

With a heavy heart, I am sad to report Brother Ed Sturm, a 48-year member, passed away on October 1, 2024, at the age of 70. Ed was a smart, hard-working journeyman. He was active in the Union holding various positions including Vice-President, E-Board, Apprenticeship and Negotiating Committee. Ed was a good friend, a great mentor. I am also sad to report that Brother Alan Sweitzer, a 54-year member, passed away on October 4, 2024. Al "Slates" was a good journeyman. Quiet and confident. I will miss them both.

Union News The upcoming election in November will affect all of us. Are you ready to vote for your job? I have been a member of the IBEW for over forty years, I have never seen work so plentiful. This is because of the policies of the President Biden administration. Palisades will be completed only when Vice President Harris wins the election. 10 years of work is dependent on this election. Vote because your job needs you to. The local website has an Endorsement tab.

Bounty Program is available. When a member recruits a new journeyman level member who works 500-hours, and has completed the Multi-District Journeyman Wireman Examination, the recruiting member receives a \$500 bounty. When the same member works a total of 2000-hours, and attends the local's new member orientation class, the recruiting member will receive an additional \$500 bounty. When a member recruits a new CE level member who works 500-hours, and has completed the Multi-District Journeyman Wireman Examination, the recruiting member receives a \$500 bounty. When the same new member works a total of 2000 hours, and attends the local's new member orientation class, the recruiting will receive member an additional \$500 bounty.

Retiree Lunches at the following locations:
November 20th, 2024: Roxie's, 4010 Gull Road, Kalamazoo @ 11am

December 11th, 2024, Martell's, 3501 Greenleaf Blvd, Kalamazoo. @ **11:30am.** Call the hall to RSVP!
 Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m.

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

RETIREMENT: NEBF and IBEW PBF applications take at least 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 call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications. Important numbers for you to write down:
 NEBF 301-556-4300 • IO Pension 202-833-7000

Sign up for a **Code Update** class. Classes are scheduled for November 23 and 24, and December 14 and 15, 2024. Call the hall or email mapplebey92@gmail.com to reserve a spot. Classes are limited to 30. Online classes are available through KETA. Contact the apprenticeship at 269-388-4434.

State Exam Prep class will be held from Thursday, January 9, 2025, to February 27, 2025. The class will run from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. The class will be held at the Union Hall. Call the hall or email mapplebey92@gmail.com to reserve a spot.

Life Events: Marriage, Divorce, Birth of children, Adoption and Deaths all require documentation to be submitted to our benefits office. If you need help call the hall for guidance.

Wilson-McShane, our new benefits administrator, has the website: michiganelectrical.org. up and running. Please log in and click on the "Member Portal" (on the left side of the screen) to begin the steps to register your account. If you would like to call their phone number, it's **855-633-4584**.

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Robert Derhammer, Randy DeVries, Cody Kelley, Austin Miller, Jose Patlan, Caleb Piper, and Dennis Schultz.

Morris Applebey
Business Manager

"Everyone is as God has made him, and oftentimes a great deal worse."
 – Miguel de Cervantes (1547 - 1616)

"It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his job depends on not understanding it."
 –Upton Sinclair (1878 - 1968)

"A committee is a cul-de-sac down which ideas are lured and then quietly strangled."
 –Sir Barnett Cocks (1907 - 1989)

"A duty dodged is like a debt unpaid; it is only deferred, and we must come back and settle the account at last."
 –Joseph F. Newton



IBEW LOCAL 948

FLINT – Meetings.
Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be November 11th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings - Retirees will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:00am.

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

Work Outlook - Our work outlook is steady with a slow ramp possible leading to the upcoming months. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

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

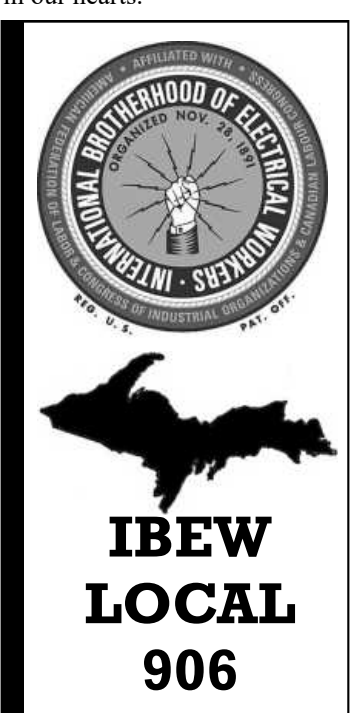
Seeking New Membership - As always, we are actively seeking to organize new membership. For any questions, concerns, or interest please contact Organizer Kellogg Dipzinski.

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

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

Retirees - Congratulations to David Rust 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 Thomas Janos. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.



IBEW Local 906
UPPER PENINSULA – Meetings- 7pm local times

Marquette unit- First Tuesday

Iron Mountain unit – Second Tuesday

Escanaba unit – Second Wednesday

Brothers and Sisters, the new local website is now live. All job calls will be placed on the job hotline section in the website and dues payments can also be processed through the site.

If you have not already completed code update, codes for online courses are available by calling the JATC at (906) 346-2717. We have also scheduled three in person classes at the following locations:

Island Resort located at W399 US-2 Harris, MI on October 19th, 8:00 am eastern time.

J. Ranck Electric office located at 3137 S. Baker Side Road Sault Ste. Marie, MI on October 26th, 8:00 am eastern.

Island Resort located at W399 US-2 Harris, MI on Nov. 2nd, 8:00 am eastern time.

Please call the JATC at (906) 346-2717 to RSVP.

Reminder: RENEW meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 8:00 pm via Zoom. If you would like to be added to the attendee list, please call the hall.

Reminder: Our retiree luncheon is the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Vierling Restaurant on Front Street below the hall in Marquette starting at 11 am.

IBEW 692
BAY CITY – **Union Meeting.** November's monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, November 4th, 2024.**
Executive Board Meeting. The October Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, October 21st, 2024.**

Message from the Business Manager. Some changes are coming to the referral process effective 10-1-24. After Oct. 1, 2024, after accumulating 3 dings, you will no longer roll to the back of the book. After 3 dings you will need to resign. You can resign in only two ways: #1 You can come into the hall and sign a name card. #2 Email or call the Business Manager directly. This is being done in an effort to streamline resources and continue fiscal responsibility at the Union Hall with our staff. There are many individuals on our out of work list who are not currently seeking work. Please feel free to call the hall and discuss this new policy with me if you would like.

Good Luck to all the Bow Hunters. Be safe and remember to stay tied off. Also, for the Upcoming Fire Arm Deer Season we will hold our annual Big Buck Contest. Please be sure to stop into the Hall to register.

Code Update: An additional code update class has been scheduled for Saturday, October 19th and Saturday, October 26th starting at 8AM both days. Call the JATC at (989) 686-4890 to sign up.

Work Report: Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction that may require additional manpower include:

Nelson Electric is (Currently) GM Powertrain
J. Ranck Electric is continuing work at SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility. Another \$560 Million was allocated by the Biden administration to SK. This phase should begin early fall. J. Ranck has secured both phase 4 and 5 on this project and calls are coming in. Ranck has also begun work on their Mission Street Solar project. This is a 250-mw site which will require a substantial number of JIWs from our hall to complete. Calls have already begun for this project and more are expected shortly.

Master Electric continues work on the new Isabella County Jail. Master also has ongoing projects at the Midland Armory and Midland ESA. Master has recently secured Phase 2 and began work at Bangor Schools.

Countyline Power has ongoing work at area airports and Robinson Industries in Gladwin. They also have a project at Bay City and Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facilities.

Clements Electric's work on Independence Bridge continues in Bay City. Clements has also secured the next phase of work out to Mersen USA. Work on the 7 Mile grow facility, the Midland Center for the arts, Delta College Chiller and also HL Mechatronics continues.

Conti Electric has many projects inside I-Park (DOW). Conti is also continuing work at the Little Trout Solar project near Rogers.

Escon continues work on a nice project at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end and multiple projects within the I-Park.

Zone 2 work continues in Alpena on a solar site near the Holcim (formerly Lafarge) cement plant. **Northern Valley Electrical Services, Inc.** has secured that work and is paying Zone 1 scale plus \$50/day per diem. They may be looking for more hands soon. **Superior Electric** has a new line out to Bay City Powertrain along with a cooling tower project. Superior calls are expected to continue.

Newkirk continues work at both Loud and Alcona Dams near Glennie. Both of these projects are paying Zone 1 scale.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership.

All locals in the State of Michigan are currently having many calls getting into Book II if you are looking for work. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

In Solidarity,

Ryan Charney, Business Manager / Financial Secretary

Organizers' Report. Organizers continue to visit non-union job sites to speak with unrepresented electricians. Solar sites in both Zones 1 and 2 are steadily manning up as we look to fill any open calls with IBEW members (Books 2 & 3) as well as potential new members.

If any current members are aware of electricians who may be interested in joining our Local, please do not hesitate to reach out. Immediate onboarding opportunities are currently available around the state, in addition to expected open calls in 692 and nearby 557 come November.

Organizers have been attending Flying Squads across Michigan to assist in canvassing efforts on behalf of labor-friendly candidates. We have also regularly attended new member blitzes to assist other locals in connecting and communicating with non-union electricians.

We'd like to thank all 4th year apprentices who helped us man our exhibit at MiCareerQuest held at SVSU's Ryder Center on Oct. 11. More than 5,000 area high school students were in attendance for this fantastic annual event.

Organizers have updated recruitment materials including an explanation of benefits, detailing wages and health / retirement plans. Any members interested in obtaining a copy of these materials is urged to request them via email or text.

Please remember when calling the job line to use extension #1 as our menu options have recently changed.

Brian Klele bklele@ibew692.org 989.252.9225

Registrar's Report. In a little more than two weeks, we have the opportunity to make our voices heard in the general election. Endorsements have been made for labor-friendly candidates. Please contact the hall if you have any questions on Local 692's stance on a particular candidate or ballot initiative. Agents can provide background information and context to help you make your decision.

Any member still undecided on which presidential ticket to support should know the policy record of each candidate. While V.P. Harris has cast the tie-breaking vote to pass multiple pro-union bills over the past few years, the former president has nothing to speak of when it comes to a history of supporting organized labor. An endorsement from an anti-union billionaire who has sued the government in an attempt to declare the National Labor Relations Act unconstitutional should speak volumes. An endorsement from the ABC, the lobbying arm for non-union construction contractors, should tell you all you need to know. Supporting a policy agenda which aims to weaken collective bargaining strength by worsening working conditions and gutting worker protections should be a red flag.

Please make sure you vote. This is not an election where you want to remain on the sidelines.

Brendon Baranek bbaranek@ibew692.org 989.327.4131

Big Buck Contest. Once again, the local will be having its 4th annual Big Buck Contest running from Nov. 15-30. The cost to enter is \$10 per member. All entries entered into raffle featuring \$500 in prizes. Those who bag a buck receive additional raffle entries and a chance at the grand prize. Registration for the event ends Thursday, Nov. 14 at 4pm. For rules and registration information please contact the Union Hall or Brian Klele. Good luck to the game chasers this hunting season and be safe.

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. **Effective July 1, 2024, dues increased to \$46.20 per month.** This \$1

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 275

IBEW 275
COOPERSVILLE - Work in the jurisdiction is very busy. There have been multiple calls for Fish Creek Solar, Muskegon Solar, and LG Chem, as well as calls for various local contractors. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call you may be interested in.

E-mail addresses have changed, please note the following changes. If you happen to e-mail the old addresses, they will be forwarded to our new ones. Jonas- jonas@ibew275.org
Walter- walter@ibew275.org
Geoff- geoff@ibew275.org
Nicole- nicole@ibew275.org

Please note that phone issues are still ongoing. We are in the process of working with Lakeland to get the new phone system

installed. If you are having issues getting through to the job hotline, we recommend bidding online at www.ibew275.org. Username is your card number and password is your last name (ALL CAPS) and the last of your social security number (ie: SMITH1234)

Code update classes will continue to be scheduled throughout the year until there is no longer a need. The cost for members is \$20. There is an online version available for \$40. To register for this class and/or to keep an eye out for future classes go to the JATC website at www.wmejatc.org and click the Code Update Course link.

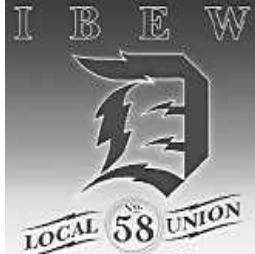
At the time if this writing, anyone working in Local 275 should have received their vacation fund deposit. If you have not received it, you most likely have

not gotten your vacation fund account info into Wilson McShane. Please contact Nicole at the Union Hall for more information.

With political activities for the 2024 election ramping up, we are looking for anyone interested in volunteering in the effort. Please reach out to Walter at the Union Hall for more information about volunteering.

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

At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Devon Adair, Ruben Cortez, Timothy David, Jacob Hallatschek, Brian Kelly, Kenneth Mabs Jr, Calvin Tipple, and Jeffrey Vandewater. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.



IBEW LOCAL 58



IBEW 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting: the next general membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Parking will continue to be tight with the construction project well under way. Your patience is appreciated!

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

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

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

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

Local 58 Dues Department - If your dues are paid to 3-31-24 you have lapsed and will need to call the hall and make an appointment.

IBEW 692, con't

per capita increase was approved by the delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

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

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

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

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

REMINDER: If you contact the Health Plan Office about going on short term disability, it is important for you to notify the Hall as well. A copy of your paperwork will need to be submitted to the Hall for your file. This will also freeze your position on the out of work list.

Important links & numbers

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



IBEW Local 498

"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498
TRAVERSE CITY – **Meetings.**

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

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

Dec. 2024 Meeting Date Change – Regular Meeting change to Friday Dec 13, 2024 to help with traveling Brothers and Sisters to attend the Holiday meeting. Please bring a dish to pass. Postcard reminders will be sent out soon.

Santa Party – Santa Party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 14. Please bring your kids! We need your kids here to meet Santa and submit their Christmas wish lists. Hot dogs & sloppy joes, cookies and chips as usual. Postcards will be sent out soon. Please remember to RSVP so we can plan for supplies and gifts for everyone attending.

Resale Items – The new order of tee shirts are in, as well as Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

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

TC JATC –First Aid & CPR Class is scheduled for Oct 23, 2024 at 5:00pm. Call Caroline at the hall to get on the list.

Code Update Class – In person classes are now full.

Election - Elections are coming. Please get registered to vote and vote with your jobs and benefits in mind. The unprecedented amount of work is because of the support of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris. All elections are important, so don't forget about the local races as well, the current State House, Senate and Governor have supported labor as well.

Local & National Elections – Please educate yourself on the upcoming Local and National Elections. Learn what Project 2025 is and what effects it will have on everyone's day to day lives and who supports it.

Political Activism & Leadership - There will be a Political Activism & Leadership Class held on Wednesday Oct 23 at 6:30 pm and Tuesday Oct 29 @ 6:30 pm. Please try and attend and be more active in your Local.

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

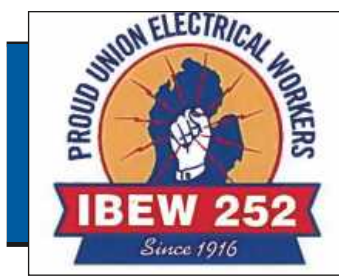
DUES RATES
July 1, 2024 – Dues increase to \$155.10/Quarter.

Info Updates – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time.

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#

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Troy, MI 48068
www.middletontraining.com
248-885-8311



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

ANNARBOR – 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.

JATC COMMITTEE OPENING: We are looking for anyone interested in serving on the JATC committee. Call (734) 424-0978 for more information or to put your name in as interested.

TRAINING CLASSES 2024: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM

Conduit Bending Class Tuesday's September 10 – October 15.

Code Update session 6 Monday's and Thursday's September 30, October 3, 7, & 10, 2024

Code Update session 7 Monday's and Thursday's October 14, 17, 21, & 24, 2024

Code Update session 8 Monday's and Thursday's October 28, 31, November 4, & 7, 2024

Code Update session 9 Monday's and Thursday's November 11, 14, 18, & 21, 2024

Code Update session 10 Monday's and Thursday's December 9, 12, 16, & 19, 2024

Instrumentation Part A Monday's September 9 – December 16, 2024

CPR/First Aid Tuesdays September 3, 10, December 3, 10, 2024

BICSI Installer Fiber IN250 starts 10-28-24 for 13 Monday nights. BICSI ITSIMM manual is required. 35 BICSI CECs will be credited to any current BICSI credential holder. Call the school to register with your BICSI ID#.

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

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

2024 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2024 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2024 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2024! Beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2024, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2024. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at www.union4lifecharity.com.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT: Renew Committee's 6th Annual Trunk or Treat will be held on October 26, 2024 from 4:00-9:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. Activities include contests for Best Trunk and Best Costume for kids 12 and under, festive games for all ages, and movies on the projector. To reserve your parking spot or for more information, please contact Dan Beck (810) 858-0033.

RENEW BENEVOLENT HALLOWEEN: The Renew Committee is hosting a Halloween Event during this year's Trunk or Treat to raise donations for the Benevolent Fund to host upcoming events. Stop in to the Union Hall from 4:00-9:00 p.m. to play games, including treadmill car racing, cards, and a fowling tournament. Volunteers are needed to help with set up, clean up, and running games. If you are interested, or if you'd like to make a donation please contact Dan Beck (810) 858-0033 or Dennis Locks (734) 646-0425.

HOLIDAY PARTY: The Local's Annual Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2024. Entertainment, beer and dinner will be provided. The party will begin at 6:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. A DJ will provide music for your listening and dancing pleasure following dinner. A donation by check or cash may be made night of to the IBEW L.U. 252 Entertainment Committee.

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

RETIRES' BREAKFAST: The Retirees' Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant.

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

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

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

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

AT&T DISCOUNT: Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans, or unlimited calling for \$15/mo. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.

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

NOTICE TO RETIREES: If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the hall.

CREDIT CARDS: The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3% to use your card.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 9/2024, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$134.25 for fourth quarter 2024. "BA" members pay \$70.80 for fourth quarter for 2024. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your fourth quarter dues (July through September) are due now. **Payments for fourth quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, December 31, 2024.**

Future Dues Increases:
Effective January 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$140.25 per quarter.

"You ought to expect better of people. It encourages you to be a better person yourself."
–Jeph Jacques



IBEW 665

LANSING – WORK OUT-LOOK: Local 665 has OPEN CALLS and will need help from our travelling brothers and sisters. Call the hall for the most up to date information. 665 will be experiencing unfilled calls for all of 2024.

CODE UPDATE: Code update classes have passed. If you still require code update class to renew your state license. Feel free to contact flint JATC (810) 720-0583 or fsejtc.com. Flint has an online version of the code update class.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: Local 665 has reached a milestone. We have just surpassed 800 members in the local. Of which 180 are apprentices. With all the new faces around please remember it is a Journeyman's job to teach first and empower the next generation to learn and grow.

EVITP TRAINING PROGRAM: Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program. If you are interested in helping our local secure more work in the Lansing area it is critical, we sign up for this training. This program is looking to be required by the federal government to work on any large-scale electric vehicle charger stations. The program is online on your blended learning platform. Please email Dale@lejtc.org or contact the apprenticeship office with questions or how to sign up.

HARASSMENT TRAINING: Harassment training has been adopted as part of our contract. It is required for all our members to complete it. Please reach out to the JATC to sign up for it. You can email Dale@lejtc.org to receive instructions on how to complete it.

APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS: We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program. To apply, go to www.lejtc.org and navigate to the application page on the website.

Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

FIRST AID/CPR: If you require First Aid/CPR. Contact the JATC for the next available date to sign up.

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

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS: The Executive Board meets 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 #352. Please look at your dues 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 local 665 members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal. Stephen Bair 09/16/24, Jackie "Jack" Heart 04/21/24, Stanley McLellan 04/17/24, Arthur "Dave" Benzinger 03/28/24, James McDonald 2/22/24, Roger Carroll 12/13/23, Harry Baker 11/26/23, Mark McCrackin 10/02/23, Howard Shooltz 08/14/23, Gerald Loughlin 08/19/23, Walter Keith Sr. 07/12/23, Joseph Fussman 06/16/23, Eric Odle 05/15/23.

"Nothing is really work unless you would rather be doing something else."
–James M. Barrie (1860 - 1937)

"When people talk, listen completely. Most people never listen."
–Ernest Hemingway (1899 - 1961)

"The only good is knowledge and the only evil is ignorance."
–Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)



THE NEW WATERPARK under construction at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth. R.C. Hendrick and Son is managing the \$90 million project, which is expected to make Michigan's "Little Bavaria" an even bigger draw for tourists to Saginaw County.



A NICE, SOLID RETAINING WALL – It was erected at the Bavarian Inn waterpark by this group of laborers and operators. Atop the wall are Nate Fulgencio (Laborers Local 1075); Corey Cuthbertson (Operating Engineers Local 324); Tyler Kanyo (Laborers Local 1098), and Anthony Askey (Local 1098). In the excavator is Trevor Johnson of Local 324.



"Courage is being scared to death - but saddling up anyway."
– John Wayne (1907 - 1979)

"Facts or opinions which are to pass through the hands of so many, to be misconceived by folly in one, and ignorance in another, can hardly have much truth left."
– Jane Austen (1775 - 1817)

"There is no stigma attached to recognizing a bad decision in time to install a better one."
–Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)

"In order that people may be happy in their work, these three things are needed: They must be fit for it. They must not do too much of it. And they must have a sense of success in it."
– John Ruskin (1819 - 1900)

"We are never deceived; we deceive ourselves."
–Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749 - 1832)

"Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it."
– Maya Angelou (1928 - 2014)

THE NEW WATERPARK at the Bavarian Inn, in Frankenmuth at right, and the existing inn, at left. Operations have continued at the inn throughout the construction process. The Bavarian Inn is expected to be able to open its new union-built waterpark by the end of the year.

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From Recommend to Standard: How can we help you with these changes?
1) One-line Electrical Diagram
2) Electrical Maintenance Program

Contact UIS

866-967-9464

www.teamuis.com



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers 25

NOVI – The October Union meeting will be Monday, Oct. 28 at 7 pm and will be in person and zoom. All are invited to join us! 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 Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, Oct. 28 at 6 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 24 at 6 pm. All are welcome! There will not be a November Steward meeting.

Looking for Volunteers for Political Canvassing every Tuesday & Thursday 12:45 – 5 pm at the Painters Union Hall 14587 Barber Ave. Warren MI 48088. Just show up, our contact is Jason Dewitt. Thank you!

We remind all our Union Brothers & Sisters to Vote on or before Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. Voters can check their voter registration status and look up their local clerk information at Michigan.gov/Vote

How to register to vote in Michigan: Within 14 days of an election, and on Election Day, voters may only register by visiting their local clerk’s office or satellite office to register in person with proof of residency documentation. <https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/Voter/Index/#yourclerk>

The last day to request a vacation check pull is Wednesday, Oct. 30 for delivery on Thursday Oct. 31 to the Novi Union Hall.

December vacation check schedule: The last day to call to have your December vacation check pulled for in person pick up is Tuesday, Dec. 3 at Noon. Pooled checks will be available at the Novi Hall Thursday, Dec. 5 after 2 pm. All other checks will be mailed to you by the end of business day on Tuesday Dec. 3. All members that receive ACH deposits, your vacation check will be on deposit Friday, Dec. 6, 2024. All Vacation checks will be dated Saturday Dec. 7, 2024.

A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE



SETTING REINFORCING ROD for a stairway to the mezzanine deck at the Bavarian Inn waterpark project in Frankenmuth are Local 25 rodbusters Andrew Lyons, Brett Wicke and Adam Peterson. They’re employed by City ReSteel.

TATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL THE 1ST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH from 8 am to 12 noon. Your next opportunity will be Wed. Nov. 6. If you wish to book an appointment or just have questions, call 248-344-9494.

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

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 next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).**

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

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

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).

The Iron Workers’ Local 25 Retirees’ Club. The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 8:30 am in Novi. The Retirees’ meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday Nov. 19 at 10 am. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Wednesday Nov. 6 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI, 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the Bay City Chapter will be Jan. 16, 2025; at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 12:00 pm. All are Welcome.

The Downriver Chapter The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9 am on Jan. 17, 2025 at Mom’s Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

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

FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health. Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention

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

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

In Memory: Robert “Bob” Burns #1229641 passed away Oct. 9, 2024 at the age of 69. He was a former member of Local 340 holding membership since 1996 as a Welder and transferred to Local 395 in 2005.

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Oct 14, 2024 11:00 pm E.S.T.):

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– Irish Proverb

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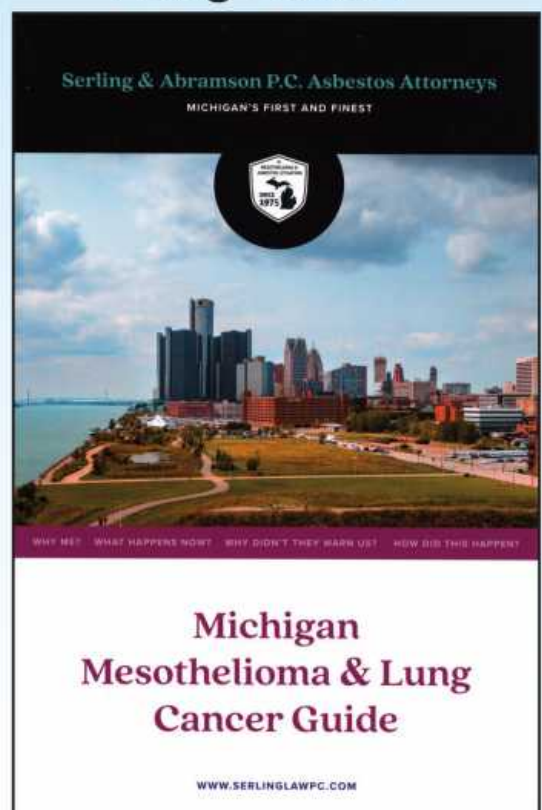
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By Rachel Lincoln
Wildlife Outreach Coord.
Michigan DNR

When Grouse Enhanced Management Sites (GEMS) were established in 2014, the goal was simple yet ambitious: create premium grouse and woodcock habitat for hunters.

"We recognized the need to highlight grouse and woodcock habitat management while providing new, more easily accessible hunting opportunities for hunters," said Adam Bump, upland game bird specialist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The GEMS program launched with just eight sites on public hunting lands in Cheboygan, Chippewa, Dickinson, Gladwin, Gogebic, Mackinac, Marquette and Ontonagon counties. The vision was a network of upland game bird hunting destinations that would connect hunters with local communities and partner organizations through hunting tourism and habitat stewardship.

To yield good opportunities for hunters, each area is diligently managed for grouse and woodcock habitat. In addition, GEMS optimize the hunter's experience by incorporating hunter walking trails, parking lots, and trail and habitat cover maps.

"GEMS were designed for a broad spectrum of hunters – from those who might not navigate thick, tangled vegetation as easily anymore, to new hunters who are learning how to identify grouse habitat," said Bump.

Over the past decade, the program has grown to include 19 sites, spanning 73,000 acres in Michigan's Upper and northern Lower peninsulas. The sites range in size from 500 to 11,000 acres. After 10 years, the GEMS program continues to thrive thanks to years of dedicated support from DNR land managers, conservation partners, local communities and volunteers.

Aspen: the crown jewel of the GEMS. "Aspen forest management has been the key to making GEMS successful," said Bruce Barlow, DNR wildlife biologist

Outdoors Enhancing grouse habitat



A RUFFLED GROUSE walks along a downed log.

MDNR photos

and land manager for the Lame Duck Foot Access GEMS, the largest in the state at 11,000 acres.

Ground-nesting birds such as grouse and woodcock need young aspen forests to complete their lifecycle. The slender trunks of aspen trees grow densely packed together under a kaleidoscope-like, leafy canopy, providing camouflage and concealment for wildlife below.

Aspen bark and flower buds provide food for grouse, while fallen trees create drumming logs that become a stage for grouse courtship displays. During these displays, male grouse drum on the logs by rapidly flapping their wings, producing a low-frequency sound that echoes through the forest. Each drumming session lasts about eight to 10 seconds, with up to 50 wing beats, showcasing the male's vitality and strength.

But aspen forests require a watchful eye and attentive management. Aspen trees need direct sunlight and will not grow in the shade of larger trees. To keep habitats thriving and forests regenerating, mature aspen stands are removed through timber harvests. At the Lame Duck Foot Access

GEMS, land managers help the forest regenerate by removing groups of 50-year-old aspen trees, allowing for new growth and new age classes to be established.

The timber is sold to a forest products company to make composite panels (oriented strand board, similar to particle board), pulpwood or saw logs.

"The most abundant habitat in the GEMS is aspen. As the young forest naturally regrows, it provides an ongoing cycle of habitat for grouse, white-tailed deer, woodcock, black bear, American beaver, golden-winged warblers and many other species," Barlow said.

When aspen stands are first cut, they can be ugly. But in a year or two, the aspen will return and form a dense, vigorous forest full of life. For the next 45 years, this forest will provide habitat for grouse and a host of other species.

Most Grouse Enhanced Management Sites are located within DNR-managed state forests, though some are on U.S. Forest Service lands or on private lands enrolled in Commercial Forest programs.

GEMS are nested into Michi-



A HUNTER WALKS through an aspen forest in pursuit of grouse.

gan's nearly 4 million acres of state forests, all of which are managed under the guidelines of the

State Forest Management Plan. This plan is currently open for public review and input, and since Michigan's forests affect all of us, we encourage your feedback on the 2024 State Forest Management Plan by Dec. 31.

A learning tool for new hunters. Aspen forest management not only supports wildlife, but also creates an ideal environment for new hunters to learn and develop their skills.

More than 15,000 small game hunters take to the GEMS in the fall for ruffed grouse and woodcock hunting, according to the DNR's 2021 small game harvest survey. Gabe Stone, regional engagement coordinator for the Ruffed Grouse Society and American Woodcock Society, started hunting grouse and woodcock on Grouse Enhanced Management Sites.

"Until your boots are on the ground in good grouse habitat, it's hard to identify it," Stone said. "GEMS are a tremendous resource for hunters to learn what good grouse and woodcock habitat looks like." Stone said that GEMS act as a "training kit" for hunters, softening the learning curve by helping them to better understand the nuances of habitat and bird behavior before exploring new areas.

"On the area, you learn where to locate birds, what parts of the habitat to focus on, how to work your dogs, how to navigate dense stands, or you can opt to stick to walking trails until you're ready for a challenge," said Stone.

For new hunters looking to try grouse or woodcock hunting, Stone also recommends starting at a GEMS and plugging into the conservation community by joining the Ruffed Grouse Society and American Woodcock Society.

"We have over 20 chapters in Michigan, all filled with people who love to take others hunting and get them involved. These folks have years of stories, knowledge and expertise to share."

Community through conservation. Blake Renfrow, a GEMS hunter and Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society committee member, has been helping revitalize the Jim Foote chapter of the organization. Renfrow and his girlfriend recently moved to Gaylord, and, like many others working from home, found it challenging to connect with new people. During his hunting outings at GEMS, he

noticed habitat improvements made by RGS/AWS and realized that volunteering to help with these projects was likely a great way to connect with like-minded people. Renfrow and others have since engaged with the chapter and have been hosting social events such as "Birds and Brews" at local breweries. "Most of the places we go to are dog-friendly, of course," said Renfrow. For more information, check the Jim Foote RGS Chapter Facebook page.

Partners are key to success. The Ruffed Grouse Society and American Woodcock Society have been critical partners in the GEMS program since its beginning, supporting it through fundraising and habitat improvement. Glen Blackwood, director of regional development for RGA/AWS, covering Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan, said GEMS are raising awareness for the broader sense of conservation.

"Before the GEMS program began, many of these areas were already good public grouse hunting lands. But GEMS showcased their significance and the value of managing for grouse and woodcock habitat to the wider bird hunting community," Blackwood said. "You can't go to a GEMS in September without seeing trucks with dog crates and license plates from Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio, Indiana or Pennsylvania."

As one of the top three states in the country for grouse hunting, Michigan is a destination for out-of-state hunters, especially in the Upper Peninsula. A study by researchers Scott Knoche and Frank Lupi published in *The Journal of Wildlife Management* in 2013 found that the average ruffed grouse hunter annually contributes about \$235 to the economy from using publicly accessible hunting lands. In total, Michigan's publicly accessible hunting lands (state, federal and commercial) generate around \$20.8 million in economic benefits each year from ruffed grouse hunting.

GEMS fall hunting a treasured tradition. There's still time to experience GEMS during the 10th anniversary year. Find GEMS habitat cover types and additional public hunting lands, Google "Mi Hunt Interactive Map." This free mapping tool provides cover types, trails and approximate boundaries of lands open to public hunting. Or visit Michigan.gov/SmallGame.

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