

# SHORT CUTS

### **Building material** prices up a bit more

Just like in the rest of the economy, building material inflation is still hanging around.

Construction input prices rose 1.4 percent in January compared to December, and material prices were 1.3 percent higher than in January 2023, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Producer Price Index released Feb. 13.

Commenting on the numbers, the Associated General Contractors warned that proposed steel and aluminum tariffs will further boost the cost of key construction materials and are likely to make construction projects more costly and invite retaliation by U.S. trading partners.

"Input costs are likely to jump even more if the Trump administration goes ahead with the tariffs it has threatened to impose," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "Contractors that have started fixed-price projects will be squeezed by higher materials costs, while rising costs and delayed availability will make future projects more expensive."

### Teamsters, Costco have temporary pact

The Teamsters union said on Feb. 1 that its negotiating committee has reached a tentative agreement for a new contract with U.S. retailer Costco Wholesale.

"The tentative agreement will be presented to the membership for a vote," was all that the union said in a social media post on X. They provided no details of the agreement. The Teamsters represent more than



APPLYING FIREPROOFING to a column at the Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing are (l-r) Isaac Maldonado of Laborers Local 490 and Mike Arens of Cement Masons and Plasterers Local 514. They're employed by Christman Construction.

# Testing, testing... **Modern lab space to serve** numerous state agencies

#### **By Marty Mulcahy** Editor

of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) alone conducts nearly 7 million clinical and environment public health tests per year.

With so much applied science going on, a new 300,000-square-foot state public health and environmental science laboratory to aid those efforts is currently under construction, and it will provide consolidated lab space for the MDHHS, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE); and the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO).

'The Bureau of Laboratories performs expansive testing to protect the health and safety of the public – including newborn screenings, testing for infectious diseases like tuberculosis or legionellosis, testing for infectious agents and toxins like rabies or harmful algal blooms, and monitoring for chemicals in fish," said MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel. "We are incredibly proud of the work performed by our employees at the Bureau of Laboratories and are excited for this new facility to support our life-saving efforts."

Plan Act's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Ground was broken on the project last LANSING - The Michigan Department April, and Midwest Steel was celebrating the topping



Trump and Musk's blitzkrieg: 'America's workers are right at the heart of those attacks'

**By Steven Greenhouse** Senior Fellow

The Century Foundation As a presidential candidate last fall, Donald Trump repeatedly promised to battle for U.S. workers, but ever since he returned to the White House, he has taken a surprisingly large number of anti-worker actions, labor experts say. Some of those actions, among them hobbling the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), will help Trump's billionaire business friends, most notably Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos.

In his first few weeks back in office, Trump fired the NLRB's acting chairperson, leaving the board without a quorum to enforce laws that protect workers' right to unionize. Trump has designated Musk, a vehemently anti-union billionaire, to launch an all-out war against the federal bureaucracy and workforce, and Trump and Musk have essentially treated the nation's 2 million-plus federal employees as if they were disposable, low-quality widgets.

Not stopping there, Trump fired two members of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), leaving it without a quorum to carry out its mission of fighting against discrimination. In his crusade to downsize the government and demolish the "deep state," Trump and his administration have fired thousands of federal employees - moves that union officials say have violated laws and rules that require due process and a finding of poor performance before workers can be fired.

"Donald Trump is showing that his promises to be a champion of workers are hollow," said Judy Conti, government affairs director of the National Employment Law Project, a worker advocacy group. "He surrounds himself with people who are anti-worker. He has a history of being anti-worker, but he tries to put a nice face on it. He says he's a champion of workers. He's just not."

In a move that many federal workers found distasteful, Trump asked them to snitch on each other, to inform on coworkers engaged in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) activities. The Trump administration further angered federal employees, as well as the labor movement, by announcing that it would nullify contracts reached with federal employee unions in the final weeks of the Biden Administration.

Last month, just hours after (Continued on Page 3)

### **New Labor Dept.** secretary toes the line, now supports state **RTW** laws

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Organized labor leaders were excited when President Trump named former U.S. Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-Ore.) as his Labor Department secretary.

When she was in office as a blue state senator, Chavez-DeRemer actually co-sponsored the PRO Act, labor's top legislative priority. It was never close to passage, but it remains a goal for unions because it would expand labor protections and ease the ability of unions to organize hostile workplaces.

But during her 90-minute confirmation hearing on Feb. 19 before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, Chavez-DeRemer did an about-face, and said she supports the PRO Act – except for its most important part that would override statewide right-to-work laws. RTW laws allow workers to enjoy union benefits without paying union dues. "I fully, fairly support states who want to protect their right to work," she said, aligning herself with President Trump, a professed right-to-work supporter. Retorted Sen. Bernie Sanders, (Ind.-Vt.): "We need a Labor secretary who makes it easier, not harder, to join unions."

18,000 workers at Costco.

Published reports, citing a memo Costco sent to employees, say that Costco is set to increase pay by \$1 or 50 cents an hour for most of its hourly U.S. store workers. The top of their scale is \$30.20, employees at the low end is \$20 per hour.

Teamsters members at Costco voted overwhelmingly in favor of a strike on Jan. 20 if a new three-year contract agreement could not be reached by midnight Jan. 31. Workers were looking for better wages, benefits and work rules. Costco made a record \$7.4 billion profit in its most recent fiscal year.

### Federal AFGE union is suddenly popular

Nothing like a rabidly pair of anti-union bosses to drive workers into the arms of organized labor.

Already the largest federal employee union, the American Federation of Government Employees said it is setting new membership records as President Trump and billionaire Elon Musk advance a slew of job cuts and policies targeting government workers.

AFGE currently stands at 321,000 dues-paying members, the union's highest level ever. As of the first week in February, the union reported gaining 16,200 members in 2025.

"It says to me, not only are federal employees paying attention, but it says to me that the entire country is paying attention to what's going on,' said Everett Kelley, the union's national president, "and they do not appreciate the attacks on federal workers."

### Quotable

"A republic, if you can keep it. "

–Benjamin Franklin's (1706-1790) response to Philadelphia socialite Elizabeth Willing Powel's question: "Well, Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?"

The laboratory site is located at the state Secondary Complex in Dimondale, with Christman Construction managing the \$326 million project. The state said the project was advanced with the inclusion of \$260 million in federal funding from the American Rescue

**GERS** for installation at the new state laboratory building is Robert King of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7. He's employed by McShane Mechanical



A NEW PUBLIC HEALTH and environmental science laboratory being erected by Christman Constructors, its subcontractors and building trades union workers near Lansing will create a modern, consolidated facility for a variety of state agencies to conduct clinical and environmental health tests.

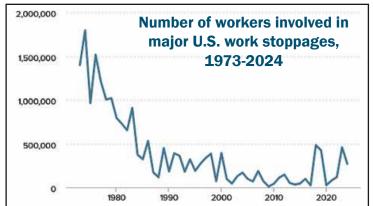
### Work stoppages down with fewer strikes and strikers

#### By Mary Catt **Cornell School of Industrial** and Labor Relations

The number of U.S. work stoppages decreased by 23.8 percent in 2024 compared to 2023, and the approximate number of striking workers decreased by 45.5 percent, according to a report published Feb. 19 by the Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations and the University of Illinois School of Labor and Employment Relations.

Researchers said the decline in strike numbers is overwhelmingly due to a drop in the number of one-day strikes, primarily due

to fewer strikes by Starbucks pages – 356 strikes and three Workers United in 2024 as comlockouts - involved approxipared to the previous two years. mately 293,500 workers, result-Last year's 359 work stoping in 5.32 million strike days.



# Biden's PLA rule on last legs as Trump's DOD blocks its use

**By Marty Mulcahy** Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – One of the first dominos knocking over Biden-era, pro-union federal government policies has fallen, just three weeks into the Trump

The number of work stoppages

in 2024 exceeded 2021 levels, but

U.S. is still far below levels seen

in the 1970s, major strikes by just

a couple of unions can have a big

impact on the total numbers,"

said Eli Friedman, professor of

global labor and work at Cornell.

"In past years, strikes by screen

actors and writers, auto workers

and graduate-student workers

accounted for a significant share

of total strikers, and there were

fewer of those large-scale events

in 2024."

"Since strike activity in the

was lower than '22 or '23.

Administration.

The U.S, Department of Defense announced on Feb. 11 that it would drop union-friendly project labor agreement requirements for its military construction solicitations, and pledged to remove the same mandate on 12 additional projects. It's expected to be the Trump Administration's first salvo in overturning Biden's executive order requiring the use of PLAs on all federal construction projects valued at \$35 million or more.

A statement released Feb. 11 by the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors lauded the change. Ben Brubeck, ABC's vice president of regulatory, labor and state affairs. said the Department of Defense's (DoD's) new policy "effectively eliminates President Joe Biden's controversial rule requiring anticompetitive, inflationary, unionfavoring project labor agreements (Continued on Page 14)

(Continued on Page 5)

# Palisades to get nation's first small nuke reactors

COVERT TWP. - An additional goal in the revitalization of the Palisades Nuclear Power plant's existing reactor will include the installation of two new small modular nuclear reactors, called SMR-300s, the first that will be manufactured and installed in a U.S. plant.

"This site is now undeniably ground zero for the nuclear renaissance," said Rick Springman, president of global clean energy opportunities for Holtec International, when the announcement was made at Palisades on Feb. 25.

After an extended shutdown, the Palisades plant along the Lake Michigan shoreline was given new life by a commitment of state and (Continued on Page 2)

A RENDERING OF the pair of small, modular 300-megawatt reactor units to be added to the Palisades plant.



March 7, 2025

## **Viewpoints**

### **Billionaires take contro**

One of the unacknowledged advantages of the horrendous era we've entered is that it has revealed for all to see the putrid connections between great wealth and great power. Oligarchs are fully exposed and they are defiant. It's like hitting the "reveal codes" key on older computers that let you see everything.

Today, Jeff Bezos, the second richest person in America, who bought the Washington Post in 2013, announced that the paper's opinion section's would henceforth focus on defending "personal liberties and free markets." Anything inconsistent with this view would not be published. "Viewpoints opposing those pillars will be left to be published by others." The Post's opinion editor, David Shipley, promptly resigned, as he should.

You'll recall that Bezos barred the Post from endorsing Kamala Harris in the last weeks of the 2024 election. Subsequently, the paper wouldn't print its cartoonist's drawing showing Bezos and other oligarchs bowing to Trump, leading the cartoonist to resign.

Elon Musk, the richest person in the world bought Twitter in 2022, laid off everyone who was filtering out hateful crap, renamed it X, and turned it into a cesspool of lies in support of Trump.

Mark Zuckerberg, the third richest person, has followed suit, allowing Facebook to emit lies, hate, and bigotry in support of Trump's lies, hate, and bigotry.

All three of these men were in the first row at Trump's inauguration. They, and other billionaires, have now exposed themselves for what they are. They are the oligarchy. They are siphoning off the wealth of the nation. They are supporting a tyrant who is promising them tax cuts and regulatory rollbacks that will make them even richer.

When billionaires take control of our communication channels. it's not a win for free speech. It's a win for billionaire babble. When they talk of "personal liberties and free markets" they mean their own liberties to become even richer and more powerful, as the rest of America slides into greater economic insecurity and fear.

When they speak of "freedom," what they actually seek is freedom from accountability. This "reveal code" moment is, in a way, a blessing. It allows us all to see where the money and power have gone. It is a prerequisite to the long and difficult but necessary process of creating an economy and democracy for the many rather than the few.

**Robert Reich** Professor of Economic, University of California-Berkeley

### Who will fight for us?

#### *To the Editor,*

Fifty nine countries worldwide have representation in their governments from a Labor Party. Even China and Turkey have labor representation, so why doesn't the USA?

We have been told repeatedly by the rich that unions are corrupt and unnecessary. As union members, you know that is not true and you and your families reap the benefits of fair wages, health benefits, pensions, annuities and safe working environments.

Unions historically support Democratic representation, yet record numbers of members have voted for Republicans, even though factually, unions thrive under Democratic presidential administrations. Why?

After only a few weeks into this Republican administration, we have seen threats to the prices of construction materials (lumber, steel, aluminum, etc) coming from Canada in the form of tariffs. Even if tariff implementation has been delayed, there is a looming fear over the construction industry about the instability of prices. This fear will spill over into our business industry, which will delay building new facilities, buildings, houses, as well as remodels and upgrades to existing structures.

We have been told by this administration that you could feel some "economic pain." Weren't we told this administration would immediately alleviate the economic pains we have been feeling for the past four years, not adding to them?

In addition to adding unqualified billionaires to government cabinet positions, as well as unqualified family members and loyalists to overseas appointments, who is looking out for "us"? Many of you voted for Republicans because you felt that you weren't being properly represented by the Democrats. So, I ask again, WHY DO WE NOT HAVE LABOR REPRESENTATION? As a vast country, we have always prided ourselves on our ambition, diversity, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The Divide and Conquer strategy of war has been used since the time of Julius Caesar. It is easy to do! Pit race against race, religion against religion and while we are fighting amongst ourselves, the rich and powerful are taking advantage of workers with lower wages, poor working conditions and on a grander scale, land grabs and genocide. No matter what your race, gender, religion or economic status, if you are not a billionaire, you are working to support your family! That is the one thing we all have in common. If we all banded together and actually expected less "economic pain" instead of giving the richest man in the world (who is not even a U.S. citizen) access to all of our Social Security information, we just might get ahead! Instead of a rich president who seems to be more focused on a Middle East conflict only to build another luxury hotel for his own personal gain, it would be nice to have labor representation. The Democratic Party has also been complacent in economic policies, allowing corporations to buy both parties for their own gain. We have also been told, by the rich and our current government, that a third party complicates things, but for who? They keep getting richer off of the taxes we pay, while they are paying no taxes and benefitting from insider information to make money in the stock market. An American Labor Party (currently known as The Working Families Party) would be that tie-breaker that keeps our current two-party system honest and shifts the focus to us. Also, all social media and news organizations are owned by rich people. The partisan "opinions" that pass for news are purely for entertainment, profit and disinformation to Divide and Conquer. This publication, The Building Tradesman, is focused on YOU! This publication is not bought and sold by the rich, but actually looks out for OUR success, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Even though they seem to have a bias toward Democratic support, again, historically and factually, unions thrive under Democratic administrations. Do your own research on labor parties around the globe! Look into the policies of The Working Families Party. Quit buying into the notion that billionaires care about us! Do some historical research about why labor unions were established in the first place in this country. Get off social media, if your only goal is to "make liberals cry again" or make accusations reflecting cult mentalities. Look to yourself to see if you can be a leader for working Americans instead of a mouthpiece for hate, intolerance and disinformation. Remember, Divide and Conquer is easy and very beneficial for the rich and powerful. Do something positive for the 99 percent of us, no matter what your occupation, gender, race or religion. Let the Republicans fight against too much government spending, let the Democrats fight for social justices (like both parties are supposed to do). But let The Working Families Party fight for us!



WE ASKED THIS GROUP of electricians working at the Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing to take a break from their conduit bending to have their photo taken. Shown here (l-r) are Dave "Caveman" Gilman (IBEW Local 665); electrical Supt. Tom Butler (IBEW 58); Jason Doyen (IBEW 58); visiting IBEW Local 665 Assistant Business Manager Chad Jansen, and Rodney "Colonel" Hogan (IBEW 665). The electricians are employed by Shaw Electric.

# **Modern lab space to serve** numerous state agencies

for the presence of rabies in a bat

or testing for toxins from harmful

state gets screened for 58 dif-

ferent potential life-threatening

disorders within 36 to 72 hours

measure biomarkers of chemical

exposures in humans, including

blood lead testing and testing

for per- and polyfluoroalkyl sub-

ple rely on EGLE to monitor the

quality of their air, soil, and wa-

ter, and we serve as Michigan's

principal drinking water labora-

tory under the Safe Drinking Wa-

ter Act," said EGLE Director Phil

Roos. "This new laboratory will

increase the speed and efficiency

of our handling of more than

100,000 samples and 2.5 million

"More than 10 million peo-

stances (PFAS) in blood.

•Every newborn baby in the

•More than 500,000 tests to

algal blooms.

of birth.

(Continued from Page 1) out of the placement of 8,350 tons of steel on the project in early December.

The state said the new facility will "expand upon and enable testing and other laboratory functions in a safe, secure environment designed to promote efficiency, collaboration, and innovation." The MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories currently provides a wide variety of clinical and environmental public health testing. Its total volume of nearly 7 million tests per year makes it one of the top seven state public health laboratories in the nation.

Examples of testing include: •Infectious diseases in humans, such as tuberculosis or legionellosis, including more than 400,000 tests annually, as well as processing more than 200,000 specimens, including bioterrorism and chemical terrorism specimens submitted by law enforcement and the FBI.

 Infectious agents and toxins in materials that humans have been exposed to, such as testing

### Stop the rampaging billionaires

#### **By Jim Hightower**

The Trump-Musk administration thought they could just stomp on us and our Constitution, replac-

ing democracy with  $a \quad M\,A\,G\,A$ monarchy. But they had not reckoned with one

says he's getting "furious" about the GOP's oligarchic coup attempt. Wow, he might even fire off one of his strongly worded letters to the White House! So far, though, the Democratic "leader" is meekly urging a horrified public to just weather the storm, predicting that, "Trump will screw up."

Hello, Chuck-history clearly teaches that to fight totalitarian-

space. With two enforcement divisions covering general industry and construction industry employers, MIOSHA consultation and enforcement staff collect samples during their field activities and will send them to the MIOSHA laboratory for analysis.

"Laboratory testing for occupational hazards is a critical component of our work to protect employee health and safety," said MIOSHA Director Bart Pickelman. "With 300,000 employers and 4 million employees in Michigan under MIOSHA jurisdiction, this new laboratory will further our ability to protect workers and provide a valuable service for years to come."

The lab is expected to be completed by late 2026. The state said it will feature sustainable design elements, including a geothermal-based heating and cooling system, extensive use of day-lighting and energy efficient LED lighting, water-saving plumbing fixtures, and cross-laminated timber on the exterior wall panels, which offers high carbon sequestering to help reduce the facility's carbon footprint.

The new building will be maintained and operated by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

# **Palisades to** get nation's first small nuke reactors

(Continued from Page 1) federal dollars seeking to institute major green energy sources. Each SMR, or small modular reactor, would generate about 300 megawatts of energy. They would supplement the ongoing work to re-start the Palisade plant's 800 megawatt muclear reactor.

Holtec closed the plant in May 2022, but a \$1.5 billion federal loan sparked the plant's resurrection. The Palisades plant began power generation in 1971. Located about five miles south of South Haven, the ongoing work by hundreds of building trades workers currently on site would bring about the first restart of a closed nuclear reactor in U.S. history. The target date for the plant's reopening is 2030.

Leaders from Holtec and Hyundai Engineering & Construction made the dual announcement at the Palisades plant site of an "expanded cooperation agreement" to build a 10-gigawatt fleet of the SMR-300s in North America, with the Palisades plant leading the way. Hyundai E&C is coming off a lead construction role at the fourunit, 5,600 megawatt Barakah nuclear power plant in the United Arab Emirates.

The U.S. Department of Energy describes the SMR-300 as "a pressurized light-water reactor that creates energy through fission. It uses the same low-enriched uranium fuel as traditional reactors operating today and will produce at least 300 megawatts of electric power on a tiny parcel of land."

The DOE said the reactor itself will be placed underground, protecting it from extreme weather events and other threats, and will be designed to passively cool during shutdown without the need of external power or human intervention for enhanced safety.

"I believe today will be recognized as the day when new nuclear was born, in the form of small modular reactors," said Holtec CEO Kris Singh.



Four novice nuns were about to take their vows. Dressed in their white gowns, they entered the chapel for their

symbolic marriage to Jesus, making them

brides of Christ. Prior to the ceremony, four Hasidic Jews came into the chapel and sat in one of the bews.



test results that EGLE currently processes every year, which is critical to protecting the public health of all Michiganders." Even MIOSHA will be tak-

ing advantage of the new lab

Lisa D. Dickson Saline, Mich. (Proud union wife and mother)

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

> How to contact us -By mail: Building Tradesman Editor 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216 e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

learsome opponent: Sen. Chuck Schumer.

The Senate's top Democrat



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ism, you actually have to... fight. People are asking: Why the

hell is the party's top leadership AWOL? The good news is grassroots people themselves the "little-d" Democrats – have taken to the streets, leading the charge to STOP this plutocratic, autocratic power grab. So, "leaders" ought to at least follow! All Democratic national officials (including former presidents Clinton, Obama, and Biden) should literally come out and stand together, demonstrating solidarity with the majority of Americans fighting this far-right, un-American assault by rampaging billionaires.

Most encouraging is the fact that workaday people - in red states as well as blue – are erupting in spontaneous protests and unity actions. Ironically, Don & Elon's self-serving plutocratic thuggery is rallying workers, veterans, schoolchildren, seniors, immigrants, the LGBTQ+ community, main street businesses... and, well, Americans - against them!

The GOP assault on all of us reveals that we commoners really are in this together, and it will take all of us to defend the Common Good for one and all.

"Force is all-conquering, but its victories are short-lived. -Abraham Lincoln (1809 -1865)



Surprised at the unexpected guests, the Mother Superior approached the Jewish men and said, "I am so honored you want to share this experience with us. But may I ask why

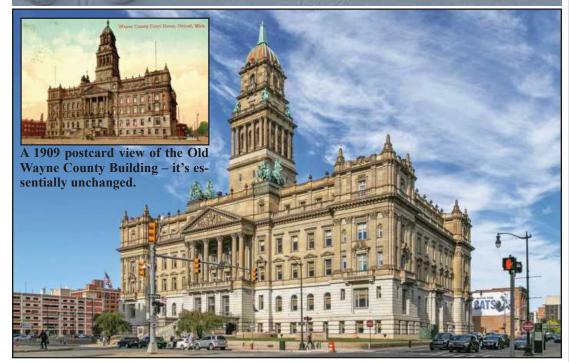
you came?" 'Oh, we saw the nuns enter the chapel as we were passing by," said one of the men, smiling. "We came in to watch. We're from the groom's family."

"Nothing you can't spell will ever work." -Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)





### **BUILDING MICHIGAN:** The Old Wayne County Building HISTORY IN THE MAKING By Marty Mulcahy



GLORIOUSLY UNCHANGED since it opened in 1902, the Old Wayne County Building in Detroit is shown in 2022. Although currently void of tenants, the building has been well maintained. Architectural historian W. Hawkins Ferry called the building "the most sumptuous in all of Michigan." He also noted that, in its construction, "cost does not seem to have been a consideration." Photo credit: Christopher Riley via Wikipedia Commons

**Buildings like the Wayne County Courthouse used to get** demolished seemingly just for the hell of it.

Now called the "(Old) Wayne County Building," the structure is unique not only for its architecturally ornate interior and lavish interior, but because of the fact that it didn't get demolished when it went out of style. Not that anyone is currently roaming its wonderful hallways - it's empty and has been awaiting a tenant for the past two decades. But at least this archaic, over-the-top edifice is appreciated as an historic gem in Detroit's downtown, and has been preserved and cared for while awaiting a new generation of office workers.

"It is a masterpiece of marble, mahogany and mosaics, bas reliefs, sculptures and columns," says its entry by Dan Austin in his Historic Detroit website. "It is a stately building that looks as old as the city itself, one of the few survivors of the years before Detroit became the auto capital of the world."

The building was constructed at a snail's pace from 1897 to 1902, with Wayne County being accused of overpaying for the land, disagreements over the plans, steel and iron that went missing from the site, controversy over the



PART OF THE CHARM of the Old Wayne County Building is having a couple of roof-mounted, copper-encased Roman chariot sculptures staring out at passers-by. Architect John Scott ordered Photo credit: them to symbolize progress. Helmut Ziewers/Historic Detroit

demolished in 1961) at the opposite end of Cadillac Square.

It's a bit difficult to pigeonhole the architectural style of the Wayne County Building, which has a lot going on inside and out. "Beaux Arts," is used a lot, and its (successful) National **Register of Historic Places** application in 1976 cites the building's "Neo-Classical and Beaux Arts elements."

The Wayne County Building was built at a cost of \$1.6 million (about \$44 million today) with 18 courtrooms and 145 other rooms. *Historic* Detroit says the lower story of the building's exterior is made of grey Vermont granite. The upper floors are done in Berea sandstone. Above the main entrance on Randolph is a frieze showing Gen. Anthony Wayne, the county's namesake. At each entrance are figures symbolizing knowledge and power. The center tower has a Corinthian style row of columns decorated with figures symbolizing agriculture, commerce, law and mechanics/technology. The figures are made of sheet copper, hammered, soldered and riveted over iron framework. "The interior is decked out in mahogany, oak, birch, maple and sycamore," says Historic Detroit. "The halls are lined with a variety of marbles, including Sienna, English vein, white Italian, Alps green, Verona, red and yellow Numidian and others. The columns throughout the building are imitation marbles representing Siennas and Numidians, among others. "There are entrances on all four sides, meant not only to improve access but to also show the openness of government." Five stories up, prominent features on the building are a pair of large copper sculptures known as quadrigae, a Roman chariot drawn by four horses

# America's workers are right at the heart of blitzkreig attacks

(Continued from Page 1)

an American Airlines jet crashed into an Army helicopter over Washington, D.C., killing 67 people, Trump dissed and angered Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) employees, when he denounced DEI as fostering incompetence and suggesting that many FAA employees were unqualified.

In another move upsetting worker advocates, Trump named the chief architect of Project 2025, Russell Vought, to run the White House budget office -Project 2025 is brimming with anti-worker recommendations, among them abolishing all government employee unions across the United States.

"Trump has already shown that he's not a friend of working people," said Liz Shuler, president of the AFL-CIO, the nation's main union federation, in an interview. "Project 2025 is playing out exactly as we feared, and America's workers are right at the heart of those attacks."

One Trump move that particularly upset labor leaders was his order to fire Gwynne Wilcox, the NLRB's acting chair and a Democrat, even though her term ran until 2026 and even though the board is an independent agency. That left the five-member board with just two positions filled, and thus without a quorum to make decisions (although its regional offices can still operate).

Calling her dismissal "unprecedented" and a "blatant violation" of the law, Wilcox is suing Trump and asking to be reinstated. "He does not have the authority to remove a board member unless they have engaged in neglect of duty or malfeasance," Wilcox said in an interview. She noted that Trump never gave any reasons for firing her and failed to give advance notice or allow for a hearing.

"Their practical point was to prevent any work from being done," Wilcox said. "It's counter to what the agency is supposed to do, which is to protect the rights of working people and enforce the law.'

In defending that firing, the

Trump administration asserted that Trump has the power to dismiss any executive branch employee he wishes to. That claim is expected to be litigated all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The AFL-CIO's Shuler said: "The illegal firing of Gwynne Wilcox - we're fighting that tooth and nail. It did exactly what Trump wanted to do, which was stymie the one agency that workers rely on when they're in an organizing drive and taking risks and getting fired. They no longer have the board they need to protect them."

Ben Sachs, a Harvard labor law professor, added, "If you believe in unions and in workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively, then dismantling the NLRB is not the way to show one's support for workers."

Musk's company SpaceXwhich the NLRB has accused of firing several workers illegally has brought suit in federal court to have the NLRB declared unconstitutional. Amazon, which was founded by Jeff Bezos, has brought a similar lawsuit after NLRB officials found that Amazon broke the law numerous times in fighting against unionization.

Musk's company SpaceXwhich the NLRB has accused of firing several workers illegallyhas brought suit in federal court to have the NLRB declared unconstitutional.

"We know the corporations that Musk and Bezos run have expressed a clear interest in shutting down the NLRB and have deployed teams of lawyers to accomplish that," Professor Sachs said. "Now they've got their way, at least temporarily."

If federal courts order Wilcox's reinstatement, the NLRB would again have a quorum, enabling it to operate.

In addition to firing the two EEOC commissioners, Charlotte Burrows and Jocelyn Samuels, Trump also fired members of two boards that hear cases in which federal employees assert they've been improperly fired or treated: the Merit Systems Protection Board and the Federal Labor

#### Relations Authority.

"All of these are agencies where workers who believe their rights have been violated can go to get remedies," said Conti of the National Employment Law Project. "They're essentially freezing the ability of these boards to remedy workers' problems."

Mark Gaston Pearce, executive director of the Workers' Rights Institute at Georgetown University, said it was disturbing that Trump, instead of firing one of the NLRB's two white members, fired Wilcox, the only African-American woman to serve on the NLRB in its 99-yearhistory. "It's all code for getting rid of people of color," Pearce said.

An African-American official who worked at the U.S. Department of Education for over 15 years and who insisted on anonymity, said she was recently put on paid administrative leave merely because she had once participated in a DEI training.

She said she has no idea whether she will be reinstated. "They're vilifying the civil service," she said. "It feels like a betrayal."

Linda Ward-Smith, president of an American Federation of Government Employees union local representing 4,000 Veterans Administration workers in Las Vegas, said many federal employees are disgusted with how they've been treated. "Workers are telling me it's a hostile work environment due to all the emails they're receiving"- including Musk's "Fork in the Road" email to 2 million federal employees suggesting they take buyouts and messages saying the Trump administration wants loyal employees.

"They're scared," she said. "They feel the sky is going to fall.'

(The Century Foundation is a progressive, independent think tank).

"Delay always breeds danger; and to protract a great design is often to ruin it.' - Miguel de Cervantes (1547

- 1616)

ing was erected at the dawn of tremendous growth in Detroit and Wayne County. The city grew from a population of 285,000 in 1900 to 993,000 in 1920 on the way to 1.8 million by 1950. The building served as the center of Wayne County government for more than half of the 20th century, holding most of its offices, court sessions, and public hearings. In 1955, most government functions were moved to the newly erected City-County Building, now the Coleman A. Young

symbolizing progress.

The Wayne County Build-

Municipal Center. By the 1970s, a lack of mainZAMLER, SHIFFMAN & KARFIS, P.C.

use of non-Detroit construction labor, and allegations that the contractor, M.J. Griffin, was overcharging the county.

"It could be said with some humor that it took them so long to finish construction on this behemoth that by the time it was opened for business, its architecture had long gone out of style," says Nailhed, a documenter of historic Detroit buildings.

Built at 600 Randolph St., this 250,000-square-foot structure replaced the first Wayne County building, erected in 1845 at Griswold and Congress streets.

"The Wayne County Board of Supervisors wanted a larger home for the county's court and other departments," says the Detroit Historical Society. "With five floors and a 247-foot tower, the building stands on **Randolph Street at the eastern** end of Cadillac Square. Occupying an entire block, extending 255 feet along the front and back, and 175 feet on the sides, the building is an architectural masterpiece erected out of copper, granite, and stone."

The front of the Old Wayne County Building faced – and was meant to complement - Detroit's old City Hall (built in 1871 and tenance on the structure led to the inevitable calls for the Wayne County Building's demolition, but it was restored with funds from a private partnership and reopened in 1987. Wayne County leased the building from the partnership, then became tired of the costs of rent and ongoing repairs. The county then acquired the nearby Guardian Building and moved about 500 workers there in 2007.

In 2014 the building was sold to New York investors for \$13.4 million with the (so-far unsuccessful) goal of selling the building..

"Unlike other buildings which have been allowed to fall into decay," says Detroiturbex, a website devoted to documenting Detroit's building history, "the old county building has remained secured and in relatively good shape. Starting in 2016 the new owners carried out \$7 million in renovations, focusing on restoring the exterior, roof, and mechanical systems. The chariots were removed and restored. While a tenant for the building has proved elusive, the investment is a good sign that it might not be long before someone lands this incredible gem."



INTERIOR SPACES, including the second level hallway shown here, have essentially been unchanged since the Old Wayne County Building opened in 1902. "Most major American cities at the turn of the century had a building or two like this one," wrote Robert Sharoff in American City: Detroit Architecture 1845-2005. The "stately proportions and lavish interior mosaics and stonework make this one of the more impressive examples of the genre." (Photo credit: Detroiturbex

Representing the men and women of the building trades who have been exposed to ASBESTOS

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### FACT:

Asbestos cancers and diseases can occur 20–60 years after a person first breathes asbestos dust.

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March 7, 2025



**Local 292** Sheet Metal Workers

#### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: **\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*:** Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083 1 block north of Big Beaver on the west side of Livernois. Use the Banquet Entrance. Due to a scheduling conflict, the next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 6:00 pm. The regular meeting schedule will resume in May. Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on March 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.

**RETIREES NOTICE:** The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting for 2025 will be held 4/3/25. It's always nice getting together and staying connected. Please contact the union hall via our website <u>www.sheetmetal292.com</u>, click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the **retiree email list.** 

**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.

GUALDONI

**OUT OF WORK:** If you become laid off, you Must complete an Out of Work List Registration /

SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

**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.

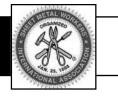
WEBSITE / FACEBOOK: Be sure to check our website – www. sheetmetal292.com; Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292.

**RETURN TO WORK BY NORMAL OR EARLY RETIR-EES:** 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.

**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 <u>www.mustonline.org</u> or access it through the "links" tab at <u>www.sheetmetal292.com</u>. 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 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 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).



### Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 7** 

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be April 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 1 March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

\*Zone 3 March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 April 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2025. 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.labelitscanitreport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975. ZONE 1 Info. March zone meeting we will be

**SAM** discussing wage disbursement postcards were sent out. 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) - In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders

**ZONE 2 Info:** The next Zone 2 meeting is March 18th, 6:00 pm at the VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores, MI. We will be doing a wage disbursement at that time. If your employment status changes please let me know and apprentices also let Tanner know. Dues are always due prior to the first of the month, to any stewards out there please check dues receipts at the beginning of each month. Spring is fast approaching and summer is right around the corner, keep in mind the Local 7 Picnic July 19th in Traverse City at Timber Ridge Campground. In Solidarity, Mike Adams

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Work in area is slow except for the Phoenix project in Hemlock which is keeping us at full employment. Remember to schedule your physicals for this calendar year. Remember to call the Lansing office if you have a change of address or you change your phone number. Next union meeting is 3-12-2025 At the Freeland Hall, hope to see everyone there. Next retiree meeting is 3-25-2025 at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Road. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson** 

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Traverse City) Our next meeting will be March 20 at the Mill Pond Event Center at 6:00 pm. This year's picnic will be on July 19 at Timber Ridge. Call (231) 947-2770 for camping reservations and make sure to tell them you are from Local # 7. Work is steady in our area and will be a busy summer. Please go to **ourbenefitoffice. com/smw7-3/benefits** to view your Pension and H & W status and check the FAQ. The SASMI benefit for June/Dec is under 750 hrs. Please contact me if you would like to receive the benefit and with any other questions you may have. In Solidarity, John Amalfitano



#### **Sheet Metal Workers Local 80**

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

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Next General Membership Meeting scheduled for March 25, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** Next executive board meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

**RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE**: 2025 Retiree Meetings: April 21, June 16, August 18, October 20 (Holiday Party),



December 15<sup>th</sup>. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

**BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL:** 

MULLIGAN Lashone will be in Monday to Thursday from 9-4pm. To schedule an appointment, please 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Jason Higgs, Robert Zalewski, Michael Bono, Roger Clark, Harold Knapp, Eric Alvarado, Lawrence Kaufmann, Paul Parpart, Thomas Haas, Ronald Edwards III, Joseph Potter, Robert Beeckman, Glenn Lamb, Daniel Newton, Michael Giles, Carl Fornell, Lucy Petrykowski, Joseph Laird, Steven Boyd, Michael Stolber, Doug Trelfa, Robert Bauer, Edward Ballach, Anthony Caleca, David Sheprak, David Capps, Joseph McVety, Walter Jankowski, Jerry Roland, Jesse Warr, Hayden Clay, Fredrick Leal, Ray Short, Kenneth Barrette, Scott Zitterkopf, Brandon Ivey, Kevin Peltier, Dylan Wardrop, Francis Renda, Shawn Talaski, Christopher Cosgrove, Trent Derby, Glen Head, Patrick Karl, Steven Valente, Mark Majewski and Martin Duras.

**CONDOLENCES:** Our condolences go out to the family of Mike McManamon. Mike was a union member for 32 years and passed away on February 25, 2025 at the age of 58. He will be deeply missed.

**RETIREMENT CLASS:** Saturday, May 3, at 9 am we will hold a FREE retirement education class with Graystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Please call the hall to rsvp 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome.

**MARCH RE-REGISTRATION!** If you were laid off **prior** to March 1<sup>st</sup> you will need to re-register to keep your spot on the out of work list. You may re-register at the hall, by email registerlocal80@ gmail.com or fax 248-557-0297. You **CANNOT** re-register over the phone. Please call the hall with any questions.

**ST. PATRICKS DAY PARADE:** Please join us on March 16<sup>th</sup> to walk in the Detroit St. Patrick's Day Parade. We will be meeting at 11 am and the parade starts at 1pm. More details will be coming on where to meet. \*Shirts will be given to all participants.

**WAGE ALLOCATION:** We will be voting on this year's wage allocation at the April union meeting. April's meeting will be on April 22, 2025 at 5:30pm.

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

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

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

**CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL:** The **new** Constitution and Ritual of the 3<sup>rd</sup> SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to <u>www.sheetmetal292.com</u>, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will have hard copies in the near future for members interested in having one.

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

UNION HALL HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS:** The Apprentice Training Program operated by Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) admits qualified applicants without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, disability (except to the extent that such disability affects the applicant's ability to work at the trade or craft), marital status, or other classification protected by federal, state or local law or ordinance. (You must be 18 years old at the time of application.) The application must be submitted in person. No faxes or email applications will be accepted!

We will start accepting Applications for the Apprenticeship program on Thursday Feb. 20, 2025, and they will be accepted every business day until 3 P.M., except for the last day. The last day to submit an application will be Wednesday, March 26, ending at 2 P.M. We have scheduled a testing day for Saturday March 29, beginning at 9 A.M. To be considered for the apprenticeship, you must have your application turned in and you must take the exam. No applications will be accepted after Wednesday March 26, 2025, at 2 P.M. No Exceptions!

All applications must be filed in person at the Training Center, bring your original High School Diploma, or GED certificate (we will make copies), along with picture ID. These must be submitted with the application, or it will NOT be accepted. At the time of filing, you will be registered for a written test at Macomb Community College, at a cost of \$60 (Non-Members Only) which you must pay when filing the application. Cash only. If you have any questions, call Dave at (313) 623-9390 or visit <u>www.smwl292jatc.org</u> for more information.

If you have already taken the test at Macomb and want a chance to better your score, feel free to contact David Pistotti at (313) 623-9390. You cannot just show up. You must register by calling the Training Center.

**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 March 8<sup>th</sup>, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, & March 29<sup>th</sup>. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding (Continued next column) **ZONE 4 Info:** Work in Zone 4 continues to stay strong, we currently have no one on the bench, and that is fantastic for this time of year. I am really proud of all our members in Local 7. Don't forget to get with Cody Clark and Susan Light at the training center for any upgrade classes that you are interested in. We are hearing some good talk about some big projects that potentially could be coming to Genesee County. Keep your fingers crossed! **In Solidarity, Scott Brotherton** 

**ZONE 5 Info:** Work in the U.P. remains steady. 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 up-construction.org. Our next union meeting has been changed to Saturday April 12th at 10:00. Postcards will be sent out soon. Also the next retiree meeting will be April 9th at 10 am at Jeffery's restaurant. **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 (Agent-Saginaw) 989-225-0095 John Amalfitano (Agent-Traverse City) 231-590-1112 Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552

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

### Local 292 cont'd

certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUB Application Deadlines and Requirements: Submit your SUB application within 7 days of your layoff to avoid forfeiting benefits.

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

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

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

**Important:** Do not submit your UIA proof directly to the fund office.

For questions, call the hall at 248-557-7575.

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

To apply:

Complete the SUB application at the hall.

Provide a pay stub for the week.

The hall will submit your information to the fund office. Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

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

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

SAVE THE DATE:

• St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 16 • Wage Allocation – April 22 • Tigers Union Night – April 26 • Pre-Retirement Class-May 3 • Golf Outing – July 12 • Picnic- August 9

"Live each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influences of each." –Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)



### Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

college/university must be on the schedule.

trar's office in a *sealed envelope*.

Please allow ample time for the

registrar's office to prepare and

mail the official transcript; to

be received at BAC Local 2 by

March 21, 2025. If your institu-

tion participates with the National

Student Clearinghouse Transcript

service, transcripts may be sent

typed information sheet which

will include: Applicant's name,

applicants address, applicants

email address and telephone

number, college/university at-

tending, course of study - major

& minor and anticipated gradu-

ation date of applicant. They

must also include the name of the

member, members I.U. number,

relationship to member, address

and telephone number of member

tions will not be considered for

this scholarship. We are not

responsible for late, missing or

lost documents. Winners will

be selected by the BAC Local 2

Management Committee and an-

nounced at the April 2025 Detroit

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

tion text asking for your member

IU number and you will receive

Local 2 Text Messages going

sure to check out our website at

https://www.bricklayers.org and

our app, which can be found in

the IOS and Android app stores

by searching for Bricklayers Lo-

**NEEDED:** We need Skilled

Bricklayers, Restoration work-

**CRAFTWORKERS** 

You'll receive a confirma-

Respond with your six-digit

**WEBSITE UPDATES: Be** 

can sign up via the following:

Text 2MI to 50607

number (IU#)

forward!

cal 2.

TEXTING PROGRAM:

Chapter Meeting.

Incomplete or late applica-

and members branch of trade.

Applicant must submit a

to: colleen@bricklayers.org.

MEETINGS METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, March 04 at 5:30 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091 ANN ARBOR CHAP-

**MARCH 2025 CHAPTER** 



TER: Tues-48130 FLINT

**CHAPTER:** Wednesday, March 5, at PAUL 7:30 PM, DUNFORD 1701 W

Genesee St., Lapeer, MI 48446

KALAMAZOO CHAP-TER: Thursday, March 13 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, March 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

**MARQUETTE CHAP-**TER: Monday, March 17 at 7 PM, 119 S Front St., Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, March 25 at 7 PM, 1300 W Thomas St., Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER: Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City, MI 49685

DETROIT TIGERS UNION NIGHT. Come join your fellow brothers and sisters for Union Night at Comerica Park!

When: Saturday, April 26 Start Time: 1:10 PM \*Where: Comerica Park

Good standing members are eligible to receive a MAXIMUM of 4 free tickets. Send an email to information@bricklayers.org with the following information: Member Name

IU Number Email address

Number of tickets needed

If the requested information is not provided, ticket will NOT be sent! Tickets will be distributed electronically to the provided email on Fridays.

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

2025 - BAC LOCAL 2

Local 514 Applicant must submit an **Cement Masons** Official Transcript, showing their grades from the Fall 2024 & Plasterers Semester. An Official Transcript comes directly from the regis-

**Operative Plasterers and Ce**ment Masons Local 514

DETROIT-The next membership meeting is Tuesday March 18, at 7 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.

The Patrick Finley Scholarship applications are now available.

Membership gold cards-Congratulations! March 2025 **Adrian Brown-25 Years** 

**Melvin Morgan-30Years** Please contact the local

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

**MUST Safety Awareness** Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustbsafe.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

**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.

### Work stoppages down with fewer



'Powering Northern Michigan *Since* 1949" **IBEW Local 498** 

TRAVERSE CITY - Meetings.

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, March 10, 2025, @ 5:30pm. Regular Meeting – The next

regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, March 10, 2025.

PICNIC – At the Feb 10, 2025 meeting a motion was made and passed to have the annual summer picnic this year. It will be held at Timber Ridge Resort & Campground on Aug 16, 2025. Please watch your mailbox for a postcard notice in the near future. For those not familiar with Timber Ridge it is a campground that also has cabins for rent. There are a lot of kid's activities and they will have access to use all of them. You can access more information at their website at www. timberridgeresort.net.

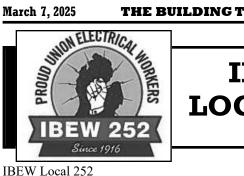
Resale Items - The new order of Tee shirts is in, as well as Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing

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 wives? tales or other embellished stories, show up at Sparky's.

Scholarship - Past charter member Brother Bob Dost has a scholarship 'Robert Paul Dost Scholarship Endowment' for High School seniors in the 5-county area around Traverse City. To access it go to www. gtrcf.org/scholarships/ . Local 498 Union members' children get preference to the endowment. A huge thank you in Memory of Bob Dost for his generosity and being a great union member.

Service Pins – Service Pins are still available at the union hall for those members who have not received them. Stop by and get yours today!

Email Addresses - Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communication to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at ibew@ local498.net Thank you!



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

TRAINING CLASSES 2025: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM

Masters Prep- (Mondays) March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7 EPRI Part B- (Tuesdays) Jan. 21, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18 & 25

OHSA 30- (Tuesday and Thursdays) May 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 & 29. Worth 30 CECs for those that have a current BICSI credential. CPR- (Tuesday's) March 4 & 11, June 3 & 10, Sept. 2 & 9, Dec. 2 & 9

BICSI TECH- May 7-Sept. 3, 2025. BICSI ITSIMM book is required (\$240 or \$290 digital). Exam certification fee is \$400.

BICSI Workbook fee \$115. You must have 3 years of verifiable field ICT experience to sit for the exam. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

BICSI INSTALLER 1- June 2-Aug 25. BICSI ITSIMM book is required (\$240 or \$290 digital). Optional certification fee \$400. BICSI Workbook fee \$115. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

All classes require a \$50 deposit. Call the school 734-475-1180 to add your name to the desired class ahead of time. All evening classes are held from 5-9 PM.

If there's interest in a class not listed, please call the school and request it. Once there's enough interest in the class, it will be scheduled.

EXECUTIVE BOARD VACANCY: If you are interested in serving on the Local 252 Executive Board, please contact the Union Hall at (734) 424-0978.

2025 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2025 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2025 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2025! Beginning Jan. 6, 2025, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2025. 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.

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

UNION 4 LIFE INDOOR GOLF OUTING: Join us 10 a.m. on March 29 at X Golf Ann Arbor, 333 N. Maple Rd., Ann Arbor for the first event of this kind. This will be a 4-person scramble playing the best ball, 9 holes. We have the simulators for 3 hours. The top 3 teams will receive prizes. X Golf has a full-service bar and kitchen that will be open and ready to serve. The cost is \$80 per participant and includes a Union 4 Life t-shirt and goodie bag. Checks payable to Union 4 Life or Joe Jarecki, or cash can be dropped off at the JATC or Union Hall, or you can pay by Venmo. Contact Joe Jarecki for more information, (734) 770-5114 or joejarecki4@gmail.com.

EASTER EGG HUNT: This year's Easter Egg hunt will be on April 12 from 2-5 p.m. Activities include an egg coloring contest, an egg hunt with prizes for kids under 10, games for all ages, and visits from the Easter Bunny. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Dan Beck (810) 858-0033.

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

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

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



5

day, March 4, at 6 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Dexter, MI

SCHOLARSHIP. The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 Michigan is proud to announce the 2025 BAC Local 2 Scholarship, open to ALL dependents of good standing members, statewide, from all of the trades. In order to be eligible, the following guidelines must be followed and information submitted to the BAC Local 2 WARREN office located at 21031 Ryan Road, Warren MI 48091. Deadline for applicant submission is **12 pm on** Friday, March 21, 2025:

Applicant must be a legal dependent of a good standing AC-TIVE member who has either:

Retired from actively working, on or after January 2024 or Has worked and received union contributions, on or after September 2024

The member must be current, with their union dues paid up to date. The applicant may also be a dependent of a recently deceased, formally working member, who has passed away after Jan. 1, 2023. A dependent will be defined, according to the guidelines of the health insurance funds summary plan description.

Applicant must be attending an institute of higher education: college or university. *High* school students are not eligible for this scholarship.

Applicant must be a fulltime student, enrolled in 12 or more credits, during the **Winter** 2025 Semester. A copy of the Class Schedule showing full time status must be submitted. **NOTE:** Classes listed on the Official Transcript will **not** be considered as a class schedule. A class schedule lists the number of credits, classes, dates, times, instructor and location where the class meets. Student's name. semester and the name of the

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

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

BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAIN-**ING 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.

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

PENSION AND HEALTH **INSURANCE INFORMA-**TION. 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) - (248) 641-4954 Michigan BAC Vacation Fund - (248) 828-6000

**U.S.** strikes and strikers

(Continued from Page 1) Key findings in the 2024 report:

• The five largest strikes of 2024 involved approximately 152,000 union members at Boeing, California State University, University of California, University of California Health and the United States Maritime Alliance.

· Better pay, improved health and safety, and increased staffing were workers' top demands in 2022-24.

· As in 2023, accommodation and food services accounted for the largest share (23.6 percent) of work stoppages by any industry.

• Unlike in 2023, most striking workers came from educational services (32.7 percent), and manufacturing recorded the highest share (40 percent) of strike days.

• There was a slight increase in the percentage of work stoppages organized by nonunionized workers (24.8 percent) as compared to 2023.

"While the number of work stoppages and workers involved in stoppages decreased from 2023 to 2024, workers and their organizations continued organizing strikes to make considerable gains in wages and working conditions," said report author and University of Illinois assistant professor Johnnie Kallas. "It remains to be seen what kind of impact the policies implemented by the new presidential administration will have on strike rates in 2025."

The academic tracker fills a data void: Stoppages of fewer than 1,000 workers aren't included in the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics database.

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax# 1-952-854-1632 Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

**MEEPP** (MI Pension) 1-855-633-4584

(New address Michigan **Pension and Health Plan**)

**3001 Metro Drive Suite** 500, Bloomington, MN 55425 NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

**DUES RATES** Jan 1, 2025 – Dues increase

to \$161.10/Quarter. July 1, 2025 – Dues increase

to \$164.10/Quarter. Info Updates – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues on time.

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#

"Words, once they are printed, have a life of their own." -Carol Burnett (1936 - )

"It's a recession when your neighbor loses his job; it's a depression when you lose yours." -Harry S Truman (1884 -1972)

"Toil to make yourself remarkable by some talent or other.'

other projects in the jurisdiction without being current. Local 252 has a zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use.

ERTS: Please make sure that you are signed up for the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System.

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

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

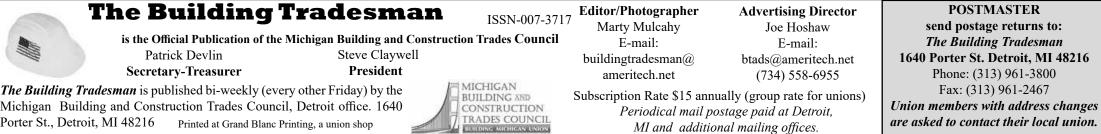
**CONDOLENCES:** The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Gabriel Bakun, who passed away on Feb. 22, 2025. The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Donald Byrd, who passed away on Feb. 22, 2025. Donald was the father of Dustin Byrd, and grandfather of Nathan Byrd.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 12/2024, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for "A" members are \$140.25 by cash or check, or \$144.46 by credit card for first quarter 2025. Dues for "BA" members are \$70.80 by cash or check, or \$72.92 by credit card for first quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now. Payments for first quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Monday, March 31, 2025.

**Future Dues Increases:** 

Effective July 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$143.25/cash or check, \$147.55/credit card. BA members will pay \$73.80/cash or check, \$76.01/credit card.





-Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)



#### IBEW Local 948

FLINT-Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be March 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings - Retirees** next meeting will be April 1, 2025 at 9 am.

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



**IBEW 557** 

other jobs as well.

unrepresented.

### **IBEW** Local 445

**IBEW Local 445** 

BATTLE CREEK - Local 445 Golf Outing is scheduled for July 12, 2025.

First Aid/CPR There is a First Aid/CPR training scheduled after the April 14, 2025 Union Meeting. Check your First Aid/ CPR card and if it expires after April 2025, please plan on attending this training. The next training will be held April 2026.

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

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

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.

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

## **IBEW Local 948**

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

- As always, we are actively seek-

SAGINAW - UNION

NEWS- Moving forward, Union

meetings will begin at 6:00pm

due to many members working

overtime at Project Phoenix and

Thank you to all who attended

February's Comet Class. It is

important for members to get this

training to learn how to become

the best volunteer organizers

within the Local that they can

be. There are many opportunities

for organizing in Local 557 and

across the State. IBEW member

should have friendly, productive

conversations with those per-

forming electrical work that are

NIGHT- Local 557 Poker nights

for Winter 2025 are happening.

The next planned game is March

20 at 6pm. All are welcome to

play some friendly games of

poker and have fun with other

ING- With work being the best

it has been in Local 557 (and

throughout the State), organizing

is as important as ever. Local con-

tractors will begin work on tradi-

tional work throughout the Local

this spring which is important to

provide manpower for. Whether

work in the Hemlock area contin-

ues for a prolonged period or not,

it is vitally important to keep all

other work of the IBEW in mind.

Moving forward, Local 557 will

be focusing hard on keeping these

LOCAL 557 ORGANIZ-

members of the local.

**RETURN OF POKER** 

COMET CLASS HELD-

ing 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, Dwayne Aston. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

Retirees - Congratulations to Todd Beamish & Fredrick Paulin 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 Henry Snyder. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

### IBEW 557, con't

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-oftown Books, please call the hall to arrange this. Book 2 members can have their Union Hall send an email to either jobline@ibew557. org or renee@ibew557.org.

WORK OUTLOOK-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. At the time of this writing more calls are expected for J. Ranck, Conti and Nooter in the near future, especially for second shift.

At the time of this writing, 362 IBEW members working on Project Phoenix. Van Ert Electric from Wisconsin is winding down work on the Wheeler Dairy Farms. Weinstein Electric from Local 948 is winding down work on the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in Frankenmuth. Overtime is available most of these big projects. Master Electric continues to work on a project at SVSU. Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, some auto plants, and other



SETTING 1-1/4-INCH CONDUIT in the ground floor of the Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing are (l-r) electricians Cody Savage and Alan Stalter. The IBEW Local 665 members are employed by Shaw Electric.



# Local 275

**IBEW 275** 

COOPERSVILLE - Work in the jurisdiction remains steady with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275.

The St Patrick's day parade is here again! Please join us and other labor unions as we walk the parade through Grand Rapids. This will count as community service for all apprentices, and a great time for all who join us! The parade will be held on Saturday March 15. Please reach out to Geoff for details on location and time

The annual Wild Game Dinner is approaching fast. If you would like to attend, please make sure to save the date and reach out to the Hall to reserve tickets! This year's dinner will be held at the Sherman Banquet Center in Muskegon on Thursday, April 17. The LPC committee is still looking for and accepting donations of wild game. Please reach out to Walter with any questions.

Code update will only be available online going forward. Please go to the JATC website at www.wmejatc.org and

Monthly dues will be increasing by \$2 in January of 2025. Please adjust any automatic payments to reflect the new monthly dues amount of \$49.90. At the time of this writing

the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Kenneth Krawczak, and Michael Nielsen. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.



#### **IBEW 665**

LANSING - HALL RENOVATIONS: Local 665 will be renovating the union hall spaces and referral window over the next couple of months. Progress is coming along well. Local 665 referral office is finished, and we are up and running. Currently the meeting hall and bathrooms are being finished. We are looking forward to a completion date by the end of April.

**RETIREE DINNER:** IBEW Local 665 Retiree dinner will be held Sunday May, 18th 2025, at Crowne Plaza Lansing, 925 S. Creyts Rd. Lansing, MI 48917. Please RSVP to the hall by phone: 517-393-5530 or by email: contactus@ibew665.org. We look forward to seeing you there.

WORK OUTLOOK: 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 fsejatc.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 Journeymen'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@lejatc.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@leiatc.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.lejatc.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.

amendments to Article IX of the **IBEW** Constitution.

Accordingly, effective Jan. 1, 2025, there will be an increase of \$1.00 for the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contribution, which applies to "A" members only, and \$1.00 for the IBEW Per Capita. Effective July 1, 2025, there will be an increase of \$1.00 for the IBEW Per Capita.

As of Jan. 1, 2025, thru June 30, 2025, the following due's structure:

JIWs: Monthly \$60.00 • Quarterly \$180.00

Apprentices: Monthly \$49.00 • Quarterly \$147.00

As of July 1, 2025, the following due's structure:

JIWs: Monthly \$61.00 • Quarterly \$183.00

Apprentices: Monthly \$50.00 • Quarterly \$150.00

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

The General Membership Meeting is 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.

2025 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 Secrest **Recording Secretary** 

projects successful. The future of the Local depends on this work.

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 on the Mega Project remains steady. As of this writing, there are currently 362 IBEW members referred to the project Going forward, a ramp up of second shift will continue to maximize workspace within the building. More calls for all 3 contractors on the Mega Project will continue as the job progresses forward. Most calls have all gone to Book 2 lately and some members have only been on Book 2 for a very short time as well as some picking up open calls during the dispatch period following a call listed on the Local Job Line.

Traveling members can continue to monitor the calls by watching for updates on the Local's website Job Line Calls tab. This is updated throughout the day to provide the latest information regarding calls when they are being filled. If you are on Book 2, please reach out to the Local through the jobline@ ibew557.org email address and you will receive a reply as soon as possible.

**MEMBERSHIP MEET-INGS-** The next membership meeting is April 1 and will start at 6:00pm. Please note the change to a 6 pm start time due to Overtime being worked in the area.

UNION HALL OPER-ATIONS- New normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7am to 12pm, CLOSED for lunch, and re-open again from 1- 4:30pm. Please make a note of this as this change has recently gone into effect to better serve the members due to the surge in manpower running through the Local. (Continued next column)

various jobs. More solar projects are slated to begin in early 2025.

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

**BLUE CROSS APP-Down**load 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.

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. Local 557 utilizes a bid system for job calls. If you see a call you would like please place a bid on the telephone system and call backs will occur the next business day to fill the calls until they are gone.

STAY CURRENT ON DUES-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 NUM BERS- Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855)633-4584. Website is: www.michiganelectrical.org In Solidarity, Evan Allardyce, **Business Manager** 

click the Code Update Course link to sign up. The cost for members is \$40 for the online course

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

We have a list of over 50 members who have vacation fund money that has yet to be deposited because of lack of account info. If you have not set up your account info for vacation fund deposits, please call Nicole to get that taken care of.

For any members still using the 1-800 number to call the Union Hall Offices, please note that we removed that line several months ago. If you are having trouble reaching the office, please double check that you aren't using that number.

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

Anyone interested in signing up for Foreman training, please reach out to Jonas at the Hall to get on the list.

(Continued next column)

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 p.m.

DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS: Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #355. 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.

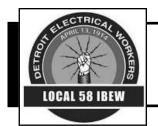
IN REMEMBRANCE: In remembrance of local 665 members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal.

Raul Torres 10/19/24, Ronald Oberlin 12/16/24, Dale Battley 11/14/24, 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.

'Don't worry about people stealing an idea. If it's original, you will have to ram it down their throats. -Howard Aiken (1900 - 1973)



LOCATING PLUMBING fixtures at the State of Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory project near Lansing is Jeremy Fear of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 190. He's employed by Gunthorpe Plumbing and Heating.



# IBEW LOCAL 58

**IBEW Local 58** 

DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting: will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025. 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!

**Great News!** Every Wednesday from 12-4 pm you can sign for SubPay in Port Huron. You will need to go to the Port Huron Labor Temple, at 2441 W. Water St, Port Huron, MI 48060. If you have questions, contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth, 313-802-4970.

Electrical Industry Training Center is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at http://www.detroiteitc.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.

**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 donation per brick. Contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

Local 58 Dues Depart**ment** – Please look at your Dues Receipt – if your paid through date shows 6-30-2024, you have lapsed and will need to make an Executive Board appointment to be reinstated. If your paidthrough date shows 9-30-2024 you will have the \$30.00 reinstatement fee. It is your responsibility to pay your dues on time - this could affect your retirement and death benefit. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you.

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** The deadline for applications for the John Mayernik Memorial Scholarship just ended on March 2, 2025. A winner will be chosen and the award will be presented in 313 Reads with DPSCD on Friday, March 14. All volunteers have to fill out the volunteer form on the DPSCD website. Please bring a greeting card (get well/encouragement/thinking of you) to the March meeting so that we can deliver them to Brother Arthur Edge as he continues on his road to recovery.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, March 10 at 5:30 PM.

**The Veterans Committee** will be meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Local 58's Women's Committee - The next meeting will be Thursday, March 27 at 5:30p.m.at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Cochair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womenscommittee@ ibewlocal58.org

The Political Action Committee: If you have any questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting, you can reach out to our registrars at registrar1@ibew58.org. Political Action Committee meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the Hall at 5:30 pm.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Our March Board meeting takes place on Wednesday, March 12 in the main conference room at the Local Union Hall. The next Retirees' luncheon will be Wednesday, March 26 at Corsi's Banquet Center, 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. Doors open at 11, lunch is served at 12:30 pm. Lunch is \$25 per person.

The Annual PIN PARTY is happening on Saturday, April 26 at the local union hall. We will be honoring all 50, 55, 50, 65 and 70+ year members. Invitations to Honorees will be mailed out soon, and we would appreciate your RSVP as soon as possible. Honorees will be our guests at a catered lunch, guests are welcome. There will be no regular luncheon in April, even if you don't have a friend or family member receiving a pin, you are welcome to attend. Tickets for guests are \$25 per person. Send your checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit 48232-0756. Questions about the pin party or the March Luncheon, and/or reservations call Elaine Crawford, 313 408-5885.

The September Bus Trip is



### OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

#### IBEW 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The April monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The March Executive

Board Meeting will be held at 6 P.M. Monday, March 17, 2025. St. Patrick's Day Parade.

IBEW Local 692 will be participating in the Bay City St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 2PM. An email will be sent out with specific details as the date approaches. Please join us in celebrating this annual event, all members are encouraged to bring their families. Hot dogs and refreshments will be provided.

**2025 IBEW International Annual Golf Tournament** is being held in Elmira, NY, Akron Ohio in 2026 and Columbus Ohio in 2027. This year's 3-day tournament will be held July 30 – Aug. 1. Included is 3 rounds of golf and a banquet on the last day with awards and prizes. Additionally, open bar daily with food and snacks, all for \$275. Interested members can contact Terry Brandenburg (586-854-3447). Registration deadline is April 15.

Work Report. The work report in our jurisdiction continues to be very, very strong. Many calls have been very difficult to find the amount of help needed. Calls that may require additional manpower include:

A sizeable project this spring at Bay City's GM Powertrain site is currently being bid by signatory contractors. Larger projects are also coming at Consumers Energy's Karn site in Essexville. Multiple Prevailing Wage projects in Bay City will also be bid soon.

J. Ranck Electric is continuing work at SK Siltron semiconductor chip manufacturing facility, thanks in part to \$560M which was allocated by the Biden administration as part of the Chips & Science Act. J. Ranck has also secured both phases 4 and 5 on this project and calls are coming in. Ranck is continuing work on their Mission Street Solar project through the winter. This is a 250-mw site which will require a substantial number of JIWs from our hall to complete.

Master Electric has recently secured Phase 2 and began work at Bangor Schools.

**Countyline Power** has ongoing work at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility and **NORKERS MICHIGAN** Electric has ongoing work in Cheboygan and Towers. Northern Valley continues work at the Holcim Cement Plant. Pierce Powerline has secured work in the Oscoda schools.

Brendon and myself are working diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership.

Not only do inside Wireman opportunity to work at home, we need some wireman to man our work or market share will be lost. We saw this instance play out in the early 90's brothers and sisters, let's not repeat our mistakes. If you are looking for work, please do not hesitate to contact the Union Hall. Please note when calling the job line to use extension #1.

In Solidarity, Ryan Charney Business Manager/Fin. Sec'y

Organizer's Report. Visits to non-union job sites and outreach to unrepresented electricians continues. "Apprenticeship walls" will

soon be installed in high schools across the jurisdiction. These displays feature scannable QR codes directing students interested in any union craft to websites detailing apprenticeship application instructions and general information about the trades.

We must do all we can to provide our local contractors with the skilled manpower they need to continue bidding the projects we worked so hard to secure. This is not the time to become complacent or pull the ladder up. We need to continue to organize.

The US House of Representatives has passed a budget resolution that will extend tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans while cutting services to those most in need of assistance, adding at least \$2.8 trillion to deficits over the next 10 years. The much-talked about "No Tax on Overtime / Tips / Social Security' provisions were not included in the resolution, though they have been reported to remain a priority of the President. If added, further cuts would likely need to be enacted to offset the cost of the changes. At this time, it is too early to tell if those specific campaign promises have a chance to become law.

Brendon Baranek bbaranek@ ibew692.org 989.327.4131

**Fishing Tournament Re**sults. Local 692 RENEW Committee would like to thank all who attended the fourth annual Battle on the Bay ice fishing tournament held on Sunday, Feb. 23. Brother Gus Voisine led team 692 to another championship, with assistance from Brothers Ryan Charney and Josh Revard. Brother Revard also prepared a delicious walleye dinner for attendees. See you next year, anglers! Effective Jan. 1, 2025, union dues increased to \$48.20 per month. This \$2 Pension Fund increase was approved by the delegates of the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022. Additionally, effective July 1, 2025, dues will increase to \$49.20 per month. 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. Death Benefits. We regret to inform you of the death of active Brother James Ortiz, Card No. 8108820, who passed away on Feb. 6, 2025. Brother Ortiz was born on April 15, 1976 (48 years old). He was initiated on Oct. 3, 2022. James resided in Standish but was most recently staying in Florida caring for his mother. #350. Local death fund assessment \$10.00 each (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692, , Bay City, MI 48706 Retirees Lunch. The March retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 20th at The Wheelhouse located at 2909 Bay City Road in Midland. Fringe Benefits. REMIND-ER: 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.

March 7, 2025 THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Z



#### IBEW Local 131

at

KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership** Meeting will be held on April 7, at 6 p.m.

The next **Renew** meeting will be held on March 26, at RJ's at 5 p.m. **The Executive Board** meeting will be held on March 17, at 5 p.m. **Woman in the Trades** Meeting will be held on March 18, at 6 p.m. **The EWMC** meeting will be held on March 26, at R.J.'s at 5 p.m. **The Veterans Group** will be meeting on April 3, at 5:00 p.m. **Retirees' Group** meeting will be held on April 8, at Union Hall,

2:30 p.m.

**Brotherhood Night** is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at RJ's from 3:30 to 5:30p.m. 8118 Portage Rd. Portage. Keep an eye out for location changes on the local's FB page.

**Detroit Tigers Union Day Game** against the Baltimore Orioles. We have reserved a bus for safe travel. Go to the local website for more details.

**Pension Education** class is scheduled for May 8, at the Union Hall, at 6:00p.m.

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady but slowing down. Holtec and Champion have agreed to pay \$15.00 an hour over scale. There will be requirements for proof of knowledge in control wires termination, fiber optics termination and LAN terminations. Watch the website for job calls (IBEW131.com).

**Apprenticeship Applications**: We often get calls on how to apply to Kalamazoo Apprenticeship Program. To apply, go to www.kalamazoojatc.com and navigate to the application page on the website.

If you know of any journeyman electricians interested in joining the IBEW, please contact Ryan, (269) 366-0322 or rlewis@ibew131.com.

**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 2,000 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 2,000 hours, and attends the local's new member orientation class, the member who recruits will receive an additional \$500 bounty.

#### **Retirees' Lunches at the following Locations:**

March 19, Julianna's, 2105 Lake St., Kalamazoo, 49001 @ 11:00. Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's

Pancake House, 4005 Portage St., Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m. On the last Friday of each month, a group of retirees and others, meet at Jac's Cekola's Pizza, 3112 South Ninth Street, Kalamazoo, MI. 49009 @11:30.

**Retiree**: A new group is forming the "IBEW 131 Retirees Group." We plan to meet on April 8 at **2:30PM**.

**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. Important numbers for you to write down: • NEBF (301)-556-4300 • IO Pension (202)-833-7000

Check out the Local 131 **website**. There is a new tab called "Retirees." You can find the Retirees calendar of Events. There is a list of those who have retired. If you think of something you believe we should post, please let me know. All Memorials (members and members families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the "Memorials" Tab. If you hear of anyone's passing, please notify the Hall.

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

at the April membership union meeting on Tuesday April 15.

Next events coming up will be the walleye tournament on Saturday May 3. Look for more information to come out soon.

As well as the Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing on Friday June 6. More details will be coming soon. Get your team and money together because this golf outing fills up fast.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 11 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering.

The next Entertainment Committee meeting will be Tuesday, March 11 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 17 at 6pm. This will be an inperson meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the Hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement.

Thank you to all who ventured to Local 252 in Ann Arbor to support their Chili Cook Off and Game Night. They were very thankful for our participation.

March is Reading Month and we will once again be participating

heading to Washington DC. The trip takes place Friday, Sept. 12 through Tuesday Sept. 16. Total cost for the trip per person, \$710, based on double occupancy. Send in your \$75 deposit per person, to hold your spot. A tour of the IBEW International Museum and a tour of the White House are currently being arranged to be included in this trip. Call Dave Riley with questions or for the address to send your deposit, 586 206-8075.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6 pm.

**Electrical Workers Credit** Union – Our website is http:// WWW.EWCU.NET (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.25%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at http://www.ewcu. net. Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed.

State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Keith Cook, Deborah Ferretti, Wayne Johnson, David McMullen, Charles Mifsud Sr., and William K. Miller.

Members who have Passed Away: Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of our fallen Brothers and Sisters. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

Philip Coburn, Pension member, 55 year IBEW membership; *James "Mike" Baudino*, Pension member, 40 year IBEW (Continued next column) Harrisville Pumpstations.

Clements Electric's Clements Electric has work at Mersen USA. Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, Delta College Chillers, Bay City lift stations and HL Mechatronics in Midland continues. Clements Electric is also working on an apartment complex in Auburn.

**Conti Electric** has projects that are ramping up inside the I-Park (Dow) and also has work at the Karn Generation Facility.

**Escon Group** continues work on a nice project at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end and is slowing down some within the I-Park.

**Superior Electric** has a new line out to Bay City Powertrain along with a cooling tower project. An open job call remains for this project.

Zone 2 contractors have been bidding and securing a fair amount of work, doing a great job of keeping their crews busy.

John's Electric has secured nice projects in Luzerne, Rogers, and a considerable amount of work in Alpena schools along with most recently landing another project at Bayview Park. Work on the CMU Tower building in Atlanta will continue. Hardie's

### IBEW 58, con't

membership; Father to JIWs James & Michael Baudino; Son to James C. Baudino, Pension member, 70 year IBEW membership; Brother to Mark Baudino, JIW; Brother-in-Law to Jerome Berlin, Pension member, 39 year IBEW membership; Nephew to Joseph Baudino, Pension member, 45 year IBEW membership; Uncle to JIWs James Berlin & Campbell Kinch; Marie Boutin, Mother to Michael Boutin, Pension member, 38 year IBEW membership; Scott H Miller, Journeyman Inside Wireman; Ronald Oakes, Pension member, 64 year IBEW membership; Uvaldo Perez, Pension member, 28 year IBEW membership; Allan Provo, Pension member, 36 year IBEW membership; Father to Kevin Provo, JIW, Estimator/ Project Manager at Shambaugh & Son, LP.

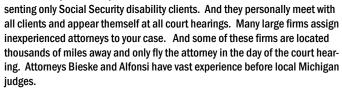
REMINDER: If you contact the Health Plan Office about going on short term disability, it is important for you to notify the Hall as well. A copy of your paperwork will need to be submitted to the Hall for your file. This will also freeze your position on the out of work list. **Three Months** or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Robert Dalecki, Thomas Pickett and Gary Yerden.

Morris Applebey, Business Manager

### 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 repre-



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

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#### UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR - MONTHLY UNION MEETING: will be held on Monday, March 10 and will start at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

ATTENTION MI GAS **DISTRIBUTION MEMBERS:** A "Special Called Meeting" for the Michigan Gas Distribution Wage Allocation has been scheduled for Saturday, April 5<sup>h</sup> from 9 a.m. until Noon at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt Pleasant, MI 48858.

UNION HALL CLOSING: For the Easter holiday the office will be closing at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 18. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

Our office will be closed at Noon on Friday, May 23 and all day Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day.

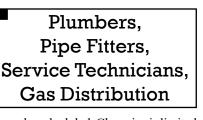
**IMPORTANT REMIND-**ER TO ALL MEMBERS -LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK: please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 *Ext.* #210. *Please report the last* day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work. PLEASE NOTE: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

MICHIGAN GAS DIS-**TRIBUTION JOURNEY-**MAN: 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, contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432.

MICHIGAN GAS DIS-**TRIBUTION - 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.



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 30, 2025, this will be the last class available. New 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code books will be available for purchase for \$89.75.

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm.

Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only.

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

Available Journeyman classes:

UA STAR EXAM (4 hrs): Any member needing a Pipefitting, Plumbing, HVACR UA Mastery STAR Exam for recertification or new certification, please preregister through the website: ua190.org. Schedule -Monday May 5, 2025. The initial STAR Certification fee is \$150.00, STAR Recertification fee is \$100, please contact Kristyn to schedule with payment.

Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 *hrs*): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule - Mondays - April 21, July 21, and Sept. 29. Each class will start at 5 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 *hrs*): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2025 Schedule – Mondays – April 28, July 28, and Oct. 6. Each class will start at 5 pm.

Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs): This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the fundamentals of SMAW (Stick), and GTAW (TIG) welding. This course will cover welding procedures (WPS), UA certifications (UA-21, UA-22, UA-41), basic metallurgy, weld process selection, machine setup, welding symbols, welding positions, welding electrodes and consumables, weld preparation, shielding gasses, and welder safety. Participants will receive training on the Lincoln Virtual Welding Machine (VR), before heading into the welding lab. Call the Training Center to secure your spot, dates to be announced later. Currently open welding lab is 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: This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). 2025 Schedule: The second course starts Sept 9. Courses run on Wednesday and Thursday 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 has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). 2025 Schedule: The second course starts May 6. The third course starts Oct **14.** Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org Med Gas Installer and **Brazer Certification (40hrs):** This is a mandatory 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. You must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. 2025 Schedule: First course starts March 11. The second course starts Sept. 2. Courses will run for 5 weeks, (Continued next column)



### UA Local 357

UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

**UNION DUES REMIND-**ERS: 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: Re**tiree 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 divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents.

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

### Local 190, con't

Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): This is a two-day course. 2025 Schedule: First course starts April 22, Second course



#### UA Local 85

SAGINAW-The next Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 PM.

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 7 PM at the Grayling Eagles.

**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, Orga-

nizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 rjanderson@ualocal85.org Kristin Tuthill, Office Profes-

sional (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 No. If you have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin, (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

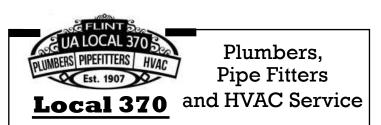
Social Media: Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, @UALocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

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, (989) 799-5261 ext. 8519.

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



WE ASKED THIS GROUP of pipe trades workers to pause from working on storm drain installation at the State of Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing to have their photo taken. They include (lower, l-r) Brent Darling (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 370) and Jeromy Brownlee (UA Local 333) and on the lift (l-r) Garrett Hoffmaster (UA Local 333) and Jack Mull (UA Local 190). They're employed by Gunthorpe Plumbing and Heating.



#### UA Local 370

FLINT - The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 7:00pm.

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

**Scholarship Applications** for the 2025-2026 school year are now available on our website at ualocal370.org. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 hall. Applications are due by the end of May

work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form

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

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

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

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

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

FRINGE BENEFIT OF-FICE, ANNUAL PHYSI-CALS 2025 need to be completed by Oct. 31, 2025. Please remember to bring in the 2025 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus bmaus@ua190.org. This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org

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

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

Bernadette's office entrance door is in the back of our building and is marked "Bernadette Maus – Benefits Manager") Please use this entrance door for Bernadette.

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

The last 2021 State of Michigan Plumbing Code Update is scheduled for April 7, **2025,** at the UA 190 Union Hall located at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103. From 5pm to 8:30pm. Please show up at least half an hour early to 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 members in good standing with the UA to attend. Please call Kristyn at the training center to starts Oct. 7. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and **Risk Assessment for Construc**tion Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. 2025 schedule: course to be announced later.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification: This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be Winter/Spring 2025. The class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

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

**CONDOLENCES:** Our lifetime member Jack Freer passed away Feb. 20. Jack initiated Sept. 27, 1971, retired Feb. 1, 2000 and became a lifetime member Oct. 1, 2021. To all family members and friends, may our condolences bring you comfort and may our prayers ease the pain of this loss.

**CONDOLENCES:** Our lifetime member John Pennell passed away Feb. 3. John initiated Nov. 21, 1962, retired July 1, 1991 and became a lifetime member Nov. 21, 2012. To all family members and friends, we know no words can help ease the pain and the loss you are all feeling, may his soul rest in peace.

**RETIREE MEETINGS** - Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, April 3 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and coffee.

NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADES-MAN 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.

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 Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEM-BERS: Please call the Union Hall to update address or phone number changes, (989) 799-5261.

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

THE NEXT RETIREE LUNCHEON will be held Tuesday, April 8 at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, 3535 Bay RD., Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass. Fraternally,

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

Retiree Breakfast will be on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

Golf Outing Saturday, July 19 at Flushing Valley. 8am registration. 9am shotgun. **Upcoming Night Class** Schedule:

Night Welding March 3 thru the 27 Mondays and Thursdays 4:30 - 7:30

Weld Test Saturday, March 29 at 7:00am. Sign up with your name, UAID and which test.

Backflow Mar. 3 thru Apr. – Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30 - 7:30

The testing will be on April 7 and 9.

#### First Aid & CPR March 19, 2025, and Sept. 17, 2025

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

2021 Plumbing Code Books now available. Cost is \$85. Check or money order only.

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, March 11<sup>th</sup> ,2025 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday, March 11th,2025 at 4:00pm

PAC committee - Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 5:00pm Executive Board -Tuesday,

March 11<sup>th</sup>,2025, at 5:00pm Building Committee - Tues-

day, March 11th,2025 at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>,2025 at 6:15pm JATC Committee – TBD

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

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.



insurance up to date.



### <u>Local 636</u> Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,

**Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service** 

UA Local 636

DETROIT - Our next regular Union meeting is March 18, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075

2 Special Called Meetings will be held April 15, 2025 for allocation of new monies. Any suggestions on allocations should be emailed to the Business Manager at lkrisniski@pipefitters636.org. May 20, 2025 for the reading of our yearly financial report.

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

Special Announcement as of 1/1/2025 all active, retired, and opt-out members are being enrolled in vision coverage through Delta/ VSP Vision for details please contact the Union Hall 248-538-6636 or BeneSys at 888-646-8920.

St. Patrick's Day Parade; Join us as we march in the 2025 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Detroit. We will meet behind the Electricians Union Hall located at 1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226 on Sunday, March 16 at Noon. Parade to line-up up at 12:30. For more Information or to help out on the day call, Business Agent Jeff Lewis at 248-939-8636.

Our 1st annual Scholarship Contest, rules and applications are now available! The Benevolent and Scholarship Fund will be awarding three scholarships to sons, daughters, grandsons and granddaughters of members in good standing of Local 636. The deadline to apply is April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. For more information or the application email pipefitters636.scholarship@gmail.com or call Chairman Jeff Lewis at 248-939-8636.

CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held March 20, 2025.

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 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall.

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

Deceased Members - Lifetime Member Lee Roy Martin father of member David Martin, February 20, 2025;

Get Well Wishes to; Larry Cirillo, Ed & Noreen Nys, Rashad Dooley, Lawrence A. Krisniski, Don Bagozzi, Terry Gilligan, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Ramy Abubaker, Joshua Allen, Alex Block, Eric Cochrane, Michael Downey, Brian Dyer, Ryan Girard, Kristofer Gojcaj, Jamey Guthrie, Tanya Holland, Jason Howe, Earl Marshall Jr., Jason McNamara, John Nemecek, Branden Rodzik, Ryan Seitz, Patrick Stephens, Buddy Woods, Aaron Wright, Bryan Durand.

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!

January 2025; Greg Curlee, Jeffrey Gillies, Mark Hammons, Leonard Koskodan, Richard Mortz, James Tayor.

DUES - 1st 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. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com 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.



LANSING - March's union meeting will be held Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911.

April's union meeting will be held Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911

UA Local 333 is seeking a Building Trades Instructor to join our team, and we encourage all qualified members in good standing to consider applying for this position. As a Building Trades Instructor, you will play a vital role in training and developing the next generation of Building Trades Journeypersons within our Local. The ideal candidate will have experience in Plumbing, Pipefitting, and Welding, and commit to continuing education and professional development.

To apply for this position, please submit your application to the Lansing Union Hall. The application deadline is the end of business on March 14, 2025. Applications will be accepted in person or via email to dustin@local333.com. We will conduct interviews on March 21, 2025, with an anticipated start date of March 31, 2025. All applicants will receive an interview.

We will start the nighttime rigging class on March 18<sup>th</sup> and run it two nights a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, for eight weeks, for 45 hours of training.

is nours of duming.		
Weekly	Dates	Hours of Training
1	3/18/25 & 3/20/25	6
2	3/25/25 & 3/27/25	6
3	4/01/25 & 4/03/25	6
1	4/08/25 & 4/10/25	6
5	4/15/25 & 4/17/25	6
5	4/22/25 & 4/24/25	6
7	4/29/25 & 5/01/25	6
3	5/06/25	3
5/08/25 Exam		
Practical Exam 5/09/24		
Winter Weld Classes:		
Lansing: Starting January 6, 2025		
Advanced Weld Class: Monday's & Wednesday's 4:30 – 8:30		
om (10 weeks)		

Beginners Weld Class: Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Jackson: Starting January 13, 2025

Advanced Weld Class: Monday's & Wednesday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Beginners Weld Class: Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

Advanced Pipefitting class Tuesday's & Thursday's 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

#### **Battle Creek:**

January 13, 2025 Monday's & Thursday's 4:30 - 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

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

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.

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

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

Battle Creek Retirees 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 i



March 7, 2025

MONROE - The Local **671 Membership Meetings** have now been moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in accordance with our By-Laws and a subsequent vote at the January Meeting. The next meeting is now scheduled for March 20, 2025 at 7pm.

The Executive Board meetings will now also be held at 5pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month (next meeting March 20, 2025). 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.

Condolences: I am sorry to inform you that Brother Marvin Mills passed away on 02/23/2025. Following Marvin's wishes, they had a private family memorial. I ask that you keep Marvin's wife Sue and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Marvin Mills was initiated into the United Association on February 9th, 1968, and was a 57-year life member. Rest in Peace Brother Mills.

2025 Service Awards and **Apprenticeship Graduation** Banquet: We are excited to announce that we will be holding our banquet this year at The River Raisin Banquet Center at 8 N. Monroe St, Monroe, MI 48162 (Previously the Masonic Temple of Monroe). Cocktail hour will begin at 5:30, Dinner will start at 6:30, and the awards ceremony will immediately follow. Those receiving an award and the graduating apprentices will be free. If you are not receiving an award but want to attend, tickets will be available for \$25.00 each.

Local Pension Elective Deferral: We are pleased to announce that after meeting with our contractor's association, you can now add up to an additional \$10 per hour to your local pension. This is in addition to the default of \$5.65 per hour. The prior maximum elective deferral was capped at \$6 per hour. We encour-



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### DETROIT

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704 DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, March 12, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

There will be no special election on March 19 due to only one person running.

Congratulations to Brother Eric Conkright who is now the Seargent at Arms for Local 704. 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): 248-540-2091 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

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

Mark your calendars, The Sprinkler fitters Local 704 Golf Outing will be held August 2. More information to follow.

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

### Local 671, con't

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: We have had some unprecedented times these last 4-6 weeks. Honestly, I am not sure what to think or even how to react. What I do know is that Labor is under attack from the far right and if we stand by and do nothing, we will lose all. "The power of Organized Labor is the hope of our Nation". Labor is currently divided, and you know the old saying. "United we stand divided we fall." Well, we better find some common ground because we are losing, and I see it on the news every day. God Bless Local 671 and all its members.

S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE for SUB-PAY.

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 888-646-8920.

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

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

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

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

'It is a mistake to regard age as a downhill grade toward dissolution. The reverse is true. As one grows older, one climbs with surprising strides."

-George Sand (1804 - 1876)

at the west end of the Jackson Crossing Shopping Center.

If you have any life changes, address, phone number, divorce or birth. Please contact the Lansing office to receive the essential paperwork and to make the necessary changes.

DUES: Please check your dues receipts to make sure your dues are paid. Dues can be paid with debit, or credit card, a check or money order.

UA Local 333 Awards Banquet will be held for our members who are receiving their 30year to 65year pins and certificates on May 10, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West. Invitations will be mailed to our members who will be receiving an award. Please, please, please RSVP for this event once you receive your invitation and plan on attending.

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

Sincere condolences to Joseph Michilizzi and his family on the loss of his father Richard Bartow who passed away February 19, 2025. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Heartfelt condolences to Dylan Chedester whose father, Ernest Chedester passed away February 26, 2025. We are so very sorry for your loss.

"Everything is in a state of flux, including the status quo." -Robert Byrne

"Keeping score of old scores and scars, getting even and oneupping, always make you less than you are.'

Malcolm Forbes (1919 - 1990)

age everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity if you can; all the additional money added will be in increments of \$1.00.

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.

**Open Weld Shop Nights:** The open Weld Shop nights are now Thursday nights from 6pm-10pm. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on 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 will be held on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Michigan Plumbing Exam** Prep Class: We continue to hold classes to prepare Members who (Continued next column)

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com

Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ ualocal671.com

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

"Try not to become a man of success but rather to become a man of value.

-Albert Einstein (1879 -1955)

"To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk.' -Thomas A. Edison (1847 -1931)

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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 Union Meeting will be held in Escanaba on March 27, 2025, at 7:30 PM.

Local 111 U.P. Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVACR is accepting applications for its Apprenticeship Program. This is a great opportunity for those interested in a career in the trades. For more details, visit: https://jobs.mitalent.org/.../ job-details/JobCode/107020719 Apply at Upper Peninsula Michigan Works Service Centers from March 10 - April 4, 2025.

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

**Call Escanaba or Marquette** for 111's Lay Off Line; Ext. #7 and Job Line; Ext. #8.

MRA FUND - \*IMPOR-TANT\* This is a reminder that you are required by the IRS to provide 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.

As per IRS regulations, the use of the MRA card must be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. These IRS requirements are mandatory, and the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is YOUR responsibility to ensure that all requested documentation is submitted to the Fund office in a timely manner. To check whether receipts are required for any transactions, please log in to the Zenith American Solutions Portal website or app.

Failure to respond to these Substantiation Request letters will result in suspension of your MRA card until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, please contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1 or the Union Hall. Thank you



UA Local 98

DETROIT – Our regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 7:00pm. This is our State Of The Union Meeting. In addition, with our current contract expiring May 31, 2025 we will take our customary strike vote. Retiree Luncheon meeting

will be held at the hall on Wednesday, March 12 from 12-2 pm.

The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm and before all Union Meetings. The next board meeting is March 6.

**Dues:** It's that time of year again for your dues gift. This year's gift is a tee-shirt with our updated logo on the front and back. If you haven't done so already, please call the hall and get your dues paid.

Save the Dates: We are excited to announce the Golf Outing will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on Aug. 23. The Plumbers picnic will be held on June 28 at Lake St. Clair Metropark (formerly known as Metro Beach Metropark) in Harrison Twp.. Additional details to follow.

Attention 98 Hockey Players: Any Local 98 member interested in playing on the 98 Hockey Team, please contact FST Dan Nixon.

Attention 98 Softball players: Any member interested in playing on the Local 98 Softball Team, please contact Jeremy Pitts, (586) 405-9425.

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

2025 Log books are available at the hall.

**Expelled Members:** We currently have three expelled members this month; John S. Newton, Timothy M. Seidel, and Jereme D. Turner. Please contact Business Manager, Gary Glaser or Financial Secretary-Treas. Dan Nixon for further information to stay active and catch up on your dues.

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



Jeff Kavalar, Business Agent (313)938-1554 jkavalar@ualocal98.org

Rob Moses, Organizer (248)763-2187 rmoses98@ualocal98.org

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

NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Cen-

ter's website www.Plumbers98tc.

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 18, 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. Call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have questions. The State of Michigan Plumbing Division 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 UP-DATE (required to renew the State of Michigan Journey or Master License) Must have update completed by March 31, 2025. Please check CE Broker's website for any classes. Here is another site to check for update class https://cetsource. com/courses/2021-michiganplumbing-code-update/

THE TRAINING CENTER IS CURRENTLY SCHEDUL-ING MEDICAL GAS INSTALL-ER UPDATES. Call the Training Center to get in the next available class. This is an update to the new NFPA 99 2024 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, 248-585-1435 ext. 123 **to register**.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for May 6, 2025, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for



WELDING A 12-INCH CARBON STEEL hot water pipe at the State of Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing is Josh Simon of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333. He's employed by John E. Green.



UA Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 7 pm in our Assembly Hall, 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** will be held **Thursday, April 3, 2025** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**Condolences:** It is with sadness we report that brother Kenneth Herweyer passed away on 3/2/25. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Herweyer family.

St. Patrick's Day Parade: The West MI Area Labor Council will be walking in this year's St. Patty's Day Parade on Saturday March 15 in Grand Rapids. We are still waiting for the final details and will post them as soon as they are available. If you are interested in walking at this event, please contact Nate.

Volunteers Needed: Operation United is held on Friday, April 25 and is an annual United Way event in West MI that mobilizes volunteers to honor veterans and active military families, especially seniors and those with disabilities in West Michigan. We are hoping to have enough volunteers from 174 to sponsor our own home/project. The projects are outdoors like yard work, landscaping, and minor repairs to make homes safer and more accessible. For more information or to sign up please contact Nate.

New Contractor Seminar:

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

**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: We had a successful Blitz and open house last month the week of the 17th. Thank you to everyone that shared information about workers and or job sites, between myself and the other organizers that were in town, we spoke to quite a few workers and hit many job sites. If you are on a job site working next to a non-union worker, shoot me a quick text, I'd love to drop by! Better wages, benefits, insurance you don't have to pay for, and a defined pension- the message is clear, all workers deserve a UNION! Work safe, Johnny Ortiz: (616) 307-8551

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

**Contact Information:** If you need to change or verify your contact information, PLEASE on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email of: dispatch@ ua174.org which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location

Lakeshore – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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:

Announcement: Congratulations to Nickolas Berentsen on fulfilling his apprenticeship obligations and becoming Local 174's most recent Journeyman!

**Plumbing Code Prep:** Get prepared for your Michigan State Journeyman test. Wednesdays 5-8pm Starting March 26th runs through April 23rd

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/ CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (ev-

for your attention to this matter.

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 links 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.

We are looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. If you know anyone working Non-Union, have them call our Organizer Rob Moses.

**Benefits.** We have dedicated BeneSys employees at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. In order for them to best track all issues please call 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.

Worker Assistance Program. Work Life Strategies, LLC. is available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed. All this is confidential and lead by our 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.

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences and sympathy to the families and friends of deceased Brother Michael Hurley, he was initiated on 04-08-1976, he was a 48-year member; Brother John Nussbaum, he was initiated on 01-24-1952, he was a life member.

Additional information can be found at ualocal98.org

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

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

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

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

Paul Smith, Business Agent (313)938-2477 psmith@ualocal98.org it. The 2 dates are Wednesdays, April 23 and 30 at 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.

**OPEN WELDING** – is available on Wednesday evenings and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month. 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 first Saturday of the month. If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. 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.

CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2025. ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):

ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification - 20 hour class

CAD/BIM I - 40 hour class ICRA and Water Quality: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30 – 40 hour class Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour)

**Hydronic Heating and Cooling** – 40 hour class

Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber - 40 hour class

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

4 hour recert class April 15 & 16 Deadline is March 14

4 hour recert class July 29 & 30. Deadline is June 27

(Continued next column)

Current UA members who have an interest in becoming a signatory contractor can attend the new contractor seminar April 23 & 24, 2025 at Local 174 hall. Journeymen get first priority for signing up. There are 4 spots left. Interested Members need to sign up using the QR code on the New Contractor Seminar flyer located on the Local Union #174 Members Facebook page or call the hall for more information.

**Earned Sick Time Act** (ESTA): Beginning on March 1 contractors will contribute 1/30 of your base wage for every hour worked into a Sick Fund on your behalf. Solxsys will set up and administer a fund for each individual member. Starting June 1<sup>st</sup> members will be able to fill out a form and request reimbursement for time missed. If you have any questions, please contact the Union office.

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

This is excellent news for

Local 98, con't 4 hour recert class Oct. 21 & 22 Deadline is Sept. 26

The following classes are available for sign up. The deadline to register for classes is Aug. 22. Please call the Training

Center for more information. 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. CONTACT THE UNION OF-FICE 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

**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.

Autopay for Window Dues: As a result of the rising postage expenses and the significant number of members who have opted for autopay, we have made a change in the way receipts are delivered. Going forward, members will receive their proof of payment via email instead of traditional mail.

If you are currently enrolled in autopay but do not have an email address on record and would like a receipt, please contact our office to update your information.

**Dispatch:** We have split up the dispatch responsibilities between the Business Agent and the Assistant Business Manager positions. Each person will be ery month), from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, March 13th and April 10th.

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 Tuesday March 11th, and the test to follow Thursday, March 13th at 5pm. The dates in April are the 7th and 8th .

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

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

Medical Gas Installer: If your Installer license has expired or is within six months of needing recertification, call to sign up for the recertification class on April 7th, 8th, and 9th. You must be signed up by March 13th. Don't wait until the last minute—secure your spot now!

**2025 Michigan Pipe Trades Apprentice Contest:** We will be closed April 23,24 and 25th. We will always be able to be reached via email or cell phone during this time.

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.

"The one thing more difficult than following a regimen is not imposing it on others."

– Marcel Proust (1871 -1922)

"Smoking is one of the leading causes of statistics." -Fletcher Knebel



### **Michigan Painters District Council**

#### Painters DC 1M WARREN - Dear Members, **DC1M WEBSITE: www.** iupatdc1michigan.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 Of-

UPGRADE



There will be ROBERT a Rigging and GONZALEZ Signaling Class at the Warren

Training Facility, Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9AM. There will be an Architectural Drawings class held Saturday April 5, 9AM at the Warren Training Facility.

There will be a Fall Protection Class held Saturday April 19,9 AM at the Owosso Training Facility.

Contact Director Shawn Oneill for more information or to sign up at (517)304-4425 or email dot@iupatdc1m.org

PAINTERS DISTRICT **COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP** 

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

- For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google Playstore
- Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP
- Username: your member id# Password: painters With this APP you can access

training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.

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



District Council 1M Michigan

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.





#### **Boilermakers Local 169**

ALLEN PARK - Our next membership meeting will take place on March 14, 2025. This meeting will be at Boilermakers Local 169, 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, Mi. 48101

Congratulations to Grant Genaw on winning our local apprenticeship competition.

> congratulate BOB

him and en-HUTSELL courage him on his upcoming event. We are all very proud of him. Way to go!

Spring is just around the corner, and so are many of our annual events. With our annual golf outing and picnics in all four areas, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and attend these events. We need more of our younger members to get involved if we are to continue our rich tradition of Brotherhood at these family fun events.

Local 169 is celebrating its 130th anniversary this year! Founded in 1895, our local has survived through good times and bad. For all those who came before us, and all those with the courage and loyalty to stay true to our great Brotherhood, I offer my sincere gratitude and congratulations. Pick up our new 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary stickers at the Union Hall or at our next scheduled union meeting. Plans are currently underway for our 130th anniversary dinner dance to be held in Detroit. Details will be forthcoming.

With our current full employment and a large group of new apprentices, I encourage every member to make safety your number one priority. The busy workload looks like it will continue throughout the year so please make every effort to safeguard yourself and your Brothers and Sisters on the job.

In an effort to assist our Brotherhood, the Executive



**Abatement Workers Local 207** TAYLOR - There are a lot

of upcoming projects slated for Spring so be prepared for work. When you do return to work, remember to call in if you are unemployed for help with future placement. Updated, working telephone numbers are neces-

> sary to help you with work placement. Do not get caught without the necessary current job site credentials. Work in

other areas of KEVIN the region has MEAGHER been picking

up over the last couple of weeks in Ohio and West Virginia. Spring outages are coming! With most state agencies working from home during this pandemic filling out on-line renewals is the way to go. They are processing much quicker than traditional mail in applications. If you have any questions about online applications or what states, you may want to get a license for do not hesitate to call the office or my cell. We are looking at scheduling a new initial class for Late March so please, if you can recommend anyone that you know who can handle this work have them call the office to get an application filled out and send them in so we can get them into the next class.

**UPCOMING ASBESTOS** TRAINING CLASSES:

Asbestos Supervisor Refresher March 15th

Check with the Office to ensure the classes will occur as scheduled.

- All classes will be held at Local 207's office 26453 Northline in Taylor.

- Classes begin promptly at 8AM and end at 4PM, followed by a Lead Awareness Update. If you are due to expire and

need one of these refreshers now, please call the Taylor Office (1-800-207-5622) to register. Local 169 cont'd

### to attend.

Area 3 Retirees luncheon Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671 Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds



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

March 7, 2025

LANSING - The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday, March 14, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., and will be held at the J.A.T.C. Training Center, 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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

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

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.

Please make sure to call or text ALL Start/Layoff's to the Union Office. Leave the start/ layoff date and the name of the contractor along with your name.

Local 47 has reserved Site 5 at Fitzgerald Park for this year's 24th Annual Picnic. You will soon be receiving an invite in the mail. Please make sure you fill it out and send it back in as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last minute.

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:

Local 25 Heat and **Frost Insulators** 

11

Heat & Frost Insulators 25

SOUTHFIELD - UNION **MEETING:** The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Have you ever heard of quiet tennis? It's the same as regular tennis, but without the racket!

**MEMBERSHIP MEET-**ING: This month's membership meeting will feature a giveaway and a discussion regarding the retirement supplemental benefit.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** In light of several employers handing out jobsite specific attendance policies, refer to Article XII, Section A of the Collective Bargaining Agreement listed below. Please be reminded, good attendance is crucial in manning the work that we have in our territory.

Article XII, Section A: The Company has the right to discipline an employee for excessive absenteeism. The first two unexcused absences without good cause shall bring written warnings from the Company, with a copy to be furnished, in each case, to the Union. The Union shall be notified in writing no later than four business days after the infraction has occurred.

Any infraction not reported in four business days, shall be deemed not to have occurred. Any subsequent unexcused absence without good cause may be cause for discharge. Absences for good cause such as illness, family emergency and the like and excused absences shall not be cause for discipline, provided the employee notifies the Company not later than 9 a.m. (on the day of the absence.) No absence more than three months prior shall be considered in any manner or under any circumstances in the imposition of discipline and shall be deemed not to have occurred. Any dispute relative to discipline or discharge of an employee shall be processed through the grievance procedure established in this Agreement.

An employee must call the main employer's office if they leave the jobsite during working hours, excluding lunch time. An employee's unexcused absence may be cause for discharge as PER CAPITA: Please be reminded, any member working 32 hours or less during a month must pay their own Per Capita of \$14 per month. Per Capita payments should be made on a monthly basis. If a member works as a traveler in another Local's jurisdiction, the member must remit double Per Capita of \$28.00. Please forward payments monthly to Local 25, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033. **EMPLOYMENT CHANG-**ES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within forty-eight hours. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine. **BENESYS**: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information.



be reported to the Union office, please do so.

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357

WARREN – Our next union meeting will be held on Monday April 7, 2025 at 5pm.

This meeting will be a "Special Called Meeting." At this meeting we will be voting on Local 357 wage allocations. Please make every effort to attend.

With this bad weather we have several local 357 members currently laid off. Please make every effort to make sure your certifications are up to date. This will help get you back to work.

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

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

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

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

Dues payments may be mailed to the Union Office at 14587 Barber Avenue, Warren, MI 48088. Make checks payable to: **DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M** (Continued next column)

### Sign, Pictorial & **Display Local 591**

#### Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 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 Bylaws

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 in care of Glassworkers #357.

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

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; 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

Council of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has voted to waive the increase in monthly dues for the second year in a row. Current Union dues for 2024 are \$55.85 and will remain \$55.85 for the 2025 calendar year 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.

We are scheduling an MSHA class for the upcoming Tilden Mine work. Any member that requires this training should contact Area 4 Business Agent Jim Calouette or contact the Union Hall to be added to the list. You will be informed of the time and location of the training once the class is filled.

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

(Continued next column)

is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be March 19 at 11AM at The Boulevard Lounge, the address is 316 S. Saginaw Road, Midland, Midland, Mi. 48640. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

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

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45.00. Payments can be made with cash or a check. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details. The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at www. boilermakerslocal169 or on our Facebook page.

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

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability. Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill.

qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

"An economist is an expert who will know tomorrow why the things he predicted yesterday didn't happen today.'

-Laurence J. Peter (1919 -1988)

'If I had my life to live over... I'd dare to make more mistakes next time."

-Nadine Stair (1938-)

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

able 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 (Continued next column)

## Local 47 cont'd

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: Congratulations to Ollie and Brandy Hull on the birth of daughter Millie!

Local 47 would like to send our condolences to the Family and Friends of Doug Shoffner. Doug passed away Friday, December 13, 2024.



I advise all apprentices who

#### March 7, 2025

# **LiUNA!** Feel the Power **Local 1191**

#### Laborers' Local 1191

(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

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

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

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

Monthly General Membership Meetings: All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays), unless the Membership receives notice of a meeting cancellation, rescheduling and/or a venue change. The next General Membership Meeting will be held on March 7, 2025. April's General Membership Meeting will be held on April 4, 2025.

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11 am at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. The next monthly meetings will be held Feb. 28 and March 28.

Union Dues For 2025: Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191. org! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and



Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT – ALL MEM-BERS ARE INFORMED; Our next regular membership meeting is March 24, 5:30 pm at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

There was also a motion made at the January meeting to move the May membership meeting to May 19, 2025, due to Memorial Day holiday, it passed. The May meeting is also an election of officers meeting, April's meeting will be nominations of officers. So put both dates on your calendar.

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.

You should have received the new 2025 wage rate and zone sheets in the mail, if not, you can stop in the hall or request them via email. Also, the IRS milage rate increased to \$.70 per mile.

We have newly designed window and hard hat stickers available in the hall.

With the addition of the IUEC's Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, Local 36 has chosen to discontinue our agreement with American Income Life and their accidental death and disability coverage. Please contact the hall if you have any questions.

If you haven't enrolled in the IUEC's new National Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, we've entered the fourth enrollment window for guaranteed approved disability and life insurance coverage. To learn more or enroll, go to https://iuecvip.com or call the IUEC Service Center at 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. 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, EIWPF 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 me, 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. 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 nonwork related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office (800)523-4702 and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one week waiting period. The IUEC would like all active members and Probationary Apprentices to sign up for Safety alerts. The only thing you will receive are safety alerts, nothing political, just safety alerts. Text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to

**Local 36** Elevator Constructors

6 receive Safety alerts via text- and email.

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 obs easier than just calling the hall.

Attention All Mechanics, just a reminder to Mechanics that passed the Mechanic's Exam on or after July 9, 2022, starting January 1, 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, each mechanic shall be required to successfully complete at least eight (8) hours of online continuing education from the curriculum published annually by NEIEP.

NEIEP will monitor compliance for all participants and upon successful completion will pay the participants' Mechanic rate for their home local (excluding benefit contributions). **Required Mechanics (including assistant mechanics) that do not comply** with the continuing education requirements shall not receive the wage rate increase until completion of the required continuing education curriculum.

Attention All Apprentices, NEIEP classes will start the week of January 20<sup>th</sup>, your instructor should have reached out to you via email or text with class times and days. Contact the hall if you have any questions. We are planning on having a Mechanic's review class in February, Jeff Patti will contact you with details of when dates are available.

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 9<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!** 



HANDING UP pipe hangers he cut at the State of Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing is Tim Speagle of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 370. On the lift is Justin Mulder of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333. They're employed by Gunthorpe Plumbing and Heating.



LETTING A BIT OF THE COLD into the cab of his John Deere 644 loader to say hello is Joseph Portillo of Operating Engineers Local 324. He's working at the State of Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing



### Local 149 Roofers and Waterproofers

#### Roofers Local 149

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

**General Membership Meeting.** The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., April. 1, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., April. 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

**Mid-Michigan.** The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2025 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

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

collective-bargaining negotiat-

ing committee? The search for a

collective-bargaining negotiating

committee is coming. Nomina-

tions are being taken Tuesday,

you need to be a Journeyworker

in good standing and you must be

nominated by another member

in good standing at the general

membership meeting on Tuesday,

March 11, 2025, or in writing via

a nomination acceptance letter

addressed to the Recording Secre-

tary Tom Jaranowski by Monday,

ing negotiating committee de-

scription, please contact Busi-

ness Manager Brian Gregg at

for the following officers and

trustees: Please note this meet-

ing is scheduled for the Tuesday,

May 6, 2025, at 1640 Porter St.,

Detroit, MI 48216, 7:00pm. All

elected Officers and Trustee of

For the collective-bargain-

Nominations. Nominations

March 10, 2025, at 5:00 pm.

313.961.6093.

In order to stand for election,

March 11, 2025.

this Union shall serve for a period of Three (3) years.

- (1) Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer
- (2) Business Agent
- (5) Executive Board
- (1) President
- (1) Vice President
- (1) Recording Secretary
- (3) Trustees
- (1) Sergeant-at-Arms
- (1) Pension Trustee
- (1) Insurance Trustee

**Out-Of-Work.** When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Detroit Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (313) 961-6093 ext. 0 to be put on the out of work list. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 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 Thursday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm until further notice

Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/

follow the instructions.

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 reregister every quarter within the first five days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. \*Example: If your name is on the list in April and/or May and you don't reregister by June 5th your name will be removed from the list. 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

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.mustbsafe.com to see how many modules you have.

IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFOR-MATION:

Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)

•Telephone: (877) 645-2267 •Fax: (517) 689-6016 •Website: www.michiganla-

•Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

•Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

•Telephone: (248) 641-4942 WPAS \*Fax: (248) 813-9898 \*Telepho (Continued next column) EXT. 3359

### Local 1191, con't

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (800) 228 0048 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' AND Michigan Laborers' Vacation Funds WPAS

\*Telephone: (833) 389-0025 ) EXT. 3359 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 MORN-ING**. If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, your personal tools MUST be taken off the job, out of your vehicle and notify the hall.

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

If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can put you on the email list. We would like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!

"A minute's success pays the failure of years."

– Robert Browning (1812 -1889)

"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)

"If you can find a path with no obstacles, it probably doesn't lead anywhere."

-Frank A. Clark

"Never esteem anything as of advantage to you that will make you break your word or lose your self-respect."

-Marcus Aurelius Antoninus (121 AD - 180 AD)

"A discovery is said to be an accident meeting a prepared mind."

-Albert Szent-Gyorgyi (1893 - 1986)

"Never let your sense of morals get in the way of doing what's right." –Isaac Asimov (1920 - 1992) 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 Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.

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

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

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

The publication above is as 3/3/2025, 2:00pm

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



# Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 members:

Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$38.45 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and 2 Pensions. Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry Restoration Workers.

For more information go to: bricklayers.org



### Iron Workers 25

NOVI – The March Union Meeting will be Monday, March 31, 2025 at 7:00 pm and will be in person and zoom. We will conduct the third and Final reading of the proposed By-Law Proposal(s). All Union Halls will be open for in-person and Zoom will also be available.

On Wednesday, April 2, 2025 we will conduct Voting for the By-Law Proposal(s). All Union Halls will be open from 12 pm (noon) until 7:00 pm. A member is considered "eligible" to vote who is in good standing. Union Dues must be paid through March 2025 or better. Apprentice, pre-apprentice, probationary, honorary and lifetime members, not being full dues paying members, are NOT eligible to vote.

On Sunday, March 16 the Iron Workers are getting involved in the **St. Patrick's Day Parade in Corktown Detroit.** Members' families are invited to march in the parade which starts at 1pm. If you are interested please contact Dennis Aguirre at the Novi Union Hall.

We are accepting resumes for the Apprentice Coordinator position. The full details of the job description & qualifications can be found on the member only section of our website. (www.ironworkers25.org). Please contact the Training Center to set up a time to submit your resume and set a time to test at the school. April 1, 2025 is the deadline to turn in resumes.

We are accepting applications for a new apprenticeship instructor for the Hudsonville Training Center. The job description is located in the member only section of our website. (www.ironworkers25. org). All interested candidates must contact the Wixom Apprenticeship School to set a time & date to turn in a resume and complete the test. Resumes must be turned in and test completed no later than April 1, 2025.

We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICA-TIONS for alerts & emails.** You can download our APP for android on google play or for iphone at the APP store just search "Iron Workers Local 25" Martinez web shop. **Or** sign up



via our website (www.ironworkers25.org).

The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday March 19 at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be March 27 at 6 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, March 31, at 6 pm. All are welcome.

A FRINGE FUND PEN-SION DEPT REPRESENTA-TIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday March 5 from 8 am to 12 noon. If you wish to book an appointment or just have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494.

The 2025 Dennis O'Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available. All requests must be made by Friday March 14 and all completed applications are due by March 21. Call the Novi Union Hall 248-344-9494 to get one mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible. The application is also on the Member only section of our website where you still must print it out.

The 2025-2026 JOHN H. LYONS SR. SCHOLARSHIP electronic application and complete rules; as offered by the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers is available on their website: https://www. ironworkers.org/s/johnscholarship Deadline is May 30, 2025.

FRINGE BENEFIT OF-FICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. The mailing address for member BEN-EFIT 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 your online benefit information: ourbenefitoffice. com/iw25/benefits/

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

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

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

Apprentices: located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & "Welding Test Certifications" where you can electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests. To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to our website (ironworkers25.org) to view the 2025 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Schedule. Please make sure to download the Trade-School Mobile App to submit your monthly work and school hours. These must be submitted monthly. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. Wixom Training Center Phone: 248-960-2130.

We take Apprentice applications year-round! Visit our website (ironworkers25.org) where you can print your application, make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in an application. We take appointments Tuesday – Thursdays! No walk-in foot traffic.

24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website www.ironworkers25.org. The phone number 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



WE ASKED THIS TRIO of iron workers to stop what they were doing and pose for a photo while working at the State of Michigan public health and environmental science laboratory near Lansing. They are (l-r) Wayne Felzke, Lee Dameron and Don Poli. The Iron Workers Local 25 members are employed by Midwest Steel.

(M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

REMINDER: The *Iron-worker* Magazine is published by the International & is issued every other month (6 times per year). To subscribe to the digital edition of the Ironworker, please use the following link: https://www.ironworkers.org/s/ ironworker-digital-sign-up

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees' Club: The meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, March 18 at 10 am. The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday April 1, at 8:30 am in Novi. All are welcome. Thoughts & Prayers for James Clement #485069 as you face your health challenges!

Local 25 Retirees' Club 2025 Scholarship is available. Eligibility Requirements: child or grandchild of a retired Local 25 member. Applicant must be in their Senior year of high school with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Retiree must have a minimum of five years continuous Local union membership and be a member of the Iron Workers' Local 25 Retiree' Club as of the prior year and must be current on their annual club dues to be eligible and apply. Contact John Miller: **TEXT TO: (734) 812-8036**. All requests must be made by March 11, 2025. Completed applications due by 5pm April 30, 2025.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday April 1 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 in April 17 at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw Mi 48604 at 12 pm. All are welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter** next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9 am on April 18 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. All are welcome.

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.

In Memory: JIW Arthur Ellul passed away Feb. 15, 2025 at the age of 63. He was a 41-year member of Local 25. Art served his Local Union as Western Area Business Agent in January 2000, then as Vice-President in March 2003, and President of the Local from September 2005 through June 30, 2006. Art is survived by his beloved wife Judy Ellul #1137515, Brothers Robert Ellul #1121460, and Business Agent Mark Ellul #1308214; and his Nephew David Ellul #1627262. He was predeceased by his dad Arthur Ellul #975490 in 2017. Art is fondly remembered by all who knew him & will be missed by many friends in the ironworking industry.

MaryAnn Ryzner passed away Feb. 2, 2025 at the age of 96. She was predeceased by both her spouse John Ryzner #523216 and son John Ryzner #1089661. Lifetime IW Rick "Squeegee" Whitson #768807 passed away Feb. 15, 2025 at the age of 79. He was a 57-year member of Local 25. He is survived by his son Casey Whitson #1260454 and many friends in the ironworking industry.

JIW David ILLBECK #1175255 passed away Feb. 16, 2025 at the age of 63. He was a 34-year member of Local 25. Lifetime Rodman William Bond #746740 passed away Feb. 21, 2025 at the age of 78. He was a 58year member of Local 25/426. He was predeceased by his beloved wife Susan. Lifetime IW Mark E. Jones passed away Feb. 26, 2025 at the age of 66. He was a 47-year member of Local 426/25.

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

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (March 3, 2025 11:30 am E.S.T.).

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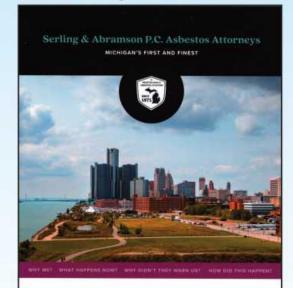
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Outdoors The bird flu in Michigan

(From the Michigan DNR)

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has recently sampled dead wild birds suspected to be positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza at multiple locations across Lower Michigan.

The DNR's ongoing disease surveillance indicates that HPAI, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, is widespread in wild bird populations throughout the state.

HPAI is a highly contagious respiratory disease that causes sickness and sometimes death in birds and mammals. The virus spreads through fecal droppings or nasal discharge of an infected bird, which contaminates the environment.

So far this year, more than 300 dead wild birds have been discovered in five counties.

DNR staffers collected 77 dead Canada geese and one dead mallard from the Fennville Farm Unit at Allegan State Game Area in Allegan Co. More than 80 dead Canada geese were reported along the Shiawassee River near Owosso in Shiawassee Co. About 25 dead Canada geese were reported at Williamston Lakes in Ingham Co., and another 20 dead birds were reported along the Grand River in Grand Ledge in Eaton Co. About 100 dead birds were reported in Washtenaw Co.

Samples collected from the Allegan State Game Area, Shiawassee River, Williamston Lakes and Washtenaw County sites were sent to the Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory in East Lansing for testing. Preliminary results indicate avian influenza is suspected.

When an avian influenza virus is detected, the samples are forwarded to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, for confirmatory testing, which can take weeks to months to complete. The national laboratory will test for, and confirm and identify any highly pathogenic strains of an avian influenza virus.



WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN collective die-offs due to bird flu among Canadian Geese and some other bird and fowl in Michigan, the state DNR said serious impacts to Michigan's duck, goose or swan populations are not anticipated. MDNR photo

Confirmed positive cases are posted on the DNR HPAI webpage. However, HPAI is widespread in wild birds throughout Michigan. Even if a county does not have a confirmed case listed, HPAI could still be present.

If you observe a die-off of six or more wild birds, report it to the DNR at Michigan.gov/EyesInTheField. You can also report wild birds or other wild animals that appear sick.

Leave dead wild birds alone. Dead wild birds should be left to naturally decompose if they are in an area where it is difficult to get to them, or where people and domestic animals will not have contact with them. A fresh carcass can spread disease, but as the animal decomposes, the virus will die

"If you find a dead wild bird, you should leave it alone; however, if you need to remove it, do not touch it with your bare hands. You should wear gloves and other personal protective equipment," said Mitch Marcus, DNR Wildlife Health supervisor. "The best advice we can give is to treat every wild bird as though it has a disease."

HPAI cannot be detected without testing. Some birds are carriers of the virus, but are protective equipment, disinfect all

healthy and may never get sick, even though they can spread the disease.

What should I do if I find dead wild birds on my property? Property owners are responsible for cleaning up dead wild animals on private property. The DNR conducts sampling of dead animals as appropriate but does not clean up carcasses.

If dead wild birds are easily accessible and pose a potential risk to people and domestic animals, double bag the carcasses and dispose of them through normal trash pickup. Always use personal protective equipment:

•Wear shoes that can be disinfected and disposable or rubber gloves.

•Wear a face mask and eye protection to protect your nose, mouth and eyes from accidental splashes that may contain the virus

•If handling multiple wild birds, wear rain bibs or a waterproof apron over clothing. In a pinch, you can wear a large plastic garbage bag with holes cut for your arms and neck.

•Disinfect the protective layers and wash clothes immediately afterward.

•Discard disposable personal

other PPE and clothing, and wash hands thoroughly when done.

DNR continues wildlife disease surveillance. "Since the initial outbreak in 2022, bird flu has been found in wild birds throughout the U.S., so we expect to see continuing cases of HPAI affecting Michigan's wildlife,' said Sara Thompson, DNR Wildlife Division chief. "The DNR will continue appropriate surveillance efforts, prioritizing birds found in large mortality events, raptors and wild mammals."

Kaitlyn Barnes, DNR wildlife biologist and acting waterfowl specialist, said the DNR does not anticipate serious impacts to Michigan's duck, goose or swan populations.

"The populations immediately near the sites with positive test results could see a decline, but there should not be impacts to the statewide population," Barnes said.

This HPAI strain has killed numerous bald eagles and colony nesting birds like terns and cormorants. It is too early to determine whether this outbreak will result in population-level effects, but research is ongoing.

Working together to keep people and animals safe. State of Michigan experts in many fields (1890 - 1969)

are working together to respond to reports of suspected cases of bird flu across the state.

The DNR is here to help Michiganders enjoy the state's natural resources and safely engage with wildlife and the outdoors. To help prevent the spread of HPAI, the DNR advises people to avoid direct contact with wildlife, and to keep their domestic animals from having contact with wildlife.

The DNR also advises cleaning backyard wild bird feeders every two weeks with a 10 percent bleach to water solution to avoid transmission of HPAI and other diseases more commonly spread at bird feeders. Don't place seed directly on the ground or use platform feeders; this can help slow disease spread by preventing larger numbers of birds and other wildlife from congregating.

Domestic animals. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development continues to lead Michigan's response to HPAI by closely monitoring and responding to reports of sick domestic birds and HPAI throughout the state. Owners of backyard and commercial flocks and herds should continue to follow all MDARD biosecurity guidance to prevent and respond to outbreaks of HPAI.

Feral and domestic cats have tested positive for the disease, so it is best to keep pet cats indoors to ensure they do not have contact with wildlife.

HPAI has not been detected in domestic canines in the United States, but owners should still take precautions to ensure that dogs do not have contact with wildlife, especially sick or dead wildlife.

Human health. The risk of HPAI infecting people is low, but the virus can infect people, especially those who come in contact with infected animals or materials. Although the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers the public health risk associated with HPAI to be low, it's important to take precautions to avoid contracting or spreading the virus.

"A sense of humor is part of the art of leadership, of getting along with people, of getting things done. -Dwight D. Eisenhowen

### **Biden's PLA rule** on last legs as Trump's DOD blocks its use

(Continued from Page 1) on federal construction projects of \$35 million or more – but only for DoD construction solicitations. The DoD's policy remains in effect until it is rescinded. Other federal civilian agencies are still subject to Biden's harmful pro-PLA rule."

And rescinding those additional PLA requirements from other federal projects is just a question of time. Federal Court of Claims Judge Ryan Holte (a Trump appointee) on Jan. 19 declared Biden's PLA policy to be unlawful, but he did not issue a blanket injunction to cancel the order.

The Associated General Contractors, which represents both union and nonunion contractors, has put on its nonunion hat in supporting the striking down of Biden's PLA rule. The group used a "bid protest approach" to get federal PLAs canceled.

"Our association's novel bid protest approach was designed to block the unlawful mandating of project labor agreements on all federal construction projects valued at \$35 million or more," said AGC CEO Jeffrey Shoaf. "While January's ruling in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims made it clear that former President Biden's executive order mandating the use of such agreements was unlawful, there was some doubt whether federal officials would come to the same conclusion.

"The announcement that the U.S. Department of Defense will drop project labor agreement mandates from its military construction solicitations is a clear sign that our approach is working. We expect all federal agencies involved in procuring construction services to follow suit and drop what is clearly an unlawful mandate from their construction solicitations."

Project labor agreements are often used in private and public construction projects. Still, "it would not be surprising to see President Trump rescind (Biden's executive order on PLAs) at some point in the near future based on recent similar executive action activity on government contracts labor and employment issues," said management attorney firm Cozen-O'Connor.

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

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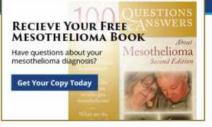
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