

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

VOL. 74, NO. 9

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65 Cents  
May 2, 2025

## SHORT CUTS

### Building material costs rise again

The price of materials and services used in nonresidential construction rose 0.4 percent in March, the third monthly increase in a row, according to an analysis released April 11 by the Associated General Contractors of America

The AGC said that the flurry of tariff-related announcements in recent weeks has been contributing to a series of announced price hikes from a range of materials suppliers.

"Lumber and metals prices shot up in March, while contractors' inboxes are bulging with 'Dear Valued Customer' letters announcing further increases for many products," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "Rapid-fire changes in tariffs threaten to drive prices higher for many essential construction goods."

The producer price index for inputs to new nonresidential construction rose by 0.4 percent in March, following increases of 0.6 percent in February and 0.8 percent in January. That was the first time since September 2023 that input prices had risen for three consecutive months, and it followed more than a year of stable or falling prices, Simonson said.

Metals and lumber prices were the major contributors to the increase in March. The index for steel mill products soared 7.1 percent in March. Aluminum mill shapes jumped 5.1 percent in price for the month and the index for lumber and plywood rose 2.7 percent.

Prices used to calculate the indexes were collected around March 11, Simonson said. Since then, the Trump Administration has imposed new tariffs of 25 percent on steel and aluminum imports, 25 percent on many goods from Mexico and Canada, 145 percent on imports from China, and 10 percent on most other countries.

### SMART demands Garcia's return

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI) – Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia, the Salvadorian national legally living in the U.S. with no criminal record who was nevertheless wrongfully deported to El Salvador, is an apprentice at Sheet Metal Workers Local 100.

"Abrego Garcia is a SMART Local 100 first-year apprentice who currently works full-time to support his young family," the SMART union stated. "He came to the United States as a teenager 15 years ago. According to his attorneys, he was legally authorized to live and work in this country and had fully complied with his responsibilities under the law. He did not have a criminal record in the United States. Like many of us, Abrego Garcia works full-time to support his wife and his five-year-old son. SMART is demanding that he is returned to his family."

Garcia was arrested by ICE agents in Baltimore in March on accusations of being an MS-13 gang member. He hasn't been charged or convicted of any crime, and has since been detained at a maximum security prison in El Salvador.

The Trump Administration has made no effort to have Garcia returned to the U.S.

### Quotable

"Where you see wrong or inequality or injustice, speak out, because this is your country. This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on."

—Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993)

THE BUILDING TRADES, and construction manager Gundlach Champion, have returned to the Island Resort & Casino in Harris to build yet another addition at the site. This time, at right is a new \$19 million expansion that will allow the Hannahville Indian Community to host even larger banquet and group meeting events.



Photo credit: Island Resort Casino

## Island Resort looks to expansion as a stronger magnet for guests

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

HARRIS – More space for convention groups, and more holes of golf, are on the way to the Island Resort & Casino.

Gundlach Champion is managing what is currently the most visible portion of the \$19 million project – construction of 17,000-square-foot of additional convention space that will allow the facility to accommodate up to 1,200 guests in its new grand ballroom, suitable for an array of activities, including weddings, banquets, business conventions and special events.

ON A LIFT AT THE Island Resort & Casino expansion project in Harris is apprentice Kylee Carlson of IBEW Local 906. She's employed by B&B Electric.

A crew of about 45 tradespeople was on site last month, performing a variety of tasks to get the facility ready for its anticipated completion in mid-June.

"We've done very well; there's been great teamwork

among all the subs and the trades, and the owner is always great to work with as well," said Gundlach Champion Project Manager Thomas Wahlstrom.

"Things have come up along

(Continued on Page 2)



AT WORK IN A HALLWAY at the Island Resort & Casino in Harris, about 10 miles west of Escanaba, is John Jacobson of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7. He's employed by Hurckman Mechanical Industries.

Photo credits: Jack Deo

## U.S. construction sees modest gains, uncertainty

Total U.S. construction starts were up 3 percent in March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.1 trillion, according to a report issued April 21 by Dodge Construction Network.

Nonresidential building starts grew 6 percent, residential starts decreased 5 percent, and nonbuilding (infrastructure) starts increased 9 percent. On a year-to-date basis through March, total

construction starts were down 1 percent from last year.

"Construction activity grew over the month, but sector-specific data continued to show mixed trends," stated Eric Gaus, chief economist at Dodge Construction Network. "Looking ahead, growing uncertainty around trade policy and the direction of the economy will likely weigh on construction activity. Rising delays in the

planning pipeline suggest that developers are already bracing for impact, grappling with higher tariffs, dwindling federal funding, and ongoing labor shortages. We expect headwinds to grow as long as the uncertainty remains."

Meanwhile, construction employment increased in 31 states and the District of Columbia in March from a year earlier, while 29 states added construction jobs

between February and March, according to an analysis released April 18 by the Associated General Contractors.

The data revealed Michigan lost 500 construction jobs between February and March, but saw a net gain of 500 jobs compared to March 2024. That small percentage gain (0.3 percent) ranked Michigan in the middle of the pack among the states.

the Republican-led state House adopted a \$3.1 billion road-fixing plan. That followed Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's January release of a \$3.16 billion plan. When it comes to how funds would be raised, there's likely to be a lot of politicking to find common ground between the GOP plan and Whitmer's less-specific plan.

"We're reconstructing a lot

payer) money into these without project labor agreements and without Davis-Bacon" prevailing wage guarantees, both inserted by Trump's Democratic predecessor, Joe Biden.

Biden's pro-PLA rule applies to all projects worth at least \$35 million. Trump hasn't dumped that federal acquisition rule, imposed in late 2022. NABTU wants to keep it. But there are two problems. One is silence from the Trump regime, which is also being lobbied to dump PLAs by the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors. The other is a court ruling outlawing the pro-PLA rule and the pro-prevailing wage requirements on 12 major federal projects.

"The anti-worker, anti-union ABC won that from Trump-named Judge Ryan Holte in the U.S. Court of Claims on Jan. 19, the day before Trump was inaugurated.

(Continued on Page 4)

## Behind the scenes, new rules net positive changes for workers

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

LANSING – This is an important year for workers in Michigan, who are seeing the implementation of laws adopted in 2023-24 by a worker-friendly state Legislature.

Some of those new laws directly affect the state's construction industry, and the related rules and interpretations are being filtered and administered through the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

On April 22, LEO's Deputy Director-Labor Sean Egan told delegates to the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council's 63rd Legislative Conference that while the department he helps to lead is challenged by a staffing shortage, there are a number of under-the-radar benefits that are now in place that will improve worker pay levels and can strengthen worker rights.

"We're continually fighting over staffing to better enforce" the rules administered by their



MICHIGAN LEO Deputy Director Sean Egan shared some good news for the state's workers at the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council's Legislative Conference.

department, Egan said, "but we try to be as efficient as we can with what we have." He said the ultimate goal "is to engage workers; we want to educate workers. We want you to know what it is you can do" when it comes pursuing their rights under state law.

Egan, a card-carrying member of Muskegon IBEW Local 275, was tapped to work the LEO deputy director position by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. The department includes MIOSHA, the Workers' Disability Compensation Agency, the Bureau of Employment Relations and the Wage and Hour Division.

Egan led a wide ranging discussion with building trades union delegates on the state of the state of numerous aspects of what are mostly worker-friendly changes in state government, including those to the revitalized state prevailing wage law, workers' compensation rules and apprenticeship program administration.

Here are some highlights:

**Prevailing wage:** the resurrection of the Michigan Prevailing (Continued on Page 3)

## MDOT says \$2.5B more per year will put state's roads on track

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

There may not be quite an agreement in the number of billion of dollars it will take to bring Michigan's roads up to par, but at least the interested parties are in the same ballpark. Sort of.

The Michigan Department of Transportation now says it will take \$2.5 billion per year

in extra expenditures to put the state's roads in good or fair condition before 2036. That estimate comes two years after Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association (which includes road contractors and unions), citing a study by Policy Sector Consultants, estimated that that goal should have a \$3.9 billion price tag.

More recently, on March 19,

the Republican-led state House adopted a \$3.1 billion road-fixing plan. That followed Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's January release of a \$3.16 billion plan. When it comes to how funds would be raised, there's likely to be a lot of politicking to find common ground between the GOP plan and Whitmer's less-specific plan.

"We're reconstructing a lot

of roadways out there, but you can see looking forward that without some change in revenue, that conditions are going to drop significantly looking forward," said Greg Brunner, the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT's) chief operations officer, to the news service MIRS.

Absent any new road funding, (Continued on Page 2)

## 1099 cheats in focus, again, as legislation seeks to end worker misclassification

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

LANSING – An issue that for decades has confounded the state's building trades unions and responsible contractors rose again, on April 15, a day dubbed by organizers as the "Tax fraud day of legislative action."

The fraud issue has gone by a number of names, including "1099 Cheats," "Worker Misclassification," or the "Independent Contractor Dodge." It boils down

to a nasty micro-economy in the construction industry where unscrupulous contractors refuse to put traditional employees on their direct payroll, instead classifying them as independent contractors forced to use IRS Form 1099. This helps cheating contractors to undercut bids of legitimate contractors, allowing them to avoid payroll taxes, retirement payments, health insurance, and workers' compensation.

Separate pieces of companion

legislation were introduced in the state House and Senate last month that could finally put an end to the misclassification fraud.

The Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights hosted a press conference along with Democratic lawmakers on April 15, Tax Day, to focus on the legislation.

"I'm here today to talk about an issue that hurts workers, hurts taxpayers and makes it hard for (Continued on Page 4)



STATE SEN. Darrin Camillerri speaks during a press conference in Lansing to highlight legislation that will combat contractor wage cheaters. Behind him are a collection of tradespeople who have been victims of worker misclassification.

Photo credit: Steve Claywell



Viewpoints



This is fighting for workers?

Union workers across the United States are feeling the impact of the Trump Administration’s anti-worker, anti-union agenda. Campaign promises of fighting for the American worker have been dashed over the last 90 days, and workers are left worrying about their futures.

Under the guise of improving government efficiency, we saw President Trump and Elon Musk fire more than 50,000 federal workers, citing “poor performance” without any evidence to defend their position.

Rolling back wage increases for federal contractors added to the anti-worker policies coming down from the White House. Trump rescinded a regulation that raised the minimum wage for federal contractors to \$17.75 per hour. By cancelling this policy, many of these workers will likely face a pay cut of nearly 25 percent, and their pay will revert to the previously set wage of only \$13.30 per hour.

Under his most anti-union attack yet, Trump signed an executive order ending collective bargaining agreements for hundreds of thousands of federal workers across more than 30 federal agencies. Citing national security concerns, he skirted around traditional labor-management processes that protect workers from arbitrary termination.

Unfortunately, many of these anti-worker policies aren’t breaking through in our ever-cluttered news cycle. America’s unions are here sounding the alarm before it’s too late. The Trump Administration is hurting the public sector workers who proudly make our nation run.

Sadly, attacks on workers and their unions are baked into the fabric of our country’s troubled history. Here in Michigan, one of the birthplaces of the American labor movement, we are no stranger to hard-fought labor fights. May 1 – International Worker’s Day – honors the workers who took to the streets and put their lives at risk so we can have better working conditions for future generations.

Its roots are a powerful reminder of the need to fight for what’s right. On the morning of May 1, 1886, hundreds of thousands of workers across the United States walked off their jobs to fight for the right to an eight-hour workday. Days into the strike, violence erupted. A bomb exploded at a labor demonstration in Chicago’s Haymarket Square, killing several people and injuring many others. Nearly 150 years later, that struggle to tear down income inequality is far from over, and the fight to protect labor unions feels more urgent than ever.

Unions and workers are under attack by our Executive Office. We can deliver for working people in Michigan by protecting good union jobs and the ability for workers to join a union on their own terms. That starts with the people we elect to hold office. We need bold, creative leadership that reaches across the aisle to guarantee unions remain a powerful force for economic growth in our communities.

Congress is the first stop. The bipartisan Protect America’s Workforce Act would nullify Trump’s March 27 executive order seeking to end collective bargaining rights for unionized federal employees across several agencies. No matter your political party, preserving the union rights of American workers should be a top priority.

The work needs to happen at home, too. The Michigan Legislature and the governor’s office are the perfect places to make it known that Michigan stands with labor. We can assure Michigan’s union families that during this time of uncertainty and federal attacks, we will create policies that fight back and protect their collective bargaining rights.

If history serves as a guide, unions aren’t going anywhere. No matter who holds power, we will always be ready to fight back to protect the rights of our members. We hope our elected leaders join us in the fight.

**Greg Merricle**  
President, Service Employees International Union Local 517M  
(From the Detroit News’ Labor Voices, April 15, 2025)

Trades expand Island Resort

(Continued from Page 1)

the way, but we have always been able to manage what needs to be done. We have a crew of good, quality people.”

Work began last July on the new convention/conference space, which has been attached to the south wall of the existing conference center on land that was a former parking lot. The added convention space includes



AT WORK ON A LIFT at the Island Resort & Casino expansion project in Harris is Patrick Murphy of Iron Workers Local 8. He’s employed by Gundlach Champion. Photo credit: Jack Deo

MDOT says \$2.5B more per year will put state’s roads on track

(Continued from Page 1)

the state is anticipated to invest \$798 million, on average, on state trunkline projects annually through 2040, MIRS said. At that level of funding – which almost no one thinks is sufficient – MDOT forecasts that less than 35 percent of state roads will have pavement in good or fair condition by 2040. Injecting the additional \$2.5 billion per year in road funding would make 90 percent of the state’s roads in good condition by 2040, according to MDOT.

“The 90 percent line that’s on the top, that’s our State Transportation Commission goals for pavement in good condition . . . what our folks are projecting right now, that’s about \$2.5 billion extra a year to get back to that 90 percent goal to be able to maintain that,” Brunner said, speaking to the Senate Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

This is how you strangle Social Security

By Jim Hightower

How ironic: The most inefficient bureaucracy in government turns out to be Trump’s “Department of Government Efficiency.”

That could be humorous, except that DOGE—a creature of the right-wing Project 2025 – has been devastating to millions of people. And it’s about to get worse. Elon Musk – the flighty überriich autocrat put in charge of “efficiency” by his buddy Trump – is now going after the Social Security de-



posits of 73 million senior citizens.

But wait, hasn’t Trump himself promised (loudly and often) that he would not ax this essential retirement program? Yes... but Elon is his “gotcha.”

Rather than an honest kill, Musk is strangling the program with (believe it or not) bureaucratic red tape. Claiming to cut waste, he’s eliminating 7,000 people who administer the program, shouting, “Bureaucratic excess!” Except, Social Security is actually a renowned model of government efficiency, spending less than 1 percent of its revenue on administration.

So by whacking the people who do the work, Musk is actually whacking the people who’re due to receive their earned benefits. For example, he’s decreed that the public no longer apply for benefits or resolve questions by phone, but now, must now travel in person to some distant Social Security office. But the staff there has also been decimated, so people who’ve come from afar are told to go back home and call for an appointment. Yes... a call that will not be answered.

This is Jim Hightower saying... What’s at work here is a Musk-Trump ploy to wreck Social Security’s remarkable record of efficiency. Their intent is to make the service so bad that they can then let profiteering corporations can privatize your retirement. (via www.otherwords.org)

high ceilings, and the addition includes a large kitchen and outdoor courtyard area. Over the course of the two-year project, the development will also include a new nine-hole golf course and a new golf shop.

Located about 10 miles west of Escanaba, the Island Resort & Casino currently features 36-holes of championship golf, more than 454 hotel guest rooms and a 42-site RV park, along with its casino. It is owned and operated by the Hannahville Indian Community.

“We’ve had a lot of meetings pass us up because we didn’t have the space. The new facility is designed to better accommodate larger events, including business conventions,” General Manager Tony Mancilla said. “By offering expanded meeting space conveniently located between Lower Michigan and Northern Wisconsin we will meet the increased demand from regional groups.”

Mancilla said the construction of the new space is a response to both existing customers and potential customers who have both expressed an interest in having more space to meet. He said their first major event in June, after an open house, will be hosting an LPGA golf tournament.

The trades have been kept busy at the Island Resort property over the years. The casino opened in 1998, and then improvements have included the first convention center (1999), followed by a wastewater treatment plant (2005) and the Palm Hotel Tower (2007). More recently, Gundlach Champion managed construction of a \$33 million, 12-story hotel wing in 2021.

“I was just in the new convention space, and even though it’s just drywall right now, it’s beautiful,” Mancilla said during a phone interview last month. “Gundlach Champion, the trades, they’ve done great. They’ve kept on schedule, they’re on budget, and it’s beautiful. We’ve used Gundlach before. They deliver and give you what you want; they’re people that we trust.”

“A man may well bring a horse to the water but he cannot make him drink.”  
–John Heywood (1497 - 1580)

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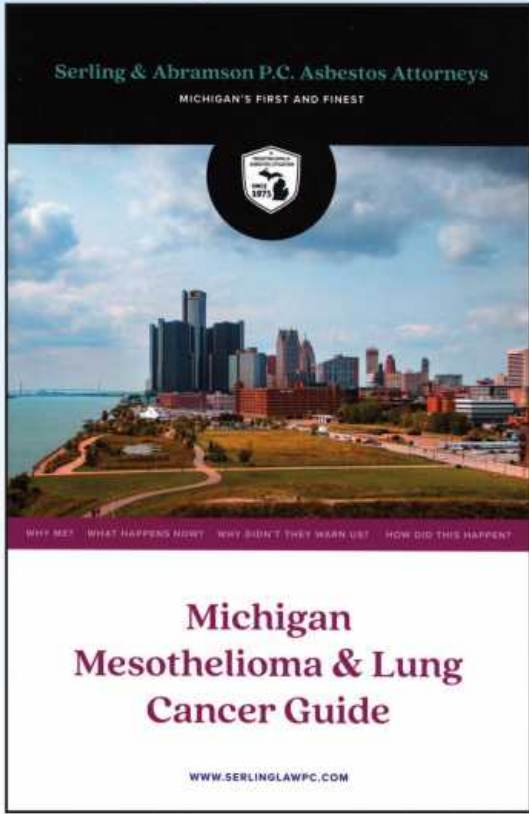
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# BUILDING MICHIGAN!

## Concrete example: Jackson's Otsego Hotel

### HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



OPENED IN 1904 after a disastrous collapse of its interior concrete floors, the Otsego Hotel in Jackson remains open, today operating as an apartment building. “The Otsego,” says a history prepared by *MLive*, “quickly earned a reputation as the best place to stay in Michigan outside of Detroit. Described as ‘palatial’ in the papers, the hotel had 150 rooms – 100 of which were connected to bathrooms. All had long-distance telephones and hot and cold water.” Its long lobby opened into a large glass-roofed room and featured a mosaic tile floor, marble wainscoting a grand staircase with decorative iron railings, a cigar stand, barber shop and grill, bar and billiards rooms.”

Today, the four-story building housing the Otsego Apartments anchors the western edge of Jackson's downtown along Michigan Avenue. It's an historic, handsome, wedge-shaped, occupied brick structure that would be a credit to any city's downtown.

The second attempt at mixing, pouring, placing, and anchoring its four concrete floors to the structure's exterior walls was a complete success, with the building opening in April 1904 and standing strong for the next 121 years. In 2015, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

But on Oct. 11, 1902, the disastrous failure of the first attempt at mixing, pouring, placing and anchoring the building's four concrete floors made the Otsego a national example of the limitations of knowledge in the science of using floors constructed of concrete.

On that day, the Otsego Hotel's interior concrete floors collapsed while workers were pouring concrete on the fourth floor, resulting in the collapse of each floor below and causing 6,000 tons of debris to fall into the basement. The east end of the building also collapsed, claiming the life of one worker, Henry Giltner of Grass Lake, and injuring others. Jackson Mayor Samuel Pickles, who had the construction contract, escaped injury.

The use of concrete as a construction material was in its infancy in 1902. The use of structural steel in taller buildings had only begun in the 1880s, and the industry over the next couple of decades attempted to figure out the optimum ingredients for concrete floors, and how to properly reinforce, mix, and connect the floors to the steel or masonry structures surrounding them. “Fireproofing” buildings using steel and concrete was a major selling point during that era.

To illustrate the lack of standards, at the time the (still-standing) Palms Building in Detroit was being erected in April 1902, a complaint was filed that the concrete floors seemed unsafe. “Given the unprecedented nature of concrete floors and the absence of any method by which to calculate the weight the concrete could support, the building inspector decided the floors needed to be tested to assure safety,” wrote Michael Smith in *Concrete Century*. “After locating what appeared to be the weakest area of the building, the inspector had a load of six tons placed on the floor, nearly six times what it was expected to support. There were no untoward consequences to this extreme overloading of the floor, so the inspector approved the construction.”

Albert Kahn, who designed the Palms, admitted later that his use of reinforced concrete floors there – he said it was “a system little known,” – may have been foolish. “We had to depend much upon the promoters of the system,” he said. A reinforced concrete floor system later invented by his brother Julius Kahn revolutionized the construction of heavy-duty floors in industrial buildings.

“The use of concrete floors was significantly lower in cost than terra cotta tile fireproofing, which proved a strong incentive for its increased use during this era,” wrote Smith. “The lack of scientific understanding of the principles of concrete construction, com-



THE LOBBY of the Otsego Hotel in Jackson in 1944. The Otsego replaced the Hibbard House, a hotel that was at the site from 1865 until it was demolished in 1901. Photo credit: *MLive*

bined with workers' unfamiliarity with concrete, however resulted in numerous dramatic accidents, often fatal.”

Such was the case with the Otsego Hotel, which was named for Otsego Lake, New York. “The luxury hotel was of traditional wall-bearing construction – the exterior walls supported the building – but concrete floors were installed instead of wood to achieve fire resistance,” Smith wrote. “The weight of the wet concrete of the newly installed fourth floor was supported by shoring standing upon the third floor, which had been poured just three weeks prior. Suddenly a section of the third floor and rear wall of the building gave way, though its not clear whether the floor or wall gave way first.”

The collapse of the Otsego Hotel reverberated in the U.S. construction industry. So much so that the November 1902 edition of *Fireproof Magazine* – at the time a major nationwide construction industry resource – published an ominously titled article, “Latest Concrete Collapses” with the Otsego disaster as its primary focus.

Having written about cases of failing concrete in their previous issue, the magazine said “a few of those who have written suggest that until a determinate test of construction has been had, it is perhaps a little premature to pass final judgement on the subject. The question resolves itself to this: Has concrete been proven or disproven in actual building use?”

The *Fireproof Magazine* article said the Otsego's floor construction consisted of “wire cable, steel rod, 6-inch mesh wire fencing filled in with concrete, composed of boiler cinders in the proportion of two parts boiler cinders to one part gravel and one part cement. All the floors seemed to sag simply from the weight of construction. Of the various theories advanced assigning cause for the disaster, every one seems to constitute a pretty serious

indictment of concrete as a building material.”

The magazine asked why three floors of solid concrete fell. “Because concrete, being absorbent, is incalculable. Because no calculation can determine what its action will be in any given case; because it is in itself a composite, contradictory in chemical action. And for that reason only a chemist may say what a given concrete specimen is, and then by laboratory analysis only, whether its base be clax, or carbon or sand or –.”

Perhaps “boiler cinders” that were used in the Otsego's concrete mix caused the collapse; it's unclear. But the lack of confidence in concrete as a building material was not only a concern of turn-of-the-century builders and architects, but of insurers, too. The Jan. 1, 1903 publication of *The Chronicle*, “A book for fire underwriters everywhere,” published an unsigned letter to the editor which reinforced the era's doubts about concrete. Noting the Otsego Hotel's floors collapsing “without any warning” the writer asked sarcastically if his “accident insurance policy would hold good should the floor under me suddenly take a notion to visit the one below?”

The letter continued: “As a child with a new toy discards his old favorites, so we now see the architects dallying with the new reinforced concrete. Constructions that have survived the stress of ages are thrown aside for the new toy.”

The Otsego's exterior walls had mostly remained in place after the collapse, and construction continued after the debris was removed. New concrete floors were mixed and poured, apparently in an improved manner. That could be said of concrete floors across the nation – while the *Fireproof Magazine* writer wondered about concrete's future viability, reinforcing systems became more scientific, and the slabs stronger, and widely used ever since.



THE OTSEGO HOTEL IN Jackson after its concrete floors and a partial wall collapsed in 1902. The interior floors were rebuilt and the building opened in April 1904. Photo credit: *Fireproof Magazine*

# Behind the scenes, new rules

## net positive changes for workers

(Continued from Page 1)

Wage Act in 2023 brought with it not only a higher industry wage scale for many workers, but also paperwork requirements for contractors that provide built-in tools for wage investigators to make sure that the proper wages are being paid, and that payrolls are certified.

State law also allows third-parties, like union business agents, to gather records and make complaints to the state in order to make sure contractors are paying their workers the prevailing rate on state-funded construction projects. That's important, because underpaying workers provides an unfair bidding advantage to low-paying, unscrupulous contractors. The new rules with references to “wage surveys and certified payrolls,” Egan said, “have some really strong teeth in there to hold people accountable.”

**Energy projects:** A key little addition to the new prevailing wage law mandates that any energy project in the state – public or private – that exceeds 2 megawatts is subject to prevailing wage rules. It's the first application of prevailing wage to private work in the state, and it is being applied to a growing field of work.

**Contractor registration:** Following Public Act 10 of 2023, registration with the state is now mandatory for all contractors and subcontractors seeking to bid on state-funded construction projects. Registration requires contractors to pledge that they “are fully compliant with all applicable federal, state, and local laws,” including being free of prevailing wage violations. “So if we get a bad violator, we get to say, you don't get to register,” Egan said. “That allows us to clean up what's happening out there.”

**A new \$500 registration fee** for contractors seeking to bid on state work is being collected, and it's supposed to fund the hiring of eight more state inspectors to monitor the prevailing wage law. But the state Legislature has yet to OK the hiring for those positions. Egan said based on about 3,000 contractors registering for state projects, that amounts to income of about \$1.5 million a year to fund those positions.

**Workers compensation:** Egan offered some reminders about the rights of workers injured on the job. State law allows union reps to file complaints with the state on behalf of members. The state no longer allows management attorneys in the room when injured workers are being interviewed for workers' comp cases – and union reps aren't welcome, either.

“Under the law, you do have to notify your employer that you were injured” in order for a workers' comp case to proceed, Egan said. That should be done promptly, and injured workers should also file a form with LEO

so that it's on the record.

**Workers' rights:** With the Trump Administration now allowing the National Labor Relations Board to become mainly ineffectual due to a lack of a quorum, Egan said a 1939 state law could act as “a backstop” in Michigan because it “mirrors a lot of the National Labor Relations Act.” Absent the NLRA, aggrieved workers in Michigan could have their case taken up by the state. It it's triggered, Egan said Michigan's law contains a right to collective bargaining, a right to hold union elections, and a right to file unfair labor practices.

On the plus side, Egan said an NLRB without a quorum would be unable to overturn all of the pro-worker decisions issued by the union-friendly Biden NLRB appointees.

**Overhauling worker classifications:** Even understaffed, Egan said his department is continuing to administer the law and attempt to uphold worker pay standards by building a much-needed certified payroll system. They're also working on the statewide contractor registration system.

One major challenge, he said, is administering the “hodgepodge” of ways in which trades workers have been classified under the federal prevailing wage law. Not surprisingly, the state's Department of Technology, Management and Budget is pushing for a more streamlined pay/classification system.

In tiny Cass County alone, he said there are some 200 pages of paper to describe pay rates for different classifications of workers. (For example, there's a pay rate for a laborer who carries brick and for one who carries mortar). Multiply those 200 pages by the 87 counties in Michigan and Egan said the paperwork problem is self-explanatory.

The entire construction industry, working with the state, would have to get behind a sys-

tem of streamlined rates. A likely conflict that will develop, Egan said, is that organized labor would certainly push for a higher worker rate, while nonunion contractors would push for lower pay rates.

In a nod toward **strengthening apprenticeship standards**, Michigan's Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity has adopted a rule aimed at contractors without a U.S. Department of Labor-registered apprenticeship program. Employers in Michigan without such a registered apprenticeship program won't be able to get a wage advantage by allowing a ratio of, say, a single journeyman to 10 apprentices on a jobsite. Those 10 apprentices would have to be paid at the journeyman rate, not the apprentice rate, eliminating a major cost advantage.

## Just joking

•My wife asked me: “Are you even listening to me?” Which is a really weird way to start a conversation if you ask me.

•I met up with a friend the other day. I told him about my struggles. My friend kept saying “cheer

up man it could be worse, you could be stuck underground in a hole full of water.”

I just shook my head. I know he means “well.”

•I stopped by a roadside stand that said “lobster tales: \$2.” I paid the \$2. The guys leaned on the counter and said, “Once upon a time there was this lobster....”

•A husband and wife had a fight. Wife called her mom: “He fought with me again, I am coming to stay with you.” Mom: “No dear, he must pay for his mistake. I am coming to stay with you!”



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## The Building Tradesman

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

Patrick Devlin Secretary-Treasurer  
Steve Claywell President

Visit our website: [www.michiganbuildingtrades.org](http://www.michiganbuildingtrades.org)

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

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

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(734) 558-6955

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

Printed at Grand Blanc Printing, a union shop





**BAC Local 2**  
MAY 2025 CHAPTER MEETINGS  
**METRO DETROIT CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 06, 2025 at 5:30 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091  
**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 06, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130  
**FLINT CHAPTER:** Wednesday, May 07, 2025 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446  
**KALAMAZOO CHAPTER:** Thursday, May 08, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087  
**LANSING CHAPTER:** Wednesday, May 07 2025 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906.  
**MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, May 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855  
**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 28, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706  
**TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER:** Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City, MI 49685

**DEATHS REPORTED.** Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Adolf Lieske** (Bricklayer) who passed away April 16, 2025. Brother Lieske had been a member for 62 years. Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Richard Nogafsky** (Pointer, Cleaner, Caulker) who passed away April 05, 2025. Brother Nogafsky had been a member for 57 years. Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother William Stewart** (Bricklayer) who passed away April 16. Brother Stewart had been a member for 73 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Robert Vandervennet** (Bricklayer) who passed away on April 15, 2025. Brother Vandervennet had been a member for 34 years.

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF CLARA F. RODRIGUEZ:** We are saddened to share the passing of Clara F. Rodriguez April 14, 2025. She was the beloved mother of former business agent Frank Rodriguez. Our thoughts and heartfelt condolences are with Frank and his family during this difficult time. May her memory be a blessing.

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

**TEXTING PROGRAM:** Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via text message. You must be signed up to receive these messages. You can sign up via the following: Text **2MI** to **50607**; You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#); Respond with your six-digit IU number and you will receive Local 2 Text Messages going forward!

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

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

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

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

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

**APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS:** Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice Worksheets MUST be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>. For more information on the Training Centers visit: <https://www.michigan-bricklayers.org>

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

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

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION**  
BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000  
CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362  
Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550  
International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 ([bacbenefits.org](http://bacbenefits.org))  
Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954  
Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (248) 641-4954  
Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

# Prevailing wage, PLAs on edge as trades await Trump’s decree

(Continued from Page 1)

We’re not talking small change here. That “hundreds of millions” estimate was low.

While Trump hasn’t dumped the union-friendly project labor agreement rule, Trump Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, a former Fox News commentator, went ahead and did so for his own department. His decision affects seven projects, six of them in the South, worth \$416.5 million combined.

And Trump VA Secretary Doug Collins, a former Georgia GOP congressman, dumped the Biden rule on his own, too. That affects one project, but it’s a big one: \$1.3 billion to basically rebuild the VA’s Central Clinical Center in West Los Angeles.

The Trump government promised to let the building trades know if the Biden pro-PLA rule lived or died by 11 am on April 9, McGarvey told the NABTU delegates. All his team got was silence. So the building trades are prepared to go to court to ensure the projects built with tax dollars are also built by highly trained and qualified union construction workers, paid prevailing wages under the Davis-Bacon Act and working under the project labor agreements which bring those projects in on time and under budget, he said.

If and when they sue, NABTU would join the long line of unions who, for one reason or another, are suing the GOP Trump regime – and Trump’s associate multibillionaire Elon Musk – over their chainsaw approach to federal programs, policies and personnel. Estimates of firings so far begin at 100,000 and rise to 175,000. There were 2.2 million federal workers before cuts began.

Trump also axed the collective bargaining agreement covering the nation’s 45,000 Transportation Security Officers, the airport screeners. He plans to kill 30 collective bargaining agreements covering almost a million more federal workers.



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

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

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

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

**Monthly General Membership Meetings:** 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 June 6, 2025. July’s General Membership Meeting will be held on July 11 in observance of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.**

**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 Retiree Council Meeting will be held on May 30. The June Meeting will be held on June 27.**

**2025 Election for Local 1191 Union Offices:** There will be an election for Local 1191 Union officers. All ballots will be mailed to Members’ current addresses on file no later than May 2, 2025. Ballots must be returned via USPS Mail for counting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June, 2025. Please direct questions regarding the 2025 Local 1191 Election to the Local Union.

**Union Dues For 2025:** Regular monthly dues are \$35 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org)! To make online dues payments, click the “Pay Dues” tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

**Save Time & Money: We 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**



**SMOOTHING OVER** a concrete path at the Island Resort Casino project in Harris are (l-r) Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 masons Robert Lordson and Hawkins Lordson, and Dana Hawkins of Laborers Local 1329. They’re employed by Gundlach Champion. *Photo credit: Jack Deo*



Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT – **The next membership meeting is Tuesday May 20, at 7 pm. We will be having food and refreshments. 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.**

May 2025 Membership gold cards- Congratulations!

**Donald Hunt-25 Years**  
**Scott Heilig-30 Years**  
**Marcus Martinez is the new Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313)-350-0389 or by email: mmartinez@opciami.org**

Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to: [abest@opciami.org](mailto:abest@opciami.org) Please send your updated information in a timely manner.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.Mustb-safe.com](http://www.Mustb-safe.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](http://bcbsm.com/register) and select register now.

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

## Local 1191 cont’d

of the “Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction” forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you. **FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!**

**New Projects:** Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list.

benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

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

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

**Attention all Apprentices,** now you will need to go to the website: [www.micementplasterertraining.com](http://www.micementplasterertraining.com) to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link “About” and then click on “Apprentice

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

**The Local’s website is: [www.opcmiami.org](http://www.opcmiami.org).**

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

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

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

Please make sure your modules and drug test are up to date, there are some plant jobs that do require the MUST modules. You can go online at: [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) Call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

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

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

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:  
Go online: [Principal.com](http://Principal.com)

**If you are a first-time user, go to [Principal.com/Welcome](http://Principal.com/Welcome) Select Get Started.**

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

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits,

**Road Builders** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502.

**Plasters and Commercial Cement Masons** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity; Toll Free 1-877-876-9357.

All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

**For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

# Legislation seeks to end 1099 worker misclassification

(Continued from Page 1)

above-the-board contractors to compete and win bids,” said Mike Jackson, Jr., business representative with the MRCC. “American workers are being hurt by contractors using shady practices to rob workers of pay that they have earned. Using schemes to declare workers as subcontractors without a contract while maintaining direct supervisory control is the definition of payroll fraud. We’ve called out this behavior for years and believe it is time to call out employers who take part in these exploitative practices.”

The legislation to end the fraud comes in the form of Senate bills 6 and 7, and a 12-bill package in the state House. The Senate bills are sponsored by Sen. Darrin Camilleri (D-Trenton) and Sen. Curtis Hertel (D-St. Clair Shores), who were on hand at the

press conference.

“I’m proud to sponsor this legislation,” said Hertel, “to address payroll fraud and put these deceitful wrong practices behind us in the State of Michigan. Legislation would enhance wage transparency for workers, allow workers to file anonymous complaints against employers, strengthen civil and criminal penalties for wage theft, while prohibiting employers from misclassifying workers who work as independent contractors which allows them to pay a wage lower than the legal minimum.”

In 2022, Hertel said the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity recovered more than \$2.6 million in stolen wages. Nationwide, he said, worker misclassification costs taxpayers an estimated \$10 billion per year.

Misclassifying workers isn’t

just a worker issue – contractors are also negatively affected. Evan Howe of Integrity Interiors, a union carpentry contractor who bids work across most of the state’s Lower Peninsula, said legitimate contractors have been “getting beat up for far too long because of these unfair business practices. We’re a contractor that insists on being honest and doing things the right way; that means we pay into things like workers’ compensation, retirement, health care for our employees. That’s for every employee on our jobs. Unfortunately there are contractors out there who don’t feel the same way, who don’t share the same values.

“So we have to compete against these contractors, and it’s becoming more and more difficult as there are more of these contractors who are beginning

to appear. The costs for workers compensation, health care, retirement, the securities these employees need, these are real costs, and to not have to pay them would be a huge advantage on a bid.”

On this legislation, Michigan’s construction union community and their contractors are hoping for an unlikely outcome: an agreement to finally address the issue by state Democrat and Republican lawmakers. Camilleri said the issue could be tie-barred with other pieces of state legislation.

“We’re hoping that as part of these discussions going forward we can be part of the broader negotiations,” Camilleri said, “whether we’re talking about road funding, or other protections for workers. We want to get this on the table to try to get something done.”





LABORERS LOCAL 1329 MEMBERS employed by Gundlach Champion set concrete at the Island Resort & Casino expansion project.

Photo credit: Jack Deo



**District Council  
1M MICHIGAN**

**Michigan Painters  
District Council**

**Painters DC 1M**  
WARREN - Dear Members,  
**DC1M WEBSITE:** [www.iupat-dc1michigan.org](http://www.iupat-dc1michigan.org)

**DC 1M UNION CARDS\***  
Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at: Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100; Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

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

**WARREN TRAINING FACILITY. Lift Certification Class** will held April 28, 29,30 and May 1 and 3.

**OWOSSO TRAINING FACILITY.**

There will be an **Architectural Drawings** class on Saturday May 17 at 9am. **Contact Director Shawn Oneill for more information or to sign up; (517)304-4425 or email [dot@iupatdc1m.org](mailto:dot@iupatdc1m.org)**

**D BARA MIX FIX MAY 10 at Scout Ranch Metamora.** Members volunteer some time to help at the Scout Ranch in Metamora. Breakfast is at 7am. Painters needed. To sign up or for more information contact FTI Director Shawn Oneill at [dot@iupatdc1m.org](mailto:dot@iupatdc1m.org) or 517-304-4425.

**PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP.** Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google Playstore

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

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

**GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!**

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

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



**District Council  
1M MICHIGAN**

**Sign Pictorial & Display 591**  
WARREN –The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday June 3, at 5:30 p.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 who willingly works at a nonunion shop doing union work can have charges preferred against them under

Sec. 16.4, and 19.8 of the District Council By-laws

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

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

**Michigan Painters  
District Council**



**District Council 1M**

**Business Manager:** Robert Gonzalez  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Tuesday of each 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](http://www.iupat-local514.org).

**Local Union 826**

**Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.  
**Place:** 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

**Local Union 845**

**Business Rep** – Ed Bracamontes  
**Meeting date:** 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.  
**Place:** 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

**Local Union 1052**

**Business Rep** – Jake Fluty  
**Meeting date:** The 4th Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** 3115 Joyce St., Burton

**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.




**Local 591  
Sign, Pictorial & Display**

Sec. 16.4, and 19.8 of the District Council By-laws

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**Local 357  
Glaziers &  
Glassworkers**

**Glaziers & Glassworkers 357**

WARREN – Our next union meeting will be held Monday May 5, 2025 at 5 pm. 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI 48088.

This meeting will be a "Special Called Meeting." At this meeting we will be nominating for District Council 1M Representatives. We will also be nominating Local 357 Delegates to the District Council. Please make every effort to attend.

We will be holding a retirees lunch on Wednesday, April 16, from 11am-2pm. If you are a retiree, we will be hosting a lunch on this day. The lunch will be at our District Council, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI 48088.

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

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal. You can find this in the app store, and it is a free app. Once you download this app, you will need your union member id to log in. You can find your member ID printed on your quarterly union card. Once you log into this app it's a helpful tool to track your hours worked, and it also has a digital copy of your union card.

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

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-0666; phone: 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.

– **Business Rep. Don Stepp**

*"Prosperity is only an instrument to be used, not a deity to be worshipped."*

–Calvin Coolidge (1872 - 1933)

*"The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good."*

–Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

*"Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it."*

–Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)

*"Boyhood, like measles, is one of those complaints which a man should catch young and have done with, for when it comes in middle life it is apt to be serious."*

– P. G. Wodehouse (1881 - 1975)

*"To do anything truly worth doing, I must not stand back shivering and thinking of the cold and danger, but jump in with gusto and scramble through as well as I can."*

–Og Mandino (1923 - 1996)

*"Happiness is nothing more than good health and a bad memory."*

–Albert Schweitzer (1875 - 1965)



**IBEW  
Local 557**

IBEW 557

**SAGINAW – UNION NEWS-** Reminder – Local 557's Monthly Union Meetings are now starting at 6pm due to a large amount of members working overtime.

**MEMORIAL DAY** - The next recognized holiday per the Local 557 CBA is Memorial Day, on Monday, May 26th. Please take time to recognize the holiday and pay respects to those that served and gave all.

**LOCAL OFFICER ELECTIONS-** Union Officer elections will occur this year. By now, all members should have received their official notification of this process in the mail. Complete details on the process for elections are contained in that official mailing. If you need additional details, please refer to this letter or reach out to Nick Iles, the Local's Election Judge. Nominations will occur at the next regularly scheduled union meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The following positions in the local are up for election this year – President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Delegate to Convention, Executive Board (6 spots), Examining Board (3 spots) and the Alternate Delegate to Convention.

**GOLF LEAGUE OFF AND RUNNING** - Golf League at Twin Oaks Golf Course continues. Tee times begin shortly after 5:30pm each Thursday night until the end of golf season. If you are a returning golfer or a first timer – all are welcome!

**JOB SITE SAFETY** - Job site safety is and should always be #1 on all IBEW jobs. Recently, issues have occurred on the Local's Mega Project in Hemlock. Local contractors Conti and J. Ranck have led the charge to preserve safety for 557 members and travelers. Ongoing OSHA investigations into the recent events are underway and will be taken very seriously by the Local, Contractors and the members involved. This thorough investigation being led by the State of Michigan will get to the bottom of the matter and be done to the letter of the law. No deadline or profit should be placed ahead of the simple fact that members need to go to work and return home in the same safe state in which they were prior to their day of work.

**EARNED SICK TIME ACT-** Michigan's new law requiring employers to pay their employees Earned Sick Time (ESTA), is now in effect. By now, every member working for an IBEW contractor currently, should have seen a written notice of some sort regarding this matter. Local 557's CBA does not contain any language related to ESTA, therefore, this law will apply to our membership. If your employer is NOT complying with this law you are strongly encouraged to file a complaint with the State of Michigan. The complaint process can be found on the Local's website homepage with the complete process instructions listed. You can also find these details on the State of Michigan's website


**PROJECT PHOENIX-** Work on the Mega Project remains steady. As of this writing, there are currently 549 IBEW members referred to the project. Most calls have all gone to Book 2 and the Local has essentially been a walk-thru for calls. Stay current on monitoring work in Local 557 by looking on the Job Line website or calling the dispatch telephone option. 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](mailto:jobline@ibew557.org) email address and you will receive a reply as soon as possible. Through the jobline email address, you can receive updates as to your spot on the out of work list.

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

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS-** New normal Business Hours are Monday-Friday 7am to 12pm, CLOSED for lunch, and re-open again from 1pm to 4:30pm.

May 2, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 5



**IBEW  
Local 445**

IBEW Local 445

**BATTLE CREEK – The Local 445 Wage Allocation Meeting** will be held on May 14, 2025, at 4:45pm at the Hall.

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

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

**The Local 445 Golf Outing** is scheduled for July 12, 2025. Be sure to get your teams registered.

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

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

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

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

**The IBEW Local 445 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 5p.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](http://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**



**Local 275**

IBEW Local 275

**COOPERSVILLE – Work**

**Outlook:** 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. As open calls continue we would like to encourage any 275 hands working on the road to entertain the idea of coming home to man the work here.

**Upcoming Election 2025:**

The nominations for all officers of Local Union 275 will be held on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6pm at the Local 275 Union Hall. If you are considering running and accepting a nomination for an officer position please make sure to be at the meeting or submit a letter expressing intent to accept a nomination. You cannot accept a nomination for more than one office.

Also, keep in mind that with the election coming up on June 21, if you would like your vote to be counted, you must be a member in good standing (no more than 90 days in arrears) at the time of the election. Local 275's election is an all mail ballot, so please make sure your address is updated at the Hall if you have moved recently.

**OMEGA Financial Club:**

Next meeting will held on Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6pm at the Union Hall. If you are interested in learning more about financial and retirement planning, please make an effort to attend. It is never too early to start planning for you and your family's future.

**West Michigan RENEW/EWMC:** Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 6pm via ZOOM. The ZOOM link will be available on Local 275 Members Only Facebook group as well as on the Local 275 Mobile app. May's meeting will include a meet and greet for candidates for Local Union offices.

**Training:** Code update will only be available online going forward. Please go to the JATC website at [www.wmejatc.org](http://www.wmejatc.org) and click the Code Update Course link to sign up. The cost for members is \$40.

The JATC is now offering Master's Exam Prep courses. Please reach out to the JATC for more information.

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

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

For 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.

We have a list of roughly 30 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.

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

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

**Delinquent Members:** At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Matthew Buikema, David Daum, Rob DeJong, Nathan Dyer, Dan Foster, Mark Holzinger, Kevin Koon, Michael Lundberg, and Kaleb McAree. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

**CASH FOR \$CRAP METAL**  
**Aluminum • Copper • Brass  
Nickel • Alloys • Carbide  
Radiators • Lead • Batteries**

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

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





# IBEW

## Local 131

*Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916*

IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on May 5, at 6 p.m. The next **Renew** meeting will be held on May 28, at RJ’s at 5 p.m.

**The Executive Board** meeting will be held May 19, at 5 p.m.

**Woman in the Trades** Meeting will be held May 20, at 6 p.m.

**The EWMC** meeting will be held May 28, at R.J.’s, 5 p.m.

**The Veterans Group** will be meeting on May 1, at 5 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.

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

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady. Champion has 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). Other work in the local has slowed down, the contractors and members are beginning to gear up for shutdowns at the papermills.

The **NOMINATIONS** for all officers of Local Union 131 will be held on **May 5, 2025**. Anyone desiring to be nominated must be present during the nominations or provide a written and signed statement that they will accept the nomination. Nominations for the following offices: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Business Manager / Financial Secretary / Delegate to international Convention, Executive Board (6 Members), and Examining Board (5 Members)

May’s meeting will also have contract allocations. We will allocate where we want to put the raise. According to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), we have a 5.5% raise beginning on June 2, 2025. This will equal \$3.35 total package increase. I need your input on how the money will be allocated. There will be a food truck from 4 to 6PM. Come have dinner, come to the meeting,

**With a heavy heart**, I am sad to report Brother Mark Szekely, a 45-year-old member, passed away on April 18, 2025, at the age of 73. Mark was a smart, hard-working journeyman. Mark loved fishing and being in the UP. Mark’s celebration of life will be held on May 2, 2025.

**Apprenticeship Applications:** We often get calls on how to apply to Kalamazoo Apprenticeship Program. To apply, go to [www.kalamazoojatic.com](http://www.kalamazoojatic.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 at (269) 366-0322 or [rlewis@ibew131.com](mailto:rlewis@ibew131.com).

**Kalamazoo IBEW 131 Golf Outing** is on May 17, at Pine View Golf Course, Three Rivers. For more information go to the Local 131 website. Local 131 Retirees play for free.

**Retirees’ Lunches** at the following locations:

May 21, Lunch at Judy’s Restaurant, 120 W Allegan St. Otsego, 49078 @ 11:00.

June 18, Lunch at Roxie’s Breakfast & Lunch, 4010 Gull Road, Kalamazoo 49048@11:00


July 16, Lunch at McGonigle’s Irish Pub, 3512 East Main St. Kalamazoo 49048

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.

**RETIREMENT:** NEBF and IBEW PBF applications take at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees

**(Continued next column)**



# IBEW

## Local 948

IBEW Local 948

**FLINT – Meetings.**

**Membership Meeting** – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be May 12th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings** - The Retirees’ next meeting will be May 6th, 2025 at 9:00am.

**Book Signing** - For any members looking to sign our books please refer to our hotline at (810) 767-3308 Ext #5 or report directly to the hall.

**Work Outlook** - Our work outlook is steady with a slow ramp possible leading to the upcoming months. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

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

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

**New Store Stock** - To all members interested, we have merchandise at our hall. Stock includes shirts, hoodies, hats, and other apparel. For any questions or purchases please contact Jenny Wallace.

**New Membership** - Welcome to our latest member, George Boisineau, Drew Mofield, Robert Rogers. 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 Thomas Mikulski. We are tremendously sorry for your loss and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

**OFFICIAL NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS. I.B.E.W. LOCAL UNION 948.** The nominations for all officers of Local Union 948, IBEW will be held on Monday, May 12, 2025, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the local meeting hall located at 1251 W. Hill Rd., Flint, MI. 48507. Anyone desiring to be nominated must be present during the nominations or provide a written and signed statement that they will accept the nomination prior to being nominated. No member may be a candidate for more than one office. Anyone nominated to more than one office must choose the office for which they will be a candidate. Nominations do not require a second to be accepted. Nominations will proceed in the order of offices as listed in the IBEW Constitution whose term of office shall be 3 years:

President  
Vice-President  
Recording Secretary  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Delegate to IBEW Convention  
Treasurer  
Executive Board (7 to be elected)  
Examining Board (5 to be elected)

**IBEW 131, con’t**

for you and your spouse(s) with your applications. Important numbers for you to write down: NEBF (301)-556-4300 \* IO Pension (202)-833-7000

**American Income Life - Accidental Death Benefit.** Recently you may have received a letter in the mail regarding the \$2500 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit available through a partnership with the IBEW and American Income Life. All active members are eligible for this benefit. The letter states that you need to return the enclosed yellow card to qualify and name your beneficiary. Please note you are **NOT REQUIRED** to return this card to name your beneficiary; the beneficiaries you have on file at the hall are sufficient. The \$2500 benefit would be paid to your named beneficiary, not to your estate.

American Income Life does offer other policies and services. If you are interested in having a representative contact you to discuss available options, you may return the yellow card in the paid envelope provided. If you have questions, please contact the hall at 269-382-1762.

**Three Months** or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Joshua Chopp, and Steve Sunlin.

*Morris Applebey  
Business Manager*

Additionally, nominations will be held for 2 delegates to the International Convention. The Business Manager shall, by virtue of the office, serve as a delegate to the International Convention as stated in Article VIII, Section 3 of our local union bylaws. This leaves 1 delegate position open to nominations for the at-large election. No member nominated for the office of Business Manager may be nominated for the at-large delegate position.

In order to be nominated, a member must have a minimum of 2 years of continuous good standing in Local Union 948. Good standing means that the member is current in their payment of dues and has been for the 2 years preceding the nominations.

No Apprentice shall be eligible to hold office in the Local Union.

As stated in Article XII, Section 7 of the Local Union bylaws; all members in good standing shall have a voice and a vote one year after being sworn into Local 948.

As per the IBEW Constitution and our Local Union Bylaws, an Election Judge and tellers have been appointed prior to nominations. Neither the Election Judge nor the Tellers may be a candidate for any office.

The election of officers shall take place between the hours of 8am and 8pm on Monday, June 2, 2025 at the local union meeting hall, at 1251 W. Hill Rd., Flint, MI. 48507. The ballots will be counted immediately following the closing of the polls and the results shall be announced immediately after all ballots are counted. A complete listing of the results shall be posted at the Union Hall by the close of business on the day following the election.

Absentee ballots shall be available to any member upon written request to the election judge. **Mail Request to Mathew Hart Election Judge PO Box 55 Grand Blanc, MI 48480.** Such requests will be accepted up to 5 days prior to the date of the election. Anyone receiving an absentee ballot will not be entitled to vote at the polls without first presenting the election judge with their unused ballot and the envelope used in the mailing. Absentee ballots received at the post office box after 4pm on June 2, 2025 will not be counted.

Candidates shall be entitled to an observer at the polling place, during the counting of the ballots and when the absentee ballots are picked up from the P.O. Box. Observers may not interfere with the orderly procedure of the election. There shall be no campaigning or electioneering at the polls nor within 50 feet from the entrance to the polling place. No postings except for instructions shall be permitted at the polling place.

In the event a runoff election is required, the same shall be held on Monday, June 23, 2025. The same rules shall apply to the runoff election as were applicable to the regular election. Members who requested an absentee ballot for the regular election will automatically receive the same for the run-off.

All officers shall be installed and begin their 3 year terms at the regular meeting of the local union on Monday, July 14, 2025.

Any member who believes a protest of the election is warranted is urged to contact the election judge as soon as possible before the election is certified.

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

*Fraternally yours,  
Mathew Hart, Election Judge,  
IBEW Local 948*

*“Rest is the sweet sauce of labor.”*  
–Plutarch (46 AD - 120 AD)

*“The rain fell alike upon the just and upon the unjust, and for nothing was there a why and a wherefore.”*  
–W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965)

*“Pick battles big enough to matter, small enough to win.”*  
–Jonathan Kozol



# IBEW

## Local 498

*“Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949”*

IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – **Meetings.**

**Regular E Board-** The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, May 12, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

**Regular Meeting** –The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, May 12, 2025.

**WAGE DISBURSMENT-** We will be deciding on what we want to do with our next negotiated wage disbursement at the May meeting. The \$2.94/hr total wage package increase will have to be decided on what or how we want it disbursed. So please bring any of your ideas to the May meeting to be voted on, the wage package increase is scheduled to take place on Jun 2, 2025.

**Entertainment Committee and Volunteers-** We are looking forward to some fun events this year. We need to get a group of volunteers together to brainstorm ideas and host events. Currently we have two events planned for this summer. The Cherry Festival Parade in July and the summer picnic in August. If you are interested in a fun way to get involved with your local, get in contact with Dylan O’Dwyer at 231-943-4980.

**Death Notice** – With great sadness retired Brother Donald Fashbaugh passed away on Thursday April 24, 2025. He has been a member for 57 year this April. Our condolences go out to all his family and friends who got the opportunity to know and work with him. He will be missed by all.

**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. 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](http://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. There are new Local 498 BBQ Tee shirts for resale. Available sizes include; Youth size \$21 and adult sizes \$25.

**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/](http://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.

**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](http://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#



# IBEW

## LOCAL 692

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW 692

BAY CITY – **Union Meeting.** The May monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Executive Board Meeting.** The May Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** Nominations for all elected officers within the Local will occur on Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please be involved and run for an office.

**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:

**Thiel Electric** is on site at Delta College performing a remodel of the K wing.

**Motor City Electric** has been awarded the new line at Bay City’s GM Powertrain site. They will continue to hire for this project.

**J. Ranck Electric** is continuing work at SK Siltron semi-conductor 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 begun their work on phase 2 at Bangor Schools.

**Countyline Power** has ongoing work at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility and Harrisville pump stations. Countyline Power has also been recently awarded a high voltage termination project at Michigan Sugar in Bay City.

**Clements Electric** has work at Mersen USA. They have also recently been awarded a maintenance contract at Mersen. Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, 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 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 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.

A larger solar project is also coming at Consumers Energy’s Karn site in Essexville. Multiple prevailing wage projects in Bay City have been bid or will be bid soon. Another Solar Project will begin late summer in the Gladwin area.

Not only do inside Wireman opportunities exist in IBEW Local 692, we need some wireman to man our work or market share will be lost. Open calls continue to exist on a weekly basis. We saw this instance play out in our past 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 ext. #1. **In Solidarity, Ryan Charney, Business Manager / Financial Secretary Organizer’s Report.** Visits to non-union job sites and outreach to unrepresented electricians continues. We continue to bring in new members each month.

After placing in the regional competition held at our training facility, two Bay Arenac ISD students were eligible to compete in the SkillsUSA state competition held this past weekend in Grand Rapids. Both students attended training sessions which included EMT fabrication, residential wiring, and low-voltage installs (doorbells). The kids arrived on time every day, ready to learn. The future of our industry is bright.

It’s too soon to tell if the recent historic investments into green energy infrastructure and American manufacturing will continue. If they do continue, they may move forward without the worker protections and union-friendly provisions that incentivize local labor, which have led to an abundance of work for IBEW members in Michigan and across the nation. Uncertainty about tariffs on construction materials may lead to canceled projects if agreements cannot be made. With OSHA and the NLRB temporarily unable to function as intended, it is important to be thankful we are protected under the terms of our Collective Bargaining Agreements. It is our duty as Union members to offer those same protections to the unrepresented workers in our industry.

If any current members know non-union electricians who may be interested in joining our Local, please do not hesitate to reach out. Immediate onboarding opportunities are currently available around the state, in addition to expected open calls at home and in nearby 557 throughout 2025. 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.

Brendon Baranek [bbaranek@ibew692.org](mailto:bbaranek@ibew692.org) 989.327.4131

**Union Dues. Effective Jan. 1, 2025, 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<sup>st</sup>, 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 retired Brother Gerald “Jerry” Burley, Card No. X80643, who passed away on April 17, 2025. Brother Burley was born on Jan. 30, 1933 (92 years old). He was initiated on July 23, 1951. Jerry resided in Bay City.

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

**Retirees Lunch.** The May retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at Beer and Brats located at 4562 Eastman Road in Midland.

**Fringe Benefits.** REMINDER: if you have recently been married, divorced, had children, etc. make sure your beneficiaries have been updated accordingly. Beneficiary forms can be obtained from the hall.

**REMINDER:** If you contact the Health Plan Office about going on short term disability, it is important for you to notify the Hall as well. A copy of your paperwork will need to be submitted to the Hall for your file. This will also freeze your position on the out of work list.

**Important links & numbers**

**Health Plan & Pension Fund**

855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

[www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)

NEBF/ NEAP: 301.556.4300

IO Pension: 202.833.7000

*“Once the game is over, the King and the pawn go back in the same box.”*  
– Italian Proverb



# IBEW LOCAL 58



IBEW Local 58

**DETROIT –The next General Membership meeting:** will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 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 Sub Pay 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 any questions, please contact Business Agent Paul Ledsworth at 313-802-4970.

**The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) offers 24/7 call, text and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. Please Call, Text, Chat! IBEW Local 58 Cares! Call 988!

**IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers-** are available for purchase, 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. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

**Attention future retirees! On Saturday, June 28, a Pre-Retirement Seminar will be held at the IBEW 58 Union Hall from 9AM to Noon at 1358 Abbott St. in Detroit.** Presenters will include Charles Mott, the Retirees Association President, E. Craig Young, Benefits Director and Michele Davis, Assistant Benefits Director of the IBEW 58/NECA Benefit Funds, and Jason Mack, Account Manager with Genex Services Inc. This Pre-Retirement Seminar is usually held every three years to discuss your Local (Electrical Workers' Insurance Fund, Inside Pension, Sound & Communication Pension and Annuity Fund), National (National Electrical Benefit Fund or NEBF) and International (IBEW Pension Benefit Fund or PBF) retirement benefits and Social Security retirement and disability benefits. If you are preparing to retire in the next few years, you may be interested in attending this educational seminar! No RSVP is required, just show up and prepare for a morning of retirement information to be presented to you.

**Local 58 Dues Department** – Please look at your Dues Receipt, if the paid through date shows 09-30-2024, you have lapsed and need to call the hall to set up an appointment for the Executive Board to be reinstated. If your dues receipt is 12-31-2024 you owe the \$30 reinstatement fee and will lapse at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter if your dues are not paid. Please note that Union quarterly dues are increasing starting the Third Quarter of 2025. The amount will be \$148.50 without PAC, and \$152.50 with PAC. Please make any adjustments to your Credit Union and Automatic payments when sending in your dues. 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 no. Thank you.

**Local 58 Senior Softball Team:** 55+ Senior Softball. Practices starting in April with games starting May 12, 2025. For more information, please contact Jim Miles at 586-933-3551.

**Local 58 Senior Golf:** The Senior golf outings are scheduled as follows:

May 15 – Dunham Hills Golf Club – Hartland, MI  
June 12 – Pontiac Country Club – Waterford, MI  
July 17 – Rouge Park Golf Course – Detroit, MI  
Sept. 11 – Rackham Golf Course – Huntington Woods, MI  
Oct. 2 – Dunham Hills Golf Club – Hartland, MI

Jeff Gregory will be running these golf outings from now on. They are open to all Local 58 members and guests. Anyone who would like to participate, please text or call Jeff at 248-240-7449 for reservations. It is important to get a head count for the golf course.

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, May 6. The winners of the John Mayernik Memorial Scholarship this year are Jordan Romanowski and

Amanda Gallagher. There was a tie so (2) apprentices received an award of \$2000.00 this year to use at their discretion.

Our next event is the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Walleye Tournament on the Detroit River on Saturday, May 3. Lines in at 7 am and back to the Union Hall between 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm for weigh in. Registration is open. If interested, contact Michael Bellhorn at 586-612-5964. All Trades, family & friends are welcome. Prizes will be awarded as well as Big Fish & Battle of the Trades. Fish fry and food available starting at 3 pm at Local 58 Union Hall.

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Open will be on Friday June 6, 2025

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 12 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 12 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, May 19 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement.

We are moving forward with our Father's Day Basket Raffle. Tickets will be available soon and we will need help selling tickets at the next membership meeting. Several of the other Sixth District Chapters have events happening this summer and we will be trying to support some of their endeavors.

Both the EWMC and the Women's Committee were honored to present Sister Phyllis Turner with gifts at the Retiree Pin Party as a token of our appreciation for her being the first female accepted in the Local 58 apprenticeship program. She received her pin for 50 years of service.

Please bring a greeting card (get well/encouragement/thinking of you) to the May meeting so that we can deliver them to Brother Arthur Edge as he continues on his road to recovery.

Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, May 19, 2025, 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, May 22 at 5:30p.m. at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087). Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

**The Political Action Committee:** PAC meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the Hall at 5:30 pm. The city of Wyandotte has an election on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The PAC Committee has endorsed Kelly Stec and Adriana Cerulla for City Council. If you have questions or concerns or would like to attend a PAC meeting, you can reach out to our registrars at registrar1@ibew58.org.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** There is no board meeting or luncheon for the month of May. The next board meeting will be Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 10 a.m. in the main conference room at the local union hall.

The Oral History Project continues, if you haven't been interviewed for this collection,

please contact the hall at 313 963-2130 or contact Ray Kujawski at 248 496-1916. If you have a partner you would like to do a joint interview with, that can happen also. Make the call today.

The September Bus Trip is heading to Washington, D.C. this fall. The trip takes place Sept. 12-16. 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 6:00 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

**Electrical Workers Credit Union** - Our website is <http://WWW.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060. 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.

**Be sure to keep the Union Hall** updated with any changes are to your phone number, address, email and beneficiaries.

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Van Mayrand, James Robinette, James Romines, and Daniel Springer.

**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.

**LaDonna Duda**, Mother to Jason Duda, Journeyman Inside Wireman; **Daniel McCloskey**, Pension member, 38 year IBEW membership; Father to Harry McCloskey, Inside Wireman Apprentice; Brother to Patrick J. McCloskey, JIW and Senior Vice President of Motor City Electric Co; Uncle to Patrick L. McCloskey, JIW and Brennan Bruyneel, Inside Wireman Apprentice; **Lee Schick**, Pension member, 56 year IBEW membership; and **James Schrot**, Pension member, 73 year IBEW membership.

*"Progress is a nice word. But change is its motivator and change has its enemies."*

–Robert F. Kennedy (1925 - 1968)

*"Men are born with two eyes, but only one tongue, in order that they should see twice as much as they say."*

–Charles Caleb Colton (1780 - 1832)

*"Never discourage anyone... who continually makes progress, no matter how slow."*

–Plato (427 BC - 347 BC)



IBEW LOCAL 906

UPPER PENINSULA—MEETINGS

MARQUETTE UNIT—First

Tuesday 7:00 pm EST

IRON MOUNTAIN UNIT—

Second Tuesday 7:00 pm CST

ESCANABA UNIT—Sec-

ond Wednesday 7:00 pm EST

Brothers and Sisters, Happy Spring! For the month of May Local 906 will have a general membership meeting in Marquette on Saturday, May 3 at 1:00 pm at the masonic center, there will be no unit meetings for the month of May. New short and long sleeve shirts are at the hall and available for pick up at the hall or delivered to a union meeting. Payment can be done in person, over the phone, or on the app/website.

The work outlook is looking very strong for the summer of 2025 with renegade solar in Rock, MI needing 60 journey workers, along with other various projects across the Upper Peninsula. Currently we have a 2 man call for Systems Control addition for MJ Electric, a two-man short call for Northern Power on Mackinac Island, a one-man call for Code Electric in Houghton, MI, and a one-man call for Soucy Electric in the Marquette area. Local 906 will be hosting the Michigan State Conference on Mackinac Island June 11-13. Reminder that there is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at the Vierling Restaurant in Marquette at 11:00 am EST.

For those of you who have not heard yet, we have a new website and mobile app. Please reference those new tools for any new announcements and updates within the local. The website can be found at [ibew906.org](http://ibew906.org) and the app can be found under IBEW 906. Dues payments can also be made through the app and website. If you have any questions or are having trouble with the app please call the hall.

There is a RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next Generation Electrical Workers) zoom meeting held the first Thursday of every month at 8:00 pm est. To get the zoom link please reference the calendar section of the app or website.

*"It is not wealth one asks for, but just enough to preserve one's dignity, to work unhampered, to be generous, frank and independent."*

–W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965)

*"It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that they are difficult."*

–Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)

*"An economist is a man who states the obvious in terms of the incomprehensible."*

–Alfred A. Knopf

*"What you don't see with your eyes, don't invent with your mouth."*

–Jewish Proverb

May 2, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7



# IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252

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

**TRAINING CLASSES 2025: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM**  
OHS A 30- (Tuesdays 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.

**TRUCK FOR SALE:** The Training Center is accepting bids starting at \$16,000 for the white 2018 Dodge Ram Big Horn Crew Cab with a 5' 7" bed and approx. 113k miles. Please mail your sealed bids to P.O. Box 152, Chelsea, MI 48118 in care of Chris Parks by May 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to view the truck, contact the Training Center at (734) 475-1180.

**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! Prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after April 15. 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](http://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.

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

**RETIRES BREAKFAST:** The 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.

**UNION 4 LIFE CHARITY GOLF OUTING:** The 2025 Union 4 Life Charity Golf Outing will be on Saturday, Aug. 23 at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118. Registration at 7:30 a.m., tee off at 8:30 a.m. All proceeds benefit the University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center's Breast Cancer Research Fund. This outing is open to the public. Registration is \$125/ player, \$500/ team and includes green fees, cart, lunch, dinner, and two drink tickets. The tournament will be played in scramble with 4-person teams. To register, visit [www.union4lifecharity.com](http://www.union4lifecharity.com) or contact Hope Salyer, (734) 475-1180.

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

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

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

**AFLAC INSURANCE:** Contact Representative Lisa Enerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone: (517) 306-0144.

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

**NOTICE TO RETIREES: If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the hall.**

**CONDOLENCES:** The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of John "Frank" Miskovic, who passed away on April 22, 2025.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 03/2025, 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 second quarter 2025. Dues for "BA" members are \$70.80 by cash or check, or \$72.92 by credit card for second quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (April through June) are due now. **Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Monday, June 30, 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.



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Local 7  
Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers 7  
LANSING – NOTICE. This Newspaper Article shall serve as Official Notice of ALL meetings for Local 7!  
The next Statewide Meeting will be June 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.  
\*Zone 1 May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
\*Zone 2 May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
\*Zone 3 May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)  
\*Zone 3 June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)  
\*Zone 4 May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
\*Zone 5 June 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Please register on our website at [www.sheetmetal7.org](http://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](http://www.labelitscanitreport.com) and download the official app by texting “SMART” to 90975.

**ZONE 1 Info.** Work in the Zone 1 area continues to be busy and will remain this way through the end of the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

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

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

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

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

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 remains the same with a few guys off, with school work picking up soon. The next scheduled Zone 2 meeting is May 20th, 6:00pm at VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores, MI. If there are any retirees that would like to start a retirees meeting please contact me. Please keep me informed of any address or phone number changes and dues are always due prior to the first of the month. Don't forget about the Local 7 picnic July 19th and the Local 7 Golf outing September 6th.

–**Work Safe and Thank You, Mike Adams**  
**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Next Zone 3 meeting is May 14th at the Freeland Hall.

This year's Local 7 picnic will be at Timber Ridge in Traverse City on July 19th, if you're interested in booking camp sites call (231)947-2770.

Please make sure to call the Lansing office (517)882-4064 if you have changed your address or phone number. Please make sure your dues are current they are due before the first of the month.

Retiree meeting is June 24th at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Rd.

–**In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**  
**Zone 3 Info: (Traverse City)** Our next regular meeting will be June 18th at the Mill Pond center at 6pm. This year's picnic will be on July 19<sup>th</sup> at Timber Ridge. Call (231) 947-2770 for camping reservations and make sure to tell them you are from Local # 7. Work is slow in our area but will be a very busy summer. Your beneficiary designation card for SASMI needs to be updated, please go to the SASMI website and update it and your current address and email. Please call me if you know of anyone interested in our trade or if you get laid off and need help with unemployment. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** Work in Zone 4 continues to stay strong with a good outlook for summer. I would like to congratulate this year's two fourth year graduating classes on a job well done! Don't forget forms have been sent out regarding the summer picnic this year in Traverse City contact the Lansing office with any questions. Don't forget to sign up for upgrade classes when you receive notice they fill up fast. I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer. **Thanks your brother, Scott Brotherton,**

**ZONE 5 Info** Work in the U.P. remains steady and should stay that way through the rest of the year. 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 upconstruction.org. The next retiree breakfast will be on May 14th at 10am at A&M Cafe in Skandia. **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

“Give to every other human being every right that you claim for yourself.”

–Robert Ingersoll (1833 - 1899)

“Don't try to solve serious matters in the middle of the night.”

–Philip K. Dick (1928 - 1982),



**CAULKING A SEAM on the running track at the Berston Fieldhouse project in Flint is Rod Poley of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. He's employed by HMC Mason Contractors.**



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. The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **May 14, 2025, at 6:00 pm.** Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Due to a scheduling conflict, the E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on **May 27, 2025**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. The regular E-Board/Stewards meeting schedule will resume in May

**RETIREEES NOTICE:** The next Retiree Luncheon will be held on 6/5/25 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It's always nice catching up and staying connected. Please contact the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the “Contact Us” page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

**JIMMY JOHN'S OUTING:** Join us for a fun-filled evening at Jimmy John's Field! Enjoy a night out with your fellow Local 292 members and their families. Friday, June 6, 2025, at 7:00 pm. Includes free buffet & soft drinks. Cash bar is available. Children's play area, Group photo, kids can run the bases after the game, and a free Fireworks show at the end of the game. Reserve your spot by contacting your Shop Steward or call the Union Hall to sign up. Spots are still available!

**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](http://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.

**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](http://www.sheetmetal292.com); Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292.

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

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

**SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS:** To access your MUST account, please go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) or access it through the “links” tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com). Remember that your Username is your full S.S. number and your Password is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

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

**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 [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), 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 questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

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

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

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on . May 3<sup>rd</sup>, May 10<sup>th</sup>, May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 14<sup>th</sup>, & June 21<sup>st</sup>.

These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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

(Continued next column)



Local 80  
Sheet Metal Workers

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 80**  
SOUTHFIELD – This paper serves as official notice for all meetings and elections.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. We will be raffling off Tigers tickets at this meeting!

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** Next executive board meeting is scheduled for May 20, 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: 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:** 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:** Chris Sanchez, Scottie Doyle, Everett Fields, Joseph Guinn, Tim Willis, Brandon Houle, Thomas Eckerle, Ruth Vansteel, Spencer Gall and Paul Gareau.

**GOLF OUTING: Tickets are SOLD OUT!** Please contact the hall if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

To apply:  
Complete the SUB application at the hall.  
Provide a pay stub for the week.  
The hall will submit your information to the fund office.  
Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.  
**MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** If you're facing challenges in your family, relationships, or dealing with stress, emotional difficulties, grief, or substance use, please reach out to our Assistance Program **Ulliance** at 1-800-448-8326 or visit [www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com). Mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when you call.

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

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Golf Outing – July 12**  
**Picnic- August 9**

Local 292 cont'd

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.





## Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47

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

**LANSING – The next Regular Meeting will be held on Friday, May 9, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.,** and will be held at the JATC Training Center, 16475 Ingersoll, Lansing. **This is a Mandatory Meeting for ALL Apprentices.**

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 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic being held on Saturday, June 14, 2025. 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. This is also a reminder, the Picnic is considered a Mandatory Meeting for All Apprentices.

Our Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, July 19 and the cost is \$85/person. If you are interested in Golfing with us this year please call in with the name of your team along with Chicken or Steak for each person. Do not wait until the last minute to call in your team and the spots will fill in fast!

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

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

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

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

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

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

Members having questions regarding Pension and Welfare Fund please contact TIC International at the numbers below or log onto their Website: [www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org](http://www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org).

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC. **(Continued next column)**



## Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

### Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

**SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, May 8, at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield. This is SPECIAL CALLED for allocations. *A This meeting is MANDATORY for all Apprentices.*

**WEEKLY HUMOR: Question** - What do you call a room full of cynical plumbers? **Answer-** A "Skeptic Tank."

**APPRENTICE APPLICATIONS:** We are entering the next phase of the hiring process for our Fall 2025 class of new apprentices. May 16, 2025 is the last day that applications for the Fall 2025 class will be accepted. Apprentice information and applications can be found on our website: [heatfrostinsulators.org](http://heatfrostinsulators.org).

**BYLAW CHANGE:** At the May 8 membership meeting, a third and final reading of the amendment to our Constitution and Bylaws will be voted on. The proposed change is as follows:

**Business Manager:** When a Business Manager is elected, the previous Business Manager's phone and phone number will be given to the newly elected Business Manager.

**Organizer:** When a new Organizer is appointed, the previous Organizer's phone and phone number will be given to the newly elected Organizer.

**ANNUAL PICNIC:** Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Picnic will take place on Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025. The festivities will take place at Willow Metropark, 23200 South Huron Road New Boston, Michigan.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Save the date for the Annual Local 25 Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025. The event will take place at Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia.

**S.U.B. FUND:** The Annual S.U.B. Fund Summary Report will be mailed out in the coming weeks. If you do not receive your copy, please contact the Union Hall to ensure your address is up-to-date. As a reminder, if you are referred a job by the Union at any time while receiving supplemental unemployment benefits and you refuse the job or the business managers call, your benefits will immediately be suspended and no further benefits will be payable to you for the particular layoff that gave rise to your eligibility for benefits.

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

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

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:** 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.

## Local 47 cont'd

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736) Applications are open for the Apprenticeship Program. Call the Union Office.

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



## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers Local 25

**NOVI – The May Union Meeting will be Monday May 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm** and will be in person and zoom. All Union Halls will be open for in-person and Zoom will also be available.

We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS** for alerts & emails. You can download our APP for android on google play or for iPhone at the APP store just search "Iron Workers Local 25" Martinez web shop. **Or** sign up via our website ([www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)).

The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm. All are welcome.

**A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> 2025 from 8:00 am to 12 noon.** If you wish to book an appointment or just have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494.

June vacation check schedule:

The cut off for any early checks before the freeze period takes place is May 7, 2025 and this will be the last early check processing before the semi-annual disbursement for June 7<sup>th</sup> 2025.

The last day to call to have your June vacation check pulled is Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at **12:00 pm (Noon).**

Pulled checks will be available at the Novi Hall Thursday June 5<sup>th</sup>, by 2:00 pm.

All other checks will be mailed to you by the end of business day on Tuesday June 3<sup>rd</sup>

**All members that a receive ACH deposits, your vacation check will be transferred on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.**

All Vacation checks will be dated Saturday June 7, 2025.

**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.

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

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

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

**New SavRx Prescription Service as of 4/1/2025; Customer Service 888-662-4766 open 24/7 every day 365.** To save you more money on your name brand prescriptions please check for manufacturer coupons on your name-brand prescription drugs or ask for generic whenever possible. It will save you and the "Fund" real dollars!

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

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

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

**HRA/Benny Card Audit is continuously under way via US Mail – please respond if you have been contacted. You need to save your receipts for three (3) years.**

*Mark your Calendar: The 2025 Iron Worker Picnic will be held on Saturday June 21, 2025 at the Local 25 Training Center, Wixom Michigan. More to come as we get closer!*

**Apprentices:** located un-

der the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & "Welding Test Certifications" where you can electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests. To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to our website ([ironworkers25.org](http://ironworkers25.org)) to view the 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](http://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](http://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 **(M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).**

**The Iron Workers' Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees' Club:** The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday May 6, 2025 at 8:00 am in Novi. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday May 20, 2025 at 10:00 am. All are welcome.

**The West Michigan Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in July 17, 2025; at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 12:00 pm. All are Welcome.

**The Downriver Chapter's** next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9:00 am on July 18, 2025 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

**Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan:** [www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/](http://www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/) Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state. BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041, Blue Care Network 800-482-5982 for Substance-use disorder.

**FindTreatment.gov** where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. **MentalHealth.gov** provides information & programs about mental health. **Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis.** Call or text 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. You can also Chat at [988lifeline.org/chat](http://988lifeline.org/chat) (English & Spanish). Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential. **Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT:** <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text **HOME** to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

**In Memory:** Ted Brumbaugh memorial will be held on Saturday May 17, 2025 from 1-5pm at VFV POST 701; Address: 123 N Rosemary St. Lansing MI 48917. Lifetime Ironworker Harold Gumtow #588725 passed away on April 20, 2025 at the age of 95. He was a 68-year member of Local 25, survived by his wife Betty and his son Lifetime IW Paul Gumtow #949524. **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 (April 28, 2025 11:00 am E.S.T.).

*"Rudeness is the weak man's imitation of strength."*  
–Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)



## Local 149 Roofers & 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., May 6, 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., May 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

**Detroit Wage Allocation:** During the May 6, 2025, Detroit membership meeting, proposals will be taken to determine how to allocate this year's \$2.50 raise.

**Nominations of Officers.**

Nominations for the following officers and trustees:

- (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

Please note this meeting is scheduled for the Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216, 7:00pm All elected Officers and Trustee of this Union shall serve for a period of Three (3) years, Pension and Insurance Trustees shall serve for a period of four (4) years.

**Notice of Election – Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee:** The election result for the 2025 Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee will be as follows: Robert Coats, Jesse Wangler, and Robert "Buck" Parham

**Out-Of-Work:** When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Detroit Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (313) 961-6093 ext. 0 to be put on the out of work list. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work list.

**Outdoor Life:** If you have any hunting and fishing pictures that you would like to see in the *Journeyman Roofing & Waterproofing magazine*, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0, for additional information.

**Clearance Cards:** Are you scheduled to go out of town for work in another Local's territory? Clearance cards are needed when

you are sent out of town to work. Get a clearance card from the Hall and call the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.

**Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit:** Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas. To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement.

The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall. Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., and name of Financial Institution.

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

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

**Mid-Michigan Training Center Information.**

The next term for all Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows:

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

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

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 4/28/2025, 2:00pm

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

## SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 35 YEARS BIESKE & ASSOCIATES

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 55 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.


Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. They maintains offices in Sterling Heights, Livonia, Southgate and Novi. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.



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

UA Local 190  
ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, May 12 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.

**PAY UNION DUES ONLINE:** Members can now pay your union dues online. <https://mtp.ua190.org/mtpweb> Username will be your full social security no., temporary password is the last 4 digits of your social security number. There is a 3% fee charged.

**MICHIGAN GAS JOURNEYMAN:** Requalification testing for Consumer Energy and Semco Energy will start **Monday, June 2 and end Friday, June 13.** Testing will be held at our training center. Please contact Ralph Booth 734-369-1432 for more information and to schedule your testing date.

**51st ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:** Our annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, July 26 at *Whitmore Lake Golf Links*. Mark your calendar for this special event. Tickets are available to purchase at the union hall. Check or cash payments only, no credit card payments. If you have questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

**OHIO GAS MEMBERS – WAGE ALLOCATION:** A “Special Called Meeting” for the Ohio Gas Distribution Wage Allocation effective June 1, has been scheduled for Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Courtyard by Marriott – Columbus West/Hillard 2350 Westbelt Dr. Columbus, OH 43228

**UNION HALL CLOSING:** Our office will be closed at Noon on Friday, May 23 and all-day Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Local 190 Scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than June 27, please mail or return to the union hall. The UA scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution, this application must be postmarked no later than June 12 and mailed to the UA Office in Annapolis, MD.

**ALL MEMBERS WHO GET LAID OFF OR REPORT BACK TO WORK, please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work.**

NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under “members only” and fill out a “back to work” form or “laid off” form.

**MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN:** If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades, please contact Kristyn at out Training Center to get information on a UA21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1.

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN REGISTERING FOR THE FUSING CLASS,** please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432.

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

**MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL:** Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: [www.michigan.gov/bce](http://www.michigan.gov/bce). 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”

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

**INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:** **ANNUAL PHYSICALS 2025:** Annual physicals 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](mailto:bmaus@ua190.org). This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org

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

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. Closed for lunch from noon to 1pm. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines.

**Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

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

**Available Journeyman classes:**

**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](http://ua190.org). Schedule – Monday May 5, 2025.** The initial STAR Certification fee is \$150, STAR Recertification fee is \$100 please contact Kristyn to schedule with payment.

**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) 2025 Schedule - Mondays – July 21, and Sept. 29, 2025. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs):** Register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) 2025 Schedule – Mondays – July 28, and Oct. 6, 2025. 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.**

**Welding Lab:** 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 (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The second course starts **Sept 9, 2025.** 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](http://ua190.org)

**ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs):** ASSE PRICE INCREASE ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$95 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 (Continued next column)



**SPRINKLER FITTERS**  
**704**  
**DETROIT**

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

FARMINGTON – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday May 14, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Jason May (Merrill Lynch):** 248-540-2091 for D.C. Fund Investment questions.

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

Mark your calendars, the Sprinklerfitters Local 704 Golf Outing will be held August 2. We will again be at The Lakes of Taylor Golf Course. More information to follow.

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

## Local 190, con’t

the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://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:** The second course starts **Sept. 2.** Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs):** This is a two-day course. **2025 Schedule:** Second course 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](http://ua190.org)

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

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

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

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

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

“You have not converted a man because you have silenced him.”

–John Viscount Morley (1838-1923)



**Local 671**  
**Plumbers & Pipe Fitters**

UA Local 671

MONROE – The Local 671 Membership Meetings have now been moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. The **next meeting will be held on May 15, 2025 at 7pm.**

The Executive Board meeting will also be held on May 15. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

**There will be a Special Order of Business at the May 15 Union Meeting for the Nominations for the Election of Officers.** Those members who wish to run must be a Journeyman and has been in good standing with the United Association for a period of at least 2 years to be eligible to run for office.

If you are interested in running for an office, please make sure you are eligible prior to the meeting. Please refer to The UA Constitution sec. 121 and 124 on the requirements to nominate and run for office in the Local Union.

**Notice:** If you wish to run for office, it is strongly recommended that you submit a Letter of Acceptance of Nomination prior to the nomination meeting if there is even a remote chance you may not be present. **The Election of Officers will be held on June 19.**

**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.

**Apprenticeship:** I would like to welcome a new member to our team. Kristina Henry came to us from Monroe Community College and will be our new JATC admin and assistant to Justin McManaway. If you get a chance, please take the time to welcome Kristina to our Local 671 family. We are very lucky to have her.

**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, discounted tickets will be available for \$25.00 each. PLEASE RSVP SO WE CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY WITH THE CATERER.

**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:** are now **Thursday nights** from 6-10pm. 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. **Effective immediately, all UA weld test sessions will be held on the first Thursday of each month.** The next UA Weld Test Session will be held on **Thursday, May 1.**

**Wachs Pipe Machining Class:** We will be holding another Level 1 Pipe Machining Class on May 24 at 7:30 a.m. We can also hold a Level II Advanced Training session if there is enough interest. Please contact Justin if you would like to attend either class.

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

**In Closing:** This will be our last article prior to the Local 671 Nomination for Election of Officers on May 15. We are excited that we are becoming a younger Local Union, and we would like to see some younger members running for office. If you have any questions on the duties of a particular office, ask a current officer, or feel free to contact the Hall.

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



**UA LOCAL 85**  
**SAGINAW, MI**  
**Local 85**

UA Local 85

SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, May 21, 2025,** at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 PM.

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Grayling Eagles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please check the [ualocal85.org](http://ualocal85.org) or our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out [www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org). Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

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

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

**GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!**

**SUB Fund: Print Unemployment Payment History** located underneath the Certification Tab when logged into your MiWAM account. Deadline for submittals is Noon on Thursday in order to receive a check that Friday. Checks will be mailed out on Friday. No in-person pickups allowed. If a holiday falls on a Friday, checks will be issued on Thursday and deadline will be moved up to Wednesday by noon.

**Where to submit documents:** Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: [SUB@ualocal85.org](mailto:SUB@ualocal85.org)

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

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

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

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

**Beneficiary Cards:** Please call the Union Hall for any change. (Continued next column)



**Local 357**  
**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service**

UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO – **UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 13** 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 REMINDERS:** Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is accepted at the Union Hall for any payments. You also have the option to pay your union dues through the Local 357 website @ [www.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com). Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site.... so, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00... you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or calling Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.

**RETIREE MEETING:** Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9:00 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 85, con’t

es in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261.

**Website Address:** Please visit [www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org).

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

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** The next retirees’ luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

**Condolences:** Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Daniel Birgy who passed away on March 19, 2025.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Frederick Schoenberg who passed away on April 2, 2025.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Eugene Hasse who passed away on April 5, 2025.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Paul Srodes who passed away on April 5, 2025.

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

“I don’t mind what Congress does, as long as they don’t do it in the streets and frighten the horses.”

Victor Hugo (1802 - 1885)  
“Nobody speaks the truth when there’s something they must have.”

–Elizabeth Bowen (1899 - 1973)

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## Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,  
Refrigeration &  
Air Conditioning Service

### UA Local 636

**DETROIT – Our next regular Union meeting is May 20, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075. A Special Called Meetings will be held 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 VSP member services 800-877-7195 or Member Portal [www.memberportal.com](http://www.memberportal.com) for dental and vision benefits.

**The Second Annual Local 636 Scholarship Golf Outing** will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Mystic Creek Golf Course, Milford MI. To reserve a foursome please contact Jake Regits 248-939-6636 or Dan Gurlley 248-939-5636. All proceeds benefit the Detroit Pipefitters Benevolent Fund.

**Softball players**, the 636-softball league starts on April 14 and every following Monday at 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm until June. The games are at Canton Sports Arena 46555 Michigan Ave., in Canton. Give Jeff Selpa a call if you want to join the team. (269)598-6942

**CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held May 15, 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 Gary Bailey April 13, 2025; Lifetime Member Michael Farabaugh April 12, 2025; 44 year Member Richard “Rick” Westerman April 5, 2025; Lifetime Member Frederick “Fritz” Komander March 25, 2025; May they rest in peace.

**Our deepest condolences** to Daryl & Bryan Cox on the passing of their Mother Sandy Cox ; to Nikki Labute on the passing of her sister.

**Get Well Wishes to;** Larry Cirillo, Ed & Noreen Nys, Rashad Dooley, Don Bagozzi, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Ramy Abubaker, Joshua Allen, Alex Block, Michael Downey, Brian Dyer, Michael Ferrante, Jamey Guthrie, Tanya Holland, Jason Howe, Ernest Justice, Earl Marshall Jr., Debra Reynolds, Anthony Robinson, Brian Robinson, Branden Rodzik, Ryan Seitz, Mark Solomon, Buddy Woods, Bryan Durand, Larry Cirillo, Brian Mierendorf, Robert Filar.

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, John Taylor, Thomas Bitler. **February 2025;** Robert W Miller, John Pesci. **March 2025;** Michael Scriver.

**DUES – 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326.

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

**S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE** for SUBPAY. Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing [subpay@pipefitters636.org](mailto: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. Call **888-646-8920**.

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

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan.** 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](http://www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys). Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmddyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the “My Dashboard” page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

### Considering Retirement?

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

**Are you “Work Ready”?** Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at [mustbsafe.org](http://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.**

**Training Center News.** The JATC for the Pipefitters, Steamfitters, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Service Local Union #636 of the United Association will be accepting applications for our Construction Apprenticeship (Continued next column)



## Local 370

### UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 7:00pm** and is designated **Special Called Meeting** for the purpose of **Nominations for Officers, Trustees and Delegates.**

The following positions are up for nominations  
(1) Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer  
(1) President  
(1) Vice President  
(1) Recording Secretary  
(1) Inner Guard  
(4) Executive Board  
(2) Pension/Insurance Trustee  
(3) Finance Committee  
(3) Sub/Sick Trustee  
(3) Building Fund Committee  
(2) Scholarship Trustees  
(6) FMR Fund Committee  
(4) Examining Board  
(6) 2026 UA National Convention Delegate

**Per section 121 of the U.A. Constitution:** No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the united association and the local union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union.

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

**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is now available to all members and retirees as of March 1st. 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](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326.

**Scholarship Applications** for the 2025-2026 school year are now available on our website at [ualocal370.org](http://ualocal370.org). The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 hall.

Applications are due by the end of May

**Retiree Breakfast** will be on Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

**Golf Outing** Saturday, July

## Local 636, con’t

beginning June 2nd, 2025 through June 20th, 2025 **ON-LINE ONLY!**

Please visit our website at [www.pipefitters636tc.org](http://www.pipefitters636tc.org) – **Qualifications necessary for an applicant to be considered are:**

1. Must be 18 or older.
2. Complete the application on our website at [www.pipefitters636tc.org](http://www.pipefitters636tc.org). At which time you must:
  - a. **Provide a valid driver’s license.**
  - b. Provide a H.S diploma or high school equivalency (GED) certificate or transcripts.
  - c. There is a \$100.00 testing fee that will be collected when submitting your application online.
3. You MUST schedule a test at this time for your application to be accepted.
4. This is a drug free Program. An individual tentatively selected for entrance into the Program after testing and interview will be required to submit to a drug test, which will include testing for marijuana.

**The Pipefitting Industry Training Center is located at 636 Executive Drive in Troy, MI between John R. and Dequindre north of E. 14 mile Road. PH : 248-585-0636.** No resumes please. For more information please contact our web site at: [www.pipefitters636tc.org](http://www.pipefitters636tc.org).

## Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

19<sup>th</sup> at Flushing Valley. 8am registration. 9am shotgun.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Labor Day Parade** Come be a part of this Family Fun Event and help support not only our union but all unions in Genesee Co. Monday Sept. 1. **Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**

**STAR Prep** May 3, 4, 5, 11 & 12, 5pm-7pm

**First Aid & CPR** Sept. 17, 2025 at 4:30pm

All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 Ext 15 or at [training@ualocal370.org](mailto: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, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 4:00pm  
FMR Committee – Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 4:00pm  
PAC committee – Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:00pm  
Executive Board – Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 5:00pm  
Building Committee – Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:00pm  
Finance Committee – Tuesday, May 13<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 work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form

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

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

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

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

**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: [ualocal370.org](http://ualocal370.org).**

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

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



## Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

### UA Local 111

UPPER PENINSULA – **This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.**

**ATTENTION:** The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

**In Memoriam:** We extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Brother Gerald “Mike” Kanerva, who passed away on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### Training News:

A **weld test** is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd.

**Instrument Tech Level I** will take place Monday June 2<sup>nd</sup>- Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>.

To be added to the notification list or to register, contact Training Coordinator John Antoncew.

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; Extension #7 and Job Line; Extension #8.

**MRA FUND - 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 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 linked to resources.

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

**Reminder 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](http://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](http://Upconstruction.org) and go to the **MSHA calendar** to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also.



## Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 333

### UA Local 333

LANSING – May’s union meeting will be held Wednesday, May 21, at 6:30 pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911.

June’s union meeting will be held Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911.

Scholarship applications for the coming 2025-2026 year are now available. If someone you know needs an application, please call Joni at 517-784-1106, ext.# 4 or email [her,jthomas@local333.com](mailto:her,jthomas@local333.com) or by stopping in her office.

### WELD CLASSES

Lansing:

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)

Jackson:

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:

Monday’s & Thursday’s 4:30 – 8:30 pm (10 weeks)

### Weld classes end June 12.

May 5: Med Gas recertification class, please call Diana at the Training Center or sign up online [ua333.org](http://ua333.org) class starts at 5pm.

Backflow class, new certification class will be in September, the date will be announced

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

**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. Sign up on the website or call the Lansing Training Center.

**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.

**Retirees’ Breakfast in Jackson:** Retirees meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. **PLEASE NOTE:** The restaurant is at the west end of the Jackson Crossing Shopping Center.

*“The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and their families. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations 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](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326 or call your respective agent or Dustin at the Union Hall.*

Our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Darlene William, the wife of retired Battle Creek member William A. Williams and the father of Battle Creek member Mike Williams who passed away April 18, 2025. We are thinking of you and your family as you celebrate the life of your loved one.”

**Retiree’s Golf Outing**, Wednesday, June 11, Binder Park Golf Course 7255 B Dr. S., Battle Creek, MI. 49014. Shotgun 9am, 18 holes of golf and cart. \$44. You can sign up at all three regions. Come join in on all the fun. All teams must be registered by May 30, 2025. If you have questions please call Joseph Michilizzi, (269)719-7555. Spread the word.

**BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING**  
**MIDDLETON**  
Real Estate Training Inc.  
901 Tower Drive, Suite 120  
Troy, MI 48068  
[www.middletontraining.com](http://www.middletontraining.com)  
**248-885-8311**





**Local 174**  
**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters**  
**& Service Trades**

**UA Local 174**  
**COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: JUNE MEETING DATE CHANGE – SPECIAL CALL MEETING.**

The June membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 7 pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O’Malley Dr in Coopersville. The meeting was moved to allow the officers to attend the Michigan Pipe Trades Convention. This is also a special-call meeting for purposes of contract discussion or a potential vote and allocation. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** The retiree breakfast will also be moved to **Thursday, June 12, 2025** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**Office Closed:** The office will be closed Monday May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

**Wild Game Dinner:** Local 174 would like to thank everyone who helped with this year’s Wild Game Dinner. Special thanks to Wes Dahl, Bob Derby, David Derby, and Johnny Ortiz. With everyone’s efforts it made this event a success

**Operation United:** Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this year’s United Way event a success. Another great year in the books helping veterans and military families with their yardwork, landscaping, and home repairs; it was greatly appreciated!

**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 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.

**Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA):** Beginning on March 1, 2025 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, 2025 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.

**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:** I sat through the New Contractor seminar last week, it’s a 2-day class educating members on how to become a signatory contractor. It was very informative; as an organizer I speak to the non-union workers about opportunity, even starting their own business, so the class was very much welcomed. When speaking to the non-union worker at the job sites, bring up the conversation about how we don’t pay for health insurance, we have a defined pension along with the 401k, and OPPORTUNITY!

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

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

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

**FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS)**

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

**Health Insurance Contact Info:**

**Active and NON-Medicare Retirees**

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

**Medicare Retirees**  
Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

**Current Health Insurance Premiums:**

Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33  
Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10  
Medicare Single \$123.63  
Medicare Couple \$247.26  
Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13  
Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

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

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

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

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

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

**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:**

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month), from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes

(Continued next column)



## Plumbers Local 98

**Plumbers Local 98**

**DETROIT – Membership of**

**Plumbers Local 98. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:** There will be a special order of business starting at 7:00pm Thursday, May 8, 2025 immediately before our regular monthly meeting. At this meeting we will discuss and vote on allocations. Allocations may include wages, fringes, dues etc.

Our regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Retiree Luncheon meeting will be held at the hall on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 from 12:00-2:00pm.

Congratulations go out to Local 98’s membership on ratifying a new four-year contract. Wage increases go into effect on April 28, 2025. Any questions or issues call your officers.

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 May 1, 2025.

**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 stop by the hall to pick up or call to have it mailed. Members who are on auto deduction or paid in full are eligible for the gift.

**Save the Dates:** We are excited to announce the Golf Outing will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on August 23, 2025. Tickets will be on sale soon. The Plumbers picnic will be held on June 28, 2025 at Lake St. Clair Metropark (formerly known as Metro Beach Metropark) in Harrison Township. Additional details to follow.

**Attention 98 Hockey Players:** The Local 98 Hockey team will be playing in the Hamilton, Ontario Canada Tournament May 2-4, 2025. Let’s cheer them on and wish much success competing against unions from the USA and Canada. Let’s wish them luck!

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

Local 98 Scholarship Committee will be awarding scholarships to children of Local 98 members for the fall 2025 semester. Please address applications to Local 98 in care of President Ryan Lyle. They will be accepted until June 30, 2025.

UA Scholarship deadline is June 12, 2025. More info can be found at <https://uascholarshipfund.communityforce.com>

### Local 174 cont’d

will be held Thursday, May 8 June 12.

**WELD TEST:** Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday. Next capabilities will be Wednesday, May 7th, and the test to follow Thursday, May 8th at 5pm. The dates in June are the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**Memorial Day:** We will be closed Monday, May 26, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

**Introduction to Refrigeration:** This course serves as a gateway into the world of refrigeration, where we unravel the principles of refrigeration and mechanisms behind cooling systems that are critical to our industry. The course will focus on the 4 components that are essential for refrigeration, Latent and Sensible Heat, pressure/temperature relationship with refrigerants and basic refrigeration piping practices. Please call to be put in class.

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.

Scroll down to 2025 United Association Scholarship to view details.

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

2025 Log Books and 2025 Membership Dues pins are available at the hall.

**Expelled Members:** We currently have one member expelled, Cory M. Herndon.

**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.

We are currently 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 BENESYS at (248)641-4988 or (866)646-8919. If they are on the other line, please leave a message and they will get back to you promptly.

Worker Assistance Program. Work Life Strategies, LLC. Are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling. All this is confidential and lead by 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, don’t wait ask for help when you feel issues are affecting your life.

Additional information can be found at [ualocal98.org](http://ualocal98.org) CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rob Moses, Organizer (248)763-2187 [rmoses98@ualocal98.org](mailto:rmoses98@ualocal98.org)

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



**Local 98 would like to recognize Plumbers Local 98 apprentices CJ House (John E Green), left, with Building Trades Instructor Tony Slatton; and Kyle Jent (UPI) right, for competing in the Michigan Pipe Trades Apprentice Contest at Flint 370’s training center on April 24-25. CJ competed as a plumber and Kyle as a fitter. Congratulations go out to CJ House for taking first place in the plumbing division and advancing to regionals. Thank you both as well as our training center staff for all your hard work and preparation. We wish CJ well in regionals!**

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

Congratulations to CJ House and Kyle Jent for representing our Training Center at the Michigan State Pipe Trades Apprentice Contest! CJ will be moving on to the district competition in Cincinnati in June! We wish him the best of luck!

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 18th, 2025. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process. The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

**THE TRAINING CENTER IS CURRENTLY SCHEDULING MEDICAL GAS INSTALLER UPDATES.** Please call the Training Center to get in the last scheduled 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 at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for July 1st, 2025, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for it. The 2 dates are Wednesday, June 18th, and Wednesday, June 25th. Call the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test.

**OPEN WELDING** – Open welding is available on Wednesday evenings and the 1st and 3rd 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.

*“Against logic there is no armor like ignorance.”*

–Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)

*“People seem to enjoy things more when they know a lot of other people have been left out of the pleasure.”*

–Russell Baker (1925 - 2019)

*“For purposes of action nothing is more useful than narrowness of thought combined with energy of will.”*

Henri-Frédéric Amiel

*“Mankind has a great aversion to intellectual labor; but even supposing knowledge to be easily attainable, more people would be content to be ignorant than would take even a little trouble to acquire it.”*

–Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)



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# Local 169

# Boilermakers

Boilermakers 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **May 9, 2025**. This meeting will be at The Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall, 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI. 48101

Congratulations to Grant Genaw on winning our local apprenticeship competition. By winning, Grant will now represent our local at the Great Lakes Area competition in Indiana this Summer. If you see



**BOB HUTSELL**

Grant, please congratulate him and encourage 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 130<sup>th</sup> 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.

Local 169 is happy to announce that Union Day at Comerica Park was a huge success. A great time was had by all who attended. A big thank you goes out to all who participated, those who sacrificed by cancelling to man the work, and Lynn Hutsell for the nightmare of working through a prior rain out, to transfer 56 tickets, digitally, to members. All in all, it was a great time that concluded with a Tigers win.

Get ready to celebrate Local 169's 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Our annual dinner dance will be held on June 28 at the Athenium in downtown Detroit. This event is always a great time. The event will begin at 6 pm and end at 12:00. With an open bar, live music, and great food, this is an easy decision. Complimentary beer steins and shot glasses will be available for members to enjoy a "boilermaker" and take home at the end of the night. 130 years is a huge milestone for our organization, I hope you will ALL take advantage of this opportunity to show your Boilermaker Pride and celebrate this historic accomplishment.

Rooms are available at the discounted rate of \$239.00 with valet parking available at a discounted rate of \$20.00. Use the word Boilermaker for the discount when making your reservation. Please send a \$50.00 check to reserve your spot at this event. Significant others are welcome to attend. Your check will be returned upon arrival. This is necessary to establish a proper head count for food and beverage totals.

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 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](http://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 luncheons:**

**Area 1** Retiree luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am at the White Rhino Sports Bar, 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, at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

**Area 3** Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be May 21, 2025, at 11AM at The Green Spot Pub at 808 N. Mission, Mount Pleasant, MI. 48858. 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.org](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.org) or on our Facebook page.

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

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

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

*"I've always tried to go a step past wherever people expected me to end up."*  
–Beverly Sills (1929 - 2007)

*"Summer afternoon-summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language."*  
–Henry James (1843 - 1916)

*"A man is not idle because he is absorbed in thought. There is a visible labor and there is an invisible labor."*  
–Victor Hugo (1802 - 1885)

*"Nature is just enough; but men and women must comprehend and accept her suggestions."*  
–Antoinette Brown Blackwell (1825 - 1921)

*"Management is nothing more than motivating other people."*  
–Lee Iacocca (1924 - 2019)

*"Life is something that everyone should try at least once."*  
–Henry J. Tillman

*"Always laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine."*  
–Lord Byron (1788 - 1824)



A 17,000 SQUARE-FOOT addition to the Island Resort & Casino near Escanaba is expected to expand the facility's visitor base. Gundlach Champion is managing the project.

Photo credit: Jack Deo



## Elevator Constructors

## Local 36

Elevator Constructors Local 36

DETROIT – **ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED:** Our next regular membership meeting will be **May 19, 2025, 5:30pm** at Local 58 hall located at 1350 Abbott Street Detroit, MI 48216. **This meeting was moved up a week due to the holiday.** Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

**Attention all members, there was a resolution made at the April meeting to change our dues structure from 1.5% gross pay to a flat-rate dues structure. The motion was held over till May 19, 2025, meeting for a discussion and secret ballot vote (YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE). You will receive a letter 15 days before the meeting explaining the resolution, if you don't receive the letter contact the hall. This meeting will be held at Local 58 Electrician's Hall, address is above.**

We are having our picnic on July 26, 2025. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the picnic please contact Jon Bujan (586)787-1114 or email him at [bjuan@icloud.com](mailto:bjuan@icloud.com).

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, 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](mailto:vap@iuec.org) or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Chairman @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWP National Co-Chair @ 410-312-1474.

IUEC Local 36 has started a Veteran Assistance Committee. Scott Erison was appointed 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](mailto: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 non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the **fund office (800)523-4702** and inform the hall. When

you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one week waiting period.

The IUEC would like all active members and Probationary Apprentices to sign up for Safety alerts. The only thing you will receive are safety alerts, nothing political, just safety alerts. **Text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email.**

If you 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](mailto:Local36@iuec36.org) with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanic's phone numbers, how many teams, type of equipment installing, how many stops and jobsite hours.** This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

**Attention All Mechanics,** just a reminder to Mechanics that passed the Mechanic's Exam on

or after July 9, 2022, starting January 1, 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, each mechanic shall be required to successfully complete at least eight hours of online continuing education from the curriculum published annually by NEIEP.

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,** 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!**

**Attention All Temporary Mechanics,** your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement **MUST** be

signed by the end of each month **at the Union meeting.** If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the **NEXT MORNING.** If we continue to have problems getting these signed, you will be called down in front of the Executive board. If you are put back to Apprentice status, **your personal tools MUST be taken off the job, out of your vehicle and notify the hall.**

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

**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can 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!

*"Consistency is the last refuge of the unimaginative."*  
–Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

*"The squeaking wheel doesn't always get the grease. Sometimes it gets replaced."*  
–Vic Gold (1928-2017)

*"Conceit is God's gift to little men."*  
–Bruce Barton

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By Zoi Goss  
Michigan Department of  
Natural Resources

Well before sunrise on a Wednesday morning, I got up to make the journey from Lansing to Ludington to survey trees for an invasive insect known as hemlock woolly adelgid. The weather was in the 40s with a chance of rain, which, thankfully, held off until my drive home that afternoon.

At the site, I met up with a four-person crew from the West Michigan Conservation Network to get started surveying the woodland outside of West Shore Community College near Ludington. Surveying means going through the woods to check each hemlock tree for signs of the tiny, invasive insect. If found, each infested tree is tagged and recorded for later treatment.

The crew I joined for the day is based in West Michigan, and they are called to check private and public lands for any signs of infestation. They have been in the woods all winter, checking new sections of hemlock forest for the adelgid, and I was able to join them to learn more about the process and what this insect is exactly.

Even though it was 40 degrees, snow still covered the ground, up to my knees in some spots! It was very pretty to be hiking around snow-covered trees and hearing the woodpeckers tapping above us in the branches.

We had been hiking through the woods for a few hours that morning, double-checking some trees that were marked as positive in a previous survey, but we hadn't found any positive identifications.

Just as I was remarking that finding evidence of an infestation would be bad, but good for my article, one of the team members grabbed a branch and turned it over to look at the underside of the needles.

There it was – one tiny hemlock woolly adelgid attached to the branch and covered in its white protective mass. I had never

Outdoors

Adelgids threaten hemlock trees



LOOK CLOSELY TO SEE a nasty, tiny white bugger, visible at center on the underside of a hemlock needle branch. Less than 1/16-inch long, the wooly adelgids, an invasive species, infect hemlock trees and slowly kill them.

MDNR photos

seen a hemlock woolly adelgid – or any type of adelgid – in real life. It was interesting to see the team identify it and differentiate it from other, similar insects such as spittlebugs by examining the white covering.

**What is this insect?** Hemlock woolly adelgid, or HWA, is an invasive species that was first confirmed in Michigan in 2006 and is currently found in 11

counties, mostly along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

This insect moves from tree to tree, transported by people, birds, animals or the wind. Once on a tree, it feeds on the sap of young branches at the base of needles.

This little thing is less than 1/16 inch long, nearly invisible to the naked eye and found most commonly in its mature stage,

with a white, woolly, waxy protective covering that makes it stand out against the branch.

Adelgids lay their eggs on the branches and feed on the sap through the winter and spring. In summer, an infected hemlock experiences reduced branch growth, premature needle dropping, die-back and eventually death.

HWA is especially threatening to Michigan because the state is home to over 170 million eastern hemlock trees. These trees create shelter for birds and animals, stabilize soil near streams and regulate microclimates for fish and animals throughout the year.

Hemlock woolly adelgids currently affect over 20 states across the United States and at least two Canadian provinces.

**Battling HWA takes teamwork.** The Michigan Invasive Species Program, a joint effort of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan departments of Agriculture and Rural Development and Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, continues to work with Michigan State University and multiple local cooperative invasive species management areas, or CISMAs, to prevent the northward spread of HWA and protect high-quality



A SURVEY CREW member checks a hemlock branch for adelgids.

ecosystems, including those in state parks along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

These groups work together to manage HWA by surveying forest sites during the winter to determine which areas are affected. Winter is the best time to survey because HWA is less likely to be spread to other trees in the area from human movement, and the egg masses are most visible in the winter.

The trees infested by HWA are treated in the summer, when the sap is flowing. Insecticide is injected into the sapwood of larger trees or sprayed onto the trunks of smaller trees.

The insects ingest the insecticides through the sap, and there is virtually no damage to the tree or surrounding plants. The treatments are effective for five to seven years.

Going out in the field is always exciting for me, as I spend most of my days behind a desk. I am not sure what I was expecting, but working in the field with the West Michigan Conservation Network HWA crew was a lot tougher than I thought.

Walking around for hours through the woods is so serene and peaceful, seeing all the trees covered in snow and guessing which animal left which prints behind. However, hiking through the snow is no easy task.

While I was tired and sweating, the crew was working along with no problem, enjoying themselves and surveying the trees. The work that they put in each day to protect our trees is incredible.

The team of four had a system figured out. One person measured the trunk of the tree being examined to see how many holes they will have to drill in the spring. Another person tagged the tree with a number to catalog it. And yet another person checked the branches for HWA, while the fourth team member recorded all the information on an online survey data app.

The team is called to check sections of public and private lands in areas that are at risk for HWA.

There are treatment options for the insect and ways to help prevent its spread as well.

On your own land, you can prune branches that might hang low enough to hit vehicles driving

by or parked underneath, as the insects can be transported long distances by vehicles.

You should clean your vehicle after traveling to make sure you do not accidentally transport any invasive species. Cleaning your boots and equipment is another way to prevent accidental transportation.

If you think you see HWA, take a photo and report it so it can be identified, and action can be taken if needed.

Invasive species like HWA are everywhere and can be extremely dangerous for Michigan's ecosystems.

We can continue to help fight against them with the help of CISMAs across the state and other DNR partners. You can help by being aware of the signs and symptoms of invasive species invasion.

The DNR and the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network have information on identifying and reporting different invasives.

It is better to be safe than sorry – if you think you see an invasive species, take pictures and report it right away. Find more information on species identification and reporting at MISIM.msu.edu or Michigan.gov/Invasives.

After my day in the woods with the survey crew, I got home that night and was exhausted. I got in all my steps and had sore legs to prove it for the next few days.

Being in the field is the best part of my job. I get to more fully understand and appreciate Michigan's natural resources and the people whose job it is to protect them.

This trip was also fun and informative because you always hear about all these invasive species, but you don't always get to go out and see them up close, nor do you get to accompany the people who are fighting their spread and destructive impacts.

Going forward, I am now looking forward to learning about more invasive species and what we all can do to battle them.

*"Dignity comes not from control, but from understanding who you are and taking your rightful place in the world."*  
—Gordon Atkinson

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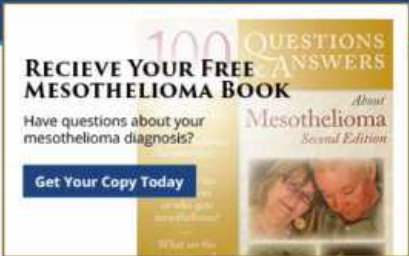
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