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SHORT CUTS

Michigan a hot spot for construction

Michigan was one of 39 states that saw an increase in construction employment from March 2023 to March 2024 – and among them, was among the top destinations for building trades employment.

During those 12 months, construction employment in Michigan jumped by a whopping 12,000 jobs – a number which ranked our state No. 4 in the nation. That represents a 6.6 percent rise in construction employment, ranking our state No. 9 among the states during that time.

“Most states have experienced no letup in demand for construction projects, as these numbers reveal,” said Associated General Contractors chief economist Ken Simonson, when the numbers were released April 23. “In fact, even more states would have posted an increase in construction employment if contractors could find enough qualified workers.”

Between March 2023 and March 2024, 39 states added construction jobs, 10 states and the District of Columbia shed jobs, and employment was unchanged in Vermont.

Alaska had the largest percentage increase over 12 months (16.2 percent, +2,700 jobs), followed by South Dakota (10.9 percent, +3,000 jobs), and Arkansas (9.7 percent, +6,000 jobs).

Support bond issues in 2 districts

Building trades workers in the Hazel Park and Huron Valley school districts are urged to support major bond issues that will appear on the May 7 ballot.

In the Huron Valley School District in Oakland County, voters will be asked to approve a \$362 million bond proposal that would fund construction of a new middle school, the remodeling of an existing middle school and other improvements to school buildings.

The district has a track record of working with union contractors, and is poised to work with Clark Construction if the bond issue passes.

In the Hazel Park School District, voters are asked to support a \$150 million bond issue. The money would pay for construction of a new elementary school, and improvements to nine other sites owned by the district.

Dodge sees ‘soft patch’ for industry

While construction employment remains strong (see above), total U.S. construction starts fell 1 percent in March from the prior month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.06 trillion, according to an April 23 report from the Dodge Construction Network.

Nonresidential building starts fell 9 percent, while nonbuilding (infrastructure) starts improved by 7 percent, and residential starts moved 1 percent higher. However, on a year-to-date basis through March, total construction starts were up 13 percent from the first three months of 2023.

“The construction sector has hit a soft patch to start 2024,” said Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge Construction Network. “However, this should not be overly surprising given high rates and restrictive credit. There are bright spots though as single-family starts are moving higher and federal dollars are lifting nonbuilding starts.”

Quotable

“Money is in some respects, life's fire: It is a very excellent servant, but a terrible master.”

—Phineas Taylor (P.T.) Barnum (1810-1891)

Biden gets endorsement from NABTU at building trades confab

WASHINGTON, D.C. – North America's Building Trades Unions last month announced its endorsement Joe Biden for reelection to U.S. President. The announcement was made during NABTU's annual Legislative Conference in the nation's capitol.

An April 25 statement came from NABTU President Shawn McGarvey speaking on behalf of the 15 international building trades construction unions he represents:

“North America's Build-

ing Trades Unions can honestly say no elected official has

shown our members and their families more respect than President Joe Biden. Through his policies and his personnel, President Biden

has demonstrated his laser-like focus on not only rebuilding our nation's infrastructure and manufacturing sector but

rebuilding the American middle class itself.”

Biden pledged to be the most pro-union president in history, and he hasn't disappointed. Specifically, Biden pushed for \$1.2 trillion in infrastructure spending that will be an ongoing employment boon to the building trades. He has mandated the use of prevailing wage rules on federally funded construction projects. His administration basically saved the union apprenticeship model, as the Labor Department tossed out

plans developed in the previous administration to allow individual nonunion employers, through IRAPS (Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs), to set their own standards for which workers can earn journeyman status. And financially failing pension plans held by the Teamsters and some building trades multiemployer plans were fiscally restored with a push from the president.

“His Administration's accomplishments,” McGarvey said, (Continued on Page 3)



Joe Biden



ON A FORMER PARKING LOT north of the existing Trinity Health-Brighton Medical Center, Granger Construction, its subcontractors and building trades union workers are erecting a connected new 174,000-square-foot hospital.

Trades operating at new \$238M hospital in Brighton

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

BRIGHTON – Livingston County's population from 2010 to 2023 rose 9.27 percent, the sixth-highest increase in the state during that time. The county's primary health care system is taking a big step to keep up with that growth.

That step comes in the form of the ongoing construction of the \$238 million expansion of the Trinity Health Medical Center-Brighton Campus. The four-story, 174,000-square-foot expansion onto the backside of the site's existing medical facility at 7575 Grand River Ave. will feature eight operating rooms, 18 short-stay unit beds, 56 acute adaptable beds and shell space for future growth.

The health care provider will relocate inpatient and outpatient services from their aging Trinity Health Livingston hospital in Howell, about 11 miles away. Construction manager Granger Construction, its subcontractors and building trades union workers are undertaking the building of the replacement hospital.

“We're doing well, we're on schedule, and the mild winter really helped us,” said Granger Senior Supt. Ryan Snellenberger. He said last month that about 100 hardhats are on site. “The trades have been good, and we're working in a tight labor market that's definitely been stressed.”

Trinity Health announced the construction of the new hospital in December 2022. Completion is expected in the spring of 2026. A two-story bridge will connect the old and new facilities.

“Adding inpatient care to our Brighton campus provides opportunities to integrate services (Continued on Page 2)



SANDING DRYWALL in the revamped portion of the existing Trinity Health-Brighton Medical Center is Braulio Galindo of Michigan Painters District Council Local 2353. He's employed by ACP.



GETTING READY TO SET a 12-inch chilled water Victaulic fitting at the Trinity Health-Brighton Medical Center are pipe fitters Rhett Lowe (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333) and William Thomas (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 190). They're employed by John E. Green.

Easy win at VW plant earns UAW historic foothold in the South

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. – In an historic victory for the UAW, an overwhelming majority of workers at the Volkswagen plant here voted for union representation on April 19.

It was a landslide victory: a 73 percent margin, 2,628-985 voted to be employed under a union contract. The successful UAW vote at the VW plant, which included 83.5 percent of the workers at the facility, marks the first time workers at an auto plant in the South have voted to unionize. The UAW had lost previous unionization votes at the same VW plant in 2014 and 2019.

“This is a movement for every blue-collar worker in America,” said Doug Snyder, a body worker at VW-Chattanooga. “Our vote shows that workers everywhere want a better life on and

“This is a movement for every blue-collar worker in America” –UAW supporter and VW employee Doug Snyder

off the job. Fair pay is important, but so is time with our families. So is a voice for safety in our plant. We're looking forward to getting to the bargaining table with the company and winning a contract that makes things right at Volkswagen.”

Numerous workers at the plant pointed to generous 25 percent pay and benefit increases won last fall by the UAW during bargaining with the Detroit Three automakers, and wondered why they shouldn't be treated the same.

“We saw the big contract that (Continued on Page 3)



UAW SUPPORTERS gather in Chattanooga a week before the union election at VW. Photo credit: UAW Volkswagen Local 42

Unions are an ‘ugly reality’?

Southern GOP governors pen extraordinary letter bashing UAW-VW campaign

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

These days, it's tough enough to organize a union in the South, or anywhere. But it doesn't get any easier when you have a group of state governors joining the anti-union chorus.

Three days before the historic vote to unionize the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tenn., Republican governors from the Volunteer State and five other Southern states tried to put their thumbs on the scale in an attempt to keep the UAW out of their backyards south of the Mason-Dixon Line. They all signed an extraordinary letter dated April 16 urging opposition to the UAW's organizing campaign.

But none of their scary rhetoric mattered to workers at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, who voted in a nearly 3-1 margin to invite UAW representation. Those governors opened up the playbook used by union-busters everywhere,

pressing home fears that the auto companies with plants in their states – Mercedes Benz, Toyota, Nissan, KIA, among others – would relocate if a union were to win a union representation vote.

“We the governors of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas are highly concerned about the unionization campaign driven by misinformation and scare tactics that the UAW has brought into our states,” their letter began. “As governors, we have a responsibility to our constituents to speak up when we see special interests looking to come into our state and threaten our jobs and the values we live by.”

The letter by the GOP governor raised eyebrows across the nation. An economist who has closely studied unionization in the South told *The Washington Post* that the collective statement was “unprecedented and shocking,” adding that it discouraged workers from exercising their legal (Continued on Page 3)

Unions laud three new pro-worker federal rules

(From Press Associates International union news service)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Union leaders cheered – and corporate-backed congressional Republicans slammed – three new Biden Administration decisions to help workers and consumers.

With deadlines for announcing new federal rules looming, the Labor Department issued the new pro-worker rules. One orders investment managers for pension plans to put recipients, not themselves, as the top priority. Another

dramatically opens up worker eligibility for overtime pay. The third rule stops non-sensical non-compete clauses in workers' employment agreements – which apply in some cases even to workers who toil for minimum wage in jobs like retail or fast food.

Here are the details of the new pro-worker rules:

•“Expansion of the federal overtime rule will help millions more workers earn the pay they deserve,” said AFSCME President Lee Saunders. “Some public

service workers—including those in child welfare, mental health and substance abuse counseling—have been ineligible for overtime pay despite modest wages and the long hours they put in at essential jobs,” he explained.

Effective Jan. 1, the Labor Department's new OT pay rule will lift to \$58,656 annually the amount of money a worker can earn before becoming ineligible for overtime pay. The rule opens overtime pay eligibility to about 4.3 million workers. The current

annual eligibility level for OT pay is limited to workers earning less than \$43,888.

The overtime pay threshold will be tied to inflation and raised every three years. Biden's DOL is also tightening up the definition of which workers are “executive, administrative or professional” and thus not covered by the overtime pay rule, no matter how much – or how little – they earned. Under prior Republican regimes, even low-level workers, such as fast food “shift leaders,”

were considered “managers” and thus couldn't get overtime pay.

“The Department of Labor is ensuring lower-paid salaried workers receive their hard-earned pay or get much-deserved time back with their families,” said Wage and Hour Administrator Jessica Looman. “This rule establishes clear, predictable guidance for employers on how to pay employees for overtime hours and provides more economic security to the millions of people working (Continued on Page 10)

Viewpoints



Revisiting southern 'values'

History – good history, if conditional history – was made April 19 in Chattanooga, Tenn., as workers at Volkswagen’s factory there voted to join the United Auto Workers by an overwhelming margin of 2,628 to 985, a 73-percent to 27-percent landslide.

The vote was historic on any number of counts. It marks the UAW’s first successful unionization of a foreign-owned auto factory after a number of failed attempts; it marks the first unionization in over half a century of a major group of workers in the non-union South; it may even mark the rebirth of a powerful union movement, something the nation has lacked over the past 40 years.

It also marks, alongside the provisional victory of the Starbucks baristas, a breakthrough in the type of occupation that’s been able to unionize. In recent years, there’s been a wave of unionizations among university teaching assistants, interns and residents, museum docents, and other workers who can’t readily be replaced should management fire them for their pro-union proclivities.

But it’s been standard practice for management to fire assembly-line workers, retail clerks, drywall installers, and the myriad of other workers for whom replacements can indeed be found if and when they threaten to unionize. It’s illegal for employers to do that, but the penalties are so negligible (restoring those workers to their jobs after months or years of litigation, giving them their back pay, and posting a notice of this settlement somewhere in the workplace) that it’s long been standard practice in American business. The VW and Starbucks workers had that sword hanging over their heads, yet managed to prevail nonetheless. Should their example inspire the millions of workers who’d like to unionize but fear employers’ retaliation, that would mark a sea change in America’s political economy.

The historic status of the victory at Volkswagen, however, is still as yet conditional. To really mark a historic break with nearly 60 years of union decline – a decline that is at the root of the erosion of the New Deal’s egalitarian economics and, correspondingly, the rise of record levels of economic inequality – it can’t be a one-off. The UAW has to roll this on to other Southern foreign-transplant factories; the first test of its ability to do that will come the week of May 13, when workers at the Mercedes factory in Vance, Ala., will also vote on whether to join the UAW.

But this victory – if it does become a harbinger of more – should be situated in an even larger historical context. It may well mean that the North now has a better chance to win the Civil War that began in 1861 but never really ended. That war, of course, counterposed two labor systems that were inextricably intertwined with two racial and social systems as well.

Everyone knows at least some of the racial narrative – how Reconstruction’s burst of racial egalitarianism was snuffed out in the mid-1870s, leaving the South with an economy of largely Black sharecropping, a system of segregation, and a system of Black suppression centered on lynching. Many of these systems were overturned by decades of often heroic activism by Blacks and their allies. But not all of them.

The deep antipathy of the Confederacy to any form of worker power – which in the antebellum South meant Black power – has persisted to the current day. As soon as the Civil War ended, and before Reconstruction began, Southern state governments enacted their “Black Codes,” which bound former slaves to keep working, albeit this time for an actual pittance of a wage, on their former plantations, with no real option to leave.

By the late 19th century, some of the corporations centered in the industrial North had found their way south, chiefly in textiles, rails, mining, and steel. By the 1920s, Northern-based unions and indigenous Southern radicals were attempting to unionize the textile workers and meeting opposition (armed when “necessary”) that they couldn’t overcome. Then, with the great surge in industrial unionization that the UAW kicked off in Michigan with its successful 1937 strike at General Motors, the industrial unions’ organization – the CIO – made a major effort to unionize Southern factories in 1938. This coincided with President Roosevelt’s efforts to support liberal challengers to conservative Southern senators and representatives in that year’s Democratic primaries; but both FDR and the CIO’s attempts fell flat.

As World War II ended and workers sought raises to make up for what they hadn’t been paid during the wartime wage freeze, the nation saw the greatest strike wave in its history. Unions sought to ride that momentum by initiating a massive campaign – Operation Dixie, it was called – to unionize the industrial South. But Dixie’s political and economic power structure united to defeat nearly every unionization campaign. The fact that CIO unions like the UAW supported civil rights and often proposed to establish desegregated locals in the heart of Dixie made that power structure even more determined to wipe out every trace of unionism by every possible means. They not only told White workers that they’d have to work alongside Blacks, but that the unions were Northern intruders bent on undermining Southern “values.”

The following year, 1947, Southern House and Senate Democrats joined with Northern Republicans to enact, over Harry Truman’s veto, the Taft-Hartley Act, which made it far more difficult for unions to grow, in part by enabling states to pass laws making them “right to work,” which enabled workers represented by unions to avoid paying dues to them. This, in turn, made the economics of unionization very daunting. Every Southern state quickly passed laws giving themselves this status, though over the years, as those states turned Republican and Northern Republicans became more “Southern” – that is, right-wing – some Northern states under Republican control went “right to work” as well.

Today, the South’s political and economic elite still mobilize to defend their labor system – much as they did in 1861, the 1920s, 1938, and 1946-1947. Now as then, that system is based on low-wage labor, sustained by denying workers the power to change that. For decades, Southern governors and mayors have been traveling across the Atlantic and Pacific, trying to lure companies with the siren song of cheap and powerless labor.

By trying to match the labor standards of China, of course, the Southern power structure was doing no favor to its own workers, and bringing down the wage and benefit levels of workers in the North. In the battle over Chattanooga’s VW factory, the Southern power structure not only united to oppose the horror of worker power but went to the same playbook of alarmist misinformation that has underpinned its messaging for well over a hundred years. Like their predecessor governors of 1946 and 1938 – hell, like Jefferson Davis and John C. Calhoun – they portrayed this battle as originating with Northern outsiders seeking to undermine their “values.”

In particular, their last-ditch defense of those values were ads that said by voting to unionize, workers were alienating themselves with an organization that had endorsed the hated Joe Biden.

This time, though, it didn’t work. The workers at the VW plant are a younger and more racially diverse group than those who voted down previous attempts to go union. The teaching assistants, baristas, and now autoworkers who’ve voted to go union in the past couple of years come disproportionately from, by the evidence of multiple polls, the most pro-union generation that this country may have ever seen. Their awareness of this nation’s stratospheric levels of inequality and the strapped financial conditions that they themselves live under have primed them to seek better conditions.

The UAW’s recent strike against General Motors, Ford, and Stellantis ended in record contracts for its members, and though all the Southern non-union plants immediately gave raises to their own workers to stave off a sudden (and utterly rational) burst of pro-union sentiment, the UAW’s contracts were still far superior to what the Southern factories were offering, and so well publicized that the Southern workers knew it.

Significant increases in union membership don’t happen incrementally; they come in waves. It was the UAW’s successful sit-down strike of 1937 in key GM factories that spawned the greatest such wave, growing the unionized share of the national workforce from about 10 percent in the mid-1930s to about 34 percent in the mid-1940s. Can the UAW do it again? Can the North finally win our near-eternal civil war? We shall see.

Harold Meyerson
The American Prospect (condensed to fit)

Trades operate at Brighton hospital

(Continued from Page 1)

into one location within a modern care environment designed to meet the changing needs of our community,” said John O’Malley, president of Trinity Health Livingston and Trinity Health Medical Center-Brighton. “A new hospital enhances medical services from an easily accessible location, delivered by exceptional providers our patients have come to know and trust.”

Work started at the site last April, with foundations set last summer, and the structural steel getting topped out in March. Erected mostly on space occupied by a former parking lot. Snellenberger said the project’s initial challenge was dewatering the site – “it was just bad soil” to work with, he said.

But easily the biggest challenges, he said, have been working only 32 feet from an in-use operating room, as well as the planning and execution of what turned out to be the seamless tying in of the new mechanical systems with those of the existing hospital. Even though it was constructed in 2000, available blueprints for mechanical systems at the original hospital were incomplete.

Still, every single utility between the new construction and the existing building were successfully tied in without



INSTALLING CONDUIT at the Trinity Health-Brighton hospital project are the father-and-son team of journeyman Russ Houghton, left, and first-year apprentice Jake Houghton, right. The IBEW Local 58 members are employed by Centerline Electric.

affecting the ongoing, 24/7 operation of the hospital. The use of temporary water pumps and electric generators, as well as extensive cooperation with DTE Energy, got the job done. “It took a ton of planning and hard work,” Snellenberger said.

That hard work was not lost on Tiffany Spano, the senior project manager for Trinity Health. “Granger and the construc-

tion team have done a fantastic job out here,” she said. “Especially in dealing with the challenges of phasing in the tie-ins. Those existing tie-in locations weren’t necessarily on the original blueprints, and they helped identify them and really helped make this portion of the work happen. Overall, there has been great coordination on the job and communication with our staff.”

The project also includes work on the existing facility: on the west side, the trades will add 5,000 square feet of space and undertake a wholesale renovation of the existing 30,000-square-foot emergency department.

The new Brighton facility along Grand River Avenue offers improved access compared to the Howell location, which dates to

the 1950s and has seen residential properties built up around it. “Future plans for the existing Trinity Health Livingston hospital in Howell have not yet been determined. Trinity Health Michigan is committed to ensuring that the space continues to be a vibrant part of the Howell community,” the organization said.

“Originality is the fine art of remembering what you hear but forgetting where you heard it.”

—Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)

“Trumpet in a herd of elephants; crow in the company of cocks; bleat in a flock of goats.”

—Malayan Proverb

“You always pass failure on the way to success.”

—Mickey Rooney (1920-2014)

Just joking

At a retirement community in Florida, Sadie, a widow interested in companionship, sees a new male resident relaxing by the pool. After quickly touching up her lipstick, she approaches him.

“Excuse me, is this seat taken?”

“Be my guest.”

Sadie makes herself comfortable on the lounge. “So, what’s your name?” she asks.

“Howie.”

“And where are you from, Howie?”

“Cleveland.”

“Cleveland! My second cousin Irv Rubinowitz was born in Cincinnati!”

“Hmm, don’t know him.”

“Ah, you’re better off. Irv’s a schmuck. Anyway, how old are you?”

“Turning 75 next month.”

“Ah a Libra! And what did you do in Cleveland?”

“I was in prison.”

“Prison! And can I ask what for?”

“I was married to a woman who wouldn’t stop pestering me with inane questions, so I finally snapped and killed her with a knife, cut her up with a saw, and fed her to the bears. For this I spent 35 years in a maximum security prison. I was just let out.”

Her eyes widen. “Ah,” Sadie says. “So you’re single?”

The Postal Service keeps delivering for all Americans

By Jim Hightower

Before there was a USA – before our Constitution was adopted, and even before our 1776 Declaration of Independence – one of America’s best democratic institutions was already for the people: The Post Office.

But it’s important to realize that, for 250 years, this invaluable public service has delivered more than mail. It was – and is – a core element of our national unity. Its network of local employees go door-to-door, coast-to-coast, six days a week in every zip code, physically linking America’s widely dispersed, wildly diverse people into one country. It is a universally-popular and essential government service that works!

Yet – as we’ve seen with such other valued public assets as our schools and parks – no flower is so beneficial to the Common Good that selfish corporate opportunists won’t try to pluck it for their private gain. So for years, corporate profiteers and laissez-faire ideologues have been plucking apart the budget, staff, branches, and historic mission of the Post Office.

Their scheme is to shrivel service, foment public dissatisfaction with the agency, demand evermore cuts in staff and branches – then push for a corporate takeover and downsizing of this universal, nationwide delivery network. It’s not just a piece of government they’re trying to eliminate, it’s the core idea of America itself, namely our people’s can-do democratic spirit and commitment to the Common Good.

Rather than meekly accepting this corporate retreat from our egalitarian ideals, let’s reassert our rebellious spirit. For starters, we can help the feisty American Postal Workers Union push a “People’s Postal Agenda.” It outlines ways to reinvent and expand the public services that this grassroots network of employees and local branches is uniquely able to provide. For info and action go to apwu.org.

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor.

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BUILDING MICHIGAN: AutoWorld. Sigh. HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



FLINT'S AUTOWORLD is shown under construction on Aug. 15, 1983. The prominent, 300-foot-diameter geodesic dome housed a huge array of attractions – so much of an assortment that it wasn't clear if Autoworld was a museum or a theme park. Weak attendance led investors to cut their losses and they initially closed the site less than a year after it opened. Photo credits: Water-Winter Wonderland

Oh, AutoWorld. To wishful thinkers, you seemed like a good idea when you opened in Flint in 1984. Conceptually, maybe you temporarily filled a void in Michigan, which continues to lack a central place where visitors and tourists can go to appreciate, celebrate and understand the impact of the automotive industry on the world. (The Henry Ford in Dearborn features much more than vehicles). But realists, like former GM Chairman Roger Smith, futilely asked as plans for AutoWorld were being finalized, "What can I do to stop it?" In the end, Flint's short-lived Six Flags AutoWorld tried and failed, miserably – and offers a few lessons of how not to attract tourists or to celebrate the automobile.

"Fun stuff! Scary stuff! Indescribable stuff!" – a 1984 TV advertisement for Six Flags AutoWorld may as well have been describing the decisions that went into spending \$70 million – half of which was public money – on building "the largest enclosed theme park in the world" in Flint, Michigan," says the Center for Economic Accountability.

"AutoWorld was an attempt to leverage Flint's history as one of the most important cities in the history of the American auto industry into creating an attraction that would create jobs and lure visitors to the city after that auto industry had largely left. It was, as is common for so many giant economic development boondoggles, the result of well-intentioned leaders from business, government and nonprofits coming together with the help of expensive consultants to create a comprehensive master plan that would go on to be an utter failure."

The 25-acre site chosen for AutoWorld near downtown was north of the Flint River at Harrison Street near Saginaw Street. Following the construction of the complex under the leadership of Detroit-based construction manager Darin and Armstrong, Six Flags AutoWorld indoor theme park opened as a tourist destination on July 4, 1984, with glowing national print and television coverage.

Then-Gov. Jim Blanchard predicted it would trigger "the rebirth of the great city of Flint." It didn't. Autoworld closed for the first time six months later, and subsequent efforts to re-establish it failed, despite spending \$2 million for additional attractions. It shut down for good in 1994, and the complex was demolished in 1997.

So what went wrong? The process of building it stemmed from about 15 years of wishful, wrong-headed thinking and planning by city leaders and local Mott Foundation purseholders. During the 1960s and 70s, building what AutoWorld eventually became was part of Flint's overall downtown redevelopment plan. But the place never answered one basic question: was AutoWorld a museum or a theme park? It turned out to be both, and it didn't do either very well.

"Over a decade of development by a parade of consultants who pushed the city almost exclusively towards a theme park morphed the humble dream of a science museum into something unrecognizable," wrote Erin Marquis in a 2022 article



LOCATED NEAR the Flint River, the ill-fated AutoWorld is shown in 1983 under construction. In addition to the new dome, Autoworld incorporated the Industrial Mutual Association Auditorium (1929) nearer the river. The auditorium was established by auto manufacturers in the Flint area, offering workers recreational and educational activity space. It was demolished along with the rest of the AutoWorld site in 1997.

for Jalopnik. "The initial cost estimate started at \$60 million in 1977, and then to \$80 million by 1984.

When the project was approved, a 1982 prospectus by architect Randall Duell Associates describing what AutoWorld would look like hammered home how much of a mish-mash the all-indoors project would be. "What Is AutoWorld? AutoWorld has audio-animatronics, it has Indians, waterfalls, log jams, log cabins, forests, historical perspective, crafts, restaurants, a saw mill, fine dining and evening allure, shops, snack bars, theaters, a re-creation of Flint's old Saginaw Street, a general store, a carousel, bumper cars, remote control race cars, a gigantic three-story tall V-6 engine, an electrifying exploration of the industry's technology today – new technology.

"AutoWorld has arcade games, auto art, exhibitory, games, a collection of automobiles, carriages, carts and bicycles, a library and archives, live theater, an awesome IMAX movie, fantasia of the future, a moving sidewalk history of the assembly line, impertinent mechanical horses, monkeys, damsels in distress, menacing mechanical chickens, inventions of all sorts, pioneers, and even an automobile show from the next century, the great races of all time and a gallery of racing greats."

Whew. That's a theme park with a lot of themes. The Charles H. Mott Foundation, which today is still a



INSIDE THE AUTOWORLD Dome, there were cars on display, yes, but all manner of non-auto-related attractions, too. AutoWorld expected to attract 900,000 visitors per year (at \$8.98 a head) from Michigan and surrounding states, but those expectations proved way too rosy.

Southern GOP governors pen extraordinary anti-union letter

(Continued from Page 1) right to organize. "It implies that the governors fear that the UAW will prevail in the upcoming union recognition election and that UAW success could upend their economic models built on relatively low pay and minimal worker voice," wrote Stephen Silvia, a professor at American University.

The governors' letter, which proved fruitless, continued, describing unions as an "ugly reality": "The reality is companies have choices when it comes to where to invest and bring jobs and opportunity. We have worked tirelessly on behalf of our constituents to bring good-paying jobs to our states. These jobs have become part of the fabric of the automotive manufacturing industry. Unionization would certainly put our states' jobs in jeopardy – in fact, in this year already, all of the UAW automakers have announced layoffs.

"In America, we respect our workforce and we do not need to pay a third party to tell us who can pick up a box or flip a switch. No one wants to hear this, but it's the ugly reality. We've seen it play out this way every single time a foreign automaker plant has been unionized; not one of those plants remains in operation. And we are seeing it in the fallout of the Detroit Three strike with those automakers rethinking investments and cutting jobs. Putting businesses in our states in that position is the last thing we want to do.

"The experience in our states is when employees have a direct relationship with their employers, that makes for a more positive working environment. They can advocate for themselves and what is important to them without outside influence. The UAW has come in making big promises to our constituents that they can't deliver on. And we have serious reservations that the UAW leadership can represent our values. They proudly call themselves democratic socialists and seem more focused on helping President Biden get reelected than on the autoworker jobs being cut at plants they already represent.

"We want to keep good paying jobs and continue to grow the American auto manufacturing sector here. A successful unionization drive will stop this growth in its tracks, to the detriment of American workers."

All of the letter's signatories included: Gov. Kay Ivey (R-Ala.), Gov. Brian Kemp (R-Ga.), Gov. Tate Reeves (R-Miss.), Gov. Henry McMaster (R-S.C.), Gov. Bill Lee (R-Tenn.), and Gov. Greg Abbott (R-Tex.).

UAW President Shawn Fain responded that the governors were using "misinformation and scare tactics" to sway workers. The governors, he said, "are showing that they're just puppets for corporate America, and they don't give a damn about working-class people. They don't care about the workers being left behind even though the workers are the ones who elect them."

President Joe Biden also chimed in on the governors' letter. "Let me be clear to the Republican governors that tried to undermine this vote: there is nothing to fear from American workers using their voice and their legal right to form a union if they so choose."

Not all Southern governors are anti-union. Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear, a Democrat, pointed out that unions have raised workers' standard of living. The UAW is attempting to organize plants across the South, including the Toyota factory in Georgetown, Ky. Beshear said he is "proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder" with the UAW.

Easy win at VW plant earns UAW historic foothold in the South

(Continued from Page 1) UAW workers won at the Big Three and that got everybody talking," said Zachary Costello, a trainer in VW's proficiency room. "You see the pay, the benefits, the rights UAW members have on the job, and you see how that would change your life. That's why we voted overwhelmingly for the union. Once people see the difference a union makes, there's no way to stop them."

The UAW is trying to build on the momentum of the Detroit contracts hammered out last fall, as well as the success in Chattanooga, to organize other nonunion auto plants in the South. Old-line unions like the UAW are joining nascent unions in other lines of work like Starbucks Workers United and Fast Food Workers United to improve workers' standard of living through union representation.

Last year, labor unions reached their highest level of approval among the American public since 1965. U.S. union activity has seen a marked increase in recent years, but most labor actions to gain collective bargaining contracts have involved relatively small groups of workers. The UAW's VW win is significant not only for the high number of workers green-lighting the union, but the fact that the win came in a bright-red, right-to-work state.

President Joe Biden congratulated the Volkswagen workers. "I was proud to stand along-side auto workers in their successful fight for record contracts, and I am proud to stand with auto workers now as they successfully organize at Volkswagen," Biden

said. "Across the country, union members have logged major wins and large raises, including auto workers, actors, port workers, Teamsters, writers, warehouse and health care workers, and more.

"Together, these union wins have helped raise wages and demonstrate once again that the middle-class built America and that unions are still building and expanding the middle class for all workers."

The Chattanooga plant is the only one in VW's worldwide fleet that is nonunion. The next step for workers at the plant is certification of the vote by the National Labor Relations Board, and then collective bargaining.

"We congratulate the Volkswagen workers, our UAW family and UAW President Shawn Fain for this monumental victory in Chattanooga," said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. "The victory at Volkswagen's plant in Tennessee marks a historic milestone for workers across the state and the broader South. Led by a diverse coalition of young activists, this triumph challenges outdated labor laws and sets new standards for collective bargaining power.

"It symbolizes a shift away from the old economic model that prioritizes the profits of big corporations to a new era where working people have the power to shape our futures.

"By securing fair wages, benefits and workplace protections, Chattanooga VW workers are not only improving their own lives but also raising the bar for working people across the southern region."

Biden gets endorsement at building trades confab

(Continued from Page 1)

"specifically the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Chips and Science Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act have brought life-changing, opportunity-creating, generational change focused on the working men and women of this great country who have for far too long been clamoring for a leader to finally keep their word," McGarvey said. "His regulatory actions to protect and uplift working families, strengthening Davis-Bacon prevailing wage protections, his independent contractor rule fighting worker misclassification, and repealing the disastrous and misguided IRAPs, are wins for workers, fair and honest contractors, and American taxpayers."

Compare and contrast McGarvey's comments with those he made to TV cameras outside the White House in January 2017, a few days after President Trump was sworn into office. With a coterie of building trades union presidents behind him, McGarvey said they had just met Trump in the Oval Office, and then lauded the new president for his commitment to building trades union issues, especially promising passage of an infrastructure package.

"We probably had the most incredible meeting of our ca-

reers with the president, the vice president and his senior staff," McGarvey said to the cameras. "When the president laid out his plans about how he's going to handle trade, about how he's going to handle infrastructure, and how he's going to level the playing field for construction workers and all Americans across this country. The respect that the president showed us, and when he shows it to us, he shows it to 3 million of our members. It was nothing short of incredible."

Seven years later, McGarvey looked back with disgust at those statements.

"When Trump was elected, we took him at his word that he would have a worker-centered agenda and deliver on long-stalled issues such as infrastructure investment. Instead of delivering, he aligned himself with his billionaire buddies to enact tax cuts that raised costs for our members. Simply put, he failed to deliver. Given our experience and knowing his track record the choice is clear.

"Joe Biden has proven to be the perfect leader at the perfect time for this country and the working men and women who have built it. NABTU is proud to endorse the clear and only choice for President of the United States, Joe Biden."

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The Building Tradesman

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Local 190

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

UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR—MONTHLY UNION MEETING will be held on **Monday, May 13 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.**

UNION HALL CLOSING: Our office will be closed at Noon on Friday, May 24 and all-day Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day. Our thanks to those who serve. As we celebrate our liberty and freedoms we remember and support those who protect them.

50th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: will be held on Saturday, July 27. Our event will be held at **Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake.** Mark your calendar for this special event. Tickets are available to purchase at the union hall. If you have any questions please contact Karen, (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

UA LOCAL 190 PICNIC: Mark your Calendar! The UA Local 190 Picnic will be Saturday, Aug. 17 at Hudson Mills Metro Park, 8801 N. Territorial Rd. Dexter, MI 48130 from 12-4 p.m. The menu will include hot dogs, burgers, sides and desserts. Refreshments will be provided. Lunch will be from 12:00 to 3:30 p.m. Lots of fun stuff for the kids; giant slide, obstacle course, inflatable castle, face painting etc. while the adults will enjoy bingo, euchre tournament and cornhole tournament. Invitations will be mailed soon!

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 28, 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.

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

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

FUSING CLASS: Anyone interested in registering for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy 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/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

CREDIT CARD MACHINE: You now have the ability to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A surcharge of 3.99% is added to your card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

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

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE

UNION HALL: each month on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

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

The Training Center will be closed May 27 for Memorial Day. The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from noon to 1pm. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

The Training Center and UA Local 190 Apprentices will be participating in the Dexter Memorial Day Parade May 27. Any UA Local 190 Veteran members wishing to participate contact Kristyn to sign up.

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

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2024 **Schedule - Mondays - April 1st, July 15th, and September 30th.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org, 2024 **Schedule - Mondays, July 22, and Oct 7.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

Welding Lab: Open welding lab schedule is **Mondays and Thursdays at 4:30pm. to 9pm. and Saturdays 7am to 3:30pm.** The lab will be closed for Union Meetings and Holidays. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

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

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Recertification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2024 Schedule:** The second course starts **May 7.** The third course starts **Oct 17.** Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. **2024 Schedule:** The second course starts **Aug 20.** Courses 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

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): This is a two-day course. **2024 Schedule:** Second course starts **Sept 24.** Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE 12010 ICRA Certification for Infection Control and Risk Assessment for Construction Workers (16hrs): This is a four-day course. **2024 schedule:** Second course to be announced.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have **(Continued next column)**

Pump up the volume

WORKING ON the variable air volume system piping at the existing Trinity Health-Brighton project are (l-r) Marcus Gatewood and Todd Taylor. The Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333 members are employed by John E. Green.



UA Local 704

DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, May 8, 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.

Training Classes: Call Jeff Gray to reserve your spot. ASSE 15000, ITM classes are being scheduled for this summer, this is a forty-hour class. Contact the training center for more information.

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.

Article IX, Section 4 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Order states: Members shall report all job starts to their local union office.

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

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

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

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

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

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

Local 190, con't

5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be **Spring 2024.** Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS: To Brother Robert Donald Jr. Brother Donald initiated Dec. 16, 2002, retired April 1. May you enjoy as much relaxation as you did hard work throughout your career. Wishing you the best.

CONDOLENCES: Our lifetime member James Riley passed away April 6. James initiated April 14, 1969, retired Feb. 1, 1999 and became a lifetime member April 1, 2019. Our heartfelt condolences to all family members and friends, may our condolences bring you all peace during the painful time.

RETIREE MEETINGS - PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, May 2 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.

"The incompetent with nothing to do can still make a mess of it."

—Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)



UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO - UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30 pm.** Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

GROWLERS BASEBALL NIGHT: Saturday - June 8, 2024 - Kalamazoo Growlers Baseball Game. Please Reserve your Tickets by Friday, May 31st, 2024. Tickets Include: A Night in the Miller Lite Trap, All-Inclusive Premium Ballpark Buffet & Beverages. Unlimited Soda & Water throughout the Game, Premium Adult Beverages (5 Tab Wristband) & Kalamazoo Growlers Hat for all Kids.

Call Lori @ (269) 679-3708 or Email @ Ihatfield@ualocal357.com To Receive Instructions & the QR Code for your Tickets (Limit 10 Tickets per Member)

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

RETIREE MEETINGS (NEW PLACE & TIME): Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9:00 am at **The Crew (Note - New Location)** 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).

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Shane Duffy on his recent marriage.

Congratulations to Peyton Buhler, and family, on the birth of a daughter, Presley.

"Life loves to be taken by the lapel and told, I'm with you kid. Let's go."

—Maya Angelou (1928 - 2014)

"If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself alone. A man should keep his friendships in constant repair."

—Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

"Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life."

—Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011), Stanford Commencement Address, 2005



UA Local 671

MONROE – The next regular scheduled **Union Meeting** is scheduled for **June 6, 2024, at 7pm.** There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on June 6. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

ATTENTION: This paper is to serve as official notice to the membership. Also, please refer to our website <https://www.unitedassociationlocal671.com/> and its calendar for the latest updates.

Local 671 App: To keep up on the latest information, make sure you download Local 671 App. For questions or issues getting logged on contact Winnie at the Union Hall.

Local 671 Softball Team: If any member is interested in playing on the Local 671 Softball team, please contact myself (Mike Jewell) or Nate Schneider. We are sending a team down to Cincinnati to the UA National softball tournament. The tournament is June 21-23. If you want to play you will have to make a commitment to go to the tournament and participate in some practices.

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

Retiree Luncheon: Our retiree luncheons are held on the last Thursday of every month, except for **August** (due to the picnic) and **November** and **December** due to their proximity to the Holidays. These luncheons are a great time to see old friends, and maybe even meet some new ones. The next retiree luncheon is set for **12 pm on May 30.**

Open Weld Shop Nights: The open weld shop nights are now **Thursday nights** from 6-10pm now that school is back in session. **There will be no open welding on Union Meeting or UA weld test nights.** A booth will need to be reserved by noon on the Monday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first come, first served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

The next UA weld test is scheduled for May 30 at 5pm.

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

The Local 671 Scholarship and Benevolence Fund Annual Golf Outing will be held on **July 13** at Green Meadows Golf Course. Tickets (for Local Members) will be \$85 each, and foursomes paid in advance will be discounted to \$320. Call the Hall now to get your foursome locked in!

In Closing: At the time of this writing, we are fast approaching the end of another successful Fermi Outage. We have received good feedback from our client, and thank our Local Hands and UA Brothers and Sisters from all over the country for their safe, hard work, and attention to detail. Be sure to take some well-deserved time to recharge your batteries and enjoy the warm weather as we head into another busy summer.

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com

Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ualocal671.com

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



UA Local 333

LANSING – The monthly union meeting for May will be held Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 7:30 pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd.

NOTICE: "A proposed bylaw change has been properly submitted for consideration. The proposal simply moves up the start time for regular monthly membership meetings from 7:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The proposal will be read and voted on the next three regularly scheduled meetings. Per our bylaws a minimum of two thirds support is needed to pass at each of the three meetings."

Scholarship applications for the 2024-2025 school year are available at all three halls or you may call Joni at 517-784-1106 ext.#4 to have one mailed.

SPRING WELD CLASSES

LANSING. Beginning - 4/01/24 - 6/06/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced - 4/02/24 - 6/07/24 - Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 - 8:30

JACKSON Beginning - 4/01/24 - 6/06/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced - 4/02/24 - 6/07/24 - Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 - 8:30

BATTLE CREEK Welding - 4/01/24 - 6/06/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 8:30

JOURNEYMAN PLUMBING PREP CLASS: April 29, May 1, May 6 and May 8.

BACKFLOW RENEWAL CLASS. Starts April 15 (Mondays only)

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

ORBITAL 18A CLASS. Must have UA41 - Class will begin when 6 members have signed.

MED GAS RENEWAL CLASS- Class begins May 13, 2024 - 5-8 pm. Test day will be June 6 at 5 pm.

RIGGING RENEWAL CLASS - Class starts April 23, 2024 - 5-8 pm. Test date will be May 16 at 5 pm.

ADVANCED PIPEFITTING CLASS - JACKSON TRAINING CENTER. Chris Berry- Instructor. Class will start when 6 members have signed.

Please sign up on the Website - UA333.org. If you need assistance call the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333.

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 certifications. 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.

Members needing assistance with the Journeyman Plumbing Code test prep please contact Tim Hicks at the Training Center. Our thoughts and prayers are with Local 333 Retired Member Lee Robison on the passing of his wife, Becky Robinson who passed away April 17, 2024.

Condolences to Local 333 Member Durand Fields on the loss of his father, Michael Fields who passed away on April 9, 2024. Our thoughts are with Durand and his family during this time of sorrow.

Condolences to the family and friends of Tom Jones, Local 333 retiree who passed away April 23 2024. Our thoughts and prayers are with his son Scott and family during this time of sadness.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

Local 111

UPPER PENINSULA – The next scheduled union meeting will be in Marquette on **May 30, 2024 @ 7:30.**

Effective 6/3/2024 Wage allocation as follows \$0.10 to Health & Welfare, \$0.35 to Pension, and \$1.70 on check. Total \$2.25.

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

There will be a two-day Basic AC Installation course May 16-17 from 8 am-4:30 pm at the NMU Jacobetti Center. Call Training Coordinator John Antoncew to register, no deposit required.

Upcoming Weld Tests: May 4. Anyone interested in 1-day shutdowns, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba office.

MRA CARD: Please check your MRA account for transactions that are in need of substantiation or ineligible. You can access this info here: <https://www.zenith-american.com/>

The MRA link will take you directly to your MRA info and you will be able to see the ineligible transactions.

Please make sure what you are submitting is either an **Explanation of Benefits (EOB)** or an **Itemized billing with paid receipt**, that includes:

Provider Name
Patient Name
Date of Service
Description of Service
Total Patient Responsibility

If you are having trouble with something you have submitted you can call the Zenith American Solutions helpline at 1-866-823-4730 extension 1 (MRA) Or call the hall and Rose will be able to try and assist you-906-226-6511 ext. 4

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

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

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

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

Reminder to Welders/Welding Forms: The UA Welder Qualification Continuity Report forms are available on our website under Training or at the hall. Certifications expire every **6 months** and it is **YOUR** responsibility to get your welding forms turned in on time.

Please update all Non-UA certifications (Plumbing License, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA etc.) by sending a copy of your certification to the Union Hall

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

Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the on-line safety training, go to our web site ua111.com and click on Safety Links. Members must take these safety trainings for each site to work at each mill. Please take note they are valid for 1 year.

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



Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

UA Local 85 SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 22, 2024**, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 PM.

The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 5, 2024**, at 7:00 PM.

UA Local 85 is very proud of our four apprentices who competed in last week's Michigan Pipe Trades Apprentice Competition in Flint. **Representing Local 85:** Jeffrey Supinger- HVACR; Zachary Basket- Plumber; Cody Dufty- Welder; Keith King- Pipefitter.

Congratulations to Jeffrey Supinger for his 1st place win at the Michigan State Apprenticeship Competition. We look forward to seeing him compete at District II in June.

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

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

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 jbador@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

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

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card No. If you have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin, (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

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

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

(Continued next column)



Local 370 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 7:00** and is designated **Special Called Meeting** for the purpose of **Wage Allocation and Discussion of Vehicles.**

Scholarship Applications for the 2024-2025 school year are now available on our website at ualocal370.org. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 hall. Applications are due by the end of May.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

First Aid & CPR Sept. 18 @ 430

HVACR STAR Mastery Prep Monday May 20 and Wednesday, May 22 with exam on Thursday, May 23. **A2L Class** Sign up today. Class dates TBD

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

Per our **By-Laws Article XV**, The Building Tradesman is hereby adopted and subscribed to as our Labor paper for all members of Local 370. Said paper to be used for all official notification of membership.

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee – Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee – TBD

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

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

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

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

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

Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact Local 370 JATC.

Mobile App. Our mobile app. Is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search **UA Local 370**. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues.

(Continued next column)

Local 85, con't

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

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



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

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

Local #174 Annual Family Picnic: This year's family picnic will be held on Saturday, July 20 at Heritage Landing in Muskegon. Invitations will be mailed out mid-May with more information. Volunteers will also be needed at the picnic for both set-up and take-down. Please call Therese at the office if you are able to volunteer.

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

Organizing Update: *I was in Wisconsin for a week recently, along with other organizers hitting the roads speaking with the unrepresented workers. It's always nice to experience the ways other organizers approach workers, what the different locals are doing to meet the demand that is here, and different ideas on how to reach them. It was very eye opening and educational.*

We will be having over 50 organizers from different states in Michigan next week hitting our roads and speaking with workers. Then, the following week an open house at our union hall on May 16th.

The message is clear "We're all doing the same work, we're just not all getting the same wages and benefits!" It has never been a more perfect time to organize with the workload that is here, but it's a team effort! It is clear, you deserve better wages, benefits and representation which is why you need a UNION! Work safe, Johnny Ortiz (616) 307-8551

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

Contact Information: If you need to change or verify your

Local 370, con't

This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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)2283108

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, Labor 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.

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 - 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location
Lakeshore – 3rd Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm
All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details. *The Kent Ionia Labor Council has recently moved from the building on Benjamin and will be rotating meeting locations monthly.

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

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month), from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, May 9th, 2024, and Thursday, June 13th, 2024.

WCP: The next weld test

event will be Saturday, May 11th, 2024, @ 8:00 am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, May 9th, 2024, from 5:00p – 9:00p. Please call/text and sign up if you plan to test.

OPEN WELD: Wednesday nights 5-9pm. Call ahead to notify us if you'll be late. We will continue to hold open weld providing there is enough interest.

PLUMBING: Michigan Plumbing Code 2021 has been adopted. We'll hold the next plumbing code update class once the new 21 code books have been released, which is expected to be in July.

ASSE Backflow Tester and Repair: Class is scheduled for June. Please call/text to verify you're on the waiting list. Dates will be posted once available.

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. The next class is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4th – Thursday, June 6th, from 5pm – 9pm. Please call/text Nicole to sign up.

A2L Certification Course, HVAC/Low GWP Refrigerant Safety: Flammable and Mildly Flammable Refrigerants: As the HVACR industry continues to move forward and innovate, common refrigerants that were once used are now being phased out and replaced with Low GWP refrigerants (A2L). Technicians will require additional training in the safe handling and transportation of these refrigerants. The prerequisite required to attend this class is holding a current EPA608 certification. The next class is scheduled for Monday, June 10th – Thursday, June 13th, 5pm – 9pm. Please call/text Nicole to sign up.

If you have a certification that has expired in the last few months and have questions regarding recertification, please contact the Training Office. Many certifications have extended grace periods on expiration dates. 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.

"It's pretty clear now that what looked like it might have been some kind of counterculture is, in reality, just the plain old chaos of undifferentiated weirdness."

–Jerry Garcia, of The Grateful Dead, (1942-1995)

"Americans are overreachers; overreaching is the most admirable of the many American excesses."

–George F. Will (1941 -)

"Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from a religious conviction."

–Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

"Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or to lose."

–Lyndon B. Johnson (1908 - 1973)

"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), *"Of Human Bondage"*, 1915

"Preach not to others what they should eat, but eat as becomes you, and be silent."

–Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)

"A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel of brains."

–Dutch Proverb

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Nickel - Alloys - Carbide
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<p style="margin: 0;">McNichols Scrap Iron & Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near M. Elliott) mcnicholsscrap.com (313) 365-6100</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Detroit Iron & Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) detroitironandmetal.com (313) 841-5100</p>
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Plumbers Local 98



DETROIT – **Membership of Plumbers Local 98. The officers and staff at Local 98 hope you and your family are well.**

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

Meetings & Union Hall. The next Union meeting will be May 9th at 7pm.

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

The next Retiree Meeting is Wednesday, May 8 from 12-2 p.m. at Local 98!

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship. Learn more at Plumbers98TC.org/apprenticeship.

Attention Hockey players: We wish the 98 Hockey Team the best of luck this weekend in Hamilton Ontario Canada.

Attention Baseball players: If interested in playing baseball please contact Jeremy Pitts at 586-405-9425

Detroit Plumbers CARES Annual Scholarship Golf Outing: This year's golf outing will be held Aug. 17 at Oak Ridge Golf Course. Tickets this year are \$120 per golfer for 18 Holes of Scramble Golf, Bloody Mary Bar, Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Drinks, and Door Prizes! Tee-off time is 8:30am. For more information, please contact Financial Secretary Treasurer Jon DeRoo at (248) 762-9238.

Local 98's Macomb Co. Adopt-A-Highway event was a big success! I thank all the 98 brothers who came out and helped on Saturday, April 20 with our newly named Plumbers Local 98-Mike Kalso Memorial Adopt-A-Highway project. Even though it was cold we were thankful it stayed dry. We all worked together to pick up just over 200 bags of trash, multiple tires and a Challenger front bumper on I-94 for our new record. We also bested our previous attendance record of 24 with 31 volunteers today. It's always great to see everyone and an excellent way for us to give back to our community.

Thanks again to all the attendees for sharing your Saturday off work with us for a good cause! Tom Hamann, Bill Briggs, Don "Fuzzy" Amspacher, Jeff Emon, Mark Teets, Rick Smith, Terry Fawk, Scott Huber, George Scott, Andrew Fuller, Kevin O'Connor, John Linardakis, Kevin Dulapa, Ryan Mason, Muhammad Corey, Jeffrey Cushman, Alastair Corey, Kelly Good, Noah Tunnecliffe, Connor Soccrates, Steve Krisel, Justin Peahi, John Edmonds, Grant Wilcox, Jack Jackson, Greg Glaser, Paul Smith, James Cools, B.A. Mark Wisniewski, and B.A. Rufus Hamilton. ~B.A. Gary Glaser

State Apprentice competition 2024! Thank you to the following apprentices who participated in this year's competition. Your hard work and dedication were greatly appreciated. **Erin Garavaglia, Eric Demmin & Kenny Rembisz.**

Dues. Happy to say there are no expelled members at this time. Check your mail and update your email and contact information at the hall, it's not your spouse's fault your dues fall behind. Those of you who read the paper please bring it in and put on your break table.

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

Benefits. *We have dedicated BeneSys employees at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. The Local 98 Health Insurance office is receiving the calls coming into Local 98. In order for them to best track all issues please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 and select option #2. If they are on the other line, please leave them a message and they will get back to you promptly.

New Benefit. We have a new benefit for the working members of Local 98 and their families.

We are proud to announce we have secured a 2-year agreement with Delta Dental starting March 1, 2024. There is zero cost to the fund at this time. Please watch the insurance mailings for the annual benefit information for 2024. We still will offer the DENCAP (Golden) Dental plan for the retired members who wish to purchase this plan.

Worker Assistance Program. Work Life Strategies, LLC. are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling. All this is confidential and lead by or health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887. If you cannot go to her office she can do phone conferences, don't wait ask for help when you feel issues are affecting your life.

Please select option #4 for Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo if you are looking to retire. Please set a meeting up with him. We recommend doing this at least 6 months before retirement.

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



Mo Cham, Local 98er, and new American citizen.

As an officer over the past years, some days it's rough fixing things or trying to put our local in a position that benefits us all or push beneficial agendas that help everyone. I, like many of you, am already worn out over this upcoming presidential election. Every time I see some (Chinese-made) red hat-wearing nut tell me our country is broken it makes me cringe. America may not be perfect as we look to our history and its learning curve, and YES, we can always do better.

Then something great happens. I was invited to attend a member being sworn in as a citizen of our great country. I believe out of the 23 nations represented only a handful came from a place of free and Democratic elections. They didn't dress the same, definitely not of one color, or worshiped in the same religion!

They chose to leave their homeland to become Americans like all of us. So not even the made-up B.S. of a stolen election can change my mind of our nation's superiority in the free world. So, I say congratulations to our Brother Muhammed Cham and his family, we are proud of you and I hope this country brings all the great things, possibilities & hope we have enjoyed since many of our families came over to better their lives.

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

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 26, 2024. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions. The State of Michigan Plumbing Division will be instituting the 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code beginning in March of 2024. Books are available for preorder through the ICC. Currently, the State is enforcing the 2021 International Plumbing Code with the part 7 rules.

The Training Center will have a limited number of 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code books available

for sale once they are available. Currently the time line for release of the 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code book is sometime in June.

CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2024. All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class. The 2024 upgrade classes are listed below. Please keep an eye out for the class you need or find interesting!

Monthly Code Class – Next class is PENDING at 4:30pm. 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.

There will be a code class that reviews the entire Michigan Plumbing Code and includes practice for the practical portion of the Journey exam in the near future. Please call the Training Center if you are interested in attending the class.

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for Aug. 6, 2024, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for it. The 2 dates are Wednesday, July 24, and Wednesday, July 31. 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.

Class list 2024.
ASSE Backflow Tester Recertification: Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$100

8 hour recert class July 23 & 24 Deadline is June 21
8 hour recert class Oct. 22 & 23 Deadline is Sept. 20

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):
Fall: Sept. 9 – Nov. 18
Deadline is Aug. 23-\$200

ASSE Repairer: Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification

Fall: Sept. 10 - Oct. 15,
Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

ICRA and Water Quality: Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30

Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20,
Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$200
CAD/BIM

Fall: Sept. 9 – Nov. 18
Deadline is Aug. 23-\$100
Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour):

Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20,
Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$200

Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber

Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20,
Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

Hydronic Heating and Cooling

Fall: Sept. 11 to Nov. 20,
Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100

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

2024 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month. If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **Welding and Brazing sessions** will be June 1. You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

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

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

If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your call. We attempt to return all messages by the end of the business day.



Thanks again to all the attendees for sharing your Saturday off work to work on the Plumbers Local 98 Macomb Co. Adopt-A-Highway event on April 20. We appreciate all the work you did as part of the clean team. See Local 98's article for more.



Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

Local 636

UA Local 636

DETROIT – **Our next regular meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2024** at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (at the Lodge) Southfield, MI 48075.

The time for new allocation suggestions is here! For any allocation suggestion, please either drop off, mail to the hall, or email Business Manager Larry Krzniski (lkrzniski@pipefitters636.org).

REMINDER: The annual Year End Financial Report will be read and the wage allocation vote will take place at the May 21, 2024 Regular Meeting.

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

Pipefitters Local 636 Softball Games are Monday nights 6:30 and 7:45 at Canton Sports Center 46555 Michigan Ave. Canton, MI 48188. Check the club house for the field number. Come out and support the team through June 17, 2024.

Attention Hockey Players: UA Local 67 Hamilton, ON Hockey Tournament that 636 participates in is taking place 5/3/24 – 5/5/24. Per past years, 636 sends an under-35 and an over-35 team. This year, there will be 8 pre-tournament conditioning skates on Tuesday's 3/12/2024 – 4/30/2024 from 4-5 pm at Redford Ice Arena. If you are current or new and interested in playing this year, please reach out to Ryan Stewart (248) 798-7420.

Attention Retiree Golfers; The 636 Eastside Retiree Golf League is hoping you'll join us this season. We play on Thursdays, usually around 11 am, spring through fall on a different course each week. If you are interested, simply call Jim Dunn at 248-709-7036 or Joe Bourgeois at 313-590-0448.

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

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

Save the Date: Saturday, Aug. 17 Local 636 will have our annual picnic at the SARA CLUB in Brighton, 11am – 4pm.

2024 Golf Outing.... SOLD OUT! The first Annual Local 636 Scholarship Golf Outing Saturday June 15 at Mystic Creek Golf Course Milford, MI. To get on a list to replace cancellations, please contact Jake Regits 248-939-6636 or Dan Gurley 248-939-5636. All proceeds benefit the Detroit Pipefitters Benevolent Fund!

CALLING ALL RETIREES! The next meeting will be held May 16. The Retiree Association is looking to recruit more retirees to their meetings. The meetings are a great place to catch up, find out helpful information and enjoy very informative guest speakers. The Retirees will be meeting the 3rd Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall.

Our deepest condolences go out to the members, families, and friends of the following, who have passed from our ranks: Condolences to Members Alisa & John Lisecki on the passing of Alisa's Mother Monica Ceczkowski April 21, 2024; Condolences to Lifetime Member Daniel McDonald on the passing of his wife Mary, March 22, 2024 mother of members Daniel G. & Michael (deceased) McDonald; Condolences to Lifetime Member Roy Hall on the passing of his wife Joan, April 15, 2024; Condolences to Daniel & Justin Jagosz on the passing of their Mother Sandra Jean Falvo, April 8, 2024, also related to Tom Atkins Sr. and TJ Atkins; Condolences to Lifetime Member Norman Davis on the passing of his wife Sharyn K. Davis, April 3, 2024; Condolences to Lifetime Member Ronald Hornyak on the passing of his Father Joe Hornyak April 2, 2024.

Deceased Members – Lifetime Member Stanley McClure April 21, 2024; Lifetime Member Richard Zimmerman April 22, 2024 father of Members Ken and Bill Zimmerman; 47-Year Member George Braman April 10, 2024; 34 Year Member Rob-

ert "Bob" Simon Mar. 25, 2024; Lifetime Member James Flanary Mar. 21, 2024; Lifetime Member Gary Lewis March 5, 2024, may they Rest in Peace.

Get Well Wishes to: Charles Baker, Michael Bass, Adam Cloutier, Patrick Cullen, Theresa Danko, Brian Dyer, Joseph Fiedler, Christopher Fletcher, Kevin Harper, Andrew Hernandez, Alan Hiller, Steven Karowich, Jamie Klimowicz, Mark Surowicz, Kirt Williamson, David Yuhn, Brian Mierendorf, Chris Sovey, Paul Franjesh, and Ron Sarata.

Congratulations! To Member Isabella Watson and her fiancé Kyle Bonsall on the birth of their son James April 22, 2024; Member Domenic Purgatori and his wife Alexandria on the birth of their son Xander April 10, 2024; Member Nicholas Buckalew and his Fiancé Karly Gauthier on the birth of their daughter Raina; Member Daniel Caldwell and his wife Robin on the birth of their daughter Grace!

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: Daniel Sarma, David Selph, Philip Ryskamp.

March: Amanda Weidenbach, Vaughn Bratten, Greg Criner.

April: Michael Vernot, James Allen.

Dues - First Quarter Dues are due now or you may incur a suspension with a \$50 reinstatement fee. Your dues receipts 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.

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

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

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

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

Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement forms for SUBPAY were mailed by BeneSys and can be found on our website or you can call the Local for one.

BeneSys has set up a dedicated phone line for Pipefitters 636 needs and questions, when calling BeneSys, please call **248-641-4936 or 888-646-8920.**

Defined Contribution Pension Plan. For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension,

the number has changed. The NEW NO. for the VRU is **877-410-9984**. Plan provider no. is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution **corrected** website is www.accountplanaccess.net/benesys. Your initial login information is as follows: Username – Social Security number, without the dashes. Password – Full birth date, without the slashes. (mmddyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the "My Dashboard" page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

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

Please allow a 60-90-day notice that is necessary to adequately process the requests for paperwork, getting the forms sent to the participant, the member completing it and returning it to the Fund Office for final processing.

Are you "Work Ready"? Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at mustsafe.org 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, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE CERTIFICATION PAYMENTS.**

Training Center News. George Nevejans is Retiring! We will be Conducting Interviews for a new service instructor on July 18, 2024. Call Kim at the training center @ 248-585-0636 to sign up for an interview.

WELDING & BRAZING -4 PM TO 8 PM on Mondays & Thursdays. Cost is \$50 for 40 hrs.
DOWNHILL WELDING - Call Kurt to sign up 6 Saturdays, cost is \$75.00.

RIGGING RECERTIFICATION - Call Kim to sign up.

We will be accepting applications for our Construction Apprenticeship.

Beginning Monday, June 10, 2024, through June 27th, 2024.

Application days and times will be as followed:

Monday, Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Thursdays from 7 a.m. - 7 PM.

Saturday June 15, 2024 and June 22, 2024 from 9AM - 12 PM – Qualifications necessary for an applicant to be considered are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or older.
2. Complete the application and return to the Pipefitting Industry Training Center with:
 - a. A valid driver's license.
 - b. High School diploma or high school equivalency (GED) certificate.
 - c. There is a \$45.00 OR \$100.00 testing fee that will be collected when turning in application. 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.



Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place **May 10 at 8PM**. This meeting will be at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. The address is 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, Michigan 48101.

It's that time of year! Spring has sprung and Summer is right around the corner, along with our traditional Union picnics. Bring your family and friends to a picnic near you. There is always lots of food, fun, and prizes at these family friendly events. Food and beverages are provided.

Feel free to bring a dish to pass if you can. Volunteers are needed. Journeymen & apprentices are encouraged to participate. Contact the Union Hall to volunteer. Please remember, a union is only as strong as its weakest member. Show your union pride by participating in union activities with your union Brothers and Sisters!

Area 1 picnic at Camp Dearborn, July 27th.

Area 2 picnic in Muskegon following the Labor Day Parade.

Area 3 picnic at Sanford Lake Park, June 22.

Area 4 picnic date to be announced soon.

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

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

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

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

Retirees: Retiree luncheons Area 1 Retiree luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month, 11 am, Brown Derby, 10661 W. Jefferson, River Rouge.

Area 2 Retirees hold luncheons on the first Thursday of every month, 11 am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant, 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 15, 2024, at 11AM at the 702 Bar and Grill. It's located at 702 Jefferson Ave., Midland, Michigan 48640. All area boilermakers and retirees 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 St., Rapid River. Area 4 retirees meet in Marquette the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar, corner of County Rd 553 and County Road 480.

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

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

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

Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. 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.

Important Notice For Plas-



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is **Tuesday May 21, at 7:00 pm**. There will also be an **Executive Board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm**. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters and we will be holding a raffle for Detroit Tiger tickets!!

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

Membership gold cards- Congratulations!

May
Terrance Brannon -25 Years
Ramiro Munoz-25 Years
Lance Ryan-25 Years
Donald Monette-30 Years

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

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

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

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

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

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

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:
Go online: Principal.com
If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started.

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

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits,

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

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

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

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

"Make sure you have finished speaking before your audience has finished listening."

–Dorothy Sarnoff

"Knowledge is power."

–Sir Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)



PAUSING FOR A PHOTO while building a block wall at the Trinity Health-Brighton project are (l-r) foreman Don Rutherford of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2, Julio Cesar Moreno of Laborers Local 1191 and mason Kurt Skyner of BAC Local 2.



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING – MAY 2024 CHAPTER MEETINGS.

The May Chapter meetings will also include the Special Called meeting in all Chapters for the purpose of NOMINATION / ELECTION of Chapter Chairman, Recording Secretary and Sergeant-at-Arms for each Chapter. If an election(s) is necessary in any of our Chapters, it shall be conducted by secret ballot election at that June Chapter meeting.

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, May 07, 2024 at 5:30 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANNARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, May 07, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, May 09, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, May 13, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER SEMI-ANNUAL: Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City, MI 49685

UP RETIREE LUNCHEON:

WHEN: Friday, May 17, 2024; 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

WHERE: Vierling Sampling Room, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

WHO: Retired members ONLY

QUESTIONS: Contact Adam Saari, Business Agent, at (906) 250-6971

DEATH REPORTED. Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Sterling Fish** (Bricklayer) who passed away on March 19, 2024. Brother Fish had been a member for 62 years.

UNION DUES UPDATE.

As of **January 01, 2024**, the dues discount has changed. It is now pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive discount, you must be current on dues. **Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2024 online training classes.

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

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

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

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION. BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000

CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362

Cement Pension & Vacation Funds – (248) 645-6550

International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)

Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954

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

Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000

"All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence; then success is sure."

–Mark Twain (1835 - 1910),

"It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can stop him from lynching me, and I think that's pretty important."

–Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

"People are, if anything, more touchy about being thought silly than they are about being thought unjust."

–E. B. White (1899 - 1985)

"Against logic there is no armor like ignorance."

–Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)



Over 40 years of quality Administrative Services

To each of our Members, Clients and Vendor partners impacted by COVID-19, our thoughts are with you. Rest assured knowing that BeneSys is working hard on your behalf while we navigate these difficult circumstances together.

THE FULL SERVICE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

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- Defined Benefit Pension Plans
- Defined Contribution Pension Plans
- Claims Processing
- Supplemental Unemployment Plans
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- Vacation Plans
- Eligibility Processing
- Trust Fund Accounting
- VEBA Administration
- Web Applications
- COBRA Administration
- HIPAA Compliance

With over 800 experienced and technical professionals on staff, BeneSys stands ready to assist Trustees in providing exceptional service to Plan Participants. BeneSys has clients across the U.S. and 23 regional office locations.

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IBEW
Local 131
Serving Southwest Michigan
Since 1916

IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on May 6, at 6 p.m.

The next Renew meeting will be held on May 20, at 5 p.m.
The next Executive Board meeting will be held on May 20, at 5 p.m.

The Veterans Committee Meeting will be held on May 2, at Union Hall, at 5:00PM

Brotherhood night is the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at CJ's from 3:30 to 5:30PM.

5th Year Golf Outing is on May 18, at Pine View Golf Course, Three Rivers. For more information go to the Local 131 website.

Softball Team is forming now. Please contact Trevor Pryson at 269-615-7409 for more information. Yes, you can join the team. Yes, it would help if you knew how to play.

The Work Outlook continues to be steady. We have 12 open calls for Moore, Champion Services, and Hi-Tech. We have crews working on the Pfizer, Zoetis, Gun Lake Casino and Palisades. Train the apprentices, encourage their involvement in the local. Remember to have fun at your job.

Negotiations have continued for the next contract. We found out that the Healthcare cost will go up .25 cents making the total cost \$9.00 an hour. You will need 135 hours to qualify for insurance. I have had several conversations with NECA since our April 8 meeting. Trying to work out the issues. We will be having an in-person meeting on May 8, and May 13, 2024. I am hoping we can still reach an agreement before going to CIR. The Council of Industrial Relations (CIR) will be on May 21, and 22. Please let the contractors know how you feel.

Organizing needs your help. If you know any electricians in your social circle, please encourage them to reach out to our organizer, Ryan. There is a lot of work coming to our local and we will need all the help we can get.

NEBF is increasing for those who retire after January 1, 2025. The change will increase the benefit from \$32.00 to \$33.00 per service year credit. For those who are currently retired, a 13th check will be sent out in November of 2025. Go to our website for more information under the "Retirees" tab.

Retiree Lunches at the following Locations:

May 15, Lunch at Judy's Restaurant, 120 W Allegan St. Otsego, 49078 @ 11:00.

June 19, Nob Hill Bar & Grill, 4218 S. Sprinkle Rd. Kalamazoo, 49001 @ 11:00.

Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m.

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

RETIREMENT: NEBF and IBEW PBF application takes at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications. Important numbers for you to write down:
NEBF 301-556-4300
IO Pension 202-833-7000

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Stephen Gay, Bret James, Mark Johnson, Noah Lee, Jody Mansfield, Steven Sunlin and Thomas VanOosten.

Morris Appleby
Business Manager

"Look not mournfully into the past. It comes not back again. Wisely improve the present. It is thine. Go forth to meet the shadowy future, without fear."
—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)

IBEW Local
275's
column –
See Page 10



IBEW
LOCAL 948

IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Meetings.

Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be May 13th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings - Retirees will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month.

Party Committee - For interest in participation please contact President Phil Steele.

AFL Educational Meetings - Attention all members. Before every monthly meeting at 5 PM, our hall will be hosting educational meetings presented by the AFL - CIO. These meetings aim to further educate our members on core regulations, acts, and laws that play a key role in our careers. For any questions or concerns please contact Jenny Wallace.

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 slow with a gradual increase in calls projected post-strike. Steady calls have been available for GM centers. Long term calls for service truck drivers have been made available. 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 new merchandise at our hall. New stock includes shirts, hoodies, hats, and other apparel. For any questions or purchases please contact Jenny Wallace.

Thank You to Carly Rose

for your informative speech on the importance of unemployment reform. We greatly look forward to working further with the AFL-CIO in this coming election season.

Thank you to Sherriff Swanson for attending our latest meeting to speak with our membership. We support and wish you luck on the campaign trail.

Congratulations to Eric Crites on being hired as our latest Organizer. We look forward to having you as an agent of the hall.

Tiger's Party Bus - Attention membership, we are seeking interest in booking a party bus and potentially a sweet to a Tiger's game later this year. Plans will not be made unless sign-ups are secured so please contact Jenny Wallace for any interest.

New Membership - Welcome to our latest members: Cole Dominick, Kenneth Manwell, Corey Adamezyk, Mohammed Ahmed, and James Jacobs. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

Retirees - Congratulations to Marvin Carlson, Michael Poisson, and Charles Reid on your pension applications. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

Draping of the Charter - Our condolences to the families of Melvin Osmon and Bruce Bellingier. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep these Brothers in our hearts.

"I really do believe I can accomplish a great deal with a big grin, I know some people find that disconcerting, but that doesn't matter."
—Beverly Sills (1929 - 2007)



IBEW
Local 445

IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK – IBEW Local 445 Annual Golf Outing The 17th Annual IBEW Local 445 Golf Outing hosted at Binder Park Golf Course is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th, 8am shotgun start. Please contact the Hall for the individual/team registration/sponsorship paperwork.

IBEW Local 445 Member Picnic: the Annual IBEW Local 445 Member Picnic will be at the Hall on September 7, 2024, starting at noon.

Special Called Meeting – Wage Allocation There is a Special Called Meeting scheduled for May 15 at 4:45pm for Wage Allocation. Don't be late. You must have a current paid up dues receipt in order to get into the meeting.

Special Fund – *IMPORTANT* This is a reminder that you may be required to supply proper receipt substantiation for your debit card usage.

Claims prior to August 31, 2023, were issued a 1099 for unsubstantiated claims and no further action is needed for those claims.

For any claims after August 31, 2023, may need substantiation. You will want to sign into the Special Fund website or App to verify if receipts are required. If proper substantiation is not made within 63 days of the Debit Card usage, your card may be suspended until proper substantiation is provided or repayment to the Fund is made.

Wilson-McShane has replaced TICI for our benefit administration as of June 1, 2023. Please have a little patience as the transition has had some bumps that they are smoothing out. You can visit www.michiganelectrical.org to create a new account under the Member Portal tab.

You should have received new Special Fund cards that are white. Please dispose of the old blue cards as they will no longer work.

The website to access your Special Fund is <https://ibewmichigan.lh1ondemand.com/Login.aspx>. There is an app you can download from your app store MI IBEW Special Fund. You can find both links on ibew445.com website under Resource Link.

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

Reminder about Health Plan Advocate. This is a reminder about the Michigan Electrical Health Plan Pharmacy Savings Program. Health Plan Advocates is working with the MEEHP to help the fund and the members to save money on costly prescriptions. If your prescription is over \$400.00, the HPA will check for copay savings cards to get members a \$0.00 payment for that prescription. If you receive correspondence from HPA, either via mail or email, you MUST respond to them to get enrolled. If you don't contact HPA, you could encounter a high deductible/co-pay when you fill that RX on your next refill.

General Membership Meeting is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall.
2024 Personal information Please keep your address, phone number and email address up to date at the Hall. Also, contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall when you need to update them.

Executive Board E-Board meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m.

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

"And that's the world in a nutshell, an appropriate receptacle."
—Stan Dunn



IBEW
LOCAL 252
Since 1916

IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – THE MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE NOTIFIED FOR DISCUSSION OF THE HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT.

BE SURE TO KEEP YOUR 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.

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Felecia Bianco and Austin Deacons on the birth of their son, Luca David Deacons, on March 19, 2024. Luca is grandson to David Bianco, great grandson to Joe Bianco, and great nephew to Bill Bianco.

TRAINING CLASSES 2024: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM. Code Update session 5 Mondays and Thursdays September 9, 12, 16, & 19, 2024 Code Update session 6 Mondays and Thursdays September 30, October 3, 7, & 10, 2024

Code Update session 7, Mondays and Thursdays, October 14, 17, 21, & 24, 2024

Code Update session 8, Mondays and Thursdays, October 28, 31, November 4, & 7, 2024

Code Update session 9, Mondays and Thursdays, November 11, 14, 18, & 21, 2024

Code Update session 10, Mondays and Thursdays, December 9, 12, 16, & 19, 2024

CPR/First Aid Tuesdays June 4, 11, September 3, 10, December 3, 10, 2024

There will be a code update required in 2024 for 2025 license. We have 4 sessions this Winter, Spring and will have six more in the fall. Sessions are limited to 50 people each.

There is a \$50 fee to hold a spot in all classes except First Aid/CPR. You must register one week prior to class start date. Call the Training Center at (734) 475-1180 to register.

There will be a code update required in 2024 for 2025 license. We have 4 sessions this Winter, Spring and will have six more in the fall. Sessions are limited to 50 people each.

JATC INSTRUCTOR OPENING: We will be taking applications for a full-time instructor April 1st thru May 31st. Turn in resume and cover letter to the Ann Arbor Electrical JATC, located at 13400 Luick Drive Chelsea, MI 48118, or email to Hope Salyer at hopes@aeajtc.org. All applications will be kept confidential.

2024 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2024 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2024 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2024! Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks.

Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2024.

Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at www.union4lifecharity.com.

SURPRISE PARTY: There will be a 60th surprise birthday party for Brother Randy Payne on May 11, 2024 from 4-8 p.m. at 9741 Gillett Rd. in Clark Lake. Please RSVP to (517) 920-5518.

RENEW BENEVOLENT DINNER: The RENEW Committee is hosting a spaghetti dinner at the Union Hall on June 26, 2024 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. to raise donations for John Betz. Stop in and eat, or grab dinner for the family and go! We will have euchre, cribbage and other games to play. Cost is \$10/single, or \$30/family. If you'd like to volunteer to help with set up, cooking, serving, clean up, or to just make a donation, please contact Dennis Locks (734) 646-0425, or Dan Beck (810) 858-0033.

PICNIC: This year's picnic will be held at the Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Orban Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240 at noon on August 17th. Please contact the campground at (517) 522-3467 if

IBEW
LOCAL 252

you wish to reserve a site. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dan Beck at (810) 858-0033.

DETROIT TIGERS UNION DAY: We are organizing a bus trip to the Detroit Tigers game against the Baltimore Orioles on September 14th. Tickets are \$30 and include entry to the game, bus transportation, and \$10 Fun Money to spend at the park. To RSVP, contact the Union Hall at (734) 424-0978.

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

RETIRES' BREAKFAST: The Retirees' Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant.

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

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

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

AFLAC INSURANCE: Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate. Contact Representative Lisa Enerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone number: (517) 306-0144.

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

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

CREDIT CARDS: The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3% to use your card.

DUES PAYMENTS - Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/2024, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$131.25 for second quarter 2024. "BA" members pay \$67.80 per quarter for 2024. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now. Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, June 28, 2024. Future Dues Increases:

Effective July 1, 2024: A Members will pay \$134.25 per quarter.

Effective January 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$140.25 per quarter.

Effective July 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$143.25 per quarter.

"I'm an idealist. I don't know where I'm going, but I'm on my way."
—Carl Sandburg (1878 - 1967)



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 13, 2024 @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting – The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, May 13, 2024.

Negotiations - *Important Meeting Notice – At the next regular meeting on May 13, we will have a ratification vote and a wage disbursement vote. As per the IBEW Constitution and By-Laws, only Journeyman Inside Wireman will be allowed to vote for these 2 items. If any CE Premium brothers or sisters want to reallocate any or part of their package, that will be available for them as well. Please let Dave know so we can make an example wage sheet that reflects your request.

75th Anniversary of Local Union 498 – The April 27 celebration was a great time. It was an honor having everyone there. It was a real honor having Sam Bossingham, Charter member in attendance. Everyone in attendance stood up for applause several times in awe honoring his achievements over his 100+ years of life.

Code Update Class – 2023 NEC 15-hour Code Update. Option 1: Online class for Local 498 members only \$70 Call TCJATC for details. 231-943-4193
Option 2: In Person classes for May, June & Sep are all full. More in person classes are being considered. Must pre-register by mail. Member fee \$20 by check or cash. Make Check payable to "TCJATC"

Resale Items – We still have a few select sizes of Local 498 t-shirts, as well as Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing

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

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

Service Pins – Service Pins are still available at the union hall for those members who have not received them.

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

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584. Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

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

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425

NEBF 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300

IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES

Jan 1, 2023 – Dues increase to \$152.10/Quarter.

July 1, 2024 – Dues increase to \$155.10/Quarter.

Info Updates – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

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

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available.

231-943-4980 ext. 2#

"Adapt or perish, now as ever, is nature's inexorable imperative."
—H. G. Wells (1866 - 1946)



IBEW LOCAL 58



IBEW 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

In accordance with the By-laws of Local 58 and the IBEW Constitution, there will be a **Special Order of Business** at the regular membership meeting to be held on: **TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024 @ 6:30 PM, 1358 Abbott Street, Detroit (local Union Hall)**, for nomination of Officers for Local Union No. 58.

BLOOD DRIVE: Our next Blood Drive will be Tuesday, May 21 from 2-7 pm in the basement classrooms at the Union Hall. Please schedule your appointment today at www.red-crossblood.org and enter sponsor code (ibew58), or call 1-800-RED CROSS, (1-800-733-2767) Appointments honored, walk-ins welcome as space permits. Save up to 15 minutes by visiting Red-CrossBlood.org/RapidPass, to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Electrical Industry Training Center is offering Continuing Education classes Please check them out at <http://www.detroit-etc.org/continuing-education/>. If you need assistance in registering for a class, please call the Training Center at 586-751-6600.

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

IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line. \$100 Donation per Brick. NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

Local 58 Dues Department – Look at your Dues Receipt – if your paid-through date shows 09-30-2023, 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 3-30-2024 you owe the \$30 reinstatement fee and will lapse the end of 2nd quarter if dues are not paid. It is Your responsibility to pay your dues on time – this could affect your retirement and death benefit. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone no. Thank you.

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): Next meeting is Tuesday, May 7. Our next event is the Walleye tournament on Saturday May 4 on the Detroit River. All members, family, friends, and other trades are welcome. New this year will be a Battle of the Trades. Any questions or Rules and Registration info please contact Mike Bellhorn 586-612-5964. Weigh in and fish fry and food will be back at local 58 union hall. The 23rd Annual Gaudi Open golf outing will be Friday June 7. Registration details are coming soon. Get your team and money together now because it sells out fast!!

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, May 14, at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 14 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email

address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available.

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Member Appreciation Get Together at Five Iron Golf. A great time was had by all at this show of appreciation for our members and volunteers who always step up to the task.

The DPSCD March Reading month video has been completed and posted for all to see. Thanks again for all of your submissions. We have a lot of events and projects on the horizon this year and we need all hands-on deck. Tickets are available for our quilt raffle. We need to do sales on the jobsite and at the membership meeting on Tuesday, May 21. The Casino Night set for Saturday, July 27, has to be postponed due to the building renovations. More details to come. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, May 28 2024, at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee - will now be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 15, starting at 5:30 pm.

The Political Action Committee (PAC)- If you have questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting you can reach out to our registrars at registrar@ibewlocal58.org. Political Action Committee Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the hall at 5:30 PM.

Local 58's Women's Committee- Our next meeting will take place on May 23, 5:30pm at the Hall and also on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

Local 58 Women's Softball team the Live Wires is open to women players for the 2024 season. Monday nights at Claude Allison Park Redford starting April 29. If interested contact Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563, we would love for you to join us for camaraderie, sportsmanship, and Sisterhood.

Local 58 Motorcycle Group: Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. For more information, please visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Vice President Anthony Anderanin @ 313-999-3829, aanderanin@gmail.com or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info.

Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members: This year the 2024 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 8, Toledo, OH on Aug. 13-16, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday Aug.13. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament this year are Carrington Golf Club (Monroe, MI), Giant Oak Golf Club (Temperance, MI), Maumee Bay State Park Golf Course (Oregon, OH) and the optional scramble at Brandywine Country Club (Maumee, OH). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel, 444 N. Summit St., Toledo, Ohio. Phone no. to the hotel is: 419.244.2444.

There will be a meeting at the Local 58 Union Hall in the basement classroom on Thursday May 2 at 6 PM regarding the Tournament. Entry fees (\$250 per man for the Tournament and \$75 per man for the optional scramble) will be collected and Tournament information will be available at this time. They are anticipating a large showing in Toledo so it will be imperative to have your entry money for the tournament turned in ASAP this year.

All monies must be received by June 1. If you are mailing your payment, mail to: Ron Krajenke, 20244 Edinberg Dr., Macomb, MI 48044. Your entry fee must be RECEIVED before June 1 – if you do not have your entry fee taken care of by that date you will not have a spot in this year's tournament – no exceptions. Any WGA member who is planning on participating in the 2024 Tournament or anyone looking for information or to join the WGA this year should plan on attending this very important meeting.

If you have any questions call Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837.

Local 58 Senior 55+ Softball Team 2024 is getting underway. The games start in May 2024, with practices running through April. Anyone interested in playing or maybe coaching a base or being a scorekeeper, please come on out! We are also going to field a team for the IBEW Midwest tournament this year. It is being held Aug. 9-11, at the Canton softball complex in Canton MI. Those who cannot join the league games but would like to participate in the tournament are welcome. We need a full roster and you do not have to be 55+ for the tournament. We will be getting together for practice once a month until the tournament For more information call Dave Baldino, 586-747-2446; Gerry Cassani, 586-804-8026; or Jim Miles, 586-933-3551.

IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association: We have no board meeting or luncheon in May because of Memorial Day. Our June Board meeting is Wednesday, June 12 in the main conference room at the union hall starting at 10 a.m. Our downstairs room is being occupied by the Contractors that are on board performing the work for the new addition on the back of the union hall. Mark your calendars now for the June Luncheon, which is at Corsi's Banquet Center in Livonia, on Wednesday June 26, 2024, doors open at 11 and lunch is served at 12:30, send your reservations with a check (made payable to the Retirees Association) for \$25 to IBEW #58, Attention Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756, for questions call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885. At our June Board meeting we are having Election of Officers. If you are interested in running for an officer position, please attend the Meeting on June 12, 2024. If you choose to run, joining the board would be expected.

Local 58 Retiree's Association Fall Bus trip: The Retirees Association Bus trip is Sept. 12-17. Traveling to Boston, Salem and Cape Ann. Total cost of the trip is \$845 per person, based on double occupancy. A deposit of \$75 per person, is due when you sign up for the trip. Made payable to the Retirees Association. Balance will be due July 5. Insurance provided by TRAVEL CONFIDENT INSURANCE is recommended, which is a separate payment made payable to the insurance company, which is \$72 per person to join the trip, send your \$75 checks, per person, to Dave Riley, 22700 Grove St., St. Clair Shores 48080-1878. Questions: call Dave at 586 206-8075. DON'T WAIT, SEND YOUR DEPOSIT TO HOLD YOUR SPOT.

Local 58 IBEW Senior Golf Outings 2024: begins Thursday, May 16 at Tyrone Hills Golf Club, 8449 Old US 23, Fenton, MI 48430, tee time 9:30 am; Thursday, June 13, 4335 Elizabeth Lake Rd, Waterford Twp, MI 48328, tee time 9:30 am; Thursday, July 11, Sycamore Golf Club, 48787 North Ave, Macomb, MI 48042, tee time 9:30 am, Thursday, Sept. 12, TBD as of right now; Thursday, Oct. 3, Tanglewood Golf Course, 22805 Country Club Dr, South Lyon, MI 48178, tee time 9:30 am. Call Art DeCoste at 248-887-3396, two weeks in advance for a headcount due to the security deposit at most of the golf courses. Remember, All IBEW Local 58 members are welcome to participate!! Call Art with questions or concerns.

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 5.9%. 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: (Continued next column)



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 6th 2024.**

Executive Board Meeting. The May Meeting will be held at 6 P.M. on **Monday, May 20, 2024.**

Message from the Business Manager. As many of you may have heard by now, Training Director Steve Pahl has resigned from his position and has taken new employment elsewhere. This was tough news for me to hear when Steve made this decision. Although it leaves a huge hole in our apprenticeship program due to the enormous impact Steve made on so many of our Apprentices lives, we wish him nothing but the best of luck moving forward.

As for now, the Bay City JATC apprenticeship committee has named Casey Stoike the Interim Training Director. As many of you are aware, Casey has been an Instructor over at our JATC the last few years. I know Casey does an exceptional job with all of our apprentices. With all this being said, it was decided by the JATC Committee to open up the application process for the Position of Training Director. If you or someone you know has interest in this position, please reach out to myself at the hall (989) 684-4510 and I can give you more details about the application process.

Work in the jurisdiction remains incredibly strong. Please contact the hall if you are not currently working in your home jurisdiction and have interest of doing so. To continue to grow our market share, it is imperative to man the work our contractors have secured. Many calls have received little to no interest on the recorder as of late. As market share continues to climb, wages will be directly correlational.

Contract negotiations will continue through the Spring of 2024 on the inside wireman's agreement. As soon as a tentative agreement is reached the membership will be notified for a ratification vote.

Work Report. Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction that may require additional manpower include:

-Nelson Electric (Currently) GM Powertrain

-J. Rank Electric – continuing work at SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility. Another \$560 Million was allocated by the Biden administration to SK. This phase should begin early fall.

-Master Electric continues Electrical installations on the new Isabella County Jail. More calls for this project are expected. Master also has projects at the Midland Armory and Midland ESA for this summer.

-Countyline has secured Airport Work. Countyline has a Michigan Sugar De-Sugarization Project and also a project at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility.

-Clements Electric Independence Bridge work continues along with Bay Carbon Project, and also work out to the Bay City State Park. Clements has also secured the next phase of work out to Mersen. Work on the 7 Mile grow for Clements Electric should resume any day.

-Conti Electric has many projects

Local 58, con't

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 to your phone number, address, and email.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Jeffrey Bolen, Timothy Chase, Robert Coulston Jr., Alan Danowski, Dominic Palazzola, Glenn Polt, Joseph Rumph, Timothy Stutterheim, and Nicholas Taylor.

Members that have Passed Away: Jim Chase, Former Assistant Manager of Southeastern Michigan/NECA; Phyllis Parrish, Wife to Pension member Robert Parrish; Roger Ryan Father to JIW Lorie Leonetti and Father-in-law to JIW Vincent Leonetti; Amos Williams, Father to Technician I Anwar Williams. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

coworkers to let them know how your life has improved. Let's do our best to not leave any potential members behind.

Agents have been working to expand our contractor base by generating new shop owners within our current membership and assisting smaller signatory contractors performing often overlooked work within our jurisdiction. Residential work, service calls and new commercial buildouts can and should be performed by IBEW wiremen.

As we expect local calls to pick up this spring and into summer, we'd like to remind traveling Brothers and Sisters the importance of manning our own work. Please continue to call the job line and consider all work opportunities available to you. Open calls do present an excellent opportunity to organize new members, but local job openings can serve the existing membership just as well. Our #1 goal is to always have local work available for our journeymen and apprentices.

An additional run of new stickers has been ordered and will be arriving shortly. Pencils, pencil clips and 2024 planners are available now at the hall. Local 692 challenge coins are scheduled to arrive any day. NEC significant changes quick-cards are available through the Training Center. Code update classes have yet to be scheduled. When classes are scheduled, members will be notified.

Union Dues PLEASE NOTE: Effective Jan. 1, 2024, dues will remain \$45.20 per month through June 2024. Effective July 1, 2024, dues will increase to \$46.20 per month. This \$1 per capita increase was approved by the delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

If you have automatic bill pay from your bank or credit union, please make sure to notify them of the increase.

Dues can be paid via phone, on-line, by mail or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. *Please note when using a credit card for payments there will be a 2% charge applied.*

2024 Dues (January 2024 thru June 2024): \$45.20 Monthly 2024 Dues (July 2024 thru Dec. 2024): \$46.20 Monthly

To avoid a reinstatement fee, please remember to keep your dues current.

Retirees Lunch. The May retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 16th at Mulligans Pub, located at 109 Center Avenue in Bay City.

RENEW. 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.

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



FINISHING drywall in an area of the existing hospital at Trinity Health-Brighton is Francisco Galindo of Michigan Painters District Council Local 514. He's employed by ACP.



IBEW Local 275

IBEW Local 275

COOPERSVILLE – The work outlook continues to be very busy, with the potential of several large projects kicking off this Spring and Summer in addition to the work our contractors have already secured. We've had various open job calls for some time and plan to have more over the coming weeks and months. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call you may be interested in.

The next code update will be on Saturday, May 18th at 8:00 am-3:30pm. The cost for members is \$20. There is an online version available for \$40. To register for this class and/or to keep an eye out for future classes go to the JATC website at www.wmejatc.org and click the Code Update Course link. Please get this done early in the year as classes will be limited in the fall.

If anyone is interested in upcoming volunteer opportunities, the Annual Postal Workers Food Drive is on Saturday, May 11th in Muskegon. Please reach out to Walter at the Union Hall if you'd like to volunteer. This event will qualify for community service credits and volunteer reward points.

Planning for the Local 275 Annual Picnic has begun and we are looking at a tentative date of July, 27th. Please mark that date in your calendars and if anyone is interested in volunteering for the picnic, please reach out to Geoff at the Union Hall.

Local 275 will be hosting a Euchre Tournament on May 18 at

the hall. Money raised will go to our annual picnic and will have prizes for winners as well! Please look for more information on this in the coming weeks.

At the time of this writing

the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Craig Holcom, and Steven Shields. Please make every effort to get caught up with your dues as soon as you can.



Generations of Big Red footballers

A SPECIAL EVENT in February was held at the Seminole Shores Assisted Living Home in Muskegon and honored 95-year-old Bob Harkness, a retired member of IBEW Local 275. Seminole Shores and Bob's family, together with the Muskegon Big Red 2023 state championship football team, honored Bob who graduated from Muskegon High School in 1947 and has been an avid supporter of the football program ever since. Also, it just so happened that another retiree, Steve Marshall, had two grandsons who started on this championship team, and they also attended. Seminole Shores provided the refreshments, food, and venue for this. Several Big Red football players along with their line coach, Matt Bolles, presented Bob with a Big Red hat and three different game jerseys. An emotional Bob humbly received these gifts. The jerseys each had the No. 77 on them as that represented the number of years since Bob graduated from Muskegon. Bob's family was as pleased and emotional as he was. All in all, it was a wonderful time, and a big thank you for this celebration for Bob goes out to Seminole Shores and the Muskegon coaching staff and team. It should be noted that the Big Red players are champions not only on the field but off the field as well. Pictured (l-r) are Coach Bolles, Miguel Botello, Ni-Ki Wynn, Ernesto Botello and seated, Bob Harkness.



BENDING A SECTION of conduit while working at the Trinity Health-Brighton hospital project is Evan Olds of IBEW Local 58. He's employed by Centerline Electric.

Unions laud pro-worker rules

(Continued from Page 1) long hours without overtime pay."

Said AFSCME's Saunders: "This rule will fix those loopholes, so more people who spent their careers supporting their communities will now be in a better position to support their families."

*Non-competes: the Federal Trade Commission banned new non-compete agreements nationwide, with exceptions only for existing non-competes for senior executives. And when those agreements lapse, even their successors will be free from non-competes, FTC Chair Lena Khan announced. Many of the non-compete clauses for workers were ridiculous, and included employment requirements signed by fast food workers, who leave their job but can be prohibited to work for competitors for a period of time.

Khan said the new rules will let workers switch jobs to get higher pay without fear of being sued by former bosses. Non-competes now reduce workers' value

to prospective employers and hamper job hunts. The FTC calculated the end of non-competes will, over time, put an additional \$53.29 billion into 101 million workers' pockets.

•Putting pension power to work: The Biden Administration announced that public pension funds holding more than \$1 trillion in assets, combined, must follow pro-worker rules, including company neutrality in union organizing drives, when deciding where to invest their money.

"Every American deserves the right to retire with security, dignity and grace, but far too often their financial future is jeopardized by advisers who put their own interests above those of their clients," said American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten. "Money that could be growing retirees' nest eggs is lost forever – and it is middle-class savers who are punished the most. That charade stops today."

Curbing pension fiduciaries drew high praise from union lead-

ers, and high flak from Louisiana Sen. Bill Cassidy, the top Senate Labor Committee Republican, and from House Education and the Workforce Committee Chair Virginia Foxx, R-N.C., a notorious anti-union lawmaker.

Cassidy said the new rule would hurt low- and middle-income people because the investment advisers would limit their choices for investing their pensions. "This policy imposes burdensome regulations that restrict investing opportunities," he said. Foxx called the new rule "shameful," and pointed out that federal courts bounced a similar Obama Administration predecessor. She also alleged it "infringes on the jurisdiction of state regulators," conveniently overlooking that the financial lobby is adept at capturing those regulators.

Acting Labor Secretary Julie Su said the new fiduciary rule, which takes effect in late September, protects workers, their families and unions "from improper investment recommendations and harmful conflicts of interest."



Michigan Painters District Council



District Council 1M

Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

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

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

Local Union 312

Business Rep: Tim Schwerin

Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

Local Union 514

Business Rep: Scott Mikulen

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

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826

Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

Business Rep – Fred Frederickson

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

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

Local Union 1052

Business Rep – Jake Fluty

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovalle

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

Place: 7677 Midland Road, Free-land, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352

Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland

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

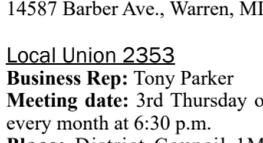
Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.

Local Union 2353

Business Rep: Tony Parker

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

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



Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday June 4, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

"Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome."

–Booker T. Washington (1856 - 1915)

"You must not come lightly to the blank page."

–Stephen King (1947 -)

Painters District Council 1M

WARREN – Dear Members, DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupat-dc1michigan.org

DC 1M UNION CARDS*

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

Freeland Office: (989)695-6888

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP

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

For IPHONE go to IOS store,

For ANDROID go to Google Playstore

Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP

Username: your member id#

Password: painters

With this APP you can access

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

FTI of the Great Lakes up-grade classes. FTI Apprenticeship will be putting on CPR First Aid and Lift Certification classes at the Warren School:

CPR First Aid April 27th at Warren School starts at 9am.

Lift Certification class at Warren School Week of April 29: Mon.-Thurs: 5pm – 9pm

Sat. May 4th starts at 9am.

Sign up for these classes by email to dot@iupatdc1m.org or call Director Shawn Oneill at (517)304-4425.

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

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

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.

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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 7, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in addition to the membership meeting, during the session we will have some contract information after our first day of negotiating.

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2024, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9, 2024, meeting, we will be voting on administering the \$3.00 raise.

Condolences. It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of Brother Aaron "Red" Mach. Brother Mach was 51 years old and a 31-year member. Brother Mach passed on 4/17/2024. Rest in Peace Brother Mach, thank you for your years of service.

Negotiating Committee-Ratification/Informational meetings. Meetings will be scheduled on May 18, 25, and June 1, 2024, at 9 am, at the Detroit Teamsters Hall, 2801 Trumbull, Detroit, MI 48216

Are you interested in sitting on the Pension or Health and Welfare Committee? The search for a Health and Welfare Trustee and Pension Trustee is coming. Nominations are being taken Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at the Membership Meeting.

Are you a strong advocate for yourself and your fellow 149 members? Have you ever considered being a part of your Union's Pension or Health and Welfare Committee?

In order to stand for election, you need to be a Journeyworker in good standing and you must be nominated by another member in good standing at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, or in writing via a nomination acceptance letter addressed to the Recording Secretary by Monday, June 3, 2024, at 5 pm.

Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit. Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check directly 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



Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED



CURT
McGLONE

for allocations. **MANDATORY** for all apprentices. **INSTRUCTORS NEEDED:** The JATC is in need of 2 instructors, one full time the other part time. If interested, please submit a resume to curtmcglone25@aol.com. Please contact JATC Administrator Curt McGlone or Apprentice Coordinator Martin Allen should you have any questions regarding the positions.

SUB FUND BENEFIT: Please be reminded, documentation for SUB Fund benefits must be received by 2:00 p.m. Thursday to receive a benefit check on Friday.

Any documentation submitted after the deadline will be issued the following Friday.

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

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MODULES: It is important to keep your M.U.S.T. Safety Modules up to date. If you have Modules expiring and needing to be completed, give the Union Office a call to have the testing authorization turned on.

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct.

LAY OFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within forty-eight hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine.

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

NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you.

As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

BENESYS: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information. Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members.

In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

SICK AND INJURED: Please keep all our sick and injured members in your thoughts and prayers.



Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Special Called Meeting will be held on Friday, May 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., and it will be held at New J.A.T.C. Training Center, located at 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. Please make note of the new Location for the Union Meeting. The purpose of this meeting is for the Distribution of wages. Please note 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.

Local 47 will be hosting our Annual Picnic on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at Fitzgerald Park, Site 5, and invites have been mailed out. Please mail in your RSVP as soon as possible so we can have a proper headcount to make arrangements. If you have not received your invite please contact the Union Office to let us know how many will be attending from your Party.

This is open for families. The Union Meeting will start at 11:00 a.m., and the awards announcements will be held immediately following the meeting, then lunch will be served. The address for Fitzgerald Park is: 133 Fitzgerald Park, Grand Ledge, MI 48837. Please do not wait until the last minute to mail in your RSVP.

Local 47 will be hosting our annual Golf Outing on Saturday, July 20, 2024 at Royal Scot in Lansing, MI. You can call or text the office with the names of your team by July 5.

The JATC is looking to Hire additional Instructors. If you are interested in becoming an Instructor please mail in a letter stating why you would like to become an Instructor. If you have any questions please contact the Union Office.

Per the Rules and Procedures:

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

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

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion 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
(Continued next column)

Laborers'
International
Union of
North America

LIUNA! LOCAL 1191

Feel the Power

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

DETROIT – Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at www.laborers-local1191.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: General Membership meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays). **The next General Membership Meeting will be held on the 7th of June, 2024. July's General Membership meeting will be held on the 13th of July, 2024. NOTE: There will be no Monthly Membership meeting held the week of July 1, 2024.**

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The next Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 31st of May, 2024. June's Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 28th of June, 2024.**

Union Dues For 2024: Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

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

Local 47 cont'd

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

Good and Welfare: We hope everyone stay in good health!

on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. FYI: It is the Member's responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!

Roll Call: All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first (1st) five (5) days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list.

***Example:** If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't re-register by June 5th your name will be removed from the list.

Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules. You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling (517) 625-4919 or by visiting the training school website at www.mltai.org to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

Training: Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well.** If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

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

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accident/Benefit, Pension and Healthcare fund documents. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable if/when no beneficiary has been designated. **Each of the above individual benefits needs to have a designated beneficiary.**

Death Certificates: Please always submit to the Local Union a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased active or retired members. **FYI: The death certificate is required for any designated beneficiary to receive available benefits.**

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

IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION: Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)

* Telephone: (877) 645-2267

* Fax: (517) 689-6016

* Website: www.michiganlaborers.org

* Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

* Telephone: (248) 641-4942

* Fax: (248) 813-9898

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

* Telephone: (800) 228 0048

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' AND Michigan Laborers' Vacation Funds WPAS

* Telephone: (833) 389-0025 EXT. 3359

"Hegel was right when he said that we learn from history that man can never learn anything from history."
—George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36

DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED, Due to Memorial Day our May Membership Meeting will be CANCELLED. Our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE June 24, 2024, AT 5:30pm at 1640 Porter Street, Detroit, MI. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

We gave out Pins for Years of Service at the April 22, 2024 meeting. If you were unable to attend they are available at the hall.

We also had Aflac at the April meeting for supplemental insurance. If you are interested in signing up for this, contact the hall. I have sent an email with some information from their presentation.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the picnic, contact **Jon Bujan @ (586) 787-1114. The picnic will be on July 27, 2024**

The warmer weather is upon us, stay hydrated, take breaks and be aware of the signs of dehydration and always, wear your PPE and follow company safety policies.

Anyone interested in attending **Tigers Union Night** on September 14, 2024 @ 6:10 pm, I sent an email with a sign-up sheet, fill out how many tickets you want and send it to the hall, or contact the hall.

There will be a Veteran's Day Parade on Sunday November 10, 2024, I will get more information out as it gets closer.

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

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Golf Outing, please contact **Justin Smith @ (248) 709-0341.** Golf outings, like the picnic, take a lot of time and effort to plan and execute, I would like to make this year one of our best outings. We plan on partnering with the New Hope Center for Grief Support who are affiliated with ASPF this year and for many years to come to raise money for this cause. This year's outing will be our first annual Kyle Owsley Golf Outing to raise money for New Hope. If you are a golfer or just want to help volunteer in any way, contact Justin Smith.

To all Mechanics and Temporary Mechanics doing testing in the State of Michigan and City of Detroit, keep good records of your tests. Take a picture/scan of your test forms, make sure you fill out only what you completed. DO NOT leave an unfinished form on a jobsite, or turned in an unfinished form to your company, if you don't finish a test or must come back, take the form with you.

I would like to encourage everyone to use Bill Pay through your bank to pay dues, it is a free service and can be set up for weekly, monthly, or quarterly. We have a few of our members that have already started this, and it seems to be working well. Please call the hall or contact your bank about how this works. If you start using Bill Pay, please let us know and we will call you when your first check arrives.

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 and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work.

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

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

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you MUST call those jobs into 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.

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

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

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

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

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

If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can get you on the email list.

We would like to extend well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!

"We are generally the better persuaded by the reasons we discover ourselves than by those given to us by others."

—Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

"While one person hesitates because he feels inferior, the other is busy making mistakes and becoming superior."

—Henry C. Link

"Our patience will achieve more than our force."

— Edmund Burke (1729 - 1797)

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Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **June 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm.**

Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date.

The **E-Board/Stewards meeting** will be held on **May 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Union Hall.

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

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

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

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

TRUHEARING: On behalf of Sheet Metal Workers Local 292, we would like to introduce TruHearing, the **NEW** exclusive provider of premium hearing aid benefits. This benefit is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact TruHearing at 1-833-898-1255 for an appointment.

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

DUES: Membership dues are required to be **paid in advance of the month for which they are due.** The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are **60 days late.**

To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by **4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month.** Payments received after **4:00 p.m.** on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you **WILL** go suspended.

All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).

LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: The online store is no longer available. If you are interested in purchasing merchandise, please contact Paul or Tony.

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

RETIREES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The 2024 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree luncheon is as follows: **June 6, August 1, and October 3.** We will post the date of the December meeting at a later date. The retirees' luncheon will be held at: *****NEW LOCATION*** Madhouse Bar & Grill @ 12:30 pm, 32787 Stephenson Hwy., Madison Heights MI 48071.** Located on Stephenson Hwy 1 block south of 14 Mile on the west side of the street.

Please contact the union hall via our website www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the "Contact Us" page if you want to be added to the **retiree email list.**

Please join us for lunch, great conversations, and storytelling. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old!!

CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL: The Constitution and Ritual of the 2nd SMART General Convention is now available online. Go to www.sheetmetal292.com, click on the Constitution/Ritual tab located at the top of the home page. The Union Hall will also has hard copies for members who want one.

SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST: Many members have been receiving 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. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions.

It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation be returned to the Fund office in a timely manner. 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.**

TEXT BLAST NOTIFICATION. We have recently updated the text blast contact list. All members have been added. If you haven't been receiving texts and would like to be added or wish to opt out of text blast, please contact the Union Hall and we will make the change.

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

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 248.495.6764.**

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on May 4, May 11, & May 10.

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

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

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

"Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, the lesson afterwards."

–Vernon Sanders Law



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 28, 2024 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2024 at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2024 schedule is as follows: June 17, Aug. 19, Oct. 21 (holiday party) and Dec. 16. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.



**TIM
MULLIGAN**

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

Effective immediately you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax it to 248-557-0297. Your unemployment proof needs to be in by 2pm on Tuesdays to be paid on that Friday. Local 80 will be handling all of your proof now. If you have any questions, please call us at 248-557-7575.

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

GOLF OUTING: Tickets are now SOLD OUT! If you would like to be placed on the waiting list, please call the hall. Please join us on July 13 at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$105 a ticket for members and \$140 a ticket for non-members. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts & danishes, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner. Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket! *Payment must be received to lock in your ticket*

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Neil Yagley, Jonathan Bourcier, Raymond Osborne, Allan Lewis Jr., Thomas Eckerle, Jared Miller, Theo Coatney, Caden Harris, Richard Anderson, Nick DelFavero, Brian Neuman, Todd Lesiak, Brandon Houle, Donald DLuge, Garry Sanchez, Mitchell Weir, Matthew Harding and Alexander Fiend.

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

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 need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well. That is not done through the hall.

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

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

LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off, even if you only work one day. These are the By-Law rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list fourteen (14) days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven (7) days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

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

S.U.B. BENEFITS: Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven (7) days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

OUT-OF-WORK LIST: You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. benefits or SASMI. Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and September 1 through Sept. 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

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

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. Ulliance is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com. **Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.**

NOTARY: We have a notary public available at the hall at no charge. Please call to confirm availability.

SAVE THE DATE: Pre-Retirement Seminar – May 4 • Golf Outing – July 13 • Picnic – August 3

Training Center News. Part-Time Instructor Opportunities. The Joint Apprenticeship Committee is accepting applications for part-time instructors to teach Welding and Sheet Metal Layout classes in the evening. Ideal candidates should have strong knowledge in the subject, shop/field experience and have an interest in helping members improve their skills.

Interested Local 80 members can submit their resume to the "Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee" by email to info@smw80jac.org, as well as in-person or by mail to the Training Center at 32700 Dequindre Road, Warren, MI 48092. Call Matt at the Training Center with any questions.



Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting is **June 13, 2024, at 6 p.m.**

*Zone 1 May 9th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 2 May 21st at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3 May 8th at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

*Zone 3 June 20th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

*Zone 4 May 14th at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

NEWS: Local No. 7 – **Union Hoodies** available through the Lansing office for \$70.00/each (While supplies last). Hoodies are Gray, Black or Navy with White logo. *Payment via check, cash or credit card. Payment must be received before shipping.*

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.labelitcanireport.com and download the official app by texting "SMART" to 90975.

SMART Members Assistance Program provides counselors to speak with members experiencing crisis. Call (877) 884-6227 for 24/7 assistance with Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

ZONE 1 Info. Work in the Zone 1 area remains busy and will increase as we get into spring and summer. 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, MI 49202

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49014 (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 and looks good thru the summer. Dues are always due prior to the first of the month. Keep me informed of any address or phone number changes. As always work safe. **In Solidarity, Mike Adams**

ZONE 3 Info (Saginaw) Thanks to everyone who was able to make it out for the ratification vote Saturday (it passed). Work should be picking up this month. Make sure you let the Lansing office or myself know if your phone number or address has changed. Remember to schedule your physicals this year. Kurt Scheibner was hired as are new full time instructor. Next membership meeting is scheduled for May 8th at the Freeland hall 6:00 p.m.

The next retirees meeting will be June 25 at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City. **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City). Our sincere condolences go out to the family of Ed Bush, who passed away on April 12th. Ed was an exceptional Tinner and was always a positive influence on the jobsite. Thanks to everyone that showed up to ratify our new contract that goes into effect May 1st, your votes are important now and will be in November. We are at full steam with work and if anyone knows anyone that wants to get into our trade have them call me. Mark your calendars, our local picnic this year will be at Timber Ridge Campground in Acme this year on July 20th. No job is more important than going home at night, please work safe. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

ZONE 4 Info: We are gearing up for a productive summer season. With various summer work projects on the horizon, members are eager to make a positive impact in the community. Additionally, the highly anticipated golf outing and picnic are events that should not be missed. These gatherings provide an opportunity for members to bond and enjoy some well-deserved relaxation.

Moreover, for those seeking personal and professional growth, upgrade classes are available. If anyone has questions or requires further information, don't hesitate to reach out to Dan Bryant at the Flint training center. In all it looks to be another great year for work, let's make this summer a memorable and successful one for Local 7. **Your Brother Scott Brotherton**

ZONE 5 Info Work in the U.P. is busy and we have a few travelers up here right now. It should stay that way through the summer now. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next 2 years also so if you don't have your mine safety training make sure you get signed up for that at unconstruction.org.

Cards should be going out soon with the wage disbursement meeting info on it, please try to be in attendance. The retirees are holding their next meeting at Sherrie's in Ishpeming on May 8th at 10 AM. **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 noticed mailed to the last address shall be sufficient and legal. If you have moved or changed your telephone number, please contact the union hall to update your records.

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

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

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

Local 7 Officers:
Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) 517-882-4064

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

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

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

Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112

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

Brandon Langenfeld (Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers 25 NOVI – The May Union meeting (DATE CHANGE) will be Monday, May 13 at 7:00 pm and will be in person and zoom. All are invited to join us!

All Union Halls closed for Memorial Day on Monday, May 27. We wish all our members a safe Holiday!

The results of the Vote for the By-Law Proposal and the wage allocations are posted on our website: www.ironworkers25.org in the member only section. They are also posted on the APP.

The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, May 13 at 6:00 pm. All are welcome!

The Flint Steward meeting CHANGE DATE: will be Tuesday, May 14 at 6 pm. PLEASE JOIN US FOR NARCAN TRAINING. Bring your wife or neighbor, all are welcome, open to the public!

The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, May 30 at 6 pm. All are welcome!

Communications Alerts & E-mails; sign up via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS. 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.

June vacation check schedule: The last day to call to have your June vacation check pulled is Tuesday May 28 at 12 pm (Noon).

Pulled checks will be available at the Novi Hall Thursday May 30, by 2 pm.

All other checks will be mailed to you by the end of business day on Tuesday May 28th.

All members that receive ACH deposits, your vacation check will be transferred on Friday, May 31.

All Vacation checks will be dated Saturday, June 1, 2024.

IMPORTANT: Dependent Eligibility Verification for Health Insurance Benefits coverage is in its final round. PDA Verification Team from Livonia MI is conducting this audit. All members who have dependents (spouse and/ or children) on their health

care must comply. If you missed the mailing somehow, watch your mail for this final mailing coming soon!! PLEASE RESPOND RIGHT AWAY WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR LETTER AS THIS IS VERY TIME SENSITIVE AND CRITICAL TO YOUR CONTINUED COVERAGE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN. ANY QUESTIONS CALL 833-902-4649

HRA/Benny Card Audit is under way and has been mailed out – please respond if you have been contacted.

New Apprentices Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org where you can now make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in your application. **No walk-in foot traffic.**

Apprentices: Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In" this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also, located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & "Welding Test Certifications." You can now electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests.

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to the ironworkers25.org to view the 2024 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Training Schedule. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. The Wixom Training Center – Phone: (248) 960-2130

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

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The mailing address for member BENEFIT related matters is: Iron Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit

Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue Cross Health Claims and Customer Service 877-790-2583. Delta Dental Claims and Customer Service 800-482-8915.

Check your HRA Balance: my.wexhealthcard.com

Check your online benefit information: ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/

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

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

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, May 7 at 8:30 am. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday May 21 at 10 am in Novi. All are welcome.

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

The next quarterly meeting for the Bay City Chapter will be July 18; NEW LOCATION: at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 1:00 pm. All are Welcome.

Downriver Chapter: The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9 am on July 19 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, 48183. All are welcome.

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

FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357.



ERECTING A SCREEN WALL on the roof of the Trinity Health-Brighton hospital project are (l-r) iron workers John LeClair, Jason Wikaryasz and Scott O'Lelley. The Local 25 members are employed by Sterling Erectors.

MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health

Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis. Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT: <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to

741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

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

In Memory: Dennis Gish #930131 passed away April 14,

2024 at the age of 77. He was a 49-year member and is survived by his wife Delores and many friends in the Ironworking Industry. Mark Morton #849521 passed away April 10, 2024 at the age of 73. He was a 53-year member and will be missed by many friends in the ironworking industry. **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 29, 2024 9:30 am E.S.T.).



ASSEMBLING A SCREEN WALL atop the Trinity Health-Brighton hospital project are (l-r) iron workers Edward Lane and Noah Davenport. The Local 25 members are employed by Sterling Erectors.

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry. Call for a FREE consultation.



By Aaron Switzer
Fisheries Division
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

With a 2023 state general fund budget appropriation of \$30 million, six Michigan Department of Natural Resources fish hatcheries are being improved by updating outdated and aging infrastructure.

Several of the sites have only seen limited updates or upgrades since the late 1970s—facilities and equipment pushing 50 years old. I think about my own body at 50 and often wonder when my body parts are going to fail.

In terms of our critical hatcheries, managers don't want to be left wondering whether today might be the day that something vital to operations gives out.

Unfortunately, this happened recently, which reduces our ability to fulfill our mission to protect and enhance Michigan's fisheries.

In the spring and summer of 2021, the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery experienced three major power failures. The primary electrical infrastructure failed at three separate points during that time. Also, the primary electrical distribution system was failing. This was a real wake-up call for the Fisheries Division and the DNR.

Planning had already been underway for a substantial funding request to address the needs for capital improvements at our hatcheries. These failures highlighted the critical need to invest in Michigan's hatchery infrastructure.

Then the pandemic hit, and we had to postpone some operations, including egg collections for steelhead that year. Had we taken steelhead eggs in 2020, we later realized that it likely would have resulted in most, if not all, of the eggs being lost with the infrastructure failures—a blessing in disguise from the coronavirus pandemic.

It is apparent that the scale of the projects at our six hatcheries is huge and likely the most substantial investment in our hatcheries for decades. For starters, we began by building internal teams to develop a plan to tackle the array

Outdoors

Improving fish hatcheries



CHILDREN ENJOY a school outing on an observation deck at Oden State Fish Hatchery and Visitor Center in Alanson. The facility is due for \$2.6 million in upgrades.

MDNR photo

of projects we had on the board and crafting a vision of where our greatest needs occurred.

We realized that we may not have enough funding to do everything that our hatcheries needed given changes in the economy, including inflation and supply chain concerns, as well as the decade-long backlog in major maintenance and repair projects.

To address this, we initiated a process of prioritization. We teamed up with Hobbs + Black Architects of Lansing, who have brought on many top-notch design firms, including McMillen Inc. of Boise, Idaho, which is one of the nation's best aquaculture design and construction firms.

Construction will be managed by Spence Brothers Construction of Traverse City for the northern three facilities and Christman Constructors of Lansing for the southern three facilities.

Technology has improved tremendously since the hatcheries were originally built, and reducing energy usage across the board will save on utility expenditures.

Construction contracts will likely be executed this coming summer. Meetings and strategiz-

ing will continue as construction begins and the details of the projects for the coming three years are finalized.

Here is a closer look at what exactly will be happening over the next three summers.

Marquette State Fish Hatchery (\$3.5 million in upgrades) in Marquette Co. houses brood stock for our brook trout, lake trout and Arctic grayling programs. It is also a production facility that stocks brook trout, lake trout and splake in Michigan waters.

The Marquette hatchery is slated to get a new roof on the hatchery building and a new energy-efficient boiler, as well as updated HVAC controls in 2024. A new brood-isolation building will be built to replace the current crumbling structure. Leveling of settling concrete around the facility to improve accessibility will cap off the 2025 projects. In 2026, the facility will be completely repaved.

Thompson State Fish Hatchery (\$3.5 million in upgrades) in Schoolcraft Co. produces steelhead and Chinook salmon for stocking in Michigan waters. Thompson is also home to a cool-water facility that supports

walleye and muskellunge rearing.

The 2023 capital outlay package included many needed upgrades to the cool-water facility.

Thompson is slated to have a new truck storage building built in 2024 at the cool-water facility to house fish-stocking vehicles and various fish-rearing equipment used at the new facility. Resurfacing concrete in the production raceways and indoor rearing units should vastly improve fish quality and health in 2025.

Improving hatchery insulation and dehumidification as part of updating HVAC systems will improve energy-efficiency efforts. In 2026, the cold-water facility will be completely repaved, and the cool-water facility will be partially paved.

Oden State Fish Hatchery (\$2.6 million in upgrades) in Emmet Co. houses brood stock for brown and rainbow trout programs. It is also a production facility that stocks brown and rainbow trout in Michigan waters.

Ongoing projects including a Parshall flume, for measuring discharge flow, and well-reclamation work. Repairing and repaving the hatchery visitor center parking lot

and infrastructure maintenance for the building and a historic fish railcar are taking center stage at Oden in 2024. A new domestic well for the drum screen building will improve effluent management.

In 2025, a new disinfection station will be constructed, to improve biosecurity for fish-stocking trucks coming on-site following stocking trips. The main hatchery building will get modifications to the roof and new siding.

In 2026, workers will be repaving the trails, roads and entryways as well as filling cracks and sealing the asphalt around the hatchery, brood and raceway buildings. The Oden and Platte River hatcheries have similar automated fish-feeding systems that are both being upgraded with new controls and feed-delivery options using the current infrastructure for those systems.

Platte River State Fish Hatchery (\$6 million in upgrades) in Benzie Co. produces Atlantic, Chinook and coho salmon for stocking in Michigan waters. Additionally, the Platte River facility produces walleye fry for the DNR's walleye program.

A couple of ongoing projects were completed in 2023, including stabilizing the Lower Platte River Weir and installing new roofs on the administration, hatchery and service buildings. In 2024, resurfacing concrete maturation ponds built in the 1960s, for holding return adult coho salmon, and replacing a backup generator and associated electrical distribution from the same era are scheduled.

For 2025, projects will include shoring up the exteriors, including doors and windows, damaged by previous poor roof conditions and age of buildings that received new roofs in 2023. In 2026, the facility will be repaved, and pavement will be added.

Harrietta State Fish Hatchery (\$3.5 million in upgrades) in Wexford Co. produces Atlantic salmon, brown trout and rainbow trout for stocking in Michigan waters.

A new backup generator, electrical distribution panels, aeration pumps with variable frequency drives, boiler and two new backup generators at production wells will bring Harrietta up to speed with new energy-efficient electrical systems in 2024.

A new truck storage building

for stocking trucks, resurfacing concrete raceways and a new automated fish-feeding system will round out the projects scheduled for 2025. No new projects for the Harrietta facility are anticipated in 2026 as the repaving was completed this past year, although some repaving projects may continue into 2026.

Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery (\$11 million in upgrades) in Van Buren Co. produces steelhead and Chinook salmon for stocking in Michigan waters. Wolf Lake also supports the walleye and muskellunge rearing programs.

There is a current primary power, electrical distribution project underway that is supported by the funding allocation. Re-drilling two production water wells to replace two that have outrun their useful lives will greatly improve fish-rearing conditions.

Two new backup generators, electrical distribution panels, aeration pumps with variable frequency drives and two new backup generators at the new production wells will bring Wolf Lake up to date with new energy-efficient electrical systems in 2024.

For 2025, projects will include new roofs on the visitor center and hatchery buildings. A new cool-water building will be constructed, bolstering the walleye and muskellunge programs. Relining rearing ponds, resurfacing concrete raceways and indoor rearing tanks, constructing a new maintenance building and a new automated fish-feeding system will round out the projects for the year.

Finally, in 2026, the entire facility will be repaved.

The Wolf Lake hatchery will receive the most amount of funding from the state allocation at \$11 million for its scheduled improvements.

At the end of the day, we will have put blood, sweat and tears into these projects. We don't really have anything flashy or shiny to show for it yet, but results are coming. The next three summers will be busy with construction projects moving forward at a hatchery near you.

Please excuse our mess and watch your step when you come to visit us, but take in the amazing upgrades to our fish hatcheries that will pay dividends to enhancing our fisheries for decades to come.

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