

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

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## SHORT CUTS



### Primary election set for Tuesday, Aug. 5

With the state's Tuesday, Aug. 5 primary election less than six weeks away, absentee ballots will soon be in the hands of the state's voters.

The Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its affiliated local councils have compiled on Page 4 a limited list of endorsed candidates for the primary.

### Material price hikes accelerate

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Construction input prices increased 0.2 percent in May compared to the previous month, according to an Associated Builders and Contractors analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Producer Price Index data released June 12.

Nonresidential construction input prices increased 0.3 percent for the month. Overall, the ABC said construction input prices are 1.3 percent higher than a year ago, while nonresidential construction input prices are 1.6 percent higher.

"Construction materials prices continued to increase at a faster-than-ideal pace in May," said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. "While input prices are up just 1.3 percent over the past year, that modest escalation is entirely due to price decreases during the second half of 2024. Costs have increased rapidly since the start of this year, with input prices rising at a 6 percent annualized rate through the first five months of 2025."

"Accelerating input price escalation is largely due to rapid price increases for tariff-affected goods like iron and steel," said Basu.

### GOP Medicaid cuts would hit everyone

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The AFL-CIO released a new analysis June 17 showing that the Medicaid cuts Senate Republican leaders are pushing through the budget reconciliation process would raise health care costs for everyone, including an estimation of up to \$485 a year for the 179 million people with employment-based insurance.

The research shows that if it becomes law, the bill would result in higher premiums, less access to emergency rooms and fewer providers available to provide care – not only for people who use Medicaid, but for millions more working people across the country.

"This budget reconciliation bill makes it seem like cutting Medicaid is going to save taxpayers money when it's really going to cost all of us more – all to give tax breaks to the rich," said AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler.

The analysis shows that 16 million Americans would lose health coverage entirely, pushing more patients into urgent care and emergency rooms—driving up costs for everyone across the health care system. And for the 179 million workers with job-based insurance, premiums could soar by nearly \$500 a year for each person covered and nearly \$2,000 annually for a family of four.

States would be forced to gut other vital services to close the gap left by federal cuts. Funding for schools, fire departments and infrastructure projects will be jeopardized, the analysis says, putting state and city essential workers' jobs on the chopping block.

### Quotable

*"Absolute faith corrupts as absolutely as absolute power."*  
—Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)

## Trump edict, surprisingly, sustains PLAs on federal jobs

OMB says PLAs can be 'practicable and cost-effective'

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Didn't see this one coming.

The Office of Management and Budget on June 12 issued a memo presumably intended for federal contractors, outlining the Trump Administration's surprisingly neutral stance on the use of taxpayer-funded project labor agreements (PLAs).

Given Trump's deserved reputation as an historically anti-

union president – having by Executive Order rescinded the collective bargaining rights for 1 million federal workers – his stated reasonable PLA stance came as a breath of fresh air to the nation's building trades unions.

Meanwhile, his ardent supporters at the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors issued a rare public rebuke of the president.

OMB Director Russell Vought wrote that some fed-

eral agencies have issued "overly broad" deviations to federal regulations related to PLAs. "For clarity," he wrote in the memo, "The Trump Administration supports the use of PLAs when those agreements are practicable and cost effective, and blanket deviations prohibiting the use of PLAs are precluded."

For the nation's building trades unions and their contractors, that's the kind of reasonable language they can get behind.

After all, labor unions have maintained that the availability of PLAs are just a tool in the toolbox of the collective bargaining process. Implementing the use of a PLA on a construction project gives owners and contractors ready access to a skilled labor pool with consistent wage rates, no-strike, no lockout guarantees, and the ability to assure a safety trained, drug-tested workforce.

PLAs don't always have  
(Continued on Page 3)



THEY MIGHT BE ABLE to squeeze in a few more solar panels on the roofs of the IBEW Local 58 union hall in Detroit, but undoubtedly the space for collecting energy from the sun has been maximized. And that's the point of an ongoing project at the union hall – to make the building an advanced demonstration model for energy efficiency.

Photo credit: IBEW Local 58

## Energy efficiency powers IBEW 58's union hall transformation

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

DETROIT – At the very least, IBEW Local 58 is striving to make its union hall and grounds as independent from the electrical grid as possible.

Ultimately, there's a much broader goal involved with the ongoing transformation of energy capture, conservation and use at the union hall: the introduction of next-generation solar panels, battery storage, geothermal, insulation and a system to manage their use that will make IBEW 58 a regional industry showcase for clean energy applications.

The process started about a decade ago with a feasibility study, and a vote of the union membership to approve the process. Over the subsequent years, energy-efficient upgrades in the building envelope and the introduction of solar panels and other improvements have come in phases. This year, a project managed by Roncelli has expanded the footprint of the building and turbocharged the green energy improvements at the union hall.

"With close to 5,000 members, we aim to empower working people across Southeast Michigan in everything we do," said IBEW Local 58 Business Manager James Soosik. "That's why we, as a union, decided to turn our 33,000-square-foot

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LOCAL 58's union hall addition, at left, is enveloped in an advanced insulation package to coincide with the building's green energy goals. Much of the space will be devoted to activities that help the community.



SETTING UPSWITCH GEAR at the IBEW Local 58 expansion and energy upgrade project are (l-r) Mitch Shafer and Pat McTevia of IBEW Local 58. They're employed by Motor City Electric.

## Union leaders warn green energy reversal would be a jobs killer

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As the U.S. Senate takes its turn debating the ruling Republican massive tax and spend budget reconciliation bill, building trades union leaders are continuing to sound the alarm that the current version of the legislation eliminates federal tax credits that support some 3 billion hours of work for the nation's Hardhats.

A press conference was held on June 12 by building trades union leaders and various lawmakers to highlight the legislation's lowlights in what President Trump has dubbed the "Big, Beautiful Bill" that has passed the U.S. House and has been debated in the Senate for the past several weeks.

"When Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act in 2022, it made a promise: to create tens of thousands of good jobs for a decade by investing in criti-

cal energy infrastructure," said Laborers International Union President Brent Booker. "That promise is already being fulfilled – with projects underway that are powering communities and creating family-supporting jobs across America. Even more are on the horizon."

"But all of that progress is now threatened by the so-called 'Big Beautiful Bill' tax legislation passed by the U.S. House. This legislation would eliminate good, blue-collar jobs to pay for trillions in tax breaks for the wealthy. If passed, it could jeopardize as many as 1.75 million construction jobs – equal to more than 3 billion hours of work."

Trump, no fan of green energy, has already terminated allocations for 24 federal projects started by the Biden Administration and underwritten by the Office of Clean Energy

(Continued on Page 3)

## GOP government budget cutters eye eliminating workplace protectors

## Federal Wage & Hour staff targeted for 31% cut

By Mark Gruenberg  
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI) – Among the many potential casualties in the federal government found in the "Big, Beautiful Bill" adopted by the Republican-majority U.S. House are reductions that would take place in both people and money enforcing labor laws and laws against wage theft.

Enduring almost three hours full of evasive answers, Democrats on the House Education and the Workforce Committee confronted President Trump's Labor Secretary, Lori Chavez-DeRemer.

They forced her to acknowledge that under a skeleton version of Trump's proposed budget for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, the number of workers in the U.S. Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division would decline from 1,313 when Trump took office to 906 in that new fiscal year – a 31 percent cut.

The Wage and Hour Division budget would take a 19 percent hit, down \$25 million, too. Chavez-DeRemer downplayed the figures. "More dollars do not necessarily complete the job," she said.

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## OSHA budget aims at safety inspections for 1/3 reduction

By Mark Gruenberg  
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI) – A proposed cut to OSHA's budget would cut job safety inspections nationally by 33 percent, or about 10,000 fewer visits.

U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, who sits on the Senate Labor Committee, unveiled the numbers during a confirmation hearing for the man who would be President Trump's new OSHA administrator, David Keeling. He is a current top safety and health officer for nonunion FedEx, and a prior health and safety specialist, working his way from the bottom up, at unionized UPS.

Baldwin challenged Keeling on how he would keep workers safe and healthy on the job with a budget cut – which other sources put at \$50 million overall for OSHA – and an inspection cut like that. Trump would allot \$219.34 million for enforcement, down 13 percent.

"The administration's actions so far and its budget requests make it completely clear what they will be instructed to do" – which is to initiate budget cuts, Baldwin told her senatorial colleagues about four Trump nominees, including Keeling, who

(Continued on Page 3)

## Positive momentum in latest brew of construction stats

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

Three straight months of declining U.S. construction spending contrasts with an industry that is seeing strong hiring, pay, and momentum.

The latest government numbers show that the trend of slowing U.S. construction spending through April has several contrasts. A June 6 Bureau of Labor Statistics report says that monthly employment in the building sector increased by 4,000 jobs in May, the jobless rate fell to 3.5 percent (a steep 2.4 percent drop from April) and average hourly wages

rose by 4.7 percent. Moreover, the latest Dodge Data and Analytics' "Momentum Index" for U.S. construction rose 3.7 percent in May – and was up 24 percent from 12 months prior.

"Nonresidential planning continued to accelerate in May,

primarily driven by strong project activity on the institutional side" of the momentum index, said Sarah Martin, associate director of forecasting at Dodge Construction Network, on June 7. "Planning momentum moderately improved on the commercial

## Update: New Soo lock on track; Phase 3 advances

SAULT STE. MARIE – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded a total of \$95.3 million toward the ongoing and remaining Phase 3 work to build a new lock.

The remaining work, which

has been awarded to Kokosing Alberici Traylor, includes downstream work, hands-free mooring, and downstream ship arrestors.

Construction of Phase 3 actually began in late 2022, and if the anticipated funding comes

through from Congress, is expected to last seven years.

The New Lock at the Soo will be constructed in the footprint of the Sabin Lock and will be the same size as the Poe Lock (1,200 feet long, 110 feet wide and 32

feet deep). It is a lock vital to the nation's economy, because there is no replacement in place for the Poe Lock, which is the only lock at the Soo capable of handling the longest freighters in the Great Lakes.

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Viewpoints



A historically bad bill

The giant Trump Republican bill now before the Senate – Trump’s so-called “One Big Beautiful Bill” – cuts taxes for high earners and reduces benefits for the poor and working class.

This would make it more regressive – harming low-income Americans while benefiting high-income Americans – than any major tax or entitlement law in many decades, if not in history, according to new estimates by the Congressional Budget Office.

It would raise after-tax incomes of the highest-earning 10 percent of American households on average by 2.3 percent a year over the next decade. It would deliver its biggest benefits to the top 0.1 of 1 percent of households.

At the same time, it would lower incomes for the poorest 10th by 3.9 percent, or by about \$1,600 per year per household – mostly by cutting spending on health care (Medicaid), food assistance (food stamps), and other programs that benefit the poor and working class.

America has tried so-called “trickle-down” economics before – under Reagan, George W. Bush, and the first Trump Administration – but nothing trickled down. The rich got richer, and almost everyone else fell behind. Meanwhile, the federal budget deficit and national debt soared.

This bill is even worse because it finances part of the tax cuts to the rich by reducing benefits to lower-income Americans. And it is projected to add about \$3 trillion to the federal deficit over the next decade (including interest).

The Trump Republican “One Big Beautiful Bill” would be a disgrace under any circumstance. At a time when inequalities of income and wealth in America are wider than they have been in more than 80 years – with the richest Americans taking home near-record amounts of both — and the deficit and national debt already at record levels, the bill is utterly shameful.

Robert Reich  
Professor Emeritus, University of California-Berkeley

Stop messing with NIOSH

In 1970, Congress created the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) with a straightforward mandate: use science to keep workers alive and healthy. More than 50 years later, NIOSH’s research, recommendations and certification programs have influenced almost every aspect of workplace safety in the United State, and arguably around the world.

In March, sweeping Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) layoffs eliminated roughly 850 of NIOSH’s 1,000 scientists, physicians, engineers and support staff in the name of ‘efficiency’ and saving money. NIOSH is the sole federal agency in the U.S. tasked with conducting research on and making evidence-based recommendations to prevent work-related injury, illness and death.

Independent analysts estimate that every federal dollar invested in NIOSH returns \$4-\$6 in avoided medical costs and productivity losses. In 2024, the agency’s budget was \$362.8 million, which equates to roughly \$2 for each of the U.S.’s 161 million workers.

The layoffs caused several NIOSH labs to shut down, effectively paralyzing the agency and halting its critical research efforts. In Pittsburgh, respirator certification and approval at the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory – the only U.S. lab authorized to test and certify respiratory personal protective equipment (PPE) – came to a halt. Without NIOSH approval, the safety and effectiveness of a respirator cannot be guaranteed, leaving frontline workers at risk of being exposed to airborne pathogens and toxic chemicals on the job.

Inhalation and toxicology exposure labs in Morgantown, West Virginia also shuttered as a result of the layoffs. These labs study the health effects of workplace chemical exposures, including long-term studies on emerging chemicals, wildfire smoke and black lung disease. In addition, all four NIOSH radiography teams were furloughed, pausing black lung screenings for 20,000 miners annually and jeopardizing early-detection efforts.

The 9/11 World Trade Center Health Program was also impacted by the reduction in force. NIOSH employs doctors who participate in the review process of 9/11 first responders who have developed chronic illnesses – a group which includes brave LIUNA members. This ensures survivors can qualify for care under the World Trade Center Health Program

**300 workers reinstated: A step in the right direction.** In response to these devastating cuts, over 460 organizations – including unions, trade associations, lawmakers and even manufacturers – rallied to get NIOSH workers reinstated. Through letters, lawsuits and public outcry, our industry continues to urge Congress and this administration to reverse the layoffs and preserve NIOSH’s vital mission. This strong, bipartisan, cross-industry effort is making progress. HHS recently reinstated over 300 employees working on respirator certification, black lung disease and the 9/11 World Trade Center Health Program.

This is a step in the right direction, but it falls short of what is needed, which is the full restoration of NIOSH’s foundational programs and staff. The health and safety infrastructure needed to protect American workers depends on a fully functional NIOSH. Especially at this critical time when emerging technologies, new disease outbreaks, increased extreme weather and changes in workplace demographics all bring the potential for more workplace hazards, not less.

**NIOSH work we still need restored.** NIOSH has played a vital role in preventing heat-related worker deaths and illnesses. Their pioneering work – including the foundational physiological research for OSHA standards, acclimatization best practices and the internationally recognized Wet Bulb Globe Temperature guidelines – have defined heat safety. The OSHA-NIOSH Heat Safety phone app exemplifies their commitment to providing real-time heat index data with life-saving work-rest recommendations.

Another one of NIOSH’s unique services is the Health Hazard Evaluation program, through which NIOSH responds to requests from workers, employers and government agencies to assess potential workplace health risks. These onsite studies determine whether workers are overexposed to hazardous materials or subjected to harmful conditions. NIOSH also conducts Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation investigations, which analyze selected fatal occupational injuries to pinpoint hazards and form preventative recommendations for the future.

NIOSH also fosters critical collaboration and vital innovation through the National Occupational Research Agenda. NORA works to translate crucial research insights into practical, real-world solutions that directly benefit working people. These collaborative efforts have significantly contributed to reducing workplace injury and illness among LIUNA members, safeguarding their health and well-being on the job.

Workplace safety is not a political issue, it’s an American issue. Advances in workplace safety and health will not manifest from funding cuts, reduced education or stagnation in the fields of science and technology.

There is a clear choice to make: invest in evidence-based prevention and restore a fully functioning NIOSH or pay the price in preventable injury and disease in the future.

Nate Schreiber  
Laborers Health and Safety Fund of North America

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

How to contact us –

By mail: Building Tradesman Editor  
1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216

e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

IBEW 58’s union hall transformation

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union hall into a pinnacle of energy efficiency and cost savings.

“Our renovation efforts got rolling almost a decade ago, and since then we have installed state-of-art clean-energy technologies, like a geothermal grid, heat pumps, solar panels, LED lights, and energy efficient windows.

“Since the renovation, energy use has decreased 76 percent and our annual electric bill has dropped by nearly \$57,000. We turned our union hall into the Zero Net Energy Center to serve as a blueprint of possibility in our community. We wanted to show our neighbors and fellow working people that taking action to protect our environment can also help our bottom line.”

Tasked with overseeing the ongoing construction project for the union is Local 58 Assistant Business Manager Andrew Dueweke. He said the union hall has not achieved zero net energy usage status yet – meaning the solar panels and related upgrades have not made the building self-sufficient in terms of energy usage. But the completion of the ongoing work, expected in the next two months, is expected to make that happen. Any extra energy produced by the system is expected to power Level 3 electric vehicle chargers in the union hall’s parking lot.

Three large solar arrays placed in the union hall’s parking lot will track the sun for maximum efficiency during the course of the year and add an additional amount of power to the system. On-site storage provided by four large batteries would allow the building to operate three to five days in the event of a total power outage at the site.

The ongoing work is more than making the building a showcase for sustainable energy applications. The addition will add about 10,600 square feet to the union hall, plus two additional levels on the south side of the building. In addition to adding

A policy of being mean is no way to operate a government

By Jim Hightower

There is a species of birds named “superb starlings,” and I propose that we elect one of them to be our next president.



That’s because these wise creatures have figured out how to make egalitarianism central to their society, with a diversity of birds actively supporting each other. When bringing food back to their chicks, for example, adult starlings commonly share some with hatchlings of an unrelated flock. In turn, those birds repay the good deed in later breeding seasons.

Contrast this bird-nest ethic of the Common Good with the culture of right-wing minginess now being pushed furiously by Trump’s kakistocracy of billionaires and despotic ideologues.

Four of his overprivileged cabinet appointees, for example (Bobby Kennedy, Mehmet Oz, Brooke Rollins, and Scott Turner) recently ganged up on hard-hit poor families who receive modest public help for essential human needs, like food and health care.

The four politicians piously wailed that welfare programs are an intolerable burden on wealthy taxpayers, so they intend to slash spending by forcing the poor to take jobs before getting any public help.

But their claim that hordes of worthless sponges are living high on food stamps and Medicaid is the same BS such plutocrats always spread when trying to keep our society from being as smart, decent, and ethical as starlings. Their scolding dictate that “you must work” is pointless grandstanding. Nearly all Medicaid recipients, for example, already have jobs – or they are children, seniors, or disabled.

There’s a four-letter vulgarity that fits Kennedy, Oz, Rollins, and Turner: “Mean.” Okay, technically, “mean” is not an obscenity, but when powerful tax-paid elites like them are mean to poor people for political gain, they are, in fact, obscene... and disgusting.



A TRIO OF PIPE FITTERS set a VRF cassette used in the heating and cooling system of the addition to the IBEW Local 58 union hall in Detroit. The Local 636 members include Dan Stuckey, Scott Haugh and Kevin Locher. They’re employed by Conti.

office and outdoor roof areas, the new space will include a battery room, a maintenance garage, a loading dock, community meeting space, public restrooms accessible from outside, a kitchen and a walk-in refrigerator/freezer. The food-related space and loading dock will be available for use by the Local 58-sponsored “Wobbly Kitchen, which helps feed the hungry in Detroit twice a month.

“Beyond making this a showcase for zero energy usage, much of this project is about helping the community,” Dueweke said. “Local 58 does a lot of volunteer work, and much of this project is devoted to making the space more efficient for our

members to do what they do, like work with the Wobbly Kitchen.”

Acting as architect for the project is Jim Yu, employed by Sy Design. He said the the combined total power rating for all three unique Mechatron solar tracking arrays in the parking lot, each 35 x 60 feet, is 183,200 kilowatts. And that will help the IBEW 58 project become the largest net zero energy center east of the Mississippi River.

“It’s an architect’s dream project,” Yu said. “I’ve been given the leeway to explore a number of innovative solutions, and explore a lot of building science in order for them to achieve the goals they have for zero net energy use.”

Yu said the union hall’s new electrical works would also act as a “demonstration center” for journeymen and apprentices studying green energy applications, and anyone else interested on achieving a net zero energy goal.

“Local 58 wanted to walk the walk, and give their journeymen and apprentices an opportunity to touch and see the technology that’s going into this building, and see the theories that are being applied,” Yu said. “It’s a 1960s-era building that’s being turned into a high-performance, zero-energy energy demonstration center. I’m extremely proud of the project, and it’s a privilege and an honor to be involved.”



SOLAR TRACKING panels that tilt to follow the sun offer a super-efficient way to collect energy. Three of these 35x60-foot panels are set in the parking lot of IBEW Local 58.

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# BUILDING MICHIGAN!

## The headquarters for WWII gun stocks

### HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy

“The arm that holds the distinction of being manufactured in greater numbers than any other U.S. military firearm of World War II is the “U.S. Carbine, Caliber .30, M1,” says a 2016 article in the National Rifle Association’s magazine, *American Rifleman*. “The carbine was chiefly intended for issue to military personnel—including some officers – who would have been too burdened by the heavy M1 Garand rifle to carry out their primary duties. By the time production ceased in 1945, some six million carbines had been manufactured by 10 different prime contractors, and carbines were widely issued in all theaters of the Second World War.”

One of the key contractors who played an outsized role in the manufacture of the M1 carbine during World War II was the S.E. Overton Co. of South Haven. Agreeing to a contract to build the rifle stocks and hand guards, the company in 1941 ripped out its works that cut, lathed and sanded its highly successful line of domestic wood products, and in its place, installed machinery to carve and finish 2.6 million walnut stocks for the M1 rifle.

The company, which for more than three decades had experience making a wide variety of wood products, applied its know-how to build the gun stock for use of American GIs.

Now (and then) a wonderful Lake Michigan beach town, South Haven, like hundreds of other small American communities, became a key hub in the production of war materiel during the war. In South Haven, that was because of the presence of a mid-size wood products manufacturing plant, the S.E. Overton Co.

Samuel Edward (S.E.) Overton was born in Chicago in 1875. His company was founded in 1902 in that city as a manufacturer of wood carvings – ornamental pieces for high-grade furniture and cabinets, as well as interior trim for residential and commercial buildings. One of Overton’s customers, piano manufacturer Cable Nelson, moved up from Chicago around Lake Michigan to South Haven in 1905, and Overton followed in 1908.

Overton got a great deal from the South Haven Board of Trade: they built him a two-story, 50x100-foot factory about one mile south of downtown and would turn over ownership of the building to him after he paid \$50,000 in wages. Twenty employees and their families moved from Chicago to South Haven to make the place work. Wood-working machinery was also imported from the Chicago plant.

The plant made a variety of wood fixtures, but their largest customer remained the Cable Nelson Piano Co. next door. Overton soon built a power plant on site to meet its electrical needs. By 1912 Overton was employing about 75 and was shipping premium wood products across the U.S. and Canada.

In 1923 Overton began a key relationship with General Motors, making wood parts for GM’s Inland Division. They made interior wood “garnish” moldings for vehicles as well as segments for steering wheels. The South Haven plant subsequently made picture frames, baseball bats for Spaulding, venetian blinds, wooden guy wire guards, ornamental serving trays and novelties.

Prior to Samuel’s death in 1942, he handed over the reins



BUILT IN 1908, the S.E. Overton Co. plant in South Haven was the manufacturing site of a vitally important product during World War II – M1 carbine wooden gun stocks. The plant has been demolished and the site awaits redevelopment. Photo credit: South Haven Herald-Palladium

of the company to his two sons. By 1941, the S.E. Overton Co. had grown to encompass two adjacent factories located on Elkenburg Street, Indiana Avenue and the Pere Marquette Railroad line. The nation had already been gearing up for war production, and GM’s Dayton, Ohio-based Inland Division was assigned to build the .30 caliber M1 carbine, a lightweight, semi-automatic rifle. Inland at the time was a center for steering wheel production, and then teamed with Overton to build the gun’s wood components.

“Inland knew nothing about wood!” wrote Grafton and Barbara Cook in their book, *The M1 Carbine, A Revolution in Gun Stocking*. “This job was left to the S.E. Overton Co. of South Haven, who drastically modified both the stock and hand guard. Mass-produced metal components required mass-produced wood components. And it was the S.E. Overton Co. that also solved the assembly problems experienced by Inland with the metal folding M1A1 when Royal Typewriter, the original subcontractor, dropped the ball in May 1944.”

At Overton during the war, their Plant 1 was devoted to entirely to the production of M1 Carbine stocks. It contained the office, power plant, lumber dry kilns, dry storage and 149,229 square feet of floor space. A “photo frame” building (Plant 2) was devoted entirely to the manufacture of picture frames, encompassing 35,125 square feet. The factories were two-story brick structures, and including an air-drying yard, encompassed 350,000 square feet.

Walnut was used for the vast majority of M1 rifle stocks produced during the war due to its desirable properties as a gunstock wood: its density, durability, and ability to be easily worked and finished.

Employment during the war averaged at least 300 at Overton, and for the first time, a union was introduced: the United Brotherhood of Carpenters in 1943.

“During the war the dilemma would become how to convince the government that trained men were as valuable on the production front as they were on the battle front,” Grafton and Barbara Cook wrote. “Overton fought a constant

‘war’ with the selective service to keep training and experienced men on the job. The men and women of Overton formed a very important team that labored together. At one time or another just about every family in the South Haven area had at least on person who had worked for Overton.”

Originally, Inland was to produce 22,000 carbines per month. This figure was increased to 52,000 units. “During November 1943, Inland’s biggest production month, 121,851 carbines were built and accepted,” wrote Grafton and Barbara Cook. “No other carbine manufacturer came close to that figure!”

“The M1 Carbine was the most widely produced U.S. infantry weapon of World War II; 6,221,220 being manufactured between late 1941 and mid-1945,” said *Firearms News* in a January 2025 article. “By comparison, during the War, there were 4,028,375 M1 Garands produced, though additional M1 rifles had been produced prior to U.S. entry into the war. The M1 Carbine was light and handy, was a semi-auto, had a 15-round magazine, and was easy to shoot.”

After the war, Overton stayed in business, reverting to its manufacturing roots as a maker of all manner of wood products, including gun stocks for sporting rifles and shotguns. This continued until June 1991, when the company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and closed its doors, putting 80 employees out of work.

The building sat empty and was demolished more than a decade ago after the roof caved in. The city of South Haven is currently looking for a developer to build affordable housing on the 5.5-acre site.

“The stories of lesser-known subcontracting companies who helped build America’s world image as the ‘Great Arsenal of Democracy’ in the 1940s have, for the most part, escaped notice,” wrote Grafton and Barbara Cook “In retrospect, from steering wheels to rifles was a quantum leap for the Inland Division of General Motors.

“For the S.E. Overton Co. to build 100,000 gunstocks per month was a minor miracle.”



THE S.E. OVERTON plant in South Haven manufactured 2.6 million walnut gun stocks for M1 rifles during World War II



EXCEPT FOR THE FOLDING STOCK on the M1A1 carbine, below, there is no difference between a standard M1 carbine and an M1A1 carbine, according to the National Rifle Association. The M1A1 model was generally preferred by paratroopers during World War II, since the overall length was reduced when folded. The wooden stock and hand guards for the M1A1 were mass-produced by the S.E. Overton Co. of South Haven. “Developed in 1941 by Winchester Repeating Arms Co., and adopted after an exhaustive series of trials by the U.S. Army Ordnance Department,” says *The American Rifleman*, “the carbine was a lightweight (roughly 5½ lbs.) semi-automatic shoulder arm that fired a .30-cal. cartridge fed from a detachable, 15-round box magazine.” Photo credit: The American Rifleman

# Union leaders warn green energy reversal would kill jobs

(Continued from Page 1) Demonstrations, which will cut more than \$3 billion in federal construction projects.

An analysis by the non-partisan Energy Innovation Policy & Technology policy group ups the ante, and estimates the House measure would eliminate nearly 2 million jobs, including 850,000 in the clean-energy sector.

Opinions about the federal government’s move to rewarding clean energy production vary – what happens when the sun doesn’t shine on solar panels and the wind doesn’t blow across windmill blades? And critics have loudly pointed out that baseload coal- and gas-burning power plants have been genera-

tional employers for the gamut of the building trades crafts. But utilities in Michigan and across the nation have already shuttered or have set dates to close coal-burning baseload plants, pledging their futures to rely on cleaner energy sources.

There’s no denying that new energy markets have been created, and jobs devoted to green energy production are among the fastest growing. Because even as those carbon-burning plants have been closing, electrical demand has been increasing to meet the heightened energy requirements for things like artificial intelligence and vehicle chargers.

The “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” being considered by the U.S. Senate would repeal multiple federal policies, funding programs, and tax credits that drive American energy manufacturing and deployment,” said the nonpartisan policy group Energy Innovation. “The text claws back unobligated funding, expands new oil and gas leasing, changes or eliminates energy and manufacturing tax credits, and repeals some Clean Air Act programs.”

The group said the bill’s current text would hold back economic growth by:

- Increasing annual energy bills across American households by a total of \$170 billion during the budget reconciliation window of 2025-2034
- Reducing America’s work-

## Trump edict, surprisingly, sustains PLAs on federal jobs

(Continued from Page 1) language requiring workers to be part of a collective bargaining agreement, but they often do, and the presence of a PLA on a large project, either public or private, translates into steady work for union trades.

Government use of PLAs almost always get a reflexive thumbs-down from the ABC, whose contractors – unlike their union counterparts – generally aren’t sufficiently coordinated to supply a ready, trained, skilled, drug-tested workforce for larger projects. The ABC rarely focuses their disdain for PLAs based on the business case for them – but rather on the fact that they can be exclusionary to their contractors.

On the same day the federal OMB dropped its relatively benign memo allowing – but not mandating – the use of PLAs, the national ABC jumped on the decision. “This decision cannot be reconciled with the president’s philosophies of merit, fairness and nondiscrimination because it inhibits fair and open competition and prioritizes special interests over taxpayers and workers,” said Michael Bellaman, ABC president and CEO. “Today’s memorandum doubles down on an unfair, wasteful, anti-competitive, Biden-era policy that inflates costs and delays critical construction projects, including those important to the defense of our country.”

Biden, in his self-proclaimed effort to make his administration the most pro-union in history, issued an executive order that recommended, but did not mandate, the use of PLAs on federal contracts.

“The debate over the effectiveness of project labor agreements has long been settled and reaffirmed by industry leaders, contractors, developers, and governments alike: PLAs work,” said North America’s Building Trades Unions President Sean McGarvey. “PLAs guarantee workforce stability, project efficiency, cost certainty, and family-sustaining career pathways. We welcome this action as a commonsense move that strengthens taxpayer return on investment and delivers American infrastructure more effectively and safely, with a U.S.-trained, highly-skilled workforce built for success.”

Meanwhile, the ABC’s Bellaman said the group would fight the federal PLA directive in court.

## OSHA budget aims at safety inspections for 1/3 reduction

(Continued from Page 1) testified on June 5. “I’m deeply concerned by the administration’s approach at the Department of Labor. This administration proclaims to be pro-worker, but their actions demonstrate the opposite. They are paying lip service to hard-working Americans while taking actions to decimate their rights, their protections and their hard-earned benefits.”

Preferring to speak in generalities, Keeling talked about how he would keep the agency “on the leading edge” of worker safety and health issues worldwide through improving its outdated “systems and processes.”

The catch to staying on the leading edge, which Keeling admitted, is many OSHA safety and health standards have not been updated for decades. He wants to use international standards, agreed upon by industry groups, to update them. But Congress’s ruling Republicans, genuflecting to corporate class campaign backers, don’t want even that. They want to rein in or even kill OSHA.

One example is how employers have been resisting a proposed federal “heat standard” to give workers more break time as they toil during hot weather.

Further, OSHA inspectors rely on data and studies about the impact on workers of various hazardous chemicals and substances. The National Institutes of Occupational Safety and Health’s workers perform that research for them – and Trump has literally decimated NIOSH. The ex-workers just filed a federal suit via their union, the Government Employees, to get their jobs back.

force by 840,000 jobs in 2030 and another 790,000 jobs in 2035

•Shrinking cumulative U.S. GDP by \$1.1 trillion during the budget reconciliation window of 2025-2034

•Decreasing cumulative new electricity capacity by 330 gigawatts in 2035.

“President Trump and some members of Congress want to pay for this so-called ‘big, beautiful’ tax bill by taking away the job-producing renewable energy tax credits we worked so hard to get included the Inflation Reduction Act,” said IBEW International President President Kenneth Cooper. “These credits came with strong protections for union members’ work – our work – on wind and solar energy projects. But now, all that is in serious jeopardy.”

Said Eric Dean, general president of the Iron Workers: “Rolling back clean energy tax credits is a direct blow to American workers. Plain and simple. These investments have created thousands of good union jobs building the future of our energy infrastructure, from wind farms to EV plants. Our members are proving that clean energy can be built by American hands with union wages; pulling the rug out now threatens job growth and economic security. We urge lawmakers to stand with the working people of America and continue building our future.”

## Federal Wage & Hour staff targeted for 31% cut

(Continued from Page 1) Responded Rep. Ilhan Omar (DFL-Minn.): “Firing more inspectors will not empower the modern worker. The math is not mathing.”

The Wage and House Division is important to workers, union and nonunion. It investigates and prosecutes violations of the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act, the basic law establishing overtime pay and the minimum wage. In many industries, notably construction and food service, bosses often don’t pay workers what they’re owed. About 30 percent of all wage theft occurred in those two industries.

In fiscal 2024, which ended Sept. 30, Wage and Hour recovered \$273 million in unpaid wages for 152,000 U.S. workers. Chavez-DeRemer repeatedly said she couldn’t discuss planned department action – or lack of it – because “the matter is under litigation.” DOL faces lawsuits from unions, civic groups, worker advocates and others against Trump’s plans to fire its workers and dump its projects.

“To find a fault is easy; to do better may be difficult.” – Plutarch (46 AD - 120 AD)

“The conventional view serves to protect us from the painful job of thinking.” – John Kenneth Galbraith (1908 - 2006)

“No man is justified in doing evil on the ground of expediency.”

–Theodore Roosevelt (1858 - 1919),

BRICKLAYERS  
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Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

Local 2 members:

Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$38.45 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and 2 Pensions.

Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry Restoration Workers.

For more information go to: bricklayers.org





**IBEW**  
**Local 131**  
*Serving Southwest Michigan*  
*Since 1916*

IBEW 131  
KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership** Meeting will be held on July 7, at 6 p.m.

The next **Renew** meeting will be held on July 23, at RJ’s at 5 p.m.

**The Executive Board** meeting will be held on Monday, July 21, at 5 p.m.

**The EWMC** meeting will be held on July 23, at R.J.’s at 5 p.m.

**The Veterans Group** will be meeting on Sept. 4, at 5 p.m.

**The Annual Picnic** is scheduled for July 26 at River Oaks Park in Galesburg.

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

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady. Champion has agreed to pay \$15 an hour over scale. There will be requirements for proof of knowledge in control wires termination, fiber optics termination and LAN terminations. Watch the website for job calls (IBEW131.com). Other work in the local, Moore Electric has several school projects, and Zoetis work. KEI has work at the papermills.

**Thank You** to the following officers of this local: President Leroy Crabtree (24 years an officer for this local) Vice President Randy Williams (18 years as Vice President, 12 years on the Executive Board along with several terms on the apprenticeship and negotiating committee).

It has been my honor to serve this local with you. I believe you have made this local a better place.

Thank you to my Treasurer, Scott Benson who has guided the local finances for me. Thank you, Recording Secretary, Kari Collison. The Executive Board: Adam Mitzel, Terry Clark, Jon Current, Tim Haydon, Nick Lemmerhart and Colin Foote. You made this local proud. Thank you for the job well done.

**Apprenticeship** Applications: We often get calls on how to apply to Kalamazoo Apprenticeship Program. To apply, go to [www.kalamazoojatic.com](http://www.kalamazoojatic.com) and navigate to the application page on the website.

**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. Please contact Ryan at (269) 366-0322 or [rlewis@ibew131.com](mailto:rlewis@ibew131.com).


**Retiree’s Lunches** at the following Locations:  
July 16, Lunch at McGonigle’s Irish Pub, 3512 East Main St. Kalamazoo 49048 @ 11 a.m.  
Every Tuesday, a group of Retirees meets at Julianna’s, 2105 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI @ 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.

**Sportsman’s Alliance:** Southwest Michigan BCTC on Thursday, July 17, beginning at 5:30PM. Local 131 is sponsoring a table, if you would like to attend, please call the hall.

**Picnic** on July 26. The location is at River Oaks Park in Galesburg. From 11:00 to 3:00, Lunch will be served from 12:00 to 2:00. RSVP, please call the hall and leave your name. In July keep an eye out for a postcard in the mail to use to cover parking at the park.

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



**IBEW**  
**Local 445**

IBEW 445  
BATTLE CREEK – **Local 445 Calhoun County Fairgrounds Barn Remodel.** The Local 445 Calhoun County Fairground Volunteer barn remodel is scheduled for June 28, 2025, 8am. Please add June 28 to your calendar and plan to attend. It is always a fun day, and we support our 4-H kids and keep them safe. You will be provided with donuts, lunch and water. The day will start at 8am and we hope to finish by 3pm.

**Local 445 Family Picnic** The Local 445 Picnic is scheduled for Sept. 6, 2025. Bring your kids for some good family fun.

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

**Local 445 Night at the Ballpark.** The Local 445 Battle Jacks game is scheduled for August 2, 2025. If you would like information, please call the Hall.

**Paying dues late.** If you pay your Monthly/Quarterly Union Dues late, you will be assessed a \$10.00 assessment for each month late. If you do not pay for the Late Fee Assessment, it will be added to your account as a delinquent amount due. If you are unsure if you have an amount due on your account, please call Wanda at the Hall to verify your status.

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

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

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

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

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

As of **July 1, 2025**, the following due’s structure:  
*JlWs:*  
Monthly \$61.00  
Quarterly \$183.00  
*Apprentices:*  
Monthly \$50.00  
Quarterly \$150.00

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

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

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

**2025 Personal information** Please keep your address, phone number and email address up to date at the Hall. Also, contact the Hall with marriages, births of children and divorces. You have a limited time frame to add/remove dependents. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall when you need to update them.

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



**IBEW**  
**LOCAL 557**

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

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday** - The next recognized holiday per the Local 557 CBA is Friday, July 4. Please take time to celebrate our country’s Independence Day.

**LOCAL OFFICER ELECTIONS-** have completed for 2025. Thanks to all who sent in their votes to participate in the Local’s democratic process. Also, a big thank you to Nick Iles for his work as Election Judge as well as Robb Stanick for his help as teller. The newly elected officers will be sworn in at the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. They are:

**President** – Chris Scharich  
**Vice President** – Dave Kwiatkowski  
**Recording Secretary** – Josh Iles  
**Treasurer** – Andrew Bauman  
**Business Manager/Financial Secretary** – Evan Allardyce  
**Executive Board** – Ben Small, Dewey Weiss, Bill Miner, Josh Latty, Jon Lazzaro, and Colby Hare  
**Examining Board** – John Mann, Rob Reinelt, Ron Miner  
**Alternate to the Convention** – Ben Small.  
Congrats to all.

**GOLF LEAGUE** at Twin Oaks Golf Course continues. Tee times begin shortly after 5:45pm each Thursday night until the end of golf season. If you are a returning golfer or a first timer – all are welcome!

**JOBSITE SAFETY** - Jobsite safety is and should always be #1 on all IBEW jobs. No deadline or profit should be placed ahead of the simple fact that members need to go to work and return home in the same safe state in which they were prior to their day of work.

**EARNED SICK TIME ACT-** Michigan’s new law requiring employers to pay their employees Earned Sick Time (ESTA), is now in effect. By now, every member working for an IBEW contractor currently, should have seen a written notice of some sort regarding this matter. Local 557’s CBA does not contain any language related to ESTA, therefore, this law will apply to our membership.

If your employer is NOT complying with this law you are strongly encouraged to file a complaint with the State of Michigan. The complaint process can be found on the Local’s website homepage with the complete process instructions listed. You can also find these details on the State of Michigan’s website.

**LOCAL 557 ORGANIZING-** With work being the best it has been in Local 557 (and throughout the State), organizing is as important as ever. Local contractors will begin work on traditional work throughout the Local this spring which is important to provide manpower for. Whether work in the Hemlock area continues for a prolonged period or not, it is vitally important to keep all other work of the IBEW in mind. Moving forward, Local 557 will be focusing hard on keeping these projects successful. The future of the Local depends on this work.

Rex and Gus are doing great work for Local 557 on the organizing front. Organizing is a tough task in the IBEW and in the trades in general. Some conversations with unrepresented workers are harder than others. Please give Rex and Gus all the help they need to succeed and get results for the Local. If you see something and wish to point it out to them, please reach out to Rex at 989-890-4578 and Gus can be reached at 989-941-8046.

**PROJECT PHOENIX-** Work on the Mega Project remains steady. As of this writing, there are currently over 650 IBEW members referred to the project. Most calls have all gone to Book 2 and the Local has essentially been a walk-thru for calls. Stay current on monitoring work in Local 557 by looking on the Job Line website or calling the dispatch telephone option. This is updated throughout the day to provide the latest information regarding calls when they are being filled. If you are on Book (Continued next column)



**IBEW**  
**LOCAL 948**

IBEW 948  
FLINT – Meetings.

**Membership Meeting** - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be July 14th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings** - The Retirees’ next meeting will be July 1st, 2025 at 9:00am.

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

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

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

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

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

**New Membership** - Welcome to our latest members, James Albland, Declan Burk & Kyle Belanger. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees** - Congratulations to Daniel Martin on your pension application. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

**Draping of the Charter** - Our condolences to the family of Larry Braidwood. We are tremendously sorry for your loss and will continue to keep our Brother in our hearts.

## Local 557, con’t

2, please reach out to the Local through the [jobline@ibew557.org](mailto:jobline@ibew557.org) email address and you will receive a reply as soon as possible. Through the jobline email address, you can receive updates as to your spot on the out of work list.


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

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

**BOOK SIGNING-** If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off while working on a 557 referral, you must come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-town Books, please call the hall to arrange this. Book 2 members can have their Union Hall send an email to either [jobline@ibew557.org](mailto:jobline@ibew557.org) or [renee@ibew557.org](mailto:renee@ibew557.org).

**WORK OUTLOOK-** Members of other Locals can sign Book 2 by contacting their Hall for a simple email to be sent on your behalf, if in good standing. Project Phoenix continues to hire and members have been able to walk in and receive calls at will. Breckenridge Solar for J. Ranck will continue to hire. These calls have been hard to fill and we will need all the help we can get on this project. Local contractors continue to work on various projects at schools, hospitals, some auto plants, and other various jobs. Help will be needed throughout the summer on a number of projects in the area.

**-In Solidarity, Evan Allardyce, Business Manager**




**YOUR VOTE COUNTS**

**ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, AUGUST 5**

**Vote in the statewide Michigan Primary Election.**

**Building Trades Endorsements**



Following are 2025 endorsements of the Political Action Committee of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council for the Tuesday, Aug. 5 Primary Election.

**City of Detroit**  
**Mayor:** Mary Sheffield  
**City Council (at Large):** Janee Ayers  
**City Council (at Large):** Coleman Young II  
**City Council District 2:** Helena Scott  
**City Council District 3:** Scott Benson  
**City Council District 4:** Latisha Johnson  
**City Council District 6:** Gabriela Santiago-Romero  
**City Council District 7:** Denzel McCampbell

**City of Livonia**  
**City Council:** Steven Alexander, Kayleigh Kavanagh-Reid, Jennifer O’Connor

**City of Pontiac**  
**Mayor:** Mike McGuinness

**City of Southfield**  
**Mayor:** Ken Siver

**City of Westland**  
**Mayor:** Kevin Coleman  
**City Council:** John Sullivan

**City of Sterling Heights**  
**City Council:** Rick McKiddy, Michael Radtke, Henry Yanez

**City of Wyandotte**  
**City Council:** Adriana Villanueva-Cerulla, Kelly Stec

# Positive momentum in latest brew of construction stats

(Continued from Page 1)  
noted that the U.S. construction industry has been adding jobs each month for more than a year, but the increases “have slowed amid recent market uncertainty.”

Said Ken Simonson, the association’s chief economist, on June 6: “Nonresidential construction firms added employees in May for the 13th month in a row. However, constant changes in tariffs and other policies that are affecting the cost and demand for construction have led to a significant slowdown in hiring.”

U.S. construction employment in May totaled 8,314,000, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 4,000 from April. Headcount rose by 126,000 jobs or 1.5 percent during the past 12 months, topping the 1.1 percent growth rate in total nonfarm U.S. payroll employment. “However, the sector’s rate of growth was markedly slower than the 2.8 percent increase in construction employment recorded a year earlier,” the AGC said.

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory employees in construction – including most onsite craft workers and many office staff – increased 4.7 percent over the year to \$37.13. That gain exceeded the 4 percent rise in pay for such workers in the overall private sector.

“Construction firms continue to hire and boost wages, but the pace of growth has slowed as demand for certain types of projects cools,” said Jeffrey Shoaf, the AGC’s chief executive officer. “As federal officials provide more certainty about tariffs, taxes and investment levels, demand for projects is likely to rebound.”

## Update: New Soo lock on track; Phase 3 advances

(Continued from Page 1)  
Phase 1 (upstream channel deepening) was completed in 2022 and Phase 2 (upstream approach walls) was completed in 2024. Kokosing Alberici Traylor has been on site performing that work.


“The leadership team throughout the Corps of Engineers have made the New Lock at the Soo project a national priority and we have continued to see strong support every step along the way,” said the Corps’ Detroit District Senior Civilian Kevin McDaniels.

The entire project continues to be on track for completion in 2030.

“The contractor has completed nearly \$600 million worth of work through the end of May 2025,” said New Lock at the Soo Senior Project Manager Mollie Mahoney. “With the ongoing new concrete monoliths construction, the new lock walls are beginning to take shape on the downstream end of the project site. Demolition of the existing Sabin Lock concrete continues, and bedrock excavation in the footprint of the new lock chamber is steadily progressing. In the Davis Lock, the new pump well walls are being constructed, and the remainder of the chamber continues to be filled with excavated material.”

The total cost of the project is \$3.2 billion, but the funding is usually made by increments every year by Congress. On June 12, before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee, U.S. Sen. Gary Peters (D-Mich.) received a signal of commitment that would continue the Trump Administration’s funding of the new lock. D. Lee Forsgren, acting assistant secretary of the U.S. Army (Civil Works), called the movement of commerce allowed by the lock “the backbone of the economy of this country.”

It was President Trump in his first term who spurred funding to finally get construction moving on the new lock.



### Just joking

A doctor's daughter got married, At the wedding reception, the father of the bride stood to read his toast, which he had scribbled on a piece of scrap paper. Several times during his speech, he halted, overcome with what I assumed was a moment of deep emotion.

But after a particularly long pause, he explained, "I'm sorry. I can't seem to make out what I've written down."

Helplessly looking out into the audience, he said, "I need help. Is there a pharmacist in the house?"

...

I walked into a dentist's office and whispered, "I think I'm a moth."

The dentist stared at me, quizzically. "I don't think you should be here," he said. "Maybe you need to see a psychiatrist?"

I replied, "I am seeing a psychiatrist."

Puzzled, the doctor asked, "Then what are you doing here?"

I explained... "Well, the light was on."

“Never feel self-pity, the most destructive emotion there is. How awful to be caught up in the terrible squirrel cage of self.”  
–Millicent Fenwick (1919-1992)  
“Man invented language to satisfy his deep need to complain.”  
–Lily Tomlin (1939 - )



# 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, July 14, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

**Regular Meeting** –The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, July 14, 2025.

**The annual Property Company Meeting** will be held directly in front of the Aug. 11, 2025 Regular Meeting. From last year, a work bee was discussed for at the hall. We should power wash the building and paint the block wall below the vinyl siding. Not a difficult or expensive task, but one that should be done.

**Cherry Festival Parade Float** – Dylan is planning a Work Bee on the float for the parade. He will be at the hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of Jun and a final day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July. The parade is at 6:30 pm on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you want to help please contact Dylan and he will get you set up.

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

**TCJATC**- There are still a few Code Update Change Books available at the hall for \$10 each made payable to the TCJATC.

**Sticker Ideas** – We are looking for a new design for a local hard hat sticker. If you have any ideas, please submit them to Dylan at his email address at dodwyer498@gmail.com.

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

**Resale Items** –The new order of Tee shirts is in, as well as Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing. There are new Local 498 BBQ Tee shirts for resale. Available sizes include; Youth size \$21 and adult sizes \$25.

**Retiree breakfast**- Several of the retirees meet at Sparky's Diner off of South Airport road every Monday morning at 9am.

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

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

**Important numbers for you to write in your address book:**

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

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

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)  
**3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425**  
NEBF 1-301-556-4300  
NEAP 1-301-556-4300  
IO Pension 1-202-833-7000  
DUES RATES

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

July 1, 2025 – Dues increase to \$164.10/Quarter.

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



# IBEW

## LOCAL 692

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

**IBEW Local 692**

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

**Executive Board Meeting.** The July Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Brothers and Sisters. Hopefully we will all enjoy some beautiful weather, fireworks, boating or the beach. Please remember to be safe and enjoy all of your time spent with friends and family.

Please note the hall will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

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

**Thiel Electric** is wrapping up a remodel of the K wing at Delta College.

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

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

**Master Electric** has begun their work on phase 2 at Bangor Schools.

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

**Clements Electric** has work at Mersen USA. They have also recently been awarded a maintenance contract at Mersen. Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, Bay City lift stations and HL Mechatronics in Midland continues. Clements Electric is also working on an apartment complex in Auburn.

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

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

**Superior Electric** Work is slowing down for Superior Electric  
**Bay Valley Electric** has work this summer at Bullock Creek schools.

**Zone 2 contractors** have been bidding and securing a fair amount of work, doing a great job of keeping their crews busy. Recent storms have led to an increase in service calls across the northern jurisdiction. **John's Electric** has secured a considerable amount of work in Alpena schools along with most recently landing another project at Bayview Park. Work on the CMU Tower building in Atlanta will continue. **Hardie's Electric** has work in Cheboygan and is nearing completion of the new sawmill in Tower near Onaway. **Northern Valley** continues work at the Holcim Cement Plant. **Pierce Powerline** has secured work in the Oscoda schools for the summer.

A larger Solar Project at Consumers Energy's Karn site in Essexville will be starting late June or early July. Multiple Prevailing Wage projects in Bay City have been bid or will be bid soon. Another Solar Project will begin later this summer in the Gladwin area.

We do need some wiremen to man our work or market share will be lost. Open calls continue to exist on a weekly basis. We saw this instance play out in our past brothers and sisters, let's not repeat our mistakes. If you are looking for work, please do not hesitate to contact the Union Hall. Please note when calling the job line to use extension #1.

**In Solidarity, Ryan Charney**

**Business Manager / Financial Secretary**

**Organizer's Report.** Visits to non-union job sites and outreach to unrepresented electricians continues. We continue to bring in new members each month. Many new members begin their IBEW careers by accepting calls left open by existing members. Experienced members should do their best to welcome these new members when they meet them on the job site and educate and/or mentor them when possible. Although all new members do attend an orientation session prior to swearing in, the amount of information can sometimes be overwhelming when coupled with the stress of transitioning to a career with the IBEW. Many of the worries associated with newly organized members (new members breaking down conditions, not being familiar with tool lists, not attending meetings or being familiar with the agreement, etc.) can be best remedied by experienced members doing their part to answer questions and reinforce expectations.

Brendon Baranek [bbaranek@ibew692.org](mailto:bbaranek@ibew692.org) 989.327.4131  
Kevin Klapish [kklapish@ibew692.org](mailto:kklapish@ibew692.org) 989-252-9225

**Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, dues will increase to \$49.20 per month.** This increase was approved by the delegates of the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

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

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

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

**Retirees Lunch.** The July retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 702 Bar located at 702 Jefferson Avenue in Midland.

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

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

**Important links & numbers**

**Health Plan & Pension Fund**

855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

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

NEBF/ NEAP: 301.556.4300



# IBEW

## LOCAL 252

PROUD UNION ELECTRICAL WORKERS Since 1916

**IBEW Local 252**

ANN ARBOR – **The Business Office will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2025, in observance of Independence Day.**

**HALL REMODEL: Beginning July 7, the Local 252 suite at the Union Hall will be under remodel. If you have in-person business at the Union Hall, staff will be working out of a suite on the South side of the building.**

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

**TRAINING CLASSES 2025: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM**  
CPR- (Tuesdays) September 2 & 9, December 2 & 9  
BICSI TECH- May 7-September 3, 2025. BICSI ITSIMM book is required (\$240 or \$290 digital). Exam certification fee is \$400. BICSI Workbook fee \$115. You must have 3 years of verifiable field ICT experience to sit for the exam. Worth 35 CECs for those who have a current BICSI credential.

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

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

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

**APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE:** If you are interested in serving on the Apprenticeship Committee, please contact Mike Cox at the Union Hall (734) 424-0978.

**LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:** If you are interested in serving on the Labor Management Committee, please contact Mike Cox at the Union Hall (734) 424-0978.

**2025 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR:** Purchase your 2025 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2025 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2025! Beginning Monday, January 6, 2025, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at [www.union4lifefcharity.com](http://www.union4lifefcharity.com).

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

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

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

**GEORGE PERROS MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING:** This year's golf outing will be on Saturday, July 26, 2025 at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S Main

St, Chelsea, MI 48118. 8 am shotgun start. Retirees and first year apprentices are free. Call the hall to sign up.

**EWMC KICKBALL TOURNAMENT:** Join us for a hostile game of apprentice vs journeyman kickball. Surprise trophy for winning team. BYOB. \$20 to play with lunch provided. Families are welcome. Kids activities provided. 1st year apprentices are free. Sign up with your name to [ewmc252@gmail.com](mailto:ewmc252@gmail.com), 734-678-1912, or 517-745-9287.

**ANN ARBOR PRIDE BOOTH:** Check out Local 252's booth downtown Ann Arbor (Main St. and Liberty St.) during the Ann Arbor Pride event August 2nd 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**SUMMER PICNIC:** The summer picnic will be held at 12 p.m. on Aug.16 at the Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Orban Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240. All food and beverages will be provided. Join us for fun and games for the whole family.

**UNION 4 LIFE CHARITY GOLF OUTING:** The 2025 Union 4 Life Charity Golf Outing will be on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118. Registration at 7:30 a.m., tee off at 8:30 a.m. All proceeds benefit the University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center's Breast Cancer Research Fund. This outing is open to the public. Registration is \$125.00/ player, \$500.00/ team and includes green fees, cart, lunch, dinner, and two drink tickets. The tournament will be played in scramble with 4-person teams. To register, visit [www.union4lifefcharity.com](http://www.union4lifefcharity.com) or contact Hope Salyer at (734) 475-1180.

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

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

**EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** Local 252 partners with Health Management Systems of America to provide Employee Assistance for several issues. For confidential 24/7 assistance, call toll-free 1-800-847-7240, or visit

[www.my-life-resource.com](http://www.my-life-resource.com) and use username: hmsa, password: myresource for more information.

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

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

**CONDOLENCES:** The Local sends our sincere condolences to the family of Robert Koeble, who passed away June 13, 2025.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 03/2025, your dues are not current. The Union Hall accepts payment by cash, check or credit card. There is a 3% discount for paying by cash or check. Dues for “A” members are \$140.25 by cash or check, or \$144.46 by credit card for second quarter 2025. Dues for “BA” members are \$70.80 by cash or check, or \$72.92 by credit card for second quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (April through June) are due now. **Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Monday, June 30, 2025.**

**Future Dues Increases:**

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS** (more information to follow):

SEPTEMBER 10: RETIREE'S NIGHT


OCT. 29: TRUNK OR TREAT

DEC. 13: HOLIDAY PARTY

## 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 maintain 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](http://www.ssdfighter.com)



## The Building Tradesman

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**Editor/Photographer**  
Marty Mulcahy  
E-mail: [buildingtradesman@ameritech.net](mailto:buildingtradesman@ameritech.net)

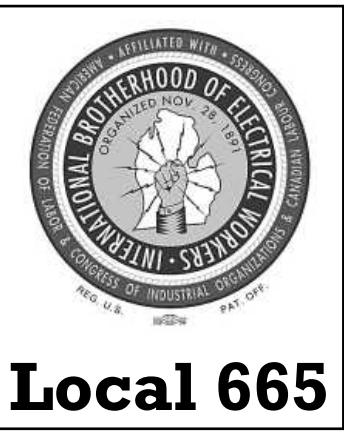
**Advertising Director**  
Joe Hoshaw  
E-mail: [btads@ameritech.net](mailto:btads@ameritech.net)  
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IBEW 665  
LANSING – **HALL RENOVATIONS:** Local 665 has finished most of the renovations to our union hall. The modifications are coming along nicely.

**IBEW Local 665 100 Year Anniversary:** IBEW Local 665 will be turning 100 years old in June of 2026. Please save the date June 6, 2026 to celebrate with us that evening. Please look here and in your email for more information.

**WORK OUTLOOK:** Local 665 has OPEN CALLS and will need help from our travelling brothers and sisters. Call the hall for the most up to date information. 665 will be experiencing unfilled calls for all of 2025.

**CODE UPDATE:** Code update classes have passed. If you still require code update class to renew your state license. Feel free to contact flint JATC (810) 720-0583 or fsejatc.com. Flint has an online version of the code update class.

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:** Local 665 has reached a milestone. We have just surpassed 800 members in the local. Of which 180 are apprentices. With all the new faces around please remember it is a Journeyman's job to teach first and empower the next generation to learn and grow.

**EVITP TRAINING PROGRAM:** Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program. If you are interested in helping our local secure more work in the Lansing area, it is critical we sign up for this training. This program is looking to be required by the federal government to work on any large-scale electric vehicle charger stations. The program is online on your blended learning platform. Please email Dale@lejatc.org or contact the apprenticeship office with questions or how to sign up.

**HARASSMENT TRAINING:** Harassment training has been adopted as part of our contract. It is required for all our members to complete it. Please reach out to the JATC to sign up for it. You can email Dale@lejatc.org to receive instructions on how to complete it.

**APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS:** We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program.

To apply, go to [www.lejatc.org](http://www.lejatc.org) and navigate to the application page on the website.

Applications are accepted on the **THIRD** Monday of each month.

**FIRST AID/CPR:** If you require First Aid/CPR. Contact the JATC for the next available date to sign up.

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

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Our general membership meeting is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS:** The Executive Board meets the second and third Monday of each month starting at 5:00 p.m.

**DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS:** Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #356. Please look at your dues to ensure that you are current.

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

**IN REMEMBRANCE:** In remembrance of Local 665 members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal. David McLellan 05/28/25, Raul Torres 10/19/24, Ronald Oberlin 12/16/24, Dale Battley 11/14/24, Stephen Bair 09/16/24, Jackie "Jack" Heart 04/21/24, Stanley McLellan 04/17/24, Arthur "Dave" Benzinger 03/28/24, James McDonald 2/22/24, Roger Carroll 12/13/23, Harry Baker 11/26/23, Mark McCracken 10/02/23, Howard Shooltz 08/14/23.



IBEW 275  
COOPERSVILLE – **Work Outlook:** Work in the jurisdiction remains steady with calls on the job recorder regularly. Please continue to call the job line if you are seeking work in Local 275. As open calls continue, we would like to encourage any 275 hands working on the road to entertain the idea of coming home to man the work here.

**Election Results:** Congratulations to the newly elected officers of Local 275!! The following officers will be sworn in at July's general membership meeting.

**President:** Geoff Yonkers  
**Vice President:** Kaleb Kerkstra

**Recording Secretary:** Walter Christophersen

**Treasurer:** Bryce Butler  
**Business Manager/Financial Secretary:** Jonas Talbott

**Executive Board:** Sarah Anderson, Camre Bailey, Brandon Briggs, Kolton Johnson, Robert Scott, John Spofford, and Andrew Wahr

Thank you to all the outgoing officers for your years of service and dedication to the Local!!

**Volunteer Info:** Planning for the annual picnic is under way! If you would like to volunteer for the picnic in any way, please reach out to Geoff at the Hall.

**West Michigan RENEW/EWMC:** Meetings will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm via ZOOM. The ZOOM link will be available on Local 275 Members Only Facebook group as well as on the Local 275 Mobile app.

**Veteran's Committee:** Meeting will be held monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 6pm at Muskegon Community College Tech Center in downtown Muskegon. (388 W Clay Ave.) Room 125.

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

The JATC is now offering Master's Exam Prep courses. Please reach out to the JATC for more information. [wmjatc@gmail.com](mailto:wmjatc@gmail.com)

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

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

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

We have a list of roughly 30 members who have vacation fund money that has yet to be deposited because of lack of account info. If you have not set up your account info for vacation fund deposits, please call Nicole to get that taken care of. Reminder that May is the last month for vacation fund contributions and July will be the last vacation fund deposit.

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

Monthly dues will be increasing by \$1 in July of 2025. Please adjust any automatic payments to reflect the new monthly dues amount of \$50.90.

**Delinquent Members:** At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Noah Baker, Matthew DeJong, Nathan Dyer, Scott Erb, Andrew Holmes, Kaleb McAree, and Jeffrey VandeWater. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

*"Another flaw in the human character is that everybody wants to build and nobody wants to do maintenance."*

—Kurt Vonnegut (1922 - 2007)

*"Our remedies oft in ourselves do lie."*

—William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)



WE ASKED THIS GROUP of IBEW Local 58 electricians to pose for a photo in front a transformer they're installing at their union hall's expansion project. Employed by Motor City Electric, they include (l-r) Steve Louzon, Jon Peterhans and Aaron Machus.



## IBEW LOCAL 58



IBEW 58  
DETROIT – **The next General Membership meeting** will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Parking will continue to be tight with the construction project well under way. Your patience is appreciated!

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

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

**IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers-** are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line, \$100.00 Donation per Brick.

NOTE: No symbols or clip-art can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department** – Please look at your Dues Receipt – if the paid through date shows 12-31-2024 you are going to lapse at the end of June. If your paid-through date is 3-31-25 you are going to have the \$30.00 reinstatement fee starting July 1.

The dues statements have gone out in the mail. Please 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. The last day to be able to pay on the **APP/Website is June 26, 2025** and **in person is June 30, 2025**. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you.

**Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members:** This year the 2025 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 139, Elmira, NY on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, and Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday July 29<sup>th</sup>. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament this year are Mark Twain Golf Course (Elmira, NY), Soaring Eagles Golf Course (Horseheads, NY), Willow Creek Golf Course (Big Flats, NY) and the optional scramble on Tuesday at The Club at Shepard Hills (Waverly, NY). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Radisson Hotel Corning, NY (607)962-5000) with the overflow hotel being Hilton Garden Inn Corning Downtown (607)438-1400). Entry fees for this year are \$275 per man for the Tournament and an additional \$75 per man for the optional scramble. Feel free to reach out with any questions to Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837. We are looking forward to a great WGA Tournament this year in Elmira!

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

**Local 58 Senior Golf:** The



STANDING NEXT TO AN INVERTER BANK at the IBEW Local 58 union hall expansion in Detroit are (l-r) Local 58 Assistant Business Manager Andrew Dueweke, who is managing the project for the union, and Joe Berry, foreman on the project for Motor City Electric. The inverters convert the solar-captured electricity at the site from DC to AC.

Senior golf outings are scheduled as follows:

*July 17, 2025* – Rouge Park Golf Course – Detroit, MI - Begins at 9:00 am

*September 11, 2025* – Rackham Golf Course – Huntington Woods, MI - Begins at 9:00 am

*October 2, 2025* – Dunham Hills Golf Club – Hartland, MI - Begins at 9:00 am

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

**Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, July 1, 2025. Next event will be Brad Ballard Memorial Golf Outing on Friday, September 26, 2025 at Pine Valley Golf Course. Details to follow.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 8, 2025, 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 8:00a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail).

Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next Entertainment Committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 8, 2025 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 21, 2025 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. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the Hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC

involvement and engagement.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Father's Day Basket Raffle. We had some AWESOME prizes and hopefully some fathers got pleasantly surprised with a gift. Congratulations to our raffle winners (Kelly Lynch, Sandra Valle, and Angela Panicucci). Several of the other Sixth District Chapters have events happening this summer and we will be trying to support some of their endeavors.

The Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, July 25, 2025 at Rouge Park Golf Course. Flyers are available at the hall. Foursomes are filling up fast. We need everyone on board to promote and get sponsorships to make this event a success. There is space for everyone to help out and contribute.

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

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

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

**Local 58's Women's Committee** - The next committee meeting will be Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 5:30p.m. at the Hall and 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](mailto:58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org)

**The Political Action Committee:** Political Action Committee: PAC meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the Hall at 5:30 pm. If you have questions or concerns or would like to attend a PAC meeting, you can reach out to our registrars at [registrarl@ibew58.org](mailto:registrarl@ibew58.org).

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** The next board meeting will be Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 10 a.m. in the main conference room at the local union hall. The July luncheon is Wednesday, July 23, 2025. This west side luncheon is currently under review, as Corsi's has been sold and its last day of operation being July 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are currently reviewing other venues in the area and will announce findings in this column. Please stay tuned.

The Oral History Project continues, if you haven't been interviewed for this collection, please contact the hall at 313 963-2130 or contact Ray Kujawski at 248 496-1916. If you have a partner you would like to do a joint

interview with, that can happen also. Make the call today.

The September Bus Trip is heading to Washington, D.C. this fall. The trip takes place September 12-16, 2025. Total cost for the trip per person, \$710, based on double occupancy. Send in your \$75 deposit per person, to hold your spot. A tour of the IBEW International Museum and a tour of the White House are currently being arranged to be included in this trip. Call Dave Riley with questions or for the address to send your deposit, 586 206-8075.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings** take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6:00 pm. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. All trades welcome.

**Electrical Workers Credit Union:** Our website is <http://WWW.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.25%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.net>. Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

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

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Derrick Hollaway.

**Members that have Passed Away:** Our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of our fallen Brothers and Sisters. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.  
**Richard R. Chrzanowski**, Pension member, 56 year IBEW membership; **Patricia Crilley**, Mother to Bob Crilley, Pension member, 36 year IBEW membership; **Edward Jones, Jr.**, Pension member, 55 year IBEW membership; Father to JIW Patrick Jones; and **Doris S. Parks**, Wife to Richard W. Parks, Pension member, 66 year IBEW membership.





Local 36  
Elevator  
Constructors

**Elevator Constructors Local 36**  
DETROIT – **ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED;** Our next regular membership meeting will be **July 28, 2025, 5:30 pm** at 1640 Porter St. Detroit. Our next Executive Board meeting will be held **July 21, 2025**, at the same location. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email. **Our August Meeting has been cancelled.**

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

**Attention All Members,**  
Upcoming events for 2025 are as follows,

**IUEC Local 36 picnic** will be on Saturday July 26, 2025, at St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Picnic Grounds, located at 11541 21 Mile Road, Shelby, Mi. 48315. The park opens at 10:30am.

**Our Annual IUEC Local 36 Kyle Owsley Golf Outing** is on Saturday, September 6, 2025, located at the Links of Novi 50395 W 10 Mile Road 48374. Registration is at 7am. Contact the hall with any questions.

**September Union Meeting,** nominations for delegates to the convention, Monday, September 22, 2025, location at 1640 Porter Street Detroit, MI 48216 at 5:30pm.

**October Union Meeting,** vote for delegates to the convention, Monday October 27, 2025, location 1640 Porter Street at 5:30pm.

**Labor Day Parade** is on September 1, 2025, located at 1640 Porter Street Detroit, MI 48216. We will be at the hall @ 8am.

If you haven't enrolled in the IUEC's new National Voluntary Income Protection (VIP) benefits, go to <https://iuecvip.com> or call the IUEC Service Center at 224-487-5030. These tax-free benefits can help you continue to get paid when you're unable to work due to illness, injury, surgery, mental health conditions, substance abuse treatment, or death. The benefits are paid in addition to other benefits you may receive, providing a financial safety net when you need it most.

The International has set up The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is [vap@iuec.org](mailto:vap@iuec.org) or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Chairman @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWPf National Co-Chair @ 410-312-1474.

IUEC Local 36 has started a Veteran Assistance Committee. Scott Erison was appointed to chair the committee and will be working directly with Jason Gray, IUEC VAP National Chair. Once we get a schedule figured out, we will have monthly meetings to get information out to our veterans. You don't have to be a veteran to be part of this committee, like me, my father is a Vietnam Vet, and I have witnessed firsthand what the veteran's benefits has done for him and I'm a big supporter of these programs and our veterans. Contact Scott Erison (586)482-0768 or email him at [sanosire1973@gmail.com](mailto:sanosire1973@gmail.com) if you would like to get involved or have questions.

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

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the **fund office (800)523-4702** and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one week waiting period.

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

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you **MUST** report those jobs to the hall!!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, **(Continued next column)**



Local 149  
Roofers &  
Waterproofers

**Roofers Local 149**

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

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

**Executive Board Meeting** is scheduled for Tues., July 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**The Mid-Michigan informational meeting** is scheduled for Oct. 14, 2025, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

**Vacation Checks.** The **Detroit** Union Hall will open at 4:30am, Friday, July 11, 2025 to distribute vacation checks. The Hall will also be open from 8:00 until Noon, Saturday, July 12, 2025 for anyone that cannot make it down Friday. Detroit Members will need to contact the Union Hall if you what the check mailed.

**Mid-Michigan** vacation checks will be mailed July 9, 2025

Those who have their vacation pay **Direct-Deposited;** will have their money deposited in their bank on July 9, 2025.

**Nominations for the following officers and trustee:**

**Business Manager/Financial Secretary (white ballot).** Brian Gregg

**Business Agent (vote for no more than 2).** Joe Gilliam, Gary

Johnsen, Joe Zsembery

**Executive Board (vote for no more than 5).** Don Watkins III, Joseph Wimberly, Andrew Sundt, Eddy Perez, Kevin McCaslin, Luke Brown

**President (vote for no more than 1).** Tom Jaranowski, Jason Dionne

**Vice President (white ballot).** Robert Colston

**Recording Secretary (white ballot).** Raphael Hamilton

**Trustees (white ballot).** Lee Bruner, Walt Connell, Randy Witherspoon

**Sergeant-at-Arms (vote for no more than 1).** Dean Kucharski,

Ramiro Valentin

**Insurance Trustee (white ballot).** Jonathan Crosby

Please note this is a mail in ballot. All elected Officers and Trustee

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

Trustees shall serve for a period of four (4) years

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

**Detroit Training Center Information.** Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

**Mid-Michigan Training Center Information.** The next term for all Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows: Every Thursday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm until further notice

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

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

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

**Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit.** Members have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account. This includes all contracted areas.

To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall. Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., and name of Financial Institution.

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

The publication above is as 6/13/2025, 12:00pm

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

**Elevator Constructors 36, continued**

it **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A.

**When starting a new job please email the hall @ Local36@iuec36.org with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanic's phone numbers, how many teams, type of equipment installing, how many stops and jobsite hours.** This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

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

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

**Attention All Apprentices,** we are done with our spring NEIEP classes, fall classes are tentatively scheduled for the 3rd week of August, I will update everyone when we get closer to those dates. Enjoy your summer and keep up with your OJTs. 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!**

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

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

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

**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can put you on the email list. I hope everyone has a safe and happy 4th of July weekend!!!!** We would like to extended our heartfelt condolences to the Watson family after the passing of Honorary Brother Dean Watson, please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. We would also like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!



**WE ASKED** Greg Combs of Painters District Council 1M/Local 2353 to put aside his drywall sander for a minute to have his photo taken. Greg is working for Pontiac Ceiling and Partition at the IBEW Local 58 union hall expansion project in Detroit. "I've been in the trade 30 years and I've never been in the paper," he told us. Welcome aboard! :)



Michigan Painters  
District Council

**Painters DC 1M**

WARREN - Dear Members, **DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdclmichigan.org**

**DC 1M UNION CARDS\***

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

Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

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

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

For IPHONE go to IOS store, for ANDROID got to Google Playstore

Search for "Painters and Allied Trades"

download APP  
Username: your member id#  
Password: painters

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

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

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

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

Get involved. Work smart.



Sign, Pictorial &  
Display Local 591

**Sign Pictorial & Display 591**

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday July 1, at 5:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

**(Continued next column)**

**District Council 1M**

**Business Manager:** Robert Gonzalez

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

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

**Local Union 514**

**Business Rep:** Scott Mikulen

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

**Place:** 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

**Web site:** [www.iupat-local514.org](http://www.iupat-local514.org).

**Local Union 826**

**Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman

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

**Place:** 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

**Local Union 845**

**Business Rep –** Ed Bracamontes

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

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

**Local Union 1052**

**Business Rep –** Jake Fluty

**Meeting date:** The 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.

**Local 591 cont'd**

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 going to work: When laid off or going back to work, call the office. 586-552-4474

**Local 357**



Glaziers &  
Glassworkers

**Glaziers & Glassworkers 357**

WARREN – The July Local 357 regular scheduled meeting has been canceled due to falling directly after the holiday weekend.

Our next union meeting will be held on Monday, August 4th., 2025 at 5pm. 14587 Barber Ave, Warren Michigan.

This year's annual STAR picnic will be on Saturday, September 20th. Camp Dearborn in Milford. Please watch your mailboxes for your invitations. If you worked injury free, and attended a minimum of 8 hours upgrade training you will be eligible to attend. More details to come....

We have several Local 357 members currently laid off. Please make every effort to make sure your certifications are up to date. This will help get you back to work.

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

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

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

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

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

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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



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**Local 85**  
Plumbers &  
Steam Fitters

UA Local 85  
SAGINAW – The next **Union Meeting** will be held **Wednesday, July 23, 2025**, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 p.m.

**NEW DATE:** The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2025, at 7 PM at the Grayling Eagles.

**Contact Information:**  
Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513 [jpomerville@ualocal85.org](mailto:jpomerville@ualocal85.org)  
Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514 [tdanielak@ualocal85.org](mailto:tdanielak@ualocal85.org)  
Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330 [csteele@ualocal85.org](mailto:csteele@ualocal85.org)  
Andre Alexander, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 [aalexander@ualocal85.org](mailto:aalexander@ualocal85.org)  
Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 [rjanderson@ualocal85.org](mailto:rjanderson@ualocal85.org)  
Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 [ktuthill@ualocal85.org](mailto:ktuthill@ualocal85.org)  
Please check the [ualocal85.org](http://ualocal85.org) or our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

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

**Social Media:** Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, @UAlocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

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

**SUB Fund: Print Unemployment Payment History** located underneath the Certification Tab when logged into your MiWAM account. Deadline for submittals is Noon on Thursday in order to receive a check that 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: UAlocal Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: [SUB@ualocal85.org](mailto:SUB@ualocal85.org)

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

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

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

**NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:**  
**Address & Phone Update:** Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone number changes at (989) 799-5261.  
**Beneficiary Cards:** Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261.  
**Website Address:** Please visit [www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org).  
**Insurance:** When you are working out of another Local's jurisdiction, it may take up to 90 days for your Insurance and Pension to be reciprocated back to Local 85, which may cause problems with your Health Insurance. **ALWAYS SAVE YOUR CHECK STUBS** and fax them in to the hall at 989-791-3468 with the local you are working out of indicated. We will fax them to BeneSys to keep your insurance up to date.  
**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, July 8 at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office, at 3535 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603. If you are able, please bring a dish to pass.  
*Fraternally,*  
**Justin M. Pomerville**  
*Business Manager/Fin. Secretary*  
**Local Union 85**



**Local 190**

UA Local 190  
ANNARBOR – A **MONTHLY UNION MEETING** will be held on Monday, July 14 and will start at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**PAY UNION DUES ONLINE:** <https://mtp.ua190.org/mtpweb> Username will be your full social security no. Temporary password is the last four digits of your social security no. There is a 3% fee charged. Feel free to call the hall for a QR CODE.

**OUR 51st ANNUAL GOLF OUTING** will be held on Saturday, July 26. 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. **Check or cash payments only, no credit card payments.** If you have any questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210.

**UNION HALL CLOSING AT NOON Friday, July 4** to observe Independence Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

**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 out Training Center to get information on a UA 21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1 for Kristyn

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

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

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

**INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:** **ANNUAL PHYSICALS need to be completed by Oct. 31, 2025.** Please remember to bring in the 2025 Annual Physical Verification Form and email the completed form to Bernadette Maus [bmaus@ua190.org](mailto:bmaus@ua190.org). This form is on our Local 190 website UA190.org and also the Benefits website UA190benefits.org

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

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

**(Bernadette’s office entrance door is in the back of our building and is marked “Bernadette Maus – Benefits Manager”)** *Please use this entrance door for Bernadette*

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5:00pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm.

Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters,  
Service Technicians,  
Gas Distribution

Closed for Holidays. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

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

**Available Journeyman classes:**  
**Members interested in taking the OSHA 10- or 30-hour training** online should contact Kristyn to register. Participants will need internet access through a computer or tablet.  
**Members interested in taking M.U.S.T Safety training** modules online should contact Kristyn to register. Participants will need internet access through a computer or tablet.  
**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) **2025 Schedule - Mondays – July 21, and Sept. 29.** Each class starts at 5 pm.  
**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) **2025 Schedule – Mondays – July 28 and Oct. 6.** Each class starts at 5 pm.  
**Michigan 2021 Plumbing Code Class (48 hrs):** **Journeyman members** who are registered with the State of Michigan as **Apprentice Plumbers** with a **minimum of 3 years and 6,000 hours** of documented work experience **under a Master Plumber**, can register for the Michigan 2021 Plumbing Code Class. This class will prepare members for the written code and practical sections of the State of Michigan Plumbing Test. Please contact the Training Center to reserve your spot. Dates will be announced once the class is full. Members must meet all the requirements to sign up.  
**Welding Fundamentals (40 hrs):** This class is designed for apprentices & journeymen who have little to no welding experience and want to learn the fundamentals of SMAW (Stick), and GTAW (TIG) welding. This course will cover welding procedures (WPS), UA certifications (UA-21, UA-22, UA-41), basic metallurgy, weld process selection, machine setup, welding symbols, welding positions, welding electrodes and consumables, weld preparation, shielding gasses, and welder safety. Participants will receive training on the Lincoln Virtual Welding Machine (VR), before heading into the welding lab. **Call the Training Center to secure your spot, dates to be announced later.**  
**Welding Lab:** Currently open welding lab is **Monday through Thursday 4pm to 8:30pm.** There is limited space and first come first served. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator. Welding lab will be closed until Sept. 2 for the summer.  
**ASSE Backflow Certification:** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The second course starts **Sept 9.** Courses run on **Wednesday and Thursday** for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)  
**ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs):** ASSE has increased the retesting fee to **\$85** for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The third course starts **Oct 14.** Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)  
**Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs):** This is a mandatory 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. You must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. **2025 Schedule:** The (Continued next column)



**Local 370**


UA Local 370  
FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday July 8, 2025 at 7 pm.**  
**Retiree Breakfast** will be on Monday, July 7 at 9:00 am.  
**Congratulations** to our newly elected officers and trustees. Results from June election are:  
**Business Manager/Financial Secretary/Treasurer-** Dan Gaudet.  
**Business Agent-** Zach Desrochers.  
**President-** Michael Fromwiller  
**Vice President-** Chad Adams  
**Recording Secretary-** Mike Blake.  
**Inner Guard-** Andrew Fromwiller.  
**Executive Board-** Kevin Gaby, Tony Slatton, Bobby Kelly, Keaton Dungey.  
**Pension/Insurance Trustee-** Zach Desrochers, Tony Slatton, Dan Gaudet, (ALT Tyler Smith).  
**Finance Committee-** Bill Desrochers, Cody Bland, Tyler Smith.  
**Sub/Sick Trustee-** Shawn Bashore, Chad Adams, Zach Desrochers, Dan Gaudet.  
**Building Fund Committee-** Tyler Smith, Carl Wilson II, Michael Fromwiller.  
**Scholarship Trustees-** Zach Desrochers, Tony Slatton.  
**FMR Fund Committee-** Craig West, Dale Collins, Zach Desrochers, Keaton Dungey, Andrew Fromwiller, Marcus Eubanks.  
**Examining Board-** Glen Chatters, Lonnie Birchmeier, Marcus Eubanks, Mark Pieper.  
**2026 UA National Convention Delegate-** Mike Fromwiller, Kevin Gaby, Zach Desrochers, Tony Slatton, Bobby Kelly, Chad Adams, Dan Gaudet.  
**The Ulliance Member Assistance Program** is now available to all members and retirees as of March 1. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount program for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to lifeadvisor.com or call 800-448-8326.  
**Golf Outing** Saturday, July 19 at Flushing Valley. 8am registration. 9am shotgun.

Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters  
and HVAC Service

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

**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**  
**First Aid & CPR** Sept. 17, at 4:30pm  
All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 Ext 15 or at [training@ualocal370.org](mailto:training@ualocal370.org)  
**2021 Plumbing Code Books** now available. Cost is \$85. Check, money order or Credit Card.  
Per our **By-Laws Article XV**, The Building Tradesman is hereby adopted and subscribed to as our Labor paper for all members of local 370. Said paper to be used for all official notification of membership.  
**Committee and Board meetings are as follows:**  
Examining Board – Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 4:00pm  
FMR Committee – Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 4:00pm  
PAC committee – Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 5:00pm  
Executive Board – Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 5:00pm  
Building Committee – Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:00pm  
Finance Committee - Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 6:15pm  
JATC Committee – TBD

**ALL GM Worksites and others require Must Safety and Drug Testing:** MUST safety modules are only valid for 4 years. Call the hall to sign up for the MUSTBSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form  
Local 370 office hours 7:30am – 4:30pm.  
Sub/Sick checks will be processed 8:00am – 11:30 am and 1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.  
**Attendance award** drawing for membership meeting information. Members present must have dues paid to date to claim award. The monthly award is \$150.  
**Attention All Active Members in Good Standing** The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.  
**Mobile App.** Our mobile app. is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search **UA Local 370**. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.  
**Our web site is up and running.** Check it out, [ualocal370.org](http://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 (Continued next column)



**DETROIT**

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704  
SOUTHFIELD – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, July 9, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

A VOTE ON Allocations of Money will take place at the July 9th meeting. Polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 5:30 P.M. In case of a tie, a vote with eligible members will take place that same evening until a winner is voted on.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Condolences go out to the family and friends of retired Brother Steve Williams who passed away May 30th. Brother Williams was a 52 year member of Local 704. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Mark your calendars, **The Sprinkler fitters Local 704 Golf Outing** will be held August 2. We will again be at The Lakes of Taylor Golf Course. You can purchase tickets for the event online. Just go to [local704.com](http://local704.com) and under the About section, click on Events and there is a link to purchase your tickets.

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

**Local 370, con't**

increments according to our by-laws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

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

If you shop on the internet, SHOP UNION MADE, log on to [www.shopunionmade.com](http://www.shopunionmade.com).

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


*"They say such nice things about people at their funerals that it makes me sad to realize that I'm going to miss mine by just a few days."*  
–Garrison Keillor (1942 - )  
*"Little by little, one travels far."*  
– J. R. R. Tolkien (1892 - 1973)

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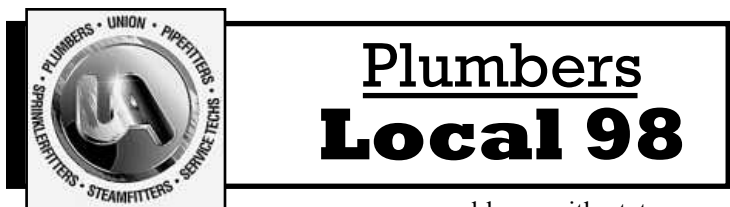
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## Plumbers Local 98

UA Local 98

DETROIT – Members of Local 98, congratulations on ratifying and allocating our new four-year contract. Effective June 2, 2025 the finalized wage and fringe benefits went into effect. Please call your officers if you have any issues with your check.

**Our next regular monthly union meeting** will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 7 pm.

**Retiree Luncheon meeting** will be held at the hall on Wednesday, July 9 from 12-2pm.

The Executive Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm and before all Union Meetings. The next board meeting is Thursday, July 10 at 6 pm due to the fourth of July holiday.

**Union Meeting Date Changes:** Due to scheduling conflicts the following months meetings will be held on the THIRD Thursday. August's meeting will be on Thursday Aug. 21 and October's meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025.

**Possible By-Law Change:** At the June 12, 2025 membership meeting a motion that was accompanied by the signatures of 20 members in good standing was made to change the times of all membership meetings. "Union meetings shall be called to order promptly at 6:00pm and adjourn no later than 9:00pm." This motion will be read off again at July 10, 2025 membership meeting and voted on at the meeting on Aug. 21, 2025.

**Dues:** Thank you to our members who have paid their dues current, in full or signed up for auto deduction. It's not too late to still pay your dues in full or sign up for auto deduction to qualify for this year's gift. The gift is a tee-shirt with our updated logo on the front and back. If you have paid your dues in full or have auto deduction and have not picked up your shirt, please stop by the hall to pick up or call to have it mailed. Shirts and sizes are guaranteed through the end of June 2025.

**Save the Dates:** Plumber's picnic will be held on June 28, at Lake St. Clair Metropark Noon-4pm (formerly known as Metro Beach Metropark) in Harrison Twp. Games, prizes, bike raffle, etc. Burgers, hot dogs, chips and soft drinks provided. Flyer is needed for complimentary entry. Please download a flyer or stop by the hall to pick one up. Any questions please call Business Agent Jimmy Cools.

**Local 98 Detroit Plumbers Scholarship Golf Outing** will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on Aug. 23, 9am shotgun start. Spots are selling out fast. Don't wait, call the hall or email us at [golfouting@ualocal98.org](mailto:golfouting@ualocal98.org) to sign up your teams and for sponsorship opportunities. Please be sure to sign up soon as spots are limited!

**Congratulations to Plumbers 98 softball team** on an impressive and hard-fought 5th place finish at the 45th Annual UA Softball Tournament in Cincinnati. This year's roster was made of Jeremy Pitts(manager), Dave Schroeder(coach), Chris Wright, Greg Wacker, Craig Zube, Trevor Dockham, TJ Hill, Jim O'Neill, Mike Joiner, Tyler DeFrank, Brandon Beranek, Austin Sinda, Noah Tunnecliffe, Cam Walsh, Josh Johnson and John Sowards. Thanks for representing 98 well!

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

**Pipe Up** is the official podcast of the UA General President. The program offers monthly stories, skills and a look into the lives of our membership. Access the podcast at [ua.org/pipeup](http://ua.org/pipeup).

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

**SUB Apps/Out of Work List.** SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App whether you qualify for SUB or not. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. We have a dedicated email to send your unemployment certifications and/or backup documents to receive SUB pay. Please email correspondence to: [sub@ualocal98.org](mailto:sub@ualocal98.org) by Thursdays at 3 pm to ensure ample time to process the payments. Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have

any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Rufus Hamilton.

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

**Benefits.** We have dedicated BeneSys employees at the Union Hall. PLEASE CALL BENESYS at (248)641-4988 or (866)646-8919.

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

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Gary Glaser, Business Manager (313) 580-0148 [gglaser98@ualocal98.org](mailto:gglaser98@ualocal98.org)  
Dan Nixon, FST (248) 752-3702 [dnixon98@ualocal98.org](mailto:dnixon98@ualocal98.org)  
Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313)542-2758 [rhamilton98@ualocal98.org](mailto:rhamilton98@ualocal98.org)

Jim Cools, Business Agent (248)762-9221 [jcools@ualocal98.org](mailto:jcools@ualocal98.org)  
Paul Smith, Business Agent (313)938-2477 [psmith@ualocal98.org](mailto:psmith@ualocal98.org)  
Jeff Kavalor, Business Agent (313)938-1554 [jkavalor@ualocal98.org](mailto:jkavalor@ualocal98.org)  
Rob Moses, Organizer (248)763-2187 [rmoses98@ualocal98.org](mailto:rmoses98@ualocal98.org)

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

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

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

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

If you are a member that has the practical portion of the state test scheduled for Aug. 5, 2025, we have 2 available evenings to come in and practice for it. The 2 dates are Wednesday, July 23, and Wednesday, July 30. Call the Training Center if you are interested in attending either of these sessions, or both. You will be required to bring all your supplies as you would for going to the actual test.

**OPEN WELDING** – is available on **Wednesday evenings and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month.** Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability. For those that can't find time to get in during the weekdays, open welding will be available on the first Saturday of the month, call to get a booth.

**2024 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 July 12. You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test.

**CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2025. The deadline to register for fall upgrade classes is August 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):**

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

**CAD/BIM I - 40 hour class**  
**ICRA and Water Quality: Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30 – 40 hour class**

**Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour)**

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

**Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber - 40 hour class**

**ASSE Backflow Tester Recertification: Please be sure to (Continued next column)**



## Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174

**COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** JULY MEETING– SPECIAL CALL MEETING. The July membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 1, 2025 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. This is a special call meeting for purposes of contract discussion or a potential vote and allocation. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

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

**Office Closed:** The Union office will be closed Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

**Dave Reynolds Memorial Golf Outing:** will be held Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025 located at The Falls at Barber Creek with an 8 am registration, 8:30am shot gun start. It is a four-person scramble, \$80 per person, \$320 per team. Each team must have 2 UA members on the team. Please contact Therese at the front office to sign up. Space is limited to the first 30 teams to sign up and pay. Money must be paid no later than July 25.

**Volunteers needed - Family Picnic:** This year's Local 174 family picnic will be held on Saturday, July 19, 2025 at Heritage Landing in Muskegon from 11 AM – 4:00 PM. Volunteers will be needed at the picnic for stations as well as set-up and take-down. Please call Therese at the office if you can volunteer. Thank you!

**Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA):** Beginning on March 1, 2025 contractors will contribute 1/30 of your base wage for every hour worked into a Sick Fund on your behalf. Solxsys will set up and administer a fund for each individual member. Starting June 1, 2025 members will be able to fill out a form and request reimbursement for time missed. If you have any questions, please contact the Union office.

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

**Organizing Update:** *Like everyone else, organizing efforts have been extremely busy! I appreciate everyone's leads and information about the unrepresentative worker, I will always say the members play a very important key role in organizing and gaining market share! As noted in my last entry of the Building Tradesman, to get the best contract available we must have marketing share!*

*When speaking to the non-union worker at the job sites, bring up the conversation about how we don't pay for health insurance, we have a defined pension along with a 401k, and OPPORTUNITY!*

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

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

**Contact Information:** If you need to change or verify your contact information, PLEASE

## Local 98, con't

*check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly.*

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

**4 hour recert class** Oct. 21 & 22 Deadline is Sept. 26

**OSHA Training** - OSHA 10, available as an online class for \$59 at [www.careersafeonline.com](http://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](http://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.**

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 & Service Trades Local No. 174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098, (855) 407-5862

**Health Insurance Contact Info:**

**Active and NON-Medicare Retirees**

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

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

**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

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

**Labor Councils:** - Kent Ionia - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location

Lakeshore – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

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

**Training News: JULY 4TH:** The Training Center will be closed Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month – unless otherwise noted), from 5-9p. The next class will be held Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**WELD TEST:** Test Events will be the second week of every month. Capabilities will be Tuesday nights with weld tests on Thursday nights. In the event of a union meeting being that Tuesday, we will move capabilities to a Wednesday. Next capabilities will be Tuesday, July 8, and the test to follow Thursday, July 10 at 5pm. **Please note: there be NO WCP Test event in the month of August. July will be the last opportunity for weld tests until September 2025.**

**PLUMBING EXAM PREP:** Get prepared for your Michigan State Journeyman plumbing exam. Class will begin on Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup> and will be weekly, every Thursday evening 5:00p-8:00p. This class will conclude on Thurs., August 7<sup>th</sup>. (Class dates: 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31 & 8/7)

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

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

**\*\*WAITING LIST:** Effective immediately, the Training Center will no longer maintain a waiting list for upcoming classes. When a class is scheduled, the dates and times will be announced in the following locations:  
\*The Building Trades article  
\*The Local 174 Members Facebook page  
\*The announcement screens at the Training Center

**Going forward, it is your responsibility to call and sign up for a class once it is posted.** Please monitor these sources regularly to stay informed about new class opportunities.  
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.

**(Continued next column)**



UA Local 111

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

**ATTENTION:** The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette, July 31 at 7:30pm. This will be a special called meeting to review the Locals financials.

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

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

**MRA FUND - This is a reminder that you are required by the IRS to provide proper substantiation for your MRA debit card usage.** Many members have received Substantiation Request letters from the Local 111 Benefit Fund office, Zenith American Solutions.

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

**Failure to respond to these Substantiation Request letters will result in suspension of your MRA card until all requested documentation has been received.**

If you have any questions, please contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1 or the Union Hall.

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

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

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

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

**Check your dues records!**

You are assessed a \$50 reinstatement once you become 3 months behind. You are automatically expelled once you are over 6 months behind.

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

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



UA Local 357

**KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, July 8** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

**SPECIAL ELECTION:** A Special Election for the remainder of a Health & Welfare Trustee six-year term will be held from **1:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Tuesday – July 8<sup>th</sup>** at the Union Hall. The members running for this position are TJ Collick, Matt Miller and Justin Reitenour. Results will be read at the Union Meeting that night.

Per the U.A. Constitution Sec.124(a), no member shall vote at any election unless he/she has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for at least a period of one year immediately prior to the date of the election.

**UPCOMING UNION EVENTS:** Sportsman Alliance Dinner – **Thursday July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025** (Limited Seats still available)

**Growlers Baseball Game – Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Annual Picnic – Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Golf Outing – Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025** (Details to follow at a later date)  
Call Lori at (269) 679-3708 for details on any of these events.

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

**RETIREE MEETING:** Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9:00 am at **The Crew** located at 5200 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 337-9800.

**CHANGE OF STATUS:** If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date and you only have thirty (30) days from the date of the event to make the change. **There also seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents.** (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Logan Gordy, and family, on the birth of a son, Nolan.

Congratulations to Cole Visscher, and family, on the birth of a daughter, Claire.

**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to the family of Life Member William Mauk on his recent passing.

*"It is possible to be below flattery as well as above it."*  
–Thomas Babington Macaulay (1800 - 1859)

*"The marvel of all history is the patience with which men and women submit to burdens unnecessarily laid upon them by their governments."*  
–William H. Borah







# Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,  
Refrigeration &  
Air Conditioning Service

**UA Local 636**  
DETROIT – Our next regular Union meeting is July 15, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075

A special guest from U-  
lance will appear just prior  
for updates and to answer any  
questions from membership.  
Office Hours are 8:30 am –  
4:30 pm Monday – Friday.

**Special Announcement:** as  
of 1/1/2025 all active, retired, and  
opt-out members are being en-  
rolled in vision coverage through  
Delta/VSP Vision for details  
please contact the Union Hall  
248-538-6636 or VSP member  
services 800-877-7195 or Mem-  
ber Portal www.memberportal.  
com for dental and vision benefits.

**The 15th Annual Trades-  
women Build Nations Con-  
ference** is happening again in  
Chicago Sept. 19-21 2025. All  
Tradeswomen and allies can at-  
tend. The ladies will be selling  
their raffle tickets to raise funds.  
The winners will be drawn at the  
September Union Meeting. If you  
are interested in attending you  
can contact the union hall.

**The Local 636 Picnic** will  
be held on Aug. 9 from 11-4pm  
at the Sara Club 3945 Club Dr.  
Brighton, MI 48114. We will  
have kids' games and prizes, door  
prizes, swimming, fishing, corn-  
hole tournament, food and drinks,  
kona-ice truck, face painting and  
tattoo's, bounce houses and great  
times with your Brothers and Sis-  
ters. Hope to see you there! Call  
Tony Sievert for any other info or  
to volunteer 248-939-3636.

**Attention Retiree Golfers:**  
The 636 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.  
All skill levels are represented and  
there is no obligation to play each  
week. Most courses played are in  
Macomb County and Oakland  
County. If you are interested, sim-  
ply call Jim Dunn, 248-709-7036  
or Joe Bourgeois, 313-590-0448.  
**CALLING ALL RETIR-  
EES!** The next meeting will be  
held July 17, 2025. The Retiree  
Association is looking to recruit  
more retirees to their meetings.  
The meetings are a great place  
to catch up, find out helpful  
information and enjoy very in-  
formative guest speakers. The  
Retirees will be meeting on the  
3rd Thursday of every month at  
11am at Local 636 Union Hall.

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

**Congratulations to Eric &  
Madelyn Finn** on the birth of their  
daughter Nora May 29, 2025.

**Deceased Members** –Life-  
time Member Gary Bailey April  
13, 2025; Lifetime Member Mi-  
chael O'Donnell May 14, 2025;  
Paul Keller Jr. May 9, 2025;  
Lifetime Member Gary Zepke  
May 27, 2025; Lifetime Member  
Frank Kurylo May 20, 2025

**Our deepest condolences to**  
Larry Isaacs Sr. on the passing of  
his wife Elizabeth Ann, and to the  
family of Brother Darrell Sim-  
mons who passed away suddenly  
on June 19, 2025. Rest in Peace.

**Get Well Wishes to;** James  
Davis, Marty Sosnowski, Ray  
Sterna, Larry Cirillo, Ed & Nor-  
een Nys, Rashad Dooley, Chris  
Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L.  
Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron  
Sarata, Robert Cabanaw, Michael  
Downey, Gregory Firth, Ryan  
Girard, Kristofer Gojcaj, David  
Hatch, Tanya Holland, Jason  
Howe, James Juracek, Bryan  
Kelly Jr., Hunter Kiger, Raymond  
Kuhowski Jr., Earl Marshall Jr.,  
Steven Miles, Jeremy Morgan,  
Daniel Mosey, Ernie Murphy,  
Ted Richardson, Brian Robinson,  
Ryan Seitz, Mark Troutman II,  
Brian Mierendorf, Robert Filar.

**DUES – 2nd Quarter Dues**  
are due now. Your dues receipt  
will now be emailed to you; this  
will help us save on the cost of  
mailing receipts. Please call the Lo-  
cal 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 pay-  
ment made by credit or debit card.

**The Ulliance Member As-  
sistance Program** is available to  
all members and retirees. This  
benefit includes free and confi-  
dential mental health counseling,  
coaching, and 24/7 crisis support.

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

**New 988 crisis helpline.** The  
UA and the MCAA have made a  
joint investment to spread aware-  
ness on the way we approach mental  
health and suicide prevention. With  
the implementation of the Depart-  
ment 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 De-  
posit is NOW AVAILABLE** for  
SUBPAY. Participants should  
continue to send all applications  
and weekly proof to the SUB  
Fund office for review and pro-  
cessing 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.

**Direct Deposit is now avail-  
able,** 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 Authoriza-  
tion Agreement** forms for SUB-  
PAY were mailed by BeneSys  
and can be found on our website  
or you can call the Local for one.

**BeneSys** has set up a dedi-  
cated phone line for Pipefitters  
636 needs and questions, when  
calling BeneSys, please call **888-  
646-8920**.

**Defined Contribution Pen-  
sion Plan.** For those members  
who use the Voice Response Unit,  
VRU to obtain balance informa-  
tion and transfers funds in your  
Defined Contribution Pension,  
the number has changed. The  
NEW NUMBER for the VRU is  
**877-410-9984**. Plan provider  
number is 7526. You can now  
login to your Defined Contribu-  
tion account on the Local's Web-  
site. Just click on the "Defined  
Contribution login here tab" and  
it will take you to the BeneSys  
login page. The Defined Contribu-  
tion *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 Dash-  
board" page. Here you will be  
able to review a snapshot of your  
account balance, investments, and  
recent transactional activity.

**Considering Retirement?**  
Any member may meet at the  
office during business hours with  
Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-  
Treasurer, to begin the process.  
Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to  
schedule an appointment so that  
he can get all of your paperwork  
in order, or if you prefer, contact  
our Members Phone Line 888-  
646-8920 at BeneSys for your  
retirement paperwork. **Please  
allow a 60–90-day notice that is  
necessary** to adequately process  
the requests for paperwork, get-  
ting the forms sent to the partici-  
pant, 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 cur-  
rent? Check your report card at  
**mustbsafe.org** and if it is time for  
renewal call the Training Center  
248-585-0636 and they will reg-  
ister you. Be "ready" when the  
calls come in. Safety modules  
and drug tests are paid for by the  
Contractors Association. **WHEN  
YOU STAY CURRENT WITH  
YOUR SAFETY MODULES,  
DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID,  
from January 1 – December  
31 you will be eligible for your  
ready to work payment.**

**Training Center News.** Regu-  
lar night welding runs through  
the Spring/Summer Monday and  
Thursday nights 4-8 pm.

Certified Brazing class Mon-  
day and Thursday Night 4 till 8.  
Certified Mitsubishi Installer  
class: TBD in Early August.  
Call Kim to sign up



# Local 333

Plumbers &  
Pipe Fitters

**UA Local 333**  
LANSING – July's union  
meeting will be held Wednesday,  
July 9, 2025, at 6:30pm at the  
Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin  
Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing,  
MI. 48911.

August's union meeting will  
be held Wednesday, August 20,  
2025 at the Lansing Hall, 5405  
S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Lansing, MI. 48911.

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

**Weld classes:**  
Lansing: Monday evenings-  
4-8pm.

Jackson: Monday evenings  
7-8pm.  
Battle Creek: There will be  
no weld classes.

Backflow class, new certi-  
fication class will be in September,  
the date will be announced

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

**PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL  
CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the  
UA as of Jan. 1, 2019, all Braze  
and Weld certifications must be  
updated within 120 days of their  
expiration date, or you will lose  
your certification.

Check the dates on your  
certifications and if they have  
expired call Diana at the Lansing  
Training Center 517-323-0333.

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

Ultimately it is the member's  
responsibility to make sure their  
certifications are current.

**Please sign up on the web-  
site or call the Lansing Training  
Center at 517.323.0333.**

**Battle Creek Retirees' Break-  
fasts** are held on the fourth  
Thursday of every month at Lux  
Café. 2587 Capital Ave, Battle  
Creek, MI. at 9 am. Please  
spread the word.

**Retirees' Breakfast in Jack-  
son:** Retirees meet the third Tues-  
day of every month at 10 am at  
the Alpha Coney Island at 1188  
Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI.  
**PLEASE NOTE:** The restaurant  
is located at the west end of the  
Jackson Crossing Shopping Center.

**Lansing Retirees' Break-  
fast** will be held on June 25,  
2025, at 9am at the Lansing  
Hall, 5405 S Martin Luther King  
Jr. Blvd. Lansing. There will be  
plenty of good food, and friends  
to visit with. Please spread the  
word.

*"The Ulliance Member As-  
sistance Program is available to  
all members and their families.  
This benefit includes free and  
confidential mental health coun-  
seling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis  
support."*

*In addition, there are free  
30-minute consultations for legal  
and financial matters. There is a  
great discount program for goods  
and services as well as free iden-  
tity theft protection.*

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

**If you have a change in ad-  
dress or phone number, birth  
of a child, marriage or divorce,  
or to update your beneficiary  
paperwork. Please contact the  
Lansing office to make the nec-  
essary changes.**

Congratulations to all our  
members who have recently had  
a newborn baby come into your  
family.

Congratulation to the fol-  
lowing members who have re-  
cently retired. Dale Barr, William  
Bensinger, Jason Buckner, Jacob  
Jackard, Larry Kain, Robert  
Klon, Geoffrey Madden, Gregory  
Paksi, Michael Phipps, Mike  
Pierce, Edwin Secor, Kenneth  
Stevens, Jeffery West, Dean  
Wood, and Todd Zeller.

Local 333 wishes you the  
very best in your retirement and  
all the new adventures life.

Save the Date: Membership  
Picnic, September 14, 2025  
High Caliber 12pm-5pm

RSVPs will be mailed to the  
membership.



# Local 671

Plumbers &  
Pipe Fitters

**UA Local 671**  
MONROE – The Local 671  
Membership Meetings have now  
been moved to the 3rd Thursday of  
the month. The next meeting will  
be held July 17, 2025, at 7pm.  
The Executive Board will also  
have a meeting on July 17, 2025,  
at 5pm. If anyone would like  
to come in front of the E-Board  
please contact the Union Hall.

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

Also, please refer to our  
website [https://www.unitedas-  
sociationlocal671.com/](https://www.unitedas-sociationlocal671.com/) and its  
calendar for the latest updates.

Elections were held June  
19th, 2025. Results of the Elec-  
tion are listed below:

**President:** Justin McMan-  
away

**Vice President:** Charles  
Smith

**Business Manager:** Michael  
Jewell

**Business Agent:** Kirk Lavoy  
**Recording Secretary:** Zach  
Hyden

**Inside Guard:** Robert  
Sword

**Executive Board:** Montana  
Heiss, Gary Poore, Jed Bunge,  
Keith Haener, and Montana Heiss

**Finance Committee:** Joe  
Wickenheiser, Andrew Hoffman,  
and Dave Merrick

**Examining Committee:**  
Jeff Molnar, Dacon Bischoff, and  
Mike Neard

**Trustee:** Vincent Fenech,  
Justin McManaway, Jed Bunge

**Delegates:** Justin McMan-  
away, Charles Smith, Gary Poore  
and Montana Heiss

**Negotiation Committee:**  
Vincent Fenech, Justin McMan-  
away and Kirk Lavoy

Congratulations to all the of-  
ficers, Local 671 is in good hands  
for the next 3 years.

**Retiree Luncheons:** We  
want to remind everyone that  
the Retiree Luncheons are al-  
ways held at the Hall on the last  
Thursday of the month at 12pm.  
The only exceptions are August,  
November, and December due to  
the Picnic in August, and proxim-  
ity to the Holidays in November  
and December. We always look  
forward to seeing everyone there!

**Local 671 App:** To keep up  
with the latest information, make  
sure you download Local 671  
App. If you have questions or  
issues getting logged on contact  
Vinnie at the Union Hall.

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

If you are not receiving the  
Push Notifications from the App  
please contact Vinnie!

**Open Weld Shop Nights:**  
The open Weld Shop nights are  
now **Tuesday nights** from 6pm-  
10pm. A booth will need to be  
reserved by noon on Friday prior  
to the practice night. If we have  
(3) or more signed up, we will  
hold the practice night. Booths  
will be first come, first served  
with whoever is practicing for a  
UA test getting priority. **Effective  
immediately, all UA weld test  
sessions will be held on the  
first Thursday of each month.**  
The next UA Weld Test Session is  
tentatively scheduled for **Thurs-  
day, July 31st**

**2025 Local 671 Golf Out-  
ing:** The 4th Annual Local 671  
Scholarship and Benevolence  
Golf Outing will be held July 12  
at Green Meadows Golf Course.  
The tickets for this fundraiser will  
be \$100 each or \$400 per four-  
some for Local Members. Call  
the Hall and pay for your four-  
some ASAP to reserve your spot,  
this event will sell out quickly!

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

**Upcoming Recertification  
Classes:** We need to hold EPRI  
Rigging and Med Gas Recertifica-  
tion classes this Summer. Please  
review your certifications and  
contact Justin to get signed up for  
these classes. We will get the dates  
of these classes out to everyone as  
soon as we finalize them.

**In Closing:** The duty of a  
union officer is one of immense  
responsibility and significance.  
Union officers serve as the voice  
and advocates of the member-  
**(Continued next column)**



**TIDYING UP AN ADDITION** to the IBEW Local 58 union hall  
project is Jose Herrera of Laborers Local 1191. He's employed  
by Roncelli.



# LiUNA! LOCAL 1191

Feel the Power

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

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

**Regular Membership Up-  
dates:** Please check out our web-  
site at **www.laborerslocal1191.  
org** and the "Laborers' Local  
1191" Facebook page for impor-  
tant information about your Local  
Union.

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

**Monthly General Mem-  
bership Meetings:** All 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), unless the Member-  
ship receives notice of a meeting  
cancellation, rescheduling and/or  
a venue change.

**The next General Member-  
ship Meeting will be held on the  
11th of July, 2025 in observance  
of the July 4th holiday. The  
August General Membership  
Meeting will be held on 1st of  
August, 2025.**

**Monthly Retiree Council  
Meetings:** Retiree Council meet-  
ings are the last Friday of each  
month. The meetings are held  
at 11 am at the Local Union, at  
2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit,  
MI 48208. **The next monthly  
Retiree Council Meeting will  
be held on the 25th of July, 2025.  
The August Monthly Retiree  
Council Meeting will be held  
on August 29, 2025.**

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

**Important Notice Regard-  
ing Dues Payments:** According

## Local 671 cont'd

ship, working to protect workers'  
rights, negotiating fair contracts,  
and ensuring safe and just work-  
ing conditions. Their leadership  
and dedication are key to a strong  
Union.

Officers must remain in-  
formed, accessible, and com-  
mitted to upholding the values  
of solidarity and fairness. By  
fulfilling their duties faithfully,  
union officers strengthen the  
foundation of the labor Union and  
help ensure that every member is  
treated with dignity and respect.  
Remember the oath that you will  
be taking in July and the respon-  
sibility that comes with the office.

I would also like to thank the  
outgoing Officers for their service  
and dedication. We are a stronger  
Union because of your service.  
Mike Jewell: email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)  
Vinnie Fenech: email: [vinnie@ualocal671.com](mailto:vinnie@ualocal671.com)  
Carly Neely: Insurance Line  
(734) 241-6180 email: [carly@ualocal671.com](mailto:carly@ualocal671.com)

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 bet-  
ter 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 ad-  
ditional 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!!!**

**Drug Test Renewal: Mem-  
bers are reminded to keep your  
Yearly Drug Test current and  
also your 18 safety modules.**  
You can schedule an appoint-  
ment 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 Ap-  
prentices may still obtain training  
through MLTA'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 Aware-  
ness, Hazard Communication,  
Blood-borne Pathogens Aware-  
ness, 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 Cen-  
ter for MUST Safety Modules  
contact the Local Union to assist  
you with making arrangements to  
complete them.

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

**Death Certificates:** Please  
always submit to the Local Union  
a copy of a Death Certificate for  
deceased active or retired mem-  
bers. **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 tech-  
nical trainings through Union  
Plus. Learn more information  
about Union Plus scholarships  
at [www.unionplus.org/benefits/  
education/union-plus-scholar-](http://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships)**

**IMPORTANT UNION  
BENEFIT CONTACT INFOR-  
MATION:**

Michigan Laborers' Fringe  
Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insur-  
ance, Pension)  
\* Telephone: (877) 645-2267  
\* Fax: (517) 689-6016  
\* Website: [www.michiganlaborers.org](http://www.michiganlaborers.org)  
\* Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149  
**Metropolitan Detroit La-  
borers' (Pension)**  
\* Telephone: (248) 641-4942  
\* Fax: (248) 813-9898





## Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next **Statewide Meeting** will be August 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 1 July 10th at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 July 15th at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 July 9th at 6:00 p.m. (Freeland)

\*Zone 3 August 20th at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 July 8th at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 August 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Please be aware that we are all required to report into the Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction in which we are traveling outside of our home Local/Zone/Area/Jurisdiction per the SMART Constitution Article 16 Section 10. Failure to report could result in charges and fines that you alone will be responsible for. Do not rely on your contractor or others to report on your behalf, it is your responsibility. Call your Business Representative if you are unsure of who to contact, they will get you the correct reporting information.

Please register on our website at [www.sheet-metal7.org](http://www.sheet-metal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2025. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you have issues registering.

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

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

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in the area is steady and should stay that way through the summer, now with that being said, always keep in mind to stay hydrated through these hot days by drinking plenty of water. Our next scheduled Zone 2 meeting is July 15th at 6:00pm, at the VFW Post 3195, hope to see you there. Dues are always due by the first of the month and keep me informed of any address or phone number changes. If your employment status changes please let me know. The Local 7 Picnic is July 19th in Traverse City at Timbers Ridge Campground, if you have never been to one it is a great event to attend with the family, lots of food, games and prizes. In Solidarity, *Your Brother, Mike Adams*

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Saginaw) Next Zone 3 meeting is July 9th at the Freeland hall.

This year’s Local 7 picnic is at Timber Ridge in Traverse City on July 19th. If you’re interested in camping call (231)947-2770 to see if any camp site are available.

Please call Lansing office (517) 882-4064 if you have changed your phone number or address.

Please make sure you are current on your dues. They are due the first of every month.

Next retiree meeting is June 24th at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Road.

Condolences to the Dale Shultz family, Dale passed away on May 31st he was 81 years old.

*In Solidarity, Joe Dotson*

**ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City):** Work outlook in our area and across the state is going strong. If there is anyone you know of that wants to get into the trade or if anyone has any questions on the SASMI boot/ physical requirements or anything else, call me. SASMI eligibility is under 650 hours from Jan.1 to June 30, anyone eligible will be getting the form to fill out and mail back, the deadline for filing is October 1. Work safe and remember the picnic is July 19th. In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

**ZONE 4 Info:** Work continues to be outstanding, with summer on us now and schools letting out it will be another great summer. We have successfully filled our apprenticeship classes for the July 1 start date, I would like to wish all the new apprentices good luck in your new positions! Please don’t forget about the Local 7 picnic this summer, it is a great event for the kids and adults as well. Also remember to register for the golf outing this fall, for any questions reach out to the Lansing office regarding both events. I hope everyone has a great 4th of July with family and friends. Thanks, your brother, Scott Brotherton,

**ZONE 5 Info:** Work in the U.P. remains steady and should stay that way through the rest of the year. There is a lot of mine work coming up in the next several years so if you don’t have your mine safety training make sure you get signed up for that at upconstruction.org. The statewide Local 7 picnic will be at Timber Ridge in Traverse City on Saturday July 19th. *In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld.*

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

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

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

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

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

#### Local 7 Officers:

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

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

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

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

Joe Dotson (Agent-Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Agent-Traverse City) 231-590-1112

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

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

*“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)

*“The important work of moving the world forward does not wait to be done by perfect men.”*

–George Eliot (1819 - 1880)



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Next General Membership Meeting scheduled for July 22, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. We will be raffling off Tigers tickets at this meeting!

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** Next executive board meeting is July 15, 2025 at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

**RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE:** 2025 Retiree Meetings: August 18, October 20 (Holiday Party), December 15<sup>th</sup>.



JASON  
GRUNENWALD

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

**BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL:** Lashone will be in Monday to Thursday from 9-4pm. To schedule an appointment, please 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Frank Baran, Jim Peraino, Anthony Soave, Thurman McGlothlin, Richard Flood, James Thornton, David A. Clark & Michael Groce.

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

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

**WORKING IN OTHER LOCALS:** Please remember that if you are working in a jurisdiction outside of Local 80 you must call their union hall and check in as a traveler. It is the member’s responsibility to do this, not the contractors! If you have any questions please reach out to an agent.

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### SUB Application Deadlines and Requirements:

**Submit your SUB application within 7 days of your layoff** to avoid forfeiting benefits.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Complete the SUB application at the hall.
- Provide a pay stub for the week.
- The hall will submit your information to the fund office.
- Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

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

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

#### SAVE THE DATE:

**Golf Outing – July 12**

**Picnic- August 9**

#### Training Center News.

**Honoring a Legacy:** Tools Passed from One Generation to the Next. The Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Training Center would like to extend our sincere gratitude to retiree Keith McVettie, who recently donated a collection of his father’s tools to the Training Center. These tools, worn with years of honest work, will now be passed on to future apprentices – continuing the legacy of craftsmanship, dedication, and union pride.

Keith’s father, Jim McVettie, worked in the sheet metal trade for over 40 years. Throughout his long and respected career, Jim not only made his mark in the field as a skilled tradesman, but also served the membership as a business agent. Even after retiring, Jim remained actively involved in the union, serving as president of the retirees association – a role that reflected his deep commitment to the brotherhood and to those who built the foundation of our trade.

This generous donation reflects the spirit of mentorship and tradition that has long defined our union. By placing these tools in the hands of a new generation, Keith ensures that the knowledge, values, and legacy of his father – and of the union itself – live on.

We thank Keith and the McVettie family for their generosity, and we honor the legacy of Brother Jim McVettie.

**Apprenticeship Entrance Exam.** The Entrance Exam for the next Sheet Metal Workers’ Local 80 Building Trades Apprenticeship class is scheduled for July 23, 2025. The deadline to apply is July 18, 2025. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver’s license and applicants must be 18 years old by April 4, 2022. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center @ (586) 979-5190.



## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: **\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\*:** **Troy Community Center 3179 Livernois, Troy 48083**, 1 block north of Big Beaver on the west side of Livernois. Use the Banquet Entrance.

The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **July 9, 2025, at 6:00 pm**. Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. The **June E-Board/Stewards meeting** has been cancelled. The regular schedule will resume in July.

**RETIREES NOTICE:** The next Retiree Luncheon will be held on 8/7/25 at 12:30 pm at Madhouse Bar and Grill, 32787 Stephenson Hwy, Madison Heights, 48071. It’s always nice catching up and staying connected. Please contact the union hall via our website, [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the “Contact Us” page if you would like to be added to the **retiree email list**.

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

**THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:** Our 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing will be held on August 23, 2025, at Lakes of Taylor Golf Club. The Outing sold out very quickly again this year. We look forward to another fantastic event in support of two great causes: Diabetes Research and the Children’s Christmas Party.

**SMOHIT HELPLINE:** Call 877-884-6227/ Available 24/7. For SMART 292 Members and their families experiencing an immediate crisis or who need a helpful ear.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on. June 21<sup>st</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup> & July 26<sup>th</sup>. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

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

*“If you have accomplished all that you planned for yourself, you have not planned enough.”*

–Edward Everett Hale (1822 - 1909)

*“Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man.”*

–Sir Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)

*“I get up every morning determined to both change the world and have one hell of a good time. Sometimes this makes planning my day difficult.”*

–E. B. White (1899 - 1985)

*“Good company and good discourse are the very sinews of virtue.”*

–Izaak Walton (1593 - 1683)

*“Success is a lousy teacher. It seduces smart people into thinking they can’t lose.”*

–Bill Gates (1955 - )

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Local 25  
Iron Workers

Iron Workers 25  
NOVI – **The June Union Meeting will be Monday June 30, 2025 at 7:00 pm** and will be in person and zoom. All Union Halls will be open for in-person and Zoom will also be available.

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

**ALL UNION HALLS WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY July 4, for the holiday.**

The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, June 30 at 6 pm. The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday July 16 at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, July 24 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

**A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday July 2, from 8 am to 12 noon. If you wish to book an appointment or have questions, give us a call 248-344-9494.**

Beginning Wednesday July 30 from 8 am to 12 noon a **HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE** from the Fringe Benefit Fund office will be at the Novi Union Hall to meet with any member(s), to address health care issues or HRA substantiation concerns. This will be ongoing during the last Wednesday of each month.

**The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual International Iron Workers Festival** will be held August 8-10 in Mackinaw City. Please plan ahead and reserve your hotel room(s). For more information, please go to [www.mackinawchamber.com/events](http://www.mackinawchamber.com/events)

**Awards Night** will be held on Monday, Aug. 28 at the Novi Union Hall. **A LETTER WILL BE MAILED BY JULY 31, 2025 to those eligible members.** We will have a social hour with appetizers/beverages starting at 5pm. Awards ceremony starts at

7pm. **All are welcome.** Awards Night supersedes the August Union Meeting and will be IN PERSON ONLY AT THE NOVI UNION HALL. All other Union Halls will be CLOSED.

**The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Local 25 ICIF Fundraiser** will be Saturday SEPT. 6 at the Novi Union Hall at 4 pm. Tickets are \$25 each and can be bought at the door or through any Business Agent. **Join us for food, drink and comradery. We have great prizes to raffle off as we’ve done in the past!**

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

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

**24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues:** Pay via our APP or website [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org). **The phone number is 866-635-2826. Or pay union dues with personal check or money order** and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) **from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).**

**BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE:** Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse **MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**The Iron Workers’ Local 25 Novi Chapter Retirees’ Club:** The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday July 15 at **8 am** in Novi. The Retirees’ meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday July 15 at 10 am. All are welcome.

**The West Michigan Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday July 1 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

**Northern Michigan Chapter** the next Retiree luncheon date is yet to be determined at the Brown Bungalow 100 28th St US 31 South, Manistee, MI 49660.

The next quarterly meeting & Picnic for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in July 17 at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. (Continued next column)



Local 169  
Boilermakers

Boilermakers 169  
ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on July 11, 2025. This



BOB HUTSELL

meeting is at the IBEW Local 275 Hall, at 140 64th Ave N, Coopersville, MI 49404.  
**The Annual Scholarship Golf Outing** on June 20 was a huge success! A big thank you to Business Agent Don Fajardo for all his hard work. Together with our vendors, Boilermaker locals, and signatory contractors, we raised the funds needed to sponsor our annual Scholarship contest. Please remember if you have a child graduating from High School this year and heading to college they can apply for the Scholarship by answering an essay question and getting it back to the hall by Aug. 15.

The essay question can be found on our website and is as follows. What can the Democratic or Republican party

Local 25, con’t

Saginaw Mi 48604 at 12 pm. All are welcome.

**The Downriver Chapter** next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9:00 am on **August 15, 2025** at Mom’s Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

**In Memory:** Honorary JIW Pat Thompson #1111584 of Bellevue MI., passed away June 8, 2025 at the age of 72. He was a 40-year member of Local 340/25 survived by his wife Sonia. Francis Paul Becigneul passed away June 10, 2025. He was the father of Paul Becigneul #1252619 and father-in-law of Todd Masters #1160770. *Our sincere condolences to all of the family and friends on the loss of your dear loved one(s).*

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (June 23, 2025 12:00 pm E.S.T.)-

do to benefit union workers? The scholarship contest awards \$3,000, \$2,000, & \$1,000 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Summer is here, and so are many of our annual events. With picnics and Labor Day events in all four areas, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and attend these events. We need more of our younger members to get involved if we are to continue our rich tradition of Brotherhood at these family fun events.

Area Picnics.

**Area 1** - July 19 at Camp Dearborn, 1700 General Mills Drive, Milford, Mi. 48380. Festivities begin at noon. Please bring a side dish to share.

**Area 2** - Sept. 1 following the Labor Day Parade at Heritage Park. Address is 1050 Seventh Street, Muskegon, Mi. 49441.

**Area 3** – Aug. 16 at Sanford Lake beginning at noon.

**Area 4** – Aug. 2 at Pioneer Trails Park, Escanaba, New Pavilion, 6822 US -2, Gladstone, Mi. 49837. Festivities are 1-5 p.m.

I encourage every member to make safety your number one priority. The busy workload looks like it will continue throughout the year so please make every effort to safeguard yourself and your Brothers and Sisters on the job.

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

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – [www.boilermakerslocal169.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com) for more information.

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

Any members interested in EPRI Rigging, which is required for working in the Nuclear Plants. Please contact Tony Herrera at 616-296-9131, or Jamie Ratliff at 313-584-8520. Your name will be added to the list. Once we have a full class, you will be notified (Continued next column)

when and where to attend. Per your International, any member with EPRI training will not be required to have Rigging 1 through 4 for placement on the BDS.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons

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

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

**Area 3** Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be July 16, 2025, at 11AM at The Boulevard Lounge, 316 S. Saginaw Rd., Midland, MI. 48640. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

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

Hoodies have arrived in all sizes at the Union Hall. The cost is \$45. Payments can be made with cash or a check. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details. The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at [www.boilermakerslocal169](http://www.boilermakerslocal169) or on our Facebook page.

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

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

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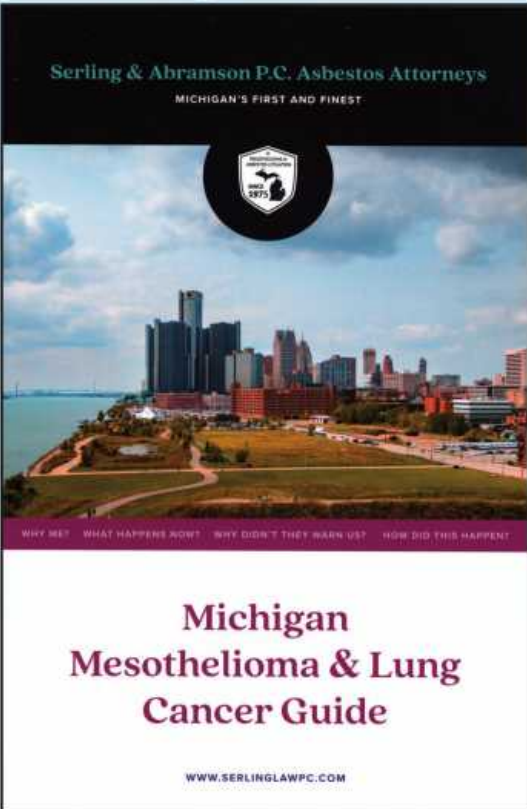
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**BAC Local 2**  
WARREN – METRO DETROIT RETIREE LUNCHEON. WHEN: Friday, June 27, 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Club Venetian, 29310 John R Rd., Madison Heights, MI 48071

WHO: Retired members ONLY

QUESTIONS: Contact the Lansing office at (517) 886-9781

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother David Sellers** (Cement Mason) who passed away on 4/23/2025. Brother Sellers had been a member for over 19 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Martin LaTour** (Bricklayer) who passed away on 12/18/2024. Brother LaTour had been a member for over 5 years.

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

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 no.

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.

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/resources> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2025 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 at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>. For more information on the Training Centers visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>

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.

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

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

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

Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension – (248) 641-4954

Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (248) 641-4954

Michigan BAC Vacation Fund – (248) 828-6000



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday July 15, at 7:00 pm. We will be having food and refreshments. There will also be an executive board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

Membership cards-Congratulations!

July 2025

Norman Davis-25 Years  
Manuel Guzman-25 Years

On this 4th of July, we celebrate the freedoms we cherish and the strength of our union. Happy Independence Day

The Local will be closing at noon July 3, 2025, for the holiday.

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

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

MUST Safety Awareness

Training: Please check the MUST website at [www.Mustb-safe.com](http://www.Mustb-safe.com) to see how many modules you have. You must create a new username and password. We will send ALL MUST drug authorization forms to members email address.

Please activate your Blue Cross Blue Shield account. To activate your Blue Cross member account online go to [bcbsm.com/register](http://bcbsm.com/register) and select register now.

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

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

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

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

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

The Local's website is: [www.opcmiami.org](http://www.opcmiami.org). Please refer to the 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](http://www.mustonline.org) Call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.



Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Regular Meeting will be held on Friday, July 11, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., and will be held at the Local 47 Union Hall, 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. 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.

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

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

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

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

The JATC will be hosting Interviews for both JATC Coordinator and Instructors on Friday, July 11, 2025. If you are interested in either position please make sure to either mail or email us a letter along with a brief description of your qualifications for the position you are applying for. You can email the Union at [ashley@insulators47.com](mailto:ashley@insulators47.com). Please have your letter submitted by Monday, July 7, 2025, and if you have any questions please contact the Local 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 Phone No: (517) 321-7502 Fax No.: (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: 16475 Ingersoll Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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

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

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

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



INSULATING A REFRIGERANT line in what will be kitchen space at the IBEW Local 58 union hall expansion in Detroit is Jacob Huff of Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25. He's employed by Rival Insulation.



## Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators 25

SOUTHFIELD – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Question: What do you call a fake noodle?

Answer: An "Impasta."

CONTACT UPDATE: We are now using [admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:admin@heatfrostinsulators25.org) as our primary contact email for all communication with the Union Hall. Please update your contact information accordingly.

Union Hall Contact Emails: [bob@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:bob@heatfrostinsulators25.org)

[eloany@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:eloany@heatfrostinsulators25.org)  
[connie@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:connie@heatfrostinsulators25.org)  
[marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org)  
[finsec@heatfrostinsulators25.org](mailto:finsec@heatfrostinsulators25.org)

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

Attention Apprentices, remember that volunteering at the picnic counts as a union meeting towards your required six meetings per year. If you are behind on meeting attendance for September advancement, or if you would like to "bank" a meeting, this is a great opportunity!

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

JOB STARTS: As stated in Local 25's Constitution & Bylaw's Article III Section 5. Failure to report a job start will automatically result in a fine of \$50. Future failures to report job starts will result in the amount of the fine being levied left to the discretion of the President.

PLEASE, call in all job starts so we can avoid fining members.

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: If you have modules expiring, contact the Union Hall

to have the testing authorization turned on. Please keep in mind, any modules completed outside the quarter requested in, will be paid the following quarter.

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall within

48 hours. This is the only way to guarantee you are on the out of work list and your employment records remain current and correct. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.

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



SLICING AN INSULATION panel as he prepares a frame for a door at the IBEW Local 58 expansion project in Detroit is Keegan Cole of Michigan Regional Carpenters Council Local 687. He's employed by Pontiac Ceiling and Partition.

"In the right light, at the right time, everything is extraordinary."  
–Aaron Rose

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By Shelby Laupp  
Michigan History Center  
Michigan Department of  
Natural Resources

If you had told me when I was working on my public relations degree that one day I would be vacuuming flies out of a 19th-Century machine shop, I probably would’ve looked at you a little funny. But here I am.

In early May, I, along with some of my coworkers at the Michigan History Center, made the five-hour trek north to one of the center’s historic sites, Fayette Historic Townsite, located within Fayette Historic State Park in Delta County.

Of the center’s 12 historic sites and museums, seven of them, including Fayette, require a spring site installation, fondly referred to as “installs” by staff at the Michigan History Center.

Each install requires a team of three to six staff members to clean buildings, reset exhibits and artifacts, and put in new exhibits. Install teams, led by a professional collections curator, are made up of center staff from a variety of positions who volunteer to help.

**Meet the team:**  
Angela Riedel, registrar.  
Troy Henderson, Fayette’s site historian.  
Sheri Giffin, administrative assistant.

Craig McGeachie, graphic designer.

Jillian Reese, curator of exhibits.

Shelby Laupp, communications coordinator.

**What is Fayette?** Along the shore of the Upper Peninsula’s Big Bay De Noc sits the site of a late 19th-century iron-smelting town. The town of approximately 500 produced nearly 230,000 tons of pig iron ingot between 1867 and 1891. When the Jackson Iron Co. ceased smelting operations in 1891, the town quickly faded.

When it was acquired by the State of Michigan in 1959, the townsite was given a new purpose: to allow visitors to step

## Outdoors Readying Fayette



**NOW IT’S AS IDYLIC** as any place in the state, but the former U.P. smelting town of Fayette on Big Bay De Noc in Northern Lake Michigan was once a grimy iron smelting town in the 19th Century. Each spring Michigan History Center volunteer staff clean and get the site’s Fayette Historic State Park ready for visitors in the coming months.

Photo credit: Wikipedia Commons

back in time and explore what it was like to live in an industrial community in the late 19th Century.

In partnership with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division, which is responsible for the management of the site and buildings, the Michigan History Center oversees the interpretation and artifacts of Fayette.

Given its remote location and the U.P.’s harsh winters, Fayette Historic Townsite’s visitor season is limited to early May through late October. During the colder months, the more than 150-year-old buildings sit closed along the frigid bay.

When the weather begins to warm and the tourist season approaches, the Michigan History Center team is tasked with getting the townsite ready to tell its story. Under the direction of Angela and Troy, our team tackled the following to-do list:

- Clean the 10 buildings open to the public.
- Unpack and stage artifacts in their exhibits.
- Install new exhibits.

“We got lucky with the weather this time,” Troy said. “Usually, it’s rainy, windy and chilly. This time, we had sunshine and warm temperatures. However, with the sun shining down on us, we had to fight through massive clouds of mayflies.”

To make the most of the short time we had to get the site ready, our team divided and conquered.

**Dead flies, dust and mouse droppings.** While closed for the winter, the historic buildings often become home to flies, spiders, other bugs and mice. These critters don’t give off the most welcoming feeling, so our team worked quickly to clean up their mess. Plenty of bugs were sucked up in handheld vacuums, and spider webs were carefully swept from the ceilings.

Each building needed a good sweep (or two). Artifacts that remained in their exhibits over the winter were carefully inspected and cleaned off by Angela, the collections lead for this install.

The Plexiglass, which encloses and protects the exhibits and artifacts, was covered with smudges, dust and dead bugs. All Plexi, including some covering interpretive signs, had to be cleaned.

Among all the buildings at Fayette, there are more than 50 panes of Plexi, some extending from floor to ceiling. Additionally, the building windows must be treated with a cleaner that can safely clean the glass but not damage the window framing.

Due to time restrictions, deep clean treatments rotate annually between buildings. That means, quite literally, getting on our

hands and knees to scrub.

“The barbershop was due for a deep clean this year,” Sheri said. “It might seem simple, but getting around artifacts, large pieces of furniture and display cases is no easy task. While Angela carefully used an electric floor cleaner, I grabbed a paper towel and some cleaner and got to work on the corners.”

It might seem like a quick list of chores, but with 10 expansive buildings, limited time and staff, countless artifacts to work around and historic buildings to take good care of, it takes days to complete all the cleaning.

**History on display.** There are more than 1,000 artifacts on display at Fayette. There’s a variety of furniture, books, toys, and glass and ceramic dishes. My favorite one? The last known remaining guest key from Shelton House, Fayette’s hotel.

The Michigan History Center strives to protect all the artifacts in its collections. During the off-season, those artifacts that can withstand cold temperatures and won’t become a snack for a mouse remain in their exhibit cases. Unnecessarily moving artifacts can lead to more damage than leaving them in place.

However, some artifacts cannot be left in their cases. At the end of the visitor season, items such as textiles must be removed



**HISTORIAN Troy Henderson of the Michigan History Center cleans and replaces a Plexiglass window covering in the butcher’s shop at the Fayette townsite.**

MDNR photo

and stored in a secure facility. Our team carefully took those artifacts out of storage and placed them back in their displays.

Certain displays are changed every few years. The parlor in the Fayette superintendent’s house changes to demonstrate one of two life events: a wedding or a funeral. This year, the parlor represents a house during the mourning of a child. Sadly, several of Fayette’s superintendents lost children while working in the town.

“I had never set up the funeral exhibit before,” Angela said. “It was interesting to learn more about funeral customs as we worked in the parlor.” Historically, pictures and mirrors or any reflective surfaces were draped with black fabric – mourning customs dictated that you didn’t want to see yourself in any reflection.

An abundance of flowers was typically placed in the parlor to mask the smells surrounding death. During this time, mourning was a longer, more visible process than we are accustomed to now. The length of the mourning period depended on the depth of one’s relationship with the deceased person.

**Digging for history.** Our trip to Fayette had a dual purpose. On top of the typical tasks, Craig and Jillian worked to install Phase Two of a new exhibit.

The new exhibit tells the story of the 1991 archaeology dig conducted on the site of the hotel’s two-story privy, which was an outhouse attached to the

hotel by a catwalk accessible off the second floor.

Archaeologists from Michigan Technological University conducted the dig, during which they found nearly 9,000 artifacts – and they only excavated half of the site.

In the hotel, Craig and Jillian installed more than 15 interpretive labels that guide visitors through the excavation and its findings. The pair fabricated, designed and set up multiple display cases that include items found in 1991.

The exhibit even includes a scale model of the excavation, built by one of our collections curators, Eric.

In addition, they set up a lab exhibit that mirrors the one that archaeologists used after their excavation of the privy site. More than 150 artifacts are displayed in the lab alone. They range from a mostly assembled water pitcher to medicine bottles – all unearthed more than 30 years ago.

**Teamwork makes the dream work.** While installs are multiple-day trips filled with long hours, dusty floors and dead bugs, they offer our staff a unique opportunity to get well acquainted with not only the various sites that the center interprets, but also with each other.

It’s cool to be a part of a team that helps preserve and share our state’s rich history. So, if that means that I need to sweep up flies sometimes, count me in.

Learn more about the Michigan History Center at Michigan.gov/MHC.

## ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

### Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

BRICKLAYERS

BOILERMAKERS

ELECTRICIANS

INSULATORS

PIPE FITTERS

PLUMBERS

SHEET METAL WORKERS

- ◆ Mesothelioma
- ◆ Lung Cancer
- ◆ Asbestosis
- ◆ Pulmonary Fibrosis
- ◆ Throat Cancer
- ◆ Colon Cancer

As pioneers in asbestos litigation, GPW has filed asbestos lawsuits since 1984, defending the rights of hardworking men and women throughout Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

**Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as MESOTHELIOMA, LUNG CANCER, ABESTOSIS, PULMONARY FIBROSIS, THROAT CANCER, and COLON CANCER.**

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

#### \$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

GPW obtained a **\$1.8 million** verdict in a Lung Cancer claim, the **largest Asbestos Verdict in the history of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.**

For more than 30 years, GPW has helped thousands of Michigan workers. We have represented mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestos disease victims, obtaining over \$1 billion in compensation for our clients.

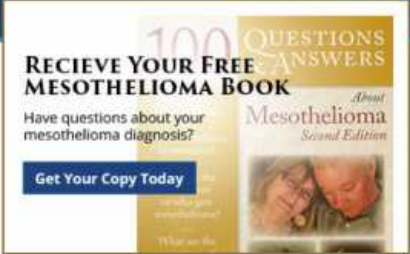
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**Please don’t delay, protect yourself and your family before it’s too late.** You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry. Call for a FREE consultation.