

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

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## SHORT CUTS



Labor Day is Monday, Sept. 1  
**Put Labor Day events  
on your calendar**

Here comes Labor Day. The annual celebration of the American worker will take place in various communities statewide in Michigan, whether it's a walk over the Mackinac Bridge or a cookout in your union hall's parking lot, or a full-blown parade on your local main street and picnic afterward.

Labor Day celebrations are scheduled to take place on Monday, Sept. 1, or over the Labor Day weekend this year in Detroit, Escanaba, Flint, Grand Rapids, Ishpeming, Monroe, Muskegon and St. Ignace.

We will have more information on times and locations in our next edition.

### **AFL-CIO joins legal fray vs. Trump**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The AFL-CIO and a group of its affiliates have joined the list of individual unions suing the Trump Administration in various courts over its union-busting attack that rescinded collective bargaining rights for about 1 million federal government employees.

The labor federation filed the lawsuit on July 30 in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

"The lawsuit," the AFL-CIO said, "is part of the labor movement's ongoing fight in court to ensure that every worker who makes the federal government run has their fundamental freedoms restored, challenging the Trump Administration's attempt to exploit the 'national security exemption' to attack the basic rights of workers."

Trump couched his union-busting effort under the guise that federal workers toiling under a collective bargaining agreement are somehow a risk to national security.

"President Trump's executive order was the single biggest act of union-busting in American history," said AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Fred Redmond. "It was an attack on every union worker, every union contract, and the freedom for all of us to organize on the job and our freedom to speak out. But the labor movement is no stranger to attacks like these, and we don't back down. Today, we are continuing our fight in the courts to restore the fundamental rights of every federal worker in this country."

Union organizations representing working people across the federal government, including professional and technical employees, overseas teachers, and workers in shipbuilding, maritime and the United Association of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters, joined the lawsuit.

### **Quotable**

"Endeavor to be always patient of the faults and imperfections of others for thou has many faults and imperfections of thine own that require forbearance. If thou art not able to make thyself that which thou wishest, how canst thou expect to mold another in conformity to thy will?"

—Thomas A. Kempis (1380-1471)



SETTING A NEW 16-inch discharge pipe at the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant is foreman Lori Joseph of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 190. She's employed by J.F. Cavanaugh Co.

## Upgrades in the works for Saline wastewater plant

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

**SALINE** — The largest contract ever issued by the city is funding an infrastructure project that will largely be out-of-sight and out-of-mind.

Which doesn't mean it's not vital to the health and welfare of this Washtenaw County city's 9,000 residents. The city's wastewater treatment plant is undergoing a number of upgrades to modernize and expand the city's aging wastewater treatment plant.

The \$70.9 million project, said general contractor Kokosing Industrial, is designed "to meet the growing demands of the community, improve environmental sustainability, and address aging infrastructure."

The project began in October 2023 and Kokosing, its subcontractors and building trades union workers are expected to complete the ongoing upgrades by September 2026. Spread over nine acres, the plant has provided reliable service since it was built in 1948 and upgraded in 1970. But its technology and some processes are old and inefficient, the set-up of the plant can make maintenance a challenge, and the plant has seen its capacity exceeded.

Approximately 50 build-

ing trades workers were on site last month. "The trades have been good, they work under good leadership who run their crews well," said Kokosing Project Manager Ryan Miller. "The owner is happy

with the progress we've made. We've had our challenges, but I look forward to challenges. Makes it exciting."

The plant is currently  
**(Continued on Page 2)**

SETTING CONDUIT for a control panel at the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant is electrician Will Whisenant of IBEW Local 252. He's employed by Shaw Electric.



FIRST ERECTED IN 1948, expanded in 1970, and given some improvements over the years, the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant is undergoing its most significant upgrade in its lifetime. This photo depicts the work on the plant in 2024. The upgrades by Kokosing, its subcontractors and building trades union workers will yield a more efficient, dependable, modernized plant.

Photo credit: City of Saline

## CEOs are doing great, as usual, as pay gap with everyday workers continues to widen

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

The trend line on American CEO pay vs. median worker pay continued to widen in 2024, as it has most years since the 1960s.

Among Standard and Poor 500 CEOs, the top execs took home an average of \$18.9 million in total compensation in 2024 —

that's a 7 percent pay raise from 2023. The annual "Executive Paywatch" report released July 23 by the AFL-CIO said that increase means CEOs made 285 times the median American workers' income, up from the "already egregious" 268-1 margin in last year's annual report. All U.S. workers saw an average 3.8

percent pay raise in 2024.

The report follows the adoption of the "Big Beautiful Bill" by Congressional Republicans and signed by President Trump, which cuts Medicaid and social services for the poor while handing a \$117 billion tax cut in 2026 alone to those same CEOs and the  
**(Continued on Page 4)**

## Trump's axe now swings toward OSHA, menacing worker safety standards

"The U.S. Department of Labor is aiming to rewrite or repeal more than 60 'obsolete' workplace regulations, ranging from minimum wage requirements for home health care workers and people with disabilities to standards governing exposure to harmful substances."

"If approved, the wide-ranging changes unveiled this month also would affect working conditions at construction sites and in mines, and limit the government's ability to penalize employers if workers are injured or killed while engaging in inherently risky activities...."

—Associated Press, July 22

## Trump's DOL is dismantling key workplace protections

By Economic Policy  
Institute Staff

Congress has failed workers for decades. Policymakers have not raised the minimum wage in nearly 20 years. They have not passed legislation to fix our nation's broken labor law, leaving the National Labor Relations Act largely untouched for more than 60 years. Further, they have failed to pass legislation providing U.S. workers with paid sick leave, predictable work schedules, and workplace protections against extreme heat.

Given Congress's inability to pass legislation protecting workers' wages and health and safety, federal regulations are critical to ensuring that workers have meaningful protections.

However, Trump and his Department of Labor (DOL) recently announced a massive deregulation effort, robbing U.S. workers of dozens upon dozens of rules that protect them from being forced to risk illness and injury on the job and ensure that they are paid for their labor.

Federal regulations are written by agencies to carry out the specifics of laws passed by Congress. Since laws can remain unchanged for decades, regulations make sure that laws are implemented and administered effectively. Since returning to office, Trump has unleashed a deregulatory agenda that requires agencies to identify 10 regulations to repeal in order to enact one new regulation. This  
**(Continued on Page 3)**

## 'Unnecessary regulatory burdens' are in the eye of the beholder

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

If there was a ever a handbook for property owners, one of the oldest maxims might suggest that before you take down a fence, you should understand why it was put up in the first place.

So it goes with government regulations — there are undoubtedly numerous examples of local, state and federal governments



er hand, those rules were put in place for a reason, and that reason likely deserves a little investigation before they're canceled.

Which leads us to President Trump's Feb. 6, 2025, Executive Order 14192, "Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation," which would cut federal rules with a machete, rather than a scalpel. It includes the directive that "unless prohibited by law, whenever an executive department or agency publicly proposes for notice and comment or otherwise promulgates a new regulation, it shall identify at least 10 existing regulations to be repealed."

Why 10 regulations, why not five, or 20? That goes unanswered in the Trump's executive order, which was made, it said, "in order to promote prudent financial management and alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens."

The July 1 statement issued  
**(Continued on Page 4)**

## Is robust construction industry set for a stall?

It's still a strong construction economy in the U.S., but a case of the hiccups may be setting in.

An analysis released July 30 by the Associated General Contractors of America said that exactly half of 360 metro areas in the nation added construction jobs between June 2024 and June 2025. But a year prior, the AGC said there were roughly 35 more metro areas with 12-month gains in construction employment.

The AGC's take on the numbers: "construction demand appears to be stalled in many parts of the country amid uncertainty

about tariff rates and labor availability." Association officials said construction demand was being "impacted by higher interest rates, uncertainties about potential new tariffs and changes in labor policy that are stalling economic activity in parts of the country."

Said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist: "Construction activity is in a holding pattern in much of the nation. As a result, fewer metro areas are experiencing gains in construction employment compared to a year ago."

In Michigan, Battle Creek (+10 percent construction employment from June 2024-2025), Jackson (+7 percent) and Lansing (+7 percent) saw the biggest percentage hikes in jobs.

The area around Niles (-17 percent) saw the biggest drop in Michigan and in the nation. The Monroe area was also among down on the list (-5 percent), but  
**(Continued on Page 4)**

## Are the state's roads improving? Oh, hell no

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

Comparatively, Michigan's roads still suck.

That's a pretty succinct summary of how Michigan stacks up in the latest appraisal of road conditions among the 50 states. On July 22, the "Citizens Research Council's Road System Condition Index" was released, and "Michigan ranks 40th for overall road system condition," according to the report.

Based on similar rankings over the past three decades from a range of groups that release such reports, Michigan's placement this year among the bottom 10 states in road conditions is completely fathomable.

"Although the 2025 update to the Road System Condition Index assessment has incorporated updated data and a refined methodology, most states' final rankings changed very little, if at all," the council's report said. "This is expected because the condition of a state's entire road network changed relatively

**(Continued on Page 3)**



Viewpoints

### A little help, Mr. President

North America's Building Trades Unions is the umbrella group for the 15 international unions. NABTU President Sean McGarvey issued the following open letter to President Trump on July 23:

"Mr. President, we need your help. You're a builder. You've forgotten more about what it takes to develop and build a project than practically anybody in the world ever knew. You are working hard, attempting to make deals and bring jobs back. But right now, some people around you are canceling job-creating projects – and with them, thousands and thousands of good-paying, blue-collar construction jobs. We're starting to see a softening in the construction job market.

"We've seen real backsliding on infrastructure, energy, and labor standards. And, as every builder knows, uncertainty is a death blow. And week after week, the hits keep coming:

- The Department of Transportation canceled funding for a high-speed rail project in California, putting 1,500 construction jobs a day at risk.
- Federal funding was pulled for the \$2 billion Allston Multimodal infrastructure project in Massachusetts – the cornerstone of \$25 billion more in development in the area – eliminating 3,000 new transportation construction jobs.
- The loss of a billion-dollar gas plant in Tennessee will result in the loss of another 2,000 construction jobs.
- A CHIPS plant in (Genesee County) Michigan was canceled, wiping out 5,000 construction jobs.
- The Department of Energy withdrew a major loan supporting the \$11 billion Grain Belt Express transmission project from Kansas to Indiana, killing over 22,000 construction jobs.
- Congress cut short critical energy tax credits, threatening hundreds of thousands of next-generation energy construction jobs.
- Prevailing wage rates at NASA's Cape Canaveral were rolled back, slashing wages for Florida's skilled construction workers.
- Labor and immigration rights are being violated daily at the Arizona TSMC project, which ICE should investigate and send buses immediately.

These aren't isolated incidents: \$17 billion in energy projects have been canceled just this year, costing 19,000 existing good-paying American jobs due to policy uncertainty in Washington. To name a few:

- Multiple South Carolina energy projects, worth approximately \$2.8 billion, were eliminated, destroying thousands of skilled construction jobs in the South.
- Three manufacturing energy plants, totaling nearly \$3 billion in Georgia, were canceled, abolishing over 1,000 construction jobs.
- A \$1.4 billion battery plant in North Carolina has been paused, jeopardizing over 1,000 jobs.
- Four projects have been halted in Arizona, killing over 3,800 construction jobs.
- Seven major N.Y. projects closed or canceled, ruining job opportunities for thousands of skilled building trades workers.

This is just a small sampling. While the media chases other stories, construction workers are being left behind. Although you and your administration are working on massive deals, these jobs would carry construction workers through until those larger projects come to fruition, years from now. Mr. President, please help blue-collar construction workers and their families."

Sean McGarvey  
President, North America's Building Trades Unions

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor:  
By mail: Building Tradesman Editor,  
1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216  
or, e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

# Saline wastewater plant upgrades



WE ASKED THIS GROUP of electricians to gather in their workspace for a photo. They include (l-r) Jason Fournier (IBEW Local 58) Thomas Thompson (IBEW Local 252) and Dominic Spitley (IBEW Local 252). Employed by Shaw Electric, they're working on feeder controls in front of pumps in the electric room at the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant.

(Continued from Page 1)

rated to handle six million gallons per day; this project will about double its capacity. Located south of the city's downtown, the plant is bordered by private homes and a public park, which makes for a tight site, and brought about requirements for planning to minimize noise, traffic and other disruptions to the community.

The system has experienced overflows after heavy rains, the most recent occurring in early April. "During the storm, Saline received over 1.5 inches of water in under 45 minutes," said a statement from the city. "This high-intensity storm produced volumes of water beyond the

facility's current treatment capacity," with the sewage overflow going into the Saline River.

Acting City Manager Elle Cole said at the time, "this event demonstrates how extreme weather is placing new demands on infrastructure across Michigan." The city added: "the incident highlights the importance of the major WWTP upgrades currently underway, which will allow the plant to manage intense stormwater surges more effectively in the future."

The Michigan EGLE (Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy) has fined the city in the past for violations of effluent limits at the plant.

There has been a lot going on at the site. According to Kokosing's Miller and the City of Saline:

- A new headworks building at the front of the plant will house mechanical bar screens and raw sewage pumping systems, ensuring that large debris is effectively removed from wastewater and preventing damage to downstream equipment.
- The work will include the installation of new 60-foot diameter primary and final clarifiers, which will significantly increase the plant's wastewater treatment capacity, while modifications to existing clarifier tanks will optimize their performance and ensure compatibility with the new systems.



A SECONDARY CLARIFIER, a tank that uses gravity to separate solid particles (like sludge and scum) from wastewater. is shown under construction at the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant.

- New aeration tanks with bubble diffusers will be added to enhance oxygen transfer and promote the growth of microorganisms that break down organic contaminants in the wastewater.
- A new blower and solids handling building will house high-speed turbo blowers, which will provide the necessary air to the aeration tanks, and a pumping system will recycle treated sludge back into the treatment process.
- A new solids handling system will be installed to remove solids from the system, enabling its disposal or beneficial reuse in compliance with environmental regulations.
- The existing digester tank will be modified to improve its efficiency in processing and stabilizing sludge, increasing the plant's capacity to manage the growing volume of wastewater. A new storage building will be constructed to house equipment and materials necessary for plant operations.
- A wet weather storage tank will capture excess wastewater during high-flow periods caused by heavy rainfall, preventing the plant from being overwhelmed and ensuring that wastewater is treated in compliance with environmental standards.
- New process yard piping systems will be integrated throughout the facility to facilitate the efficient flow of wastewater between treatment components. Pipe diameters on site range from 48 inches down to 16 inches.
- The electrical distribution system will be upgraded to meet current demands and future growth, including the installation of a standby generator to ensure continuous operation during power outages. Instrumentation upgrades will enhance automation and monitoring capabilities.
- Restoration work will be carried out on existing plant structures to extend the infrastructure's lifespan and ensure the integrity of the facility.

"When we're finished here, the city will have a more dependable wastewater treatment system with double the previous capacity, and more wet weather storage," Miller said. "The Michigan EGLE will be happy, and the city will be happy. We will bring them a good, future-proofed system."

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.

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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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: When we loved lead HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy

Lead is perhaps the granddaddy of all ubiquitous, hazardous substances, and it has had remarkable staying power.

A malleable, versatile, inexpensive and commonly found substance, lead was used by ancient civilizations, including the Romans, to seal water pipes, as an ingredient in drinking vessels, and even as a wine sweetener, among many other uses. But it has a dark side.

Jack Lewis, writing an article under the heading “Lead Poisoning: A Historical Perspective” for the *EPA Journal*, said even ancient civilizations understood lead as a “remarkably useful but also insidiously deadly metal.” He wrote: “The ancients regarded lead as the father of all metals, but the deity they associated with the substance was Saturn, the ghoulish titan who devoured his own young. The very word ‘saturnine,’ in its most specific meaning, applies to an individual whose temperament has become uniformly gloomy, cynical, and taciturn as the results of lead intoxication.”

The Romans also used lead in paint. But they weren’t the only ones to continue to use a substance they knew to be poisonous. After all, despite modern scientists warning of the hazards of lead over course of the 20th Century, paint manufacturers continued to use the stuff in their concoctions. Not only that, they actively promoted the use of lead as a paint marketing tool.

And wouldn’t you know it, Michigan became a center for the use of lead-based paints. And we’ve been paying for it in terms of the human health costs ever since.

“The hazards of lead have been known since 200 B.C., yet they were mostly ignored because of the metal’s easy availability, malleability, anti-corrosive properties, and even taste,” wrote Kurt Sanftleben, for *Paper Americana*. “It was added to paint because it expedited drying, improved durability, and permitted cleaning with soap and water. In the early 20th Century, Detroit, driven largely by auto industry demand, became the center of lead paint production in America.

“It also became the center of lead-based health concerns. Detroiters came into direct contact with lead in their factories; they lived in lead-painted homes, and the air they breathed was laden with lead dust. By the time, lead-based products were legally controlled in 1978, over 6 percent of Detroit’s children suffered some type of medical issue from lead exposure.”

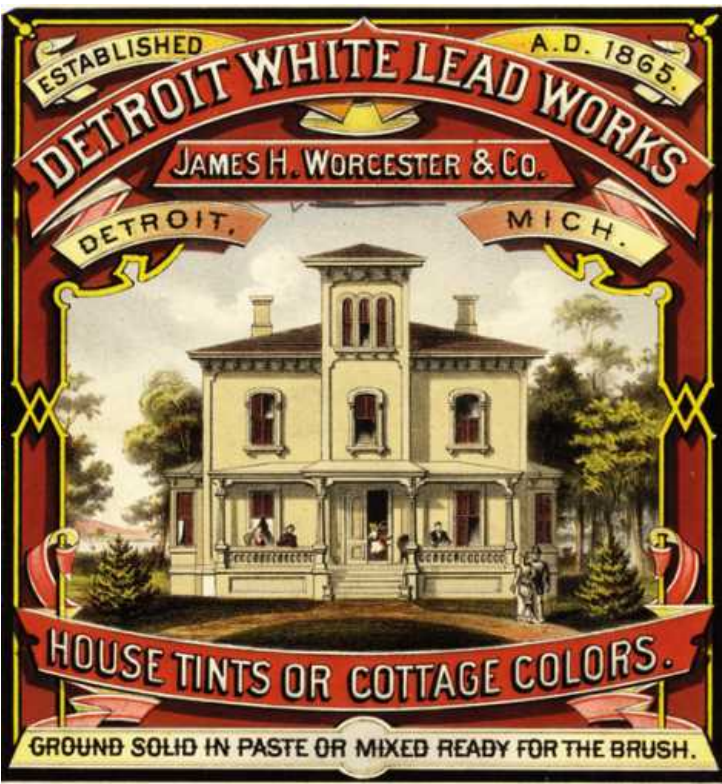
According to the Centers for Disease Control, lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust can lead to lead exposure for young children, and “are considered some of the most widespread and hazardous sources for lead exposure for children in the United States.”

The CDC said about 29 million housing units have lead-based paint hazards, including deteriorated paint and lead-contaminated house dust.

Today, the good news, according to the CDC, is that lead paint, “if properly managed and maintained, poses little risk.” Of course, lead paint is not always properly managed and maintained, especially in homes in poor communities.

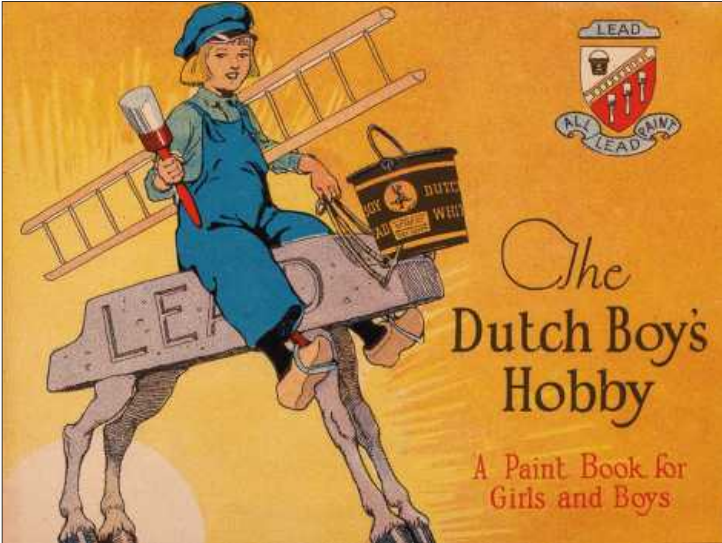
One widely cited lesson from the study of history, is that those who forget history are doomed to repeat it, and that comes served up on a platter when it comes to the use of lead. Roman knowledge of plumbing, architecture, road-building – and the dangers of lead use – were lost over the centuries. And when it came to lead, the modern world had to re-learn those lessons – while mostly ignoring the inconvenient warnings from the scientific community.

“Knowing what we know about the dangers of lead poisoning now,” says H2 Environmental Consulting Services, “it is hard to understand why lead-based paint was ever popular. However, the fact of the matter is that authorities simply did not know that lead paint was so dangerous prior to the 1940s. In



AN UNDATED ADVERTISEMENT for the Detroit White Lead Works, one of the nation’s foremost paint makers. The company was founded in 1865 to produce paint by mixing white lead (carbonate of lead), oils and colors. The company’s Jones Street factory was destroyed by fire in 1896, and the same year a new factory was built on East Milwaukee Street. “Until that time, the company had only produced white paint, but afterward began to offer color paint in response to Detroit’s burgeoning automobile industry,” wrote Kurt Sanftleben, for *Paper Americana*. In 1910 the company was acquired by Sherwin Williams, although it continued to do business under its original name. “The Detroit White Lead Works has long been regarded as one of the leading paint factories in the country,” said an article in *American Paint and Oil Dealer*, March 1910. “Though not the largest, the factory is said to possess the best mechanical equipment.”

Credit: Detroit Public Library



THE COVER OF *The Dutch Boy’s Hobby: A Paint Book for Boys and Girls*, a 1926 publication of the National Lead Co., mentions the word “lead” three times. “For over 50 years,” said the National Library of Medicine, “the National Lead Co. used the image of a happy, healthy fictional Dutch Boy to market lead paints as safe and wholesome. Dutch Boy ads targeted children with friendly coloring paint books. Here a Dutch Boy is having fun riding a toy ‘lead’ horse and is ready to be helpful with chores by carrying a paint brush.”

fact, they actually thought lead paint was good for Americans.”

Perhaps they were only looking at advertisements. “Lead helps to guard your health,” was the headline in a National Geographic advertisement by the National Lead Co. in 1923. It oddly blended the benefits of lead in modern plumbing (without which “sickness might endanger your life”) with the use of lead in paints. The National Institute of Health, commenting on the ad, said it “falsely reassured parents that leaded paint was safe for children and families. The message responded to growing public concern over lead’s toxicity in industrial trades and paint products....”

Said a report by the Taylor Research Group. “Advertisements for lead-based paints touted the ability of these readily available paints to withstand weathering, being moisture-resistant and therefore less likely to be damaged by rain and humidity. LBPs were also lauded

for their relatively short drying time, compared to other paints. Many buildings both public and private, including schools and government-provided housing, were coated with LBPs. So too were many other everyday items, including toys, baby cribs, and household decorations.”

“The danger of LPBs comes from the paint degrading over time, resulting in dust and flakes that can be easily ingested. Inquisitive toddlers often teethe on the objects around them and were at risk of consuming lead from their toys and beds. Even children playing in the soil next to a house painted with LBP risked exposure to lead particles.”

Lead exposure, especially among children, can cause damage to the brain and nervous system, slowed growth and development, and learning, behavior, hearing and speech problems, according to the CDC. It’s also an obvious concern for Flint residents exposed to lead during the city’s water crisis.



MIXING LEAD into paint is an idea that’s probably gone for good. But the ongoing visibility of “ghost signs” around Michigan provide ocular evidence of the durability of lead-based paints. This painted, prominent sign on a building in Petoskey’s Gaslight District depicts the Petoskey Normal School and Business College. It was established in 1888 and moved to three different addresses before permanently settling on this location at 309 Lake St. Now housing a coffee shop on street level and apartments above, the school taught up to 300 students at a time studying to be teachers. The courses included college preparatory, English and science, languages, shorthand, typewriting, electricity, civil service and oratory. It’s not clear when the still-present sign was painted, but it is visible in a 1905 photo. Lead paint was hazardous, but there’s no question is lasts a long time.

# Trump’s DOL is dismantling key workplace protections

(Continued from Page 1)

framework perpetuates the misguided belief that regulations are burdensome for employers and harm economic growth. On the contrary, the long-term benefits of regulations consistently outweigh the costs – and research shows their impact on jobs is either neutral or modestly positive.

More than half of the regulations Trump’s DOL proposes to rescind are designed to ensure that workers have safe workplaces, such as requiring employers to limit workers’ exposure to a variety of harmful substances like benzene, asbestos, lead, and cotton dust.

Other rules being eliminated protect workers’ wages. These include the 2013 home health care worker rule, which gave in-home care workers the right to earn the minimum wage and overtime pay for the first time. DOL also wants to roll back the 2024 farmworker protections rule, which would have helped farmworkers advocate for better working conditions and required other protections for this extremely vulnerable group of low-wage workers.

Trump’s DOL also withdrew a proposed rule that would have

## Government by and for the corporate corrupt

By Jim Hightower

To paraphrase British historian Lord Acton: “(Money) tends to corrupt, and absolute (money) corrupts absolutely.”

During my time as a Texas elected official, I happened



to witness an almost vaudevillian performance of Lord Acton’s axiom on the floor of our state Senate. A multimillionaire named Bo Pilgrim, baron of a factory chicken empire called Pilgrim’s Pride, had come to the capitol to speak against a bill requiring corporations like his to provide decent workers’ compensation benefits. Bo didn’t speak in words, however – he simply walked onto the Senate floor and brazenly handed out \$10,000 checks to compliant senators.

Today, corporate political money doesn’t just talk, it screams – drowning out the voices of all who oppose the special favors the corrupt “donors” buy. And these days, a \$10,000 check is considered almost charming in its innocence.

Take Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a far-right-wing demagogic politico who prides himself on demonizing and directly harming poor and powerless people, while scooping up fantastic donations from the financial powers he serves. This year, after railroading a slew of corporate gimmies into law, Abbott cashed in. Last month alone, he pocketed \$4 million checks – one each from a real estate titan, a ruthless pipeline autocrat, a Trump-backing money manager, and one of Elon Musk’s corporate operatives.

Excuse me for speaking out, but this is a gross example of kakistocracy – government by and for the very worst people in society. If they didn’t shower him with cash, even Greg Abbott wouldn’t speak to them. It’s time to start calling this what the dictionary plainly says it is: bribery.

‘This is not an agenda that serves workers – in fact, the repeal of these rules is a gift to corporate bad actors who resist complying with the rules.’

eliminated the subminimum wage for workers with disabilities, effectively keeping many people with disabilities unable to receive fair pay for their work.

Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer framed this massive deregulatory effort as eliminating unnecessary regulations that are burdensome and obsolete. To be clear, there is nothing obsolete about rules that protect workers from exposure to harmful substances. These substances have not become less harmful over time – they still sicken, injure, and kill workers each year.

In 2023, more than 800 workers died from exposure to harmful substances and environments. There is also nothing obsolete about rules that ensure

workers are paid for their labor, especially when employers are estimated to steal \$15 billion from workers’ paychecks each year.

Despite Trump’s rhetoric and the Secretary of Labor’s confirmation promises, Trump and Chavez-DeRemer are clearly advancing an anti-worker agenda. Trump’s DOL proposes to eliminate regulations that protect workers’ health and safety and make sure workers are fairly compensated for their work.

This is not an agenda that serves workers – in fact, the repeal of these rules is a gift to corporate bad actors who resist complying with the rules.

(By Celine McNicholas, Margaret Poydock and Samantha Sanders)

## Are the state’s roads improving? Oh, hell no

(Continued from Page 1)

little from year to year.”

The study had five categories in which it ranked roads, including road roughness by system mile and average daily traffic, and bridge infrastructure by deck area. Michigan’s rankings were especially potholed, if you will, by the “Federal Pavement Condition Metric,” ranking it No. 45 on the condition of its interstate roads, and No. 48 on non-interstate roads.

Bridge infrastructure was also lousy: Michigan came in at No. 41, with only 27.2 percent of its bridges in “good” condition.

Among our 10 neighboring “peer” states, according to the report, only Illinois (No. 43) had a worse overall ranking. Neighboring Indiana (No. 4), Ohio (No. 10), and Wisconsin (No. 31) all bested Michigan in road condition.

Since the 1990s, Michigan lawmakers from both sides of the aisle have been talking about establishing a permanent funding mechanism to pay for road repairs, and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, now six years in office, originally ran on “fixing the damn roads.”

This year, there will be action on road funding, maybe. Both the Republican-led state House and Whitmer’s office have pushed separate \$3 billion-plus funding plans, but the July 1 deadline for settling the state budget has flown past, and there is still no agreement.

For decades, the hangup has always been how to pay for the new spending on road repairs.

## Just joking

An old man is lying on his death bed in his family’s home. All of a sudden, he gets a whiff of the one of the best things he has ever smelled.

“What is that glorious smell?” he said to himself. “Oh I know that smell. Lord, it’s my daughter’s famous brisket!”

A few minutes go by, and his grandson comes into his room.

“Joey, please go get me a plate of your mother’s brisket. I want nothing more in this world than a plate of that brisket for my last meal!”

“Ok, grandpa.”

Ten minutes pass, and Joey returns empty handed. “My boy, where is the brisket?” Grandpa said. “I don’t have much time left and that’s the only thing I want.”

“Sorry, Grandpa,” Joey replied. “Mom says the brisket is for after the funeral.”

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UA Local 190

ANNARBOR—ASPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING will be held on Monday, Aug. 25 and will start at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. The purpose of this Special Called Meeting is for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading of proposed By-Law Changes. Discussion and secret ballot vote will be held at this meeting, so please be sure to bring your card for verification of eligibility to vote. If you have questions please feel free to contact Randall Whitaker 734-426-0962. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**MEETING FOR GAS DISTRIBUTION MICHIGAN AND OHIO MEMBERS:** An informational meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Local 190 Union Hall 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor. Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. and the meeting will start at 9 a.m. and end at approximately noon. 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.

**125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PHOTOS:** Go to our website WWW.UA190.ORG, click on tab for EVENTS, download your photos you wish to have, the PIN CODE you will need is 3402.

**51st ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:** A very special thanks to Brian Keating, Beth Keating, Karen Spearin, DJ Ollila, Doug Stark and Heather Stark, along with the many other volunteers for the hard work put forth in making this another outstanding golf outing!

Congratulations to Jeremy Mayer, Nate Tromley, Mike D'Ambrosio and John Casycio, 1<sup>st</sup> place winners (score 55). Congratulations to Barry Carroll for winning SKINS (2 on 2). Congratulations to Josh Holleman, Jerry Danc, Joe Romine and Justin Boughton team for winning SKINS (2 on 16)

Thank you all for your generous donations. This year we raised \$610 for the Howell Nature Center and for the Huron Valley Human Society we raised \$980.

A very big thank you to everyone who attended the outing!

**UNION HALL CLOSING:** Our office will be closing at Noon on Friday, Aug. 29 and will be closed all day Monday, Sept. 1 to observe Labor Day.

**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

**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.

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

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm. Friday 8am. to 4 pm. We will be closed for lunch from Noon to 1pm. Closed for Holidays. Please give Kristyn a call with any ques-

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

Local 190

tions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online.

**Available Journeyman classes:**

**OSHA 10/30 Online:** Members interested in taking the **OSHA 10- or 30-hour** training online should contact Kristyn to register.

**M.U.S.T Safety Online:** Members interested in taking **M.U.S.T Safety** training modules online should contact Kristyn to register.

**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) 2025 **Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 29.**

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs):** Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org) 2025 **Schedule - 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6.**

**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 6000 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 **8 hours on Saturdays, Oct. 18 through Nov. 22.** There will be a refundable **\$150 deposit** to hold a spot. Deposit will be returned upon completion of the class. 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.**

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The second course starts **Sept 9**. Courses run on **Wednesday and Thursday** for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs):** ASSE **PRICE INCREASE** ASSE has increased the retesting fee to **\$85** for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2025 Schedule:** The third course starts 5 p.m. **Oct 14**. Courses are on Tue and Wed. 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 second course starts **Sept. 2**. Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs):** This is a two-day course. **2025 Schedule:** Second course starts **Oct. 7**. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be **8 hours on Saturdays, Sept. 6 though Oct. 11.** There will be a refundable **\$150 deposit** to hold a spot. Deposit will be returned upon completion of the class. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: [ua190.org](http://ua190.org)

**Special Notice: Hiring Full**

**Time HVACR Instructor.** The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC is hiring for the full-time position of HVACR instructor. The position includes teaching day and night classes year-round for apprenticeship and journeyman upgrade classes. The instructor will be responsible for HVACR curriculum development utilizing the equipment being serviced and installed by contractors in the Southeast Michigan area. The ideal candidate must be knowledgeable in all aspects of the HVACR. Strong communication, math, and computer skills (Microsoft word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, and CANVAS) are required with a background in teaching.

Travel will be required throughout the year for UA Local 671 and the instructor training program through the UA ITF department regional training. The ideal candidate shall possess the following credentials:

Journeyman status with the United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters.

10 years or more of field work experience as a HVACR Technician  
EPA 608 Type I, II, III (Universal) Certification.  
UA (United Association) HVACR Star Mastery Certified.

Excellent knowledge of commercial HVACR systems, including installation, maintenance, and repair of the following:

Packaged Heating and Air Conditioning Systems  
Heat Pump Systems including Geothermal  
Hydronic Heating and Chilled Water Systems  
Steam Heating Systems  
Ductless Mini-Split Systems  
VRV and VRF Systems  
Supermarket Refrigeration  
VAV and zoning systems  
Building automation and DDC  
Excellent knowledge of equipment, including installation, maintenance, and repair of the following:  
Chillers including scroll, screw and centrifugal  
Power burners including Siemens, Honeywell and Fireye controls  
Boilers including cast iron sectional, Fire tube and Water tube  
Rack refrigeration including Co2 and Emerson E3 controls  
Cooling towers  
Pumps and specialties  
Variable Refrigerant Flow systems including Mitsubishi City Multi and Daikin  
Candidate's responsibilities would include:  
Obtain/possess: an Associate's Degree in Applied Science – Industrial Training  
UA#1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1006 UA/WCC Instructor Certification  
Obtain/possess: UA#2012 UA Foreman Instructor Certification  
Obtain/possess: NITC proctor qualification  
Develop and update course syllabus, daily lesson plans and instructional material  
Develop practical lab activities for hands-on training  
Develop test, assignments, and hands-on assessments  
Maintain lab equipment with the latest industry trends and technologies

These lists are not exclusive, nor final and future classes will be required as technology and trade advancements continue. This position will be paid at UA 190 Journeyman foreman rate with full benefits package, paid vacation, and earned sick leave. Please submit a copy of your resume, transcripts, and other certification documents to **The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC** by **Aug. 22, 2025** to [kristyn@190jtc.com](mailto:kristyn@190jtc.com) or mail to **8040 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. 48103** All candidates will be contacted for a scheduled interview.

**CONDOLENCES:** Member Charles Roth passed away April 20, 2025. Charles initiated Feb. 28, 2007 and retired April 1, 2016. To all family members and friends, we send our expressions of sympathy to comfort all of you, may his soul rest in peace.

Our lifetime member Thomas Lavender passed away July 19, 2025. Tom initiated Oct. 13, 1964, retired April 1, 2002 and became a lifetime member Oct. 13, 2014. Tom was very involved with Local 190; he was an instructor and was on the Trustee Board of Directors. To all family members and friends, Tom will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by all of us at Local 190.

**RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US:** Our next Spades meeting will be at 9 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 4 at the Union Hall.

Sprinkler Fitters



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

**SOUTHFIELD** – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

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

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

Congratulations to Apprentice Bother Tyler Hardy and his wife Ashlee on the birth of their first son Wesley born on July 21. Brother Matt Hardy, a 24 year member, is the proud Granfather who plans on spoiling his new Grandson.

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.

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

Is robust construction industry set for a stall?

**(Continued from Page 1)** those were the only two areas in Michigan to lose jobs during that time, which is great news overall for the Great Lakes State.

Some other good, but not great news, is that the Dodge Construction Network in June saw total U.S. construction starts rise 1 percent from the year before. That number had to be assisted by a big 16 percent jump in June.

“Construction starts saw solid growth in June, alongside particular strength in manufacturing and data center construction,” said Sarah Martin, associate director of forecasting at Dodge Construction Network. “However risks remain elevated that construction starts will be more subdued in the back half of the year – alongside ongoing uncertainty over trade policy and the broader economy.”

*“Three o’clock is always too late or too early for anything you want to do.”*

—Jean-Paul Sartre (1905 - 1980)

*“Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can.”*

—John Wesley (1703 - 1791)

*“All men profess honesty as long as they can. To believe all men honest would be folly. To believe none so is something worse.”*

—John Quincy Adams (1767 - 1848)

CEOs are doing great, as usual, as pay gap with workers widens

(Continued from Page 1)

nation's other wealthiest in 2026 – “a massive tax cut for the richest one percent,” says the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy.

The AFL-CIO's 2025 *Executive Paywatch* report analyzes new data to quantify “the gross economic inequality between America's CEOs and the workers who make their profits for them. CEOs listed in the AFL-CIO's report will see their marginal income tax rate reduced by nearly \$500,000 a year.

“Corporate CEOs are raking in millions, and now they'll get another kickback from President Trump's tax cut gift and anti-worker agenda,” said Fred Redmond, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO. “Trump is paying for this handout to CEOs by cutting health care, food assistance and hundreds of thousands of jobs that depend on government investments. A union is the best check on a bad boss. So while greedy billionaires and corporations drive up the cost of living, we'll continue to fight for the policies and fair contracts that get workers the pay they've earned.”

The leader of Starbucks, which has been fighting union organizing drives at its shops, had the highest CEO-to-worker pay ratio out of all S&P 500 Index companies in 2024. Last year, Starbucks CEO Brian Niccol received \$97.8 million in annualized total compensation, or 6,666 times more than the company's median employee.

‘Unnecessary regulatory burdens’ are in the eye of the beholder

(Continued from Page 1)

by U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer announced the department's “initial deregulatory efforts,” intended to “spur job creation, and fuel economic opportunity for American workers and businesses. The department's bold plan includes 63 deregulatory actions aimed at reversing the costly and burdensome rules imposed under previous administrations, delivering on President Trump's commitment to restore American prosperity through deregulation and marking the most ambitious proposal to slash red tape of any department across the federal government.”

Now that that broad cutting swath of what is considered “unnecessary regulatory burdens” is taking shape, it should come as no surprise to anyone watching this administration – which has sought to eliminate collective bargain rights for 1 million federal workers – that burdens that are being proposed for repeal, are burdens for employers, not workers. And they were put in place for a reason. It is illustrative to show some of the simple effects of what would happen under the repealed regulations.

•The nation's farmworkers often ride creaky buses to jobs. Biden's OSHA set a rule to require seatbelts in those buses as a safety measure. Trump's OSHA cuts out the requirement for seatbelts.

•Biden's OSHA set a rule to put lights in coal mines so miners will be less likely to injure themselves. A standard also exists for mandatory lighting for various dark areas of construction sites. Trump's OSHA would remove requirements for those lights.

•Several “duplicative” regulations governing respiratory protection standards would be eliminated.

•Obama's Labor Department set minimum wages and mandatory overtime pay for home health care workers. Almost no one thinks those folks who visit and treat shut-ins are overpaid and under-worked, but Trump's Labor Department's elimination of that rule could force many of those 3.7 million workers to lose OT pay and receive less than minimum wage.

Before the Obama 2013 rule was put in place, “it was very common for home care workers to work 50, 60 and maybe even more hours a week, without getting any overtime pay,” said Judy Conti, director of government affairs at the National Employment Law Project.

An analysis by the nationwide employer legal firm Jackson Lewis said the new rules, which are subject to a period of public comment into September, mark “a sweeping regulatory initiative that impacts multiple industries. Although many of the proposals aim to modernize outdated standards, several signal a clear deregulatory shift – particularly in how OSHA intends to scale back or withdraw certain long-standing obligations for businesses.”

OSHA would go back to emphasizing a “Voluntary Protection Program” (VPP), where firms can escape inspections if they promise to take OSHA's advice on job safety and health measures. But OSHA can't follow up because its inspection force under Trump's personnel cuts will be slashed so much that it'll take 254 years to probe every current worksite in the U.S. It's a number called “jaw-dropping” by *Confined Spaces* editor and former deputy OSHA administrator Jordan Barab.

The only catch, Barab says, is that voluntary protection doesn't work, or didn't during the GOP George W. Bush Administration. “The outcome was disastrous,” Barab said. “To meet VPP growth quotas, OSHA officials admitted companies that had marginal programs, refused to kick out employers who killed workers or received willful violations, and fell way behind on VPP recertifications which are supposed to happen every three to five years.”

In addition to the proposed rules, OSHA issued a final rule, effective July 1, 2025, removing the requirement for its administrator to consult with the Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health before promulgating, modifying, or revoking standards applicable to construction work.

“Each year, more than 5,000 workers die on the job from traumatic injury and an estimated 135,000 die from work related disease. The families...suffer the consequences and these are devastating and they're preventable,” AFL-CIO Safety and Health Director Rebecca Reindel warned lawmakers on July 17. “What we are talking about today are not just numbers and goals and achievements. They are people's lives.”

With the swing of Democrat vs. Republican control over political power every four or eight years in Washington, D.C., comes what now also seems like a permanent swing in how the government treats workers and the workplace.

Barab wrote: “Who lives and who dies in the workplace is determined by politics – both power relationships in the workplace, and traditional politics that determines who controls our government. What that means is that organizing unions and electing politicians who will fight against unlimited corporate control over our regulatory agencies, our workplaces and the environment are of vital importance to protecting the health and safety of American workers.”

(Press Associates contributed)

## The Building Tradesman

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Secretary-Treasurer

Steve Claywell  
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## Local 671 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 671

MONROE – The next meeting will be held on Aug. 21, 2025, at 7pm. The Executive Board will also have a meeting on Aug. 21, 2025, at 5pm. If anyone would like to come to 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.unitedassociationlocal671.com/> and its calendar for the latest updates.

**Thank you:** The Monroe County Fair is in the books, and I thank everyone who came out to help man our exhibit. We cannot be successful without help from our membership. We truly appreciate your time and commitment to our mission.

**Our Annual Local Picnic** is Aug. 23 at 12 pm at the Union Hall. As always, we need help. We cannot put this event on without volunteers. If you are interested in helping with the picnic, please contact Mike or Kirk to sign up with setup or clean up. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Retiree Luncheons:** We remind everyone that the Retiree Luncheons are always 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 proximity to the Holidays in November and December. We always look forward to seeing everyone there! There is no retiree luncheon this month, We hope to see you at the picnic.

**Local 671 App:** To keep up with the latest information, make sure you download Local 671 App. If you have questions or issues get contact 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 Mike!

**Condolences:** We would like to express our condolences to Brother Jim Taylor on the passing of his wife Janet Taylor on July 18. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family Brother Taylor.

**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 three 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 **Thursday, Sept. 4.**

**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.

**Apprenticeship:** To all apprentices, Orientation will take place on Aug. 18 at 6pm at the Union Hall. Make sure you arrive early and be prepared to pay your tuition. This is a mandatory event for all current apprentices.

**In Closing:** Recently I was approached and asked why we Organize. Organizing nonunion HVAC technicians, plumbers and welders into Local 671 is vital for raising industry standards and protecting the future of our trade. By bringing these skilled workers into the union and making sure they get the proper training, we ensure they receive fair wages, strong benefits, and safe working conditions, things that too often get overlooked in non-union environments. It also levels the playing field for contractors who do the right thing by investing in union labor.

As members of Local 671, these workers gain access to world-class training, and a collective voice that can't be ignored. Strength in numbers means stronger contracts, better opportunities, and a united front to protect the dignity and value of our work. If we don't organize we will fail as an organization.

Mike Jewell: email: [mike@ualocal671.com](mailto:mike@ualocal671.com)

Kirk Lavoy: email: [kirk@ualocal671.com](mailto:kirk@ualocal671.com)

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



## Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

UA Local 85

SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025**, at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. at 7 PM.

**NEW DATE:** The next Northern Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025, at 7 PM at the Grayling Eagles.

The UA Local 85 Annual Picnic is Saturday, Aug. 23 at the Clare County Fairgrounds, 418 Fairlane St. Harrison, MI 48625 from 10 am to 6 pm.

**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 difficulties logging in, please call Kristin, (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511.

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

**JATC News: Congratulations** to our newest Journeyman, Carlos Bautista!

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:**

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

**Beneficiary Cards:** Please call the Union Hall for any 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 down to BeneSys

(Continued next column)



## Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

UA Local 357

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

**UNION PICNIC:** We would like to give a special Thank You to Mark Little who did an **OUTSTANDING** job with this year's picnic. It was well attended and very encouraging to see all the members and kids. We will be looking forward to next year's event.

**GOLF OUTING:** It's time to Sign Up for the Annual Local 357 Golf Outing to be held on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Pineview Golf Course. The price this year is \$75 per person = \$300 per foursome. Single players need to team up with others to make a foursome – if possible – and may sign up and pay at the Union Hall. You must pay for your golf prior to the outing date. The price of your golf gets you coffee and donuts (7:30-8:45), refreshments, 18 holes of golf, lunch, dinner and prizes. All participants in the outing must be signed up and paid by September 5<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in helping at the Golf Outing – Please contact Lori at [lhathfield@ualocal357.com](mailto:lhathfield@ualocal357.com).

**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 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 Matt Ursin, and family, on the birth of a daughter, Emma.

Congratulations to Dylan Dewater on his recent marriage.

**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to the entire Mazo Family on the death of Todd Mazo.

**Local 85, con't**

to keep your insurance up to date.

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

**Condolences:** Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Gregory Joslin who passed away on June 27, 2025.

**Fraternally,**

**Justin M. Pomerville**

**Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Local Union 85**

*"Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn't know you left open."*

—John Barrymore (1882 - 1942)

*"Keep cool and you command everybody."*

—Louis de Saint-Just (1767 - 1794)



## Local 370 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday Aug. 12, 2025 at 7pm.**

**Condolences** to the family and friends of Brother Don L. Delduca. You will be missed. Rest in Peace.

**Retiree Breakfast** will be on Monday, Aug. 11 at 9:00 am.

**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](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326.

**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 County. Monday, Sept. 1.

**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**

**A2L** September 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, & 24<sup>th</sup>. 5pm-8pm.

**Welding** Sept. 4 thru Sept. 29. Mondays & Thursdays. 4- 7pm

**CSDI** Oct. 20-23 5-8pm –

**Rigging** Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> thru Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, Mondays and Wednesdays from 4-7:30pm.

Testing will be Oct. 13-17<sup>th</sup>.

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

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

**2021 Plumbing Code Books** now available. Cost is \$85. Check, 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, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 4:00pm  
FMR Committee – Tuesday August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 4:00pm  
PAC committee – Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:00pm  
Executive Board – Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 5:00pm  
Building Committee – Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:00pm  
Finance Committee -Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:15pm  
JATC Committee – TBD

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

Local 370 office hours

7:30am – 4:30pm.

Sub/Sick checks will be processed 8:00am – 11:30 am and

1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.

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

**Attention All Active Members in Good Standing.** The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work.

This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.

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

(Continued next column)

August 8, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 5



## Local 333 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 333

LANSING – August's union meeting will be held Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911.

**September's union meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025, at 6:30pm, Gene Davis & Sons Catering Hall, 3575 Francis St., Jackson, MI. 49203**

Please remember to sign up before attending classes. We have limited space, and only those who sign up will be allowed to attend welding class.

Weld classes, 10 weeks starting Sept. 8, for all three Regions.

**Lansing:** Monday and Wednesday evenings: 4:30-8:30pm. 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI 48906

**Jackson:** Monday and Wednesday evenings: 4:30pm-8:30. 3101 Allied Industrial Dr., Jackson, MI. 49201

**Battle Creek:** Monday and Thursday evenings: 4:30-8:30pm (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Orbital Welding: Class will start in September. Date to be determined.

Rigging Certification, Backflow re-certification, and Med-

## Local 370, con't

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

**Our web site is up and running.** Check it out at [ualocal370.org](http://ualocal370.org)

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

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test can contact the Training Center 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.: 1-888-797-5862.

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

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

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

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set. Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

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

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits. Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. They maintains offices in Sterling Heights, Livonia, Southgate and Novi. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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

[www.ssdfighter.com](http://www.ssdfighter.com)





## Plumbers Local 98

### Plumbers Local 98

DETROIT – Dear members of Local 98:

**Congratulations** to our Local 98 Scholarship winners: At July’s membership meeting we awarded \$2000 scholarships to five children of our hard-working members. Rylee Limberger, Faith Thomson, Benjamin Moore, Vivienne Wisniewski, and Leona Wisniewski. These Scholarships recognize the discipline, academic achievements, and promising futures of our next generation.

**Congratulations** to Brother Greg Wacker and his wife Jeanne on the birth of their first child Suzannah Marie Wacker born on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Our next regular monthly union meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025 at 7pm.**

Retiree Luncheon meeting will be held at the hall on Wednesday, Aug. 13 from 12-2pm.

**Attention All Retirees:** The Aug. 13 meeting will include nominations for Retiree President and Recording Secretary. The election for these positions will be held on Sept. 10, 2025 at the Retiree Meeting from 12-2 pm. Both of these meetings will be held at the hall. We would like as many retirees as possible to attend and catch up with fellow retirees. Any questions call Dave Schroeder (248) 476-2749.

**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, Aug. 7, 2025 at 6pm** 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, 2025 and October’s meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025.

**Possible By-Law Change:** At June’s 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 voted on at August’s meeting on Aug. 21, 2025.

**Labor Day Parade:** Please come march with fellow Local 98 members and the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council on Labor Day Sept. 1. We encourage all members to come and bring their families for the Parade. We will meet in the parking lot of IBEW 58 at 1358 Abbott Street Detroit. Arrive between 7:30-8:30am to get your 98 hat and T-shirt. We will line up to march at 8:45am and start walking at 9am. See you there!

**Adopt-A-Highway:** It’s that time of year again, fall is here. Our semi-annual Plumbers 98/ Mike Kalso Memorial Clean Up of I-94 in Macomb County is Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025. We will meet at Bob Evans in Roseville at 8am. Please RSVP with Jeff Kavalor so we can be sure to have enough supplies.

**Local 98 Detroit Plumbers Scholarship Golf Outing** will be held at Mystic Creek Golf Course in Milford on Aug. 23, 9am shotgun start. We are officially sold out!

**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.

Applications are now being accepted for our apprenticeship program. Learn more at [www.plumbers98UTC.org/apprenticeship](http://www.plumbers98UTC.org/apprenticeship).

**Expelled Members:** We currently have one expelled member: Scott Davey.

**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 3:00pm to ensure ample time to process the payments.* Make sure your contact information is up to date, as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Rufus Hamilton.

We are currently looking for

Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. If you know anyone working nonunion, have them call our Organizer Rob Moses.

**Benefits.** We have dedicated BeneSys employees at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. In order for them to best track all issues **PLEASE CALL BENESYS at (248)641-4988 or (866)646-8919.** If they are on the other line, please leave a message and they will get back to you promptly.

**Worker Assistance Program.** Work Life Strategies, LLC. Are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. All this is confidential and lead by our health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887.

**In Memoriam.** Our deepest condolences and sympathy to the family and friends of deceased Brother Donald Gregorich, Sr. he was initiated on 7-14-66 and was a life member.

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 [dixon98@ualocal98.org](mailto:dixon98@ualocal98.org)

Rufus Hamilton, Business Agent (313)542-2758 [rahamilton98@ualocal98.org](mailto:rahamilton98@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. Phone # 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, Jan. 2, 2026. 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 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 Nov. 4, 2025, we have an available evening to come in and practice for it, Wednesdays, Oct. 22, and Oct. 29. **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.

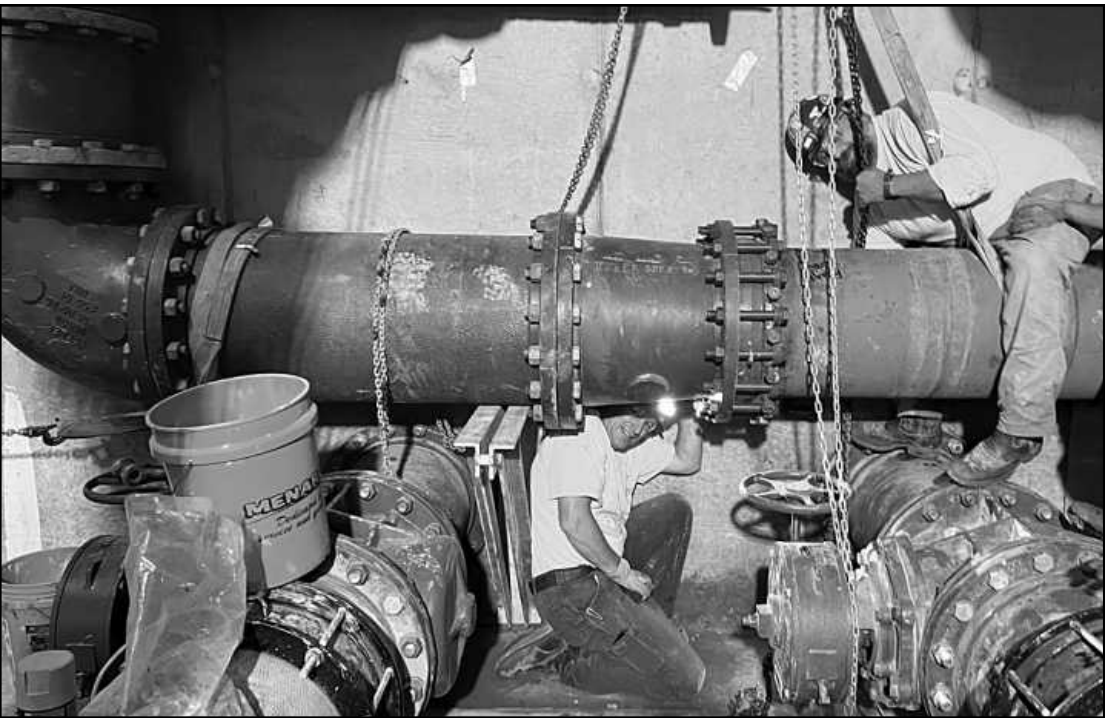
**First Aid Classes.** Please call the Training Center to register for any of the following first aid classes.

**September 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 9<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>**

**OPEN WELDING** – 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 Sept. 6. You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

**CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR** (Continued next column)



SETTING A 16-INCH discharge pipe at the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant are (l-r) Tim Oakley and Mike Duff of Plumbers Local 98. They’re employed by J.F. Cavanaugh.



## Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

## Local 636

### UA Local 636

DETROIT – Our next regular Union meeting is Aug. 19, 2025 at St. George Romanian Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (Southfield Service Dr.) Southfield, MI 48075

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

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

**The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference** is happening again in Chicago Sept. 19-21 2025. All Tradeswomen and allies can attend. 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 Sisters. Hope to see you there! Call Tony Sievert for any other info or to volunteer 248-939-3636.

**The annual Labor Day Parade is Sept. 1.** Please contact Jeff Lewis to volunteer to help. More details to follow.

**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, simply call Jim Dunn at 248-709-7036 or Joe Bourgeois at 313-590-0448.

### Plumbers 98, con’t

**ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2025. The deadline to register for fall upgrade classes is Aug. 22.**

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

**8 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.**

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

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

**Congratulations** to Dan & Tracey Szaflarski on the birth of their son Lucas David born July 17, 2025; Eric & Madelyn Finn on the birth of their daughter Nora, on May 29, 2025.

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

**May 2025;** Richard Bonne, Brian Dyer, Dan Fortier, Alisa Lisecki, Joseph Petrocella June 2025; Robert Desandre, David Yuhn July 2025; John Dozbush, David Machcinski.

**Deceased Members** – 49 Year Member Calip Williams Jr. June 28, 2025; Lifetime Member Ernest Carlson July 7, 2025; Lifetime Member James C Davis June 24, 2025

**Get Well Wishes to:** John G. Skiver; James Davis, Marty Sosnowski, Ray Sterna, Larry Cirillo, Ed & Noreen Nys, Rashad Dooley, Chris Fye, David Hochstein, Thomas L. Williams Jr, Justin Morgan, Ron Sarata, Zen Adams, Andre Bali, Robert Cabanaw, George Costigan, Luke Dacy, Michael Downey, John Fackler, Gregory Firth, Robert Fraser, Ryan Girard, David Hatch, Jason Howe, James Juracek, Hunter Kiger, Charles Lozon, David Marcy, Earl Marshall Jr., Daniel Mosey, Matthew Pukey, Brian Robinson, Jeremy Rowold, Steven Smith, Matthew Tusset-Myers.

**DUES – 3rd Quarter Dues are due now.** Your dues receipt will now be emailed to you; this will help us save on the cost of mailing receipts. Please call the Local to update your email and phone numbers. Local 636 has set up an **auto-pay system** for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

The Ulliance Member Assistance Program is available to all members and retirees. This benefit includes free and confidential mental health counseling, coaching, and 24/7 crisis support. In addition, there are free 30-minute consultations for legal and financial matters. There is a great discount for goods and services as well as free identity theft protection. To find out more, go to [lifeadvisor.com](http://lifeadvisor.com) or call 800-448-8326.

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

**S.U.B. -NEW- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE** for SUBPAY. Participants should

continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing [subpay@pipefitters636.org](mailto:subpay@pipefitters636.org).

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

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

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

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

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

**Considering Retirement?** Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 888-646-8920 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork.

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

**Are you “Work Ready”?** Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at **[mustbsafe.org](http://mustbsafe.org)** and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be “ready” when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association.

**WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 you will be eligible for your ready to work payment.**

*“The gambling known as business looks with austere disfavor upon the business known as gambling.”*

–Ambrose Bierce (1842 - 1914)



## Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

### UA Local 111

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

**ATTENTION:** The next Union Meeting will be in Escanaba, August 28th at 7:30pm.

**SUMMER PICNIC:** Local 111s Summer Picnic will take place on Saturday, Aug. 23, from 1-5 pm. The festivities for members & their families will take place at Lakenenland, 2800 State Highway M28 E Marquette, MI. **Please RSVP** to the Marquette Hall 906-226-6511 ext# 4 - Rose.

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 documents have been received.**

If you have any questions, please contact Zenith American Solutions at 1-866-823-4730 ext. 1 or the Union Hall. **Thank you for your attention to this matter.**

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

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

**Reminder:** 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 1 year.

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



## Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

**West Mich. Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local Union 174 COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 7:00 pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

**Retiree Breakfast:** will be held **Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**Labor Day Parade:** Join us in Muskegon for the Labor Day Parade on Monday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>! The meet up location will be in front of the CIO Hall at 9:00 AM to get your t-shirt and hat. The parade will then start at 11:00 AM on the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Western Ave. It heads east to Jefferson Street, turns right onto Clay Ave, and ends at 4<sup>th</sup> Street. There will be a celebration in Hackley Park after.

Volunteers are also needed for Labor Day - please contact Jason Finch to sign up.

**Union Night at the Whitecaps:** Join us for Union Night at the Whitecaps game Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:05 PM. Enjoy a night of fun, cold drinks, and baseball! Tickets are available for union members and their immediate family. To register & reserve tickets, scan the QR code located on the flyer (which will be located on our Member's Facebook page, as well as in the front office). Call the office if you have any questions.

**Contract Ratification:** At the special called meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup>, the members voted to accept the bargaining committee's recommendation and ratify the new three-year collective bargaining agreement. The new agreement is as follows:

1st year \$4.20/ 2nd year \$3.30/ 3rd year \$3.30  
\$10.80 over 3 years.

Language changes:  
Section 13.2 - reduces the number from issuing orders from 4 to 2 to receive foremen pay.

Section 10.2 - Health care will be on hours paid not hours worked.

\*The contractors will now be administering the ESTA benefit.

**Organizing Update:** *Keep talking to the workers, I've been receiving phone calls from workers that are interested in membership. I've always said, our biggest source of organizing is right from our members in the field! Working right next to the unrepresented worker and the ability to show them how we do things safely, and the right way is priceless! Keep up the great work! If you know someone with a plumbing license, an experienced pipe welder or a HVAC service technician; industrial or commercial, have them reach out to me. I've always said our biggest voice is our members in the field! When we control the labor force, we have the upper hand when negotiating!*

*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

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

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

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

**Health Insurance Contact**

**Info: Active and NON-Medicare Retirees**

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

**Medicare Retirees**

Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

**Current Health Insurance Premiums:**

Active Member/Working Retiree \$1,110.33

Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10

Medicare Single \$123.63

Medicare Couple \$247.26

Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13

Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

**Solxsys, Aetna, Retiree First:** If you have issues with any of our fund service providers, contact Ryan Bennett at rben-

nett@ua174.org. Please try to

remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

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

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

**Metal Trades, Helpers, and Trainees:** Please remember that if you are working as a Metal Trades, Helper, or Trainee your raises are based on the day you were first dispatched to work at that classification. If you are not sure of your dispatch date, please contact the Union office. **It is up to you to let the Union office know that you are due for a raise.**

**Labor Councils:** - Kent Ionia - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / 5pm / Contact Nathan for location  
Lakeshore – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month / CIO Hall 490 Western / 6pm

**Training News:**

**Industrial Rigging and Signal Person:** The Industrial Rigging and Signaling Class begins on Monday, 8/18, with classes held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5-9 PM until 10/6, followed by a Practical Test with the crane on 10/11. To enroll, please call, as class size is limited to 10 participants. By registering, you acknowledge your commitment to attending all scheduled class dates.

The Training Center will be closed Aug. 11 through Aug. 15 as the full-time and part-time staff will be attending UAW ITP Week in Ann Arbor. There will be no classes the following week, Aug. 18 through 22 as well. If you need anything while we are out, call, leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

**FIRST AID:** First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month (every month – unless otherwise noted), from 5:00p-9:00p. The next class will be held **Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025.** Please Note: this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month of August.

**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. **Please note: there be NO WCP Test event in the month of August.** Next capabilities will be Tuesday, Sept. 9th, and the test to follow Thursday, September 11th at 5pm.

**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 Tradesman 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.



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

**Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514**

**DETROIT – The August membership meeting is canceled due to the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council 53<sup>rd</sup> Convention.**

**As vacation time approaches, please complete the PAYEE DEPOSIT AGREEMENT by Oct. 27. If you don't have the form, you can call the hall or the fund.**

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

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

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

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

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

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

Go online: [Principal.com](http://Principal.com)

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

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

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

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

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

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

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

As always, if you have any questions or need help on any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office for assistance at (248) 645-6550 or 5600 New King Dr. Ste 330 Troy, MI 48098 48025-4524 The Fund Office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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

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

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

(Continued next column)

August 8, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7



## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

**BAC Local 2**

**WARREN – UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS**

**MARQUETTE CHAPTER:** Monday, August 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**HOUGHTON CHAPTER:** Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 7:00pm, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

**METRO DETROIT CHAPTER:** Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 6 pm,

5:30pm, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025 at 6 pm,

**BRETT GIERAK** 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

**FLINT CHAPTER:** Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2025 at 7:30pm, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

**LANSING CHAPTER:** Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2025 at 6 pm, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

—KALAMAZOO RETIREE LUNCHEON

**WHEN:** Friday, August 15, 2025: 12:00

**WHERE:** Martelli's, 3501 Greenleaf, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

**WHO:** Retired members ONLY

**QUESTIONS:** Contact Melissa at the Lansing office by calling (517) 886-9781 or email [mcclelland@bricklayers.org](mailto:mcclelland@bricklayers.org)

**SAGINAW & FLINT RETIREE LUNCHEON**

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 28, 2025: 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Bus Stop Bar & Grille, 10014 Dixie Hwy, Birch Run, MI 48415

**WHO:** Retired members ONLY

**RESERVATIONS** are required as space is limited

**RSVP:** Contact Melissa at the Lansing office by Aug. 13. Call (517) 886-9781 or email [melissa.mcclelland@bricklayers.org](mailto:melissa.mcclelland@bricklayers.org)

**MEMBERSHIP GOLF**

**OUTING:** Come out on Sept. 6, 2025, to golf with your fellow brothers and sisters at our 12<sup>th</sup> annual Membership Golf Outing. It will be held once again at Hawk Meadows Golf Course in Howell, MI with check-in at 7:00am.

Sign up is based on first come, first served with a PAID registration. Your spot cannot be guaranteed without pre-payment prior to the outing. This event has sold out in the past, so register early to secure a spot for you and your foursome. To participate, one person on each team **MUST** be a good standing BAC Local 2 member with their dues paid up to date. Registration forms can be found on our Facebook page, emailed directly to you or call the Warren office to sign up & pay with a credit card.

## Local 514 cont'd

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

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

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

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

**TEXTING PROGRAM:**

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

You'll receive a confirmation text asking for your member number (IU#). Respond with your six-digit IU number and you will receive Local 2 Text Messages going forward!

**CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED:** We need Skilled Bricklayers, Restoration workers and Caulkers in Metro Detroit.

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

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

**BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS:** Both of Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102. Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 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. They can be found at <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/resources>. For more information on the Training Centers visit: <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org>

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

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

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



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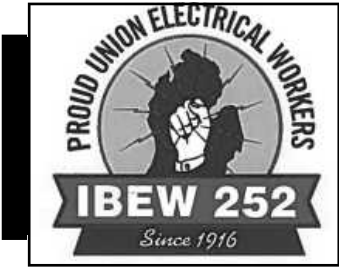


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IBEW Local 252  
ANN ARBOR – **HALL REMODEL:** Beginning July 7<sup>th</sup>, the Local 252 suite at the Union Hall will be under remodel. If you have in-person business at the Union Hall, staff will be working out of a suite on the South side of the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

**EARNED SICK TIME ACT (ESTA):** NECA was not successful in their lawsuit against the State of Michigan over ESTA but appears to be appealing the court’s decision. Local 252 urges all members that are trying to use available ESTA hours to put in writing to your employer: date you are requesting to use earned sick time, how much time you are requesting, general reason for time requested. If your request is denied, we recommend filing a complaint with the State of Michigan at: [www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/ber/wage-and-hour/complaint](http://www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/ber/wage-and-hour/complaint).

**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) March 4 & 11, June 3 & 10, 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-August 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.

**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, Jan. 6, 2025, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes!

These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at [www.union4lifecharity.com](http://www.union4lifecharity.com).

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

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

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

**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:** will be on Saturday, Aug. 23 at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 11175 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118. Registration at 7:30 a.m., tee off at 8:30 a.m. All proceeds benefit the University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center’s Breast Cancer Research Fund. This outing is open to the public. Registration is \$125/ player, \$500/ team and includes green fees, cart, lunch, dinner, and two drink tickets. The tournament will be played in scramble

**IBEW LOCAL 252**

with 4-person teams. To register, visit [www.union4lifecharity.com](http://www.union4lifecharity.com) or contact Hope Salyer at (734) 475-1180.

**RETIREE’S NIGHT: will be celebrated on Wednesday, Sept. 10.** Please make every effort to attend. This meeting is in honor of our retired members who have worked so hard to make the Local what it is today.

Members receiving their 50-year pins are: Dean Alexander, Ed Allen, John Babbitt, George Brown, Jerry Hearn, Thomas Johnston, Kenneth Kalmbach, Melvin Knox, John Kreger, Larry Lestyany, Thomas Mayne, David Molton, Gary Ruggles, Jack Sherburne, and Michael Wilbur.

Members receiving their 55-year pins are: Earl Coffey, Edward Colone, Frederick Coontz, Robert Cummings, Russell Hough, Richard Jabkiewicz, Paul Ketola, George Kildau, Ronald Page, Thomas Pahl, David Sisk, Jack Strieter, and Robert G. Vedder.

Members receiving their 60-year pins are: John Campbell, Harold Hite, and David Wheeler. Gerald Swartout will receive his 65-year pin.

Members receiving their 70-year pins are: Gerald Hopkins, Orville Koepp, and Richard Straith.

**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.

**AT&T DISCOUNT:** Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans, or unlimited calling for \$15/mo. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit [UnionPlus.org/ATT](http://UnionPlus.org/ATT) with discount code 4924966.

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

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 06/2025, 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 \$143.25 by cash or check, or \$147.55 by credit card for third quarter 2025. Dues for “BA” members are \$73.80 by cash or check, or \$76.01 by credit card for third quarter for 2025. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Your third quarter dues (July through September) are due now.

**Payments for third quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, September 30, 2025.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS** (more information to follow):  
OCT. 29: Trunk or treat  
DEC. 13: Holiday party  
**The Business Office will be closed on Monday, September 1, 2025, in observance of Labor Day.**



**Local 275**

IBEW 275

**MUSKEGON – 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.

**Annual Picnic:** The Local 275 annual picnic will be held Saturday, Aug. 9 from 12-4 pm. Please RSVP as soon as you can so we can get an accurate head count. If you have not registered by August 1<sup>st</sup>, we cannot guarantee that you will get a prize.

**Balls for Brotherhood:** Please join us for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual 18-hole golf scramble on Saturday, Sept. 13. Tee off will be at 8am at Hickory Knoll Golf Course in Whitehall. Please contact Kaleb Kerkstra to register.

**Labor Day Parade:** Local 275 will once again be walking in the Labor Day Parade in Muskegon. Details for the parade will come out closer to the event. We look forward to seeing you there on Monday, Sept. 1! There is an RSVP form for those planning to walk in the parade that is posted on our mobile app as well as Facebook group.

**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.) Rm.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.

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, Henri Creed, Chad Deters, Michael Donahue, Joshua Erb, Shaun Frantz, Drew Hawkins, Scott Erb, Andrew Holmes, Damien Keglavit, Matthew Spicuzza, and Jeffrey Vandewater. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

*“The true mystery of the world is the visible, not the invisible.”*  
–Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)  
*“Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one’s courage.”*  
–Anais Nin (1903 - 1977)



IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – **Meetings.**

**Regular E Board-** The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, Aug 11, 2025, @ 5:30pm.

**Regular Meeting** –The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Aug 11, 2025.

**Property Company Meeting** – 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.

**Business Manager** – Thank you to Dave Fashbaugh for your years of service and congratulations on your retirement. We wish you all the best of luck! Moving forward for the remainder of Dave’s term ending June 2026 will be filled by Dylan O’Dwyer.

**Congratulations** – to Josh Brown for completing the NTI Instructor Training.

**First Aid/CPR-** Classes are scheduled for Sept. 11 and the 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be 2 classes each day. One at 1:00 PM and or in the evening at 5:00 PM. Please contact the JATC to get signed up for the class.

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

**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 RSVP as soon as possible so we have a better count. 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.timber-ridgeresort.net](http://www.timber-ridgeresort.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.

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

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

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

**Important numbers for 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**  
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.



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW 692

BAY CITY – **Union Meeting.** Due to the Labor Day holiday, the September monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Sept. 8, 2025.**

**Executive Board Meeting.** The August Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** On Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup> our membership had a catastrophic work place accident where three of our members were severely burned. We know that some sort of ARC flash occurred which caused the injuries to our members. That is the only information I am certain of at this point.

Brother Walker and myself have worked to have an independent safety committee appointed that will investigate the accident. It is my hope that once this investigation is released by our Local Union 692 safety committee, we will have more clarity to what actually took place. With that information, it is my hope that we can prevent anything like this from ever occurring again.

All three of our members continue to improve in condition with every week that has passed. It is also important to know the injuries these members suffered are life changing and the healing will not be over anytime soon, both physically and emotionally. When I ask the families what they need, there is one common denominator. They ask for thoughts and prayers. Please keep our members and their families in your hearts. I know many of you have already been doing this, so for that I am forever grateful. Continue to pray for our members’ healing.

For those of you wishing to make a financial contribution to the families I know that would be very much appreciated. We have cards at the hall for those contributions. We also have a QR code for Venmo if that is easier.

Please be your Brothers’ and Sisters’ keeper on our jobsites. This is a saying that is often tossed around but we really need to be vigilant in performing that task. In my opinion, there is not a more dangerous job on the planet than what we do every day as Union Electricians. We take that for granted at times in our industry. The most important responsibility we have each and every day is not only making sure we go home safe to our families but our Brothers and Sisters do as well. Please be Safe!

**Work Report.** The work report in our jurisdiction continues to be 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 working on a remodel of the K wing at Delta College.

**Motor City Electric** continues to work on 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 semiconductor chip manufacturing facility through October at this point. Ranck is also nearing completion on their 250MW Mission Road Solar project in Rosebush.

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

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

**Clements Electric’s** Clements Electric has new work at Mersen USA, where they have also recently been awarded a maintenance contract at Mersen. Work on the Midland Center for the Arts, and Dow Gardens Welcome Center continues. Summer work includes a small raceway project in Michigan Sugar and a fire alarm project at Bangor Schools, as well as work at Bay County Health Facility about to kick off.

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

**Escon Group** is wrapping up work at Mersen USA in Bay City’s south end and work is ramping up within the I-Park.

**Ted’s Electric** has work in Mt. Pleasant Schools.

**Bay Valley Electric** has

work this summer at Bullock Creek schools and Bay Valley Resort.

**Zone 2 ACC’s** dorm project is likely to go fair as union shops submitted the two lowest bids.

**John’s Electric** has secured a considerable amount of work in Alpena Schools and a nice project ay Bay View Park. John’s work at CMU Tower was stalled following the storms but will pick back up soon along with new hangers at Alpena Airport later this summer. Clements Electric has some work at the Oscoda airbase.

**Hardie’s Electric** has completed the sawmill in Tower and has ongoing work in Cheboygan.

**S & G Electric** has hired another Journeyman for multiple projects across the northern jurisdiction.

**Northern Valley** continues work at the Holcim Cement Plant and Oscoda’s Air Base, as well as many smaller projects and service calls.

**Pierce Powerline** is wrapping up work in the Oscoda Schools and a commercial remodel in Mio.

**ASCO** has begun work on a larger Solar Project at Consumers Energy’s Karn site in Essexville. Calls have begun to come in and will continue through the fall.

Multiple Prevailing Wage projects in Bay City have been bid or will be bid soon. Another Solar Project will begin late this summer or early fall in the Gladwin area. This Solar project has seen many delays but finally seems to be starting to move.

We do need some wiremen to man our local work or market share will be lost. Open calls continue to be available on a weekly basis. We saw this scenario play out in our past, let us not repeat our mistakes. Rest assured, your organizers will be working diligently to fill all open calls with qualified hands by any means necessary. 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**

**Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, dues increased 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 August retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at Barney’s Bar & Grill located at 800 Michigan Avenue in Bay City.

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

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

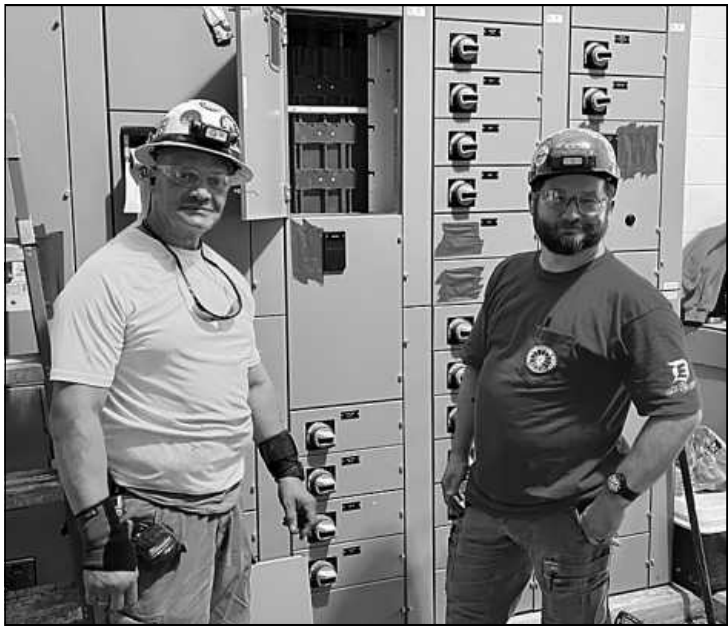
**Important links & numbers**

**Health Plan & Pension Fund**  
855.633.4584 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE  
[www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)  
NEBF/ NEAP: 301.556.4300  
IO Pension: 202.833.7000

*“Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.”*  
– Marie Curie (1867 - 1934)

*“As I grow older , I regret to say that a detestable habit of thinking seems to be getting a hold of me.”*  
– H. Rider Haggard (1856 - 1925)





AT WORK AT THE MOTOR CONTROL CENTER at the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant are (l-r) Eric Carmon and Eric Bowdich of IBEW Local 58. They’re employed by Shaw Electric.



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.

**GREAT LAKES LOONS UNION NIGHT-** Thanks to all who showed up for Union Night at the Great Lakes Loons game. It is a great thing to pack the ball park with as many union members as we can for this event each year.

**GOLF LEAGUE 2025** - Golf League at Twin Oaks Golf Course continues Tee times begin shortly before 6pm 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. All members should be as diligent as possible when it comes to making sure work is completed

**EARNED SICK TIME ACT-** Michigan’s new law requiring employers to pay their employees Earned Sick Time (ESTA), is now in effect. All members working in the State of Michigan have rights to utilize this law. Recently, a decision was made through the Michigan Court system to DISMISS a lawsuit filed by the Michigan Chapter of NECA. The lawsuit claimed that Locals in a current CBA could not participate in the ESTA benefits until their CBA expired. With this decision, ALL members should now be able to enjoy this new State law, as intended. Of course, an appeal could be filed. As of this writing no appeal has been filed.

**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 are continuing to do the traditional work in the area on top of the Mega Projects. These projects are extremely important to the Local and we need to do everything we can to keep manning that work. 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 750 IBEW members referred to the project. Calls have slowed for the project as they have possibly gotten close to all of the necessary manpower needed for the project. Stay current on monitoring work in Local 557 by looking on the Job Line website or calling the dispatch telephone option. This is updated throughout the day to provide the latest information regarding calls when they are being filled. If you are on Book 2, please reach out to the Local through the jobline@ibew557.org 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 Sept. 2 and will start at 6pm. Please note the change to a 6:00pm start time due to Overtime being worked in the area.

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS-** 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 or renee@ibew557.org.

**WORK OUTLOOK-** Members of other Locals can sign Book 2 by contacting their Hall for a simple email to be sent on your behalf, if in good standing. Project Phoenix is nearing the manned-up point and calls have recently slowed for the project. 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, auto plants, and other various jobs. Help will be needed throughout the summer on a number of projects in the area.

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

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

**JOB CALLS-** Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK don’t forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3. Local 557 utilizes a bid system for job calls. If you see a call you would like please place a bid on the telephone system and call backs will occur the next business day to fill the calls until they are gone.

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

**CONTACT NUMBERS-** Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (855)633-4584. Website is: www.michiganelectrical.org

*In Solidarity, Evan Allardyce, Business Manager*



IBEW 58  
DETROIT – The next General Membership meeting: will be held on Tuesday, August 19, 2025. Dinner with the brotherhood begins at 5:30 pm and the meeting starts at 6:30 pm. Parking will continue to be tight with the construction project well under way. Your patience is appreciated!

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

**Local 58 Dues Department** – Please look at your Dues Receipt, if the paid through date shows 12-31-2024, you have lapsed membership and need to call the hall to set up an appointment for the Executive Board to be reinstated. If your dues receipt paid through date is 03-31-2025 you owe the \$30.00 reinstatement fee, plus dues and will lapse at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter if your dues are not paid. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Our next board meeting is at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, in the main conference room at the Union Hall.

**Our Annual Picnic** is Wednesday, Aug. 27 at the Local Union Hall. Doors open at 11 lunch is served at 12:30. Tickets are \$25 per person, send your checks (payable to the retirees Association) to IBEW #58, Attn. Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756. For reservations or questions please call Elaine Crawford, at 313 408-5885.

We are having an indoor picnic at the Hall. We will have our usual 50/50 and a nice cool place to enjoy a picnic.

It’s not too late to join the September Bus Trip which is heading to Washington DC this fall. The trip takes place Friday Sept. 12-16. Total cost for the trip per person, \$710, based on double occupancy. Call Dave Riley with questions or for the address to send your deposit, 586 206-8075.

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

*\*August 28, 2025* – Rackham Golf Course –Huntington Woods, MI- Begins at 9:00 am

*\*This is rescheduled from September 11, 2025.*

*Sept. 18, 2025* – *The Myth Golf Course – Oakland County – Begins at 9:00 am*

*Oct. 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, Sept. 2. Next event will be Brad Ballard Memorial Golf Outing on Friday, Sept. 26, 2025 at Pine Valley Golf Course. Cost of a foursome is \$600. Many sponsorships are also available. Funds raised will support the Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund for member assistance and Local 58 Women’s Committee for the ARC Scholarship. Registration will start Wednesday, Aug. 6 at 12 pm. Registration Link is Active on Aug. 6 on Eventbrite. Any questions, please contact Michael Bellhorn 586-612-5964.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading.

Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information about volunteering or participating.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next

meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 12, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** –The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 18 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to make our Coats For Kids Golf Outing at Rouge Park Golf Course a huge success. A good time was had by all and we look forward to making it an annual event to help us keep kids warm and give them a Happy Holiday Season. This could not have happened without the support of our volunteers and sponsors. THANK YOU:

IBEW local 58; IBEW Local 17; IBEW local 252; IBEW Local 668; EWMC 640 chapter; Camper and Associates; The Wright Women’s Committee; Mark Aiello Law Group; IATSE Local 38; Cork & Gabel; KHTI Transportation; AIC Electrical Contractor, Inc.; Electrical Workers Credit Union; Michigan Urban Youth Alliance; Turner Electrical Services LLC; Williams Electrical & Telecommunications Co.; Kroger; Carl’s Golfland; Delta Dental; Rouge Park Golf Course; and EWMC Of Southeastern Michigan Volunteers.

We are moving forward with our challenge coin fundraiser. The first coin in the series is almost sold out and the second one will be here in a few weeks. We will be selling them at any upcoming union events and Membership meetings.

If you ordered one of the EWMC “What Up Doe?” jackets, please make arrangements with Sister Wiseman to pick up and make your payment. If you missed out, we will be looking into placing another order when we have at least 10 commitments. 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, Aug. 11, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

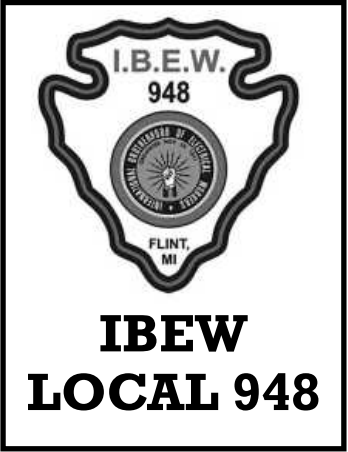
**The Veterans Committee** - will be meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

**Local 58’s Women’s Committee** - The next meeting will be Thursday, Aug. 28 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

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Our next board meeting is at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug.13, in the main conference room at the Union Hall.

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

Exciting things are on the way... NEW SYSTEM UPGRADE!!! Our office will be closed 11/3/25. No Shared Branch Services 11/1/25-11/3/25. No ATM/Debit Card services the evening of 10/31/25-11/3/25. You will notice several changes including: Account Numbers-Your existing base account number(s) will remain unaffected by our system upgrade. Checks-Your MICR line will change to a 14-digit format (currently 8) You can continue to use your current checks. New checks will have the updated MICR. ATM/Debit Card and pins-Your existing cards and pins will continue to work after our system upgrade. Please note: System will be down for conversion beginning the evening of 10/31/25-11/3/25. YOUR CARDS WILL NOT WORK UNTIL 11/4/25. Please plan for your cash needs. Direct Deposit-Will continue to post to your account without delay. Bill Pay- Your existing payees, ebills, and recurring payments with other merchants will not transfer to our new system. No new bill payments can be made or scheduled during the time that Bill Pay is unavailable. We recommend you take note of all payees as the system will not transfer. Online Banking- Starting 11/4/25 members will be required to re-enroll in our new online banking. Visit our website at ewcu.net and click on the Online Banking button. You will need to enroll by selecting the “First time user” link, and then follow the onscreen instructions to have a unique code emailed or texted to you. New Mobile App (Continued next column)



IBEW 948  
FLINT – Meetings  
**Membership Meeting** – Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be August 11th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings** - The next meeting will be 9 a.m. Sept. 2.

**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** - It’s steady with a slow ramp possible leading to the upcoming months. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

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

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

**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, Aaron Allen, Gregory Dulaney and Scott Gilley. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees** - Congratulations to Jeffery Conner, Truman Lane 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 losses and will continue to keep our Brother

## IBEW 58, con’t

Our current mobile app has been deactivated as of 6/30/25. Our new Mobile Banking App should be available from your app store shortly after our system upgrade. Please be on the lookout for communications at ewcu.net.

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Jeffrey Bentley, Mark Chrzanowski, Curtis Haddix, Timothy Moreton, Daniel Rathsburg and Mark Stewart.

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

**Patrick Connelly,** Pension member, 66 year IBEW membership; **Alvin Giroux Sr.,** Pension member, 41 year IBEW membership; Father to Pension members Alvin Giroux Jr., 34 year IBEW membership, Kevin J. Giroux, 44 year IBEW membership, Craig Giroux, 41 year IBEW membership, Brian Giroux, 41 year IBEW membership and Scott Giroux, 34 year IBEW membership; Uncle to Robert Giroux, Pension member, 28 year IBEW membership and Kevin M. Giroux, JIW; **William Lezotte,** Pension member, 69 year IBEW membership; **Roderick Nelson,** Pension member, 49 year IBEW membership; Father to Technician I Justin A. Nelson; and Brother to Walter Nelson, Pension member, 35 year IBEW membership; **Anthony Stariha,** Pension member, 26 year IBEW membership and **Gerald J. Vokes,** Pension member, 64 year IBEW membership; Father to Bill, Dave & Joe, Grandfather to Scott Vokes; Brother to John F. Stokes, Jim Vokes, Ed Vokes, Sam Vokes & Tom Vokes; Uncle to Rich Vokes and Mike Conflitti; Son of John C. Vokes.



IBEW 445  
BATTLE CREEK - Local 445 New Apprentice Initiation The Local 445’s New Apprentice Orientation will be held at the Aug. 11, 2025, Union Meeting. Please show your support to our new members and attend the August meeting!

**Local 445 Family Picnic** is scheduled for September 6, 2025 at the Hall. Bring your kids for some good family fun. We will have Binder Park Zoo tickets available this year that will be good through the end of the zoo season in October.

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

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

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

As of **July 1, 2025**, the following due’s structure: *JIW’s:* 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 131**  
*Serving Southwest Michigan*  
*Since 1916*

**IBEW Local 131**  
KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on August 4, at 6 p.m.  
The next **Renew & EVMC** meeting will be held on Wednesday Aug. 27th, at RJ’s at 5 p.m.  
**The Executive Board** meeting will be held on Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at 5 p.m.  
**The Veterans Group** will be meeting on September 4, at 5:00 p.m. (at the hall)  
**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.  
**Hall Hours:** Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, the Hall will move its lunch hour from 11:30-12:30 to 12:30-1:30 so the hall will be available during our members typical lunch period.  
**Upcoming Events:** September 24, The Kalamazoo Tools and Trades Expo: This is a networking event, organized by Local 131 and the Building Trades, for the entire construction industry. There will be hands-on demos of the latest and greatest tools, equipment, and technology in the world of Construction. Please join us!  
**October 11<sup>th</sup> Member Orientation Breakfast:** Breakfast will be provided to any members who wish to join. This a great opportunity for anyone who wishes to learn more about the Local’s benefits, referral system, contract, and history. It is also a great way to meet our new members!  
September 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM General Membership Meeting: Moved due to the holiday, we will be grilling before the meeting. We hope to see you all there.  
**Work Outlook:** Local 131 is currently in full employment. Summer school projects will be coming to an end, as always, as summer winds down. Many members are working in neighboring locals, particularly Blue Oval Battery Plant in Marshall. More calls are expected at Pali-sades Nuclear Plant. Work outlook for the fall appears slow, however. Blue Oval is expected to begin scaling back for some contractors, while Pfizer remains slow and the work outlook at Zoetis is uncertain for the fall and winter. GPI and USG do not expect large projects for the fall. While Winter appears slow in 131, Local 153 will continue to have very heavy demand for their data center and battery plant.  
**Earned Sick Time:** NECA’s lawsuit against the State of MI, which sought to deny our members the legal right to paid sick time, has been *dismissed with prejudice in its entirety*. Local 131 members are entitled to earn 1 hour of sick time for every 30 worked for up to 72 hours a year. This is enforceable by the state of Michigan but is not under the terms of the 131 Inside Wireman Agreement. If you have been denied this benefit, however, please contact me: jcurrent@ibew131.com.  
**The Local 131 Picnic was a great success –** For an event we expected to get rained out, we had incredible turnout. Thank you to Christine who did the lion’s share of planning, RENEW whose members helped us setup, Fat Mike’s for the fabulous food, and to everyone who managed to find the time to enjoy the afternoon with their fellow members.  
**Retirees’ Lunches at 11AM** at the following Locations:  
**August 20<sup>th</sup>:** LaRue’s Family Restaurant 6375 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
**September 17:** Berries Breakfast & Brunch, 4311 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo, MI. 49008  
**October 15:** Heroes Food & Spirits, 121 S. Grove Street, Delton, MI. 49046  
**November 19:** Wymans Café 8675 Portage Road, Portage Mi. 49002  
Every Tuesday, a group of Retirees meets at The Crew, 5200 Portage Road, Portage @ 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.  
**Members Three Months (Continued next column)**



**IBEW**  
**LOCAL**  
**906**


**IBEW Local 906**  
UPPER PENINSULA—MEETINGS  
MARQUETTE UNIT—First Tuesday 7:00 pm EST  
IRONMOUNTAIN UNIT—Second Tuesday 7:00 pm CST  
ESCANABA UNIT—Second Wednesday 7:00 pm EST  
Brothers and Sisters, Happy August! For the month August there will be regular unit union meetings. New short and long sleeve shirts are at the hall, along with new baseball caps. Merchandise is available for pick up at the hall or delivered to a union meeting. Payment can be done in person, over the phone, or on the app/website.  
Work outlook is strong for the summer/fall of 2025 with renegade solar in Rock, MI needing 60 journey workers, along with other various projects across the Upper Peninsula. Currently we have a 1 man call for Code Electric in the Marquette Area, a 3 man call for The State Group in Wakefield, a 1 man call for Pieper Power in Marquette, a 1 man call for Pieper in Escanaba, a 2 man call for Northern Valley Electric in Pickford, a 1 man call for Hardy Electric at the Escanaba Walmart, a 1 man foreman call for Pieper Electric at the Marquette Walmart, a 1 man call for B&B Electric at the Mill in Iron Mountain, and a 1 man call for Soucy Electric in the Marquette area.  
Reminder that there is a retiree lunch the third Thursday of every month at the Vierling Restaurant in Marquette at 11:00 am EST.  
For those of you who have not heard yet, we have a new website and mobile app. Please reference those new tools for any new announcements and updates within the local. The website can be found at ibew906.org and the app can be found under IBEW 906. Dues payments can also be made through the app and website. If you have any questions or are having trouble with the app please call the hall.  
There is a RENEW (Reach out and Engage Next Generation Electrical Workers) zoom meeting held the first Thursday of every month at 8:00 pm est. To get the zoom link please reference the calendar section of the app or website.  
The IBEW Local 906 picnic will be August 23<sup>rd</sup> at Pioneer Trail Park in Escanaba, MI beginning at 1:00 EST. We hope you to see everybody there!  
A friendly reminder that monthly dues increased \$1.00 effective July 1, 2025 bringing the monthly dues total to \$49.00 per month. Please keep this in mind if you are mailing a check for dues payment.  
“*Speak when you are angry--and you will make the best speech you'll ever regret.*”  
—Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)  
“*You will need to find your passion. Don't give up on finding it because then all you're doing is waiting for the Reaper.*”  
—Randy Pausch  
“*If at first you don't succeed, find out if the loser gets anything.*”  
—Bill Lyon  
“*Be wary of the man who urges an action in which he himself incurs no risk.*”  
—Joaquin Setanti  
“*There is nobody so irritating as somebody with less intelligence and more sense than we have.*”  
—Don Herold  
**IBEW 131, con’t**  
**in Arears or More:** Christopher Beadle, Matthew Hallam, Easton Lovell, Daniel Ludlow, Mark Miller, Caleb Piper, Cody Stokan, Jason Streit.  
**Jonathan Current**  
**Business Manager**

**SETTING AN ANCHOR** for a strut rack in the screening room at the Saline Wastewater Treatment Plant project is Jimmy Cunningham of IBEW Local 252. He’s employed by Shaw Electric.






**Michigan Painters**  
**District Council**


**Painters District Council 1M**  
WARREN – Dear Members,  
**DC1M WEBSITE:** [www.iupat-dc1michigan.org](http://www.iupat-dc1michigan.org)  
**DC 1M UNION CARDS\***  
Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:  
Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100  
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888  
\* \* L A B O R DAY MARCH, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>/all members welcome \*\*  
September 1<sup>st</sup> is our Labor Day March. We will meet at IBEW Local 58 parking lot at 8am. The March will begin at 9am.  
Bring your family and participate. There will be shirts, drinks, and food.  
Meet at: IBEW Local 58, 1358 Abbott St., Detroit MI 48226  
**PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP**  
Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its’ all new APP.  
For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google Playstore  
Search for “Painters and Allied Trades” download APP  
Username: your member id#  
Password: painters  
With this APP you can access training classes, Local Union meeting times and dates, receive alerts, and communications from your Union, etc.  
**GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!**  
**OUT OF WORK/ BACK TO WORK:** To keep work placement efficient, please notify the office when you are laid off or going back to work.  
Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888. New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so.  
Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.  


**Local 357**  
**Glaziers & Glassworkers**

**Glaziers & Glassworkers 357**  
WARREN – District Council 1 Michigan will be holding their first annual “Town Hall” Union Meeting on Tuesday, Aug.12, 2025. All nine DC1M locals will be in attendance. We will be getting an update from this past year, and what is coming up over the upcoming year. IUPAT General President Jimmy Williams Jr, will be in attendance, and will be addressing the membership. Please make every effort to attend. 14587 Barber Ave, Warren Michigan 48088 at 6:30pm.  
Our September union meeting will be canceled due to falling on Labor Day. Rather we will be marching in this year’s Labor Day Parade. Monday, Sept. 1. We will be meeting at the IBEW Hall at 8am, and marching at 9am. 1358 Abbott Street, Detroit MI 48226. We hope to see you there.  
Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Oct. 6, 2025 14587 Barber Ave, Warren Mi, 48088 at 5pm.  
This year’s annual STAR picnic will be on Saturday, Sept. 20 at 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 (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, Freeland, MI 48623.  
**Local Union 2352**  
**Business Rep:** Jeremy Haviland  
**Meeting Date:** 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.  
**Local Union 2353**  
**Business Rep:** Tony Parker  
**Meeting date:** 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.



**Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591**

**Sign Pictorial & Display 591**  
WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October7, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:00 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.  
Questions pertaining to Local 591 Pension Fund issues call 248-645-6550 and/or Health Care issues call 248-358-3340 or 800-482-8736 which will then be answered directly through fund office.  
**OUT OF WORK: BACK TO WORK:** procedure for out of and back to work: When laid off or going back to work, call the office. 586-552-4474  
**Local 357, con’t**  
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.



**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.  
**2025 Labor Day Family Celebration:** Laborers’ Local 1191 will have its Annual Labor Day Family Celebration on Sept. 1, 2025 from 11 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the Local Union parking lot, at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. This event is limited to Laborers’ Local 1191 Membership only. Due to limited selection of food and beverages, Members are permitted to only bring immediate family members. Additional parking will be available in the parking lot behind Detroit Collegiate Preparatory High School at Northwestern, at 2200 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 and in the empty lot on the corner of Lawton Street near the Rio Gran Motel on West Grand Blvd.  
**PLEASE NOTE:** *There will not be any alcoholic beverages provided or permitted to be consumed during this event. Please reference our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org) and the “Laborers’ Local 1191” Facebook page for important updates regarding the 2025 Labor Day Family Celebration, as well as Local 1191’s participation in the annual Labor Day Parade.*  
**Regular Membership Updates:** Please check out our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org) and the “Laborers’ Local 1191” Facebook page for important information about your Union.  
**Member Personal Information Updates:** Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.  
**Monthly General Membership Meetings:** All General Membership Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays), unless the Membership receives notice of a meeting cancellation, rescheduling and/or a venue change. **The next General Membership Meeting will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. The October General Membership Meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, 2025.**  
**Monthly Retiree Council Meetings:** Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The next monthly Retiree Council Meeting will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, 2025. The September Monthly Retiree Council Meeting will be held on September 26, 2025.**  
**Union Dues For 2025:** Regular monthly dues are **\$35 for Active Members**. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same **\$8**. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org!](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org!) To make online dues payments,

click the “Pay Dues” tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.  
**Important Notice Regarding Dues Payments:** According to the Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member will be suspended by the International Union without notice. **To better serve our membership, the Local accepts in-person Cash, Credit and Debit payments.**  
**Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check** and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one 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.  
**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. **FYI: It is the Member’s responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!**  
**Roll Call:** All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first (1<sup>st</sup>) five (5) days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. **\*Example:** If your name is on the list in April and/or May and you don’t re-register by June 5<sup>th</sup> your name will be removed from the list.  
**Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules.** You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling **(517) 625-4919** or by visiting the training school website at [www.mltai.org](http://www.mltai.org) to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at **(313) 894-2241** to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.  
**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI’s online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well.** If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.  
The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.  
If you are in need of safety modules, please contact your employer if you are employed or the union office @ 586-552-4478, if you’re not. Any questions call the hall or call the Council @ 586-552-4474. Participation is very important to keep our union strong, so try to make it to a meeting.  
– **Business Rep. Don Stepp**



## 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, **August 13, 2025, at 6:00 pm.** **\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*** At this meeting, there will be a Special Order of Business regarding **DIVISION OF MONEY. All members are encouraged to attend.** Member meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. The **E-Board/Stewards meeting** will be held on **August 26, 2025**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall.

**RETIREES NOTICE:** We will post the date of the next retiree meeting as soon as a date is available. Please get in touch with 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.

**CONDOLANCES:** Sadly, we lost Local 292 Retired member Jerry Sarrach Sr. . Jerry was a member of Local 292 for 72 years. He will be greatly missed. Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

**ANNUITY FUND ACCOUNT:** You can now access your Annuity account online, by phone, or by mobile app. The phone number to reach John Hancock is 833-38-6466. To create an online profile and a PIN, visit [johnhancock.com/myplan](http://johnhancock.com/myplan) and click “register now.” Be sure to choose a strong password. Keep your password safe and change it regularly. To establish your PIN by phone, call 833-38-6466 or 888-440-0022 for Spanish.

**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.

**37<sup>th</sup> 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.

**TRUEHEARING.:** 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 August 16<sup>th</sup>, September 6<sup>th</sup>, September 13<sup>th</sup> & September 27<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.

*“Anger makes you smaller, while forgiveness forces you to grow beyond what you were.”*

–Cherie Carter-Scott

*“The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just.”*

–Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

*“Do not measure your loss by itself; if you do, it will seem intolerable; but if you will take all human affairs into account you will find that some comfort is to be derived from them.”*

–Saint Basil (329 AD - 379 AD)



## Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next General Membership Meeting scheduled for August 26, 2025 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. We will be raffling off Tigers tickets at this meeting!

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** Next executive board meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2025 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

**RETIREE NEWS & MEETING SCHEDULE:** 2025 Retiree Meetings: August 18, October 20 (Holiday Party), December 15<sup>th</sup>. All membership meetings start at 12:30 pm, held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the local 80 retirees’ association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

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

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Martin Nahernak, Joshua Holmes, Jim Brasfield, Steve Harvey, Sam Velez, Shane Marinkovich, David Collar, Charles, Walter Rabideaux, Anthony Stacker, Duane Nadeau, Steve Norman, Robert Caswell, James DeMoines, Nathan Houle, Clayton Schaffhauser, James Ricken, Michael Wilson and Alexandra Lightbody.

**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 members 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 fourteen (14) days after receiving an assignment.

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

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

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

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

**Important:** Do not submit your UIA proof directly to the fund office. For questions, call the hall at **248-557-7575**.

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

To apply:

Complete the SUB application at the hall.

Provide a pay stub for the week.

The hall will submit your information to the fund office.

Make sure to follow these steps to ensure your eligibility.

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

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

**SAVE THE DATE: September 1<sup>st</sup> – Labor Day Parade Training Center News.**

**Entrance Exam Information.** The Sheet Metal Workers’ Local 80 Apprenticeship Entrance Exam is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2026. The deadline to apply is Friday, January 23. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver’s license and applicants must be 18 years old by April 1, 2026. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center at (586) 979-5190.

**Upgrading Classes.** Upgrading Classes for the Fall 2025 term begin the week of September 15<sup>th</sup> and enrollment starts Monday, August 4, 2025. To view the most up-to-date schedule, go to [https://www.smw80jac.org/Upgrading\\_Class\\_Schedule](https://www.smw80jac.org/Upgrading_Class_Schedule). To enroll in a class, call the training center starting at 7:30am on Monday, August 4, 2025 - 586-979-5190.

**First Aid Classes.** If you need a First Aid class to fulfill your requirements for the Ready To Work stipend check, call the Training Center to check on the schedule of Saturday First Aid classes.

*“Beware of the man who won’t be bothered with details.”*

–William Feather (1908 - 1976)

*“The good neighbor looks beyond the external accidents and discerns those inner qualities that make all men human and, therefore, brothers.”*

–Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968),

*“If men saw that a term was set to their troubles, they would find strength in some way to withstand the hocus-pocus and intimidations of the prophets.”*

–Lucretius (96 BC - 55 BC)

August 8, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 11



## 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 **Aug. 21, 2025**, at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 1 September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 2 September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 3 September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. (Freeland)

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

\*Zone 4 Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.

\*Zone 5 August 14<sup>th</sup> 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. Join Us for the Local 7 Golf Outing!** Mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 6th**, as we tee off at **The Lynx Golf Course in Otsego** for this year’s Local 7 Golf Outing. This will be the **last time the event is held in the Zone 1 area for the next few years**, so don’t miss out! Enjoy a great day of golf, **tons of prizes**, and wrap it up with a **delicious steak dinner**. We look forward to seeing you there!

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 Zone 2 remains the same with just a few members off. The next big event coming up is the Local 7 Golf Outing at the Lynx Golf Course in Otsego, on September 6th. I have sign up forms in my office if you’re interested, it is limited to 120 golfers. If your employment status changes please let me know and apprentices also let Tanner know. Please keep informed of any address or phone number changes and dues are always due prior to the first of the month. – **In Solidarity, Your Brother, Mike Adams**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Next Zone 3 meeting is September 10th at the Freeland hall.

Th Local 7 golf outing will be held at the Lynx Golf Course in Otsego MI if you are interested in playing call the Lansing office.

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 Sept 23rd at the Ponderosa in Bay City on Wilder Rd. – **In Solidarity, Joe Dotson**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City)** Our next meeting will be on August 20 at 6pm. Work in our area and across the state is still going strong. If there is anyone you know of that wants to get into the trade, 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. Have a safe summer. – **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** Work in Zone 4 is still strong; it appears to be another good fall. Don’t forget to sign up for winter night classes at the Flint training center. **Have a great summer. Your brother, Scott Brotherton**

**ZONE 5 Info** Work is the UP remains steady and should stay that way through the rest of the year. If you still need Mine Safety Training please sign up for that at [upconstruction.org](http://upconstruction.org). Just a reminder our next meeting is on August 14th at 6:00 pm at the hall in Gwinn. Also the next retiree breakfast will be at the Dry Dock in Harvey on August 13th at 10:00 am. **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 Dr., Lansing; **517-882-4064**

**Local 7 Officers:**

**Samuel 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**

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### Local 47

Heat and Frost Insulators

**Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47**  
LANSING – The next Regular Meeting will be held Friday, Sept. 12, 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. There are several members who have the number blocked and therefore are not receiving the Robo Calls. These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

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

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

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

Thank you to all you made our 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing a success! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79 hour rule for all Retirees effective July 1, 2025.

Per the Rules and Procedures:

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

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

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds  
**6525 Centurion Drive  
Lansing, MI 48917-9275  
Toll Free: (800) 323-8079  
Telephone: (517) 321-7502  
Email: joshkroell@insulators47.com**

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

**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 days from the end of the current work week."



### Local 25

Heat and Frost Insulators

**Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25**  
SOUTHFIELD – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

**ATTENDANCE:** Please be reminded that Local 25 is at full employment with seven travelers working in town at the time that this is being written. During a quick "Hours Report" investigation it was determined that over a 12-week time period one of our mid-sized employers lost 52 man-days to absenteeism. Most of those days the call to report the absence did not come until the day of the absence and on a few occasions the call did not come in until after the start of the shift. Please be mindful of the effect that absenteeism has on our employers, our jobsites, our benefit funding and on each individual employee's own benefit package.

**Example:** When an employee does not maintain 140 hours in a month, that employee must draw from his/her Health & Welfare banked hours to keep themselves funded. If you are an employee that is taking (or has been taking) an excessive number of days off, please be mindful of the effects of your actions. Please inform your foreman and superintendent of scheduled days off prior to the day of your absence.

Refer to Article XII of our agreement between Master Insulators Association of Southeast Michigan and Local 25 International Association of Heat & Frost Insulators and Allied Workers. Section A outlines the agreed upon terms regarding absenteeism and tardiness.

**BY-LAW CHANGE:** At the August 14, 2025 membership meeting, a third and final reading of an amendment to our Constitution and By-Laws will be voted on.

**CONTACT UPDATE:** We are now using **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  
eloany@heatfrostinsulators25.org  
connie@heatfrostinsulators25.org  
marty@heatfrostinsulators25.org  
finsec@heatfrostinsulators25.org

**ANNUAL PICNIC:** Another successful Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Picnic took place Saturday, August 2, 2025. Thank you to B.J. Claxton, Dan Stevens and all the members who volunteered their time to make it a great event. A thank you to all those that made donations including the Master Insulators Association, Bondy Insulation, Mechanical Heat & Frost Insulators II, Rand Environmental, and Resource Mechanical Insulation.

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

**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, (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.** The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, Oct. 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at 1640 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48216

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

**Labor Day 2024.** The Labor Day Parade in Detroit and Mid-Michigan is Sept. 1, 2025. More information to follow about our Labor Day celebrations in Mid-Michigan and Detroit.

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

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

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

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

Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, as 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.

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

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

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

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

(Continued next column)

### Local 25 cont'd

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 fifty dollar fine.

**BENESYS:** When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information.

*"A compliment is a gift, not to be thrown away carelessly, unless you want to hurt the giver."*  
–Eleanor Hamilton



## Elevator Constructors

### Local 36

**Elevator Constructors Local 36**  
DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED; our August Meeting has been cancelled. Our next regular membership meeting will be September 22, 2025, 5:30pm at 1640 Porter Street Detroit, MI 48216.

Our next Executive Board meeting will be held on August 18, 2025, at 5pm at the same location.

Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

**This paper is to serve as official notice to the membership. This is how we get information out to all our members, as repetitive as it might be there is new information in each article, please read it carefully and call the hall or attend a union meeting if you have any questions. Attention All Members, Upcoming events for 2025 are as follows:**

**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. **We have shut down foursome registrations and we officially have 200 golfers. If you still want to golf or donate, contact the hall and we will see if we can fit you in.**

**September 2, 2025 @ 9am Local 36 will be taking applications for their recruitment. Anyone interested, go to neiprecruitment.org to apply.**

**September Union Meeting,** nominations for delegates to the convention, Monday, September 22, 2025, located 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.

There was a motion presented by a member in good standings and signed by five members in good standing at the regular membership meeting on June 23, 2025. The motion was to change the local Constitution and Bylaw **Article V** Duties of Officers, **Section 7:** Business Manager/Financial Secretary, **6.** The Business Manager/Financial Secretary shall be paid 45 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate, and the Business Agent will be paid at 40 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate.

The motion for the change reads: The Business Manager/Financial Secretary shall be paid 50 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate, and the Business Agent will be paid at 45 hours at Mechanic in Charge rate. The first reading was at the June membership meeting, the second reading will be at the July meeting and the

### Local 149 cont'd

**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 8/4/2025, 2:00pm

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

third and final reading will be at the September meeting followed by a discussion and vote.

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

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

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

**If you move or your address changes, call the hall and make sure you fill out the address change form on the NEIBP website. Mail a copy to the fund office and one to the hall.**

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the **fund office (800)523-4702** and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work. The weekly Income Benefit through the international has increased to \$715 weekly after the one (1) week waiting period.

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

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you **MUST** report those jobs to the hall!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A. **When starting a new job please email the hall @ [Local36@iuec36.org](mailto:Local36@iuec36.org) with job name, address, names of mechanics and apprentices on job, mechanic's phone numbers, how many teams, type of equipment installing, how many stops and jobsite hours.** This will help us keep track of jobs easier than just calling the hall.

**Attention All Mechanics,** just a reminder to Mechanics that passed the Mechanic's Exam on or after July 9, 2022, starting January 1, 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, each mechanic shall be required to successfully complete at least eight (8) hours

of online continuing education from the curriculum published annually by NEIEP.

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

**Attention All Apprentices, fall classes are scheduled for the week of August 18, 2025, orientation will be the week of August 11, 2025. You should have received an email with your class date and time, if not contact the hall.** Don't forget to 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!**

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

**Attention All Retirees,** if you requested an Honorary Card and have not received it, please contact the Hall.  
**If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can put you on the email list.** We would like to wish a speedy recovery for the Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

*"It's been my experience that you can nearly always enjoy things if you make up your mind firmly that you will."*

–L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

*"We shall show mercy, but we shall not ask for it."*

–Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965), speech in the House of Commons, July 14, 1940

*"I once had a sparrow alight upon my shoulder for a moment, while I was hoeing in a village garden, and I felt that I was more distinguished by that circumstance that I should have been by any epaulet I could have worn."*

– Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)

*"Science is facts; just as houses are made of stones, so is science made of facts; but a pile of stones is not a house and a collection of facts is not necessarily science."*

–Henri Poincare (1854 - 1912)

*"No man is justified in doing evil on the ground of expediency."*

–Theodore Roosevelt (1858 - 1919)



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## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers 25

NOVI – **Awards Night will be held on Monday, Aug. 25, 2025** at the Novi Union Hall. We will have a social hour with appetizers/beverages starting at 5pm. Awards ceremony starts at 7pm. **LETTERS HAVE BEEN MAILED to all members who are eligible to receive awards this year.** Awards Night supercedes the August Union Meeting and will be IN PERSON ONLY AT THE NOVI UNION HALL. All other Union Halls will be CLOSED. **All are welcome; No Zoom this night.**

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

There will be NO August Flint or Lansing Steward meeting. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday Aug. 28 at 6 pm - all are welcome.

**The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual International Iron Workers Festival** is this weekend Aug. 8-10. in Mackinaw City MI. For more information, please go to [www.mackinawchamber.com/events](http://www.mackinawchamber.com/events)

**A HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE from the Fringe Benefit Fund office will be at the Novi Union Hall on Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 8am to 12 noon;** to meet with any member(s), to address health care issues or HRA substantiation concerns.

**A FRINGE FUND PENSION DEPT REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE NOVI UNION HALL on Wednesday Sept. 3 from 8 am to 12 noon.** If you wish to book an appointment or have questions, call 248-344-9494.

Labor Day: Monday Sept. 1. All Union Halls will be closed. The 2025 Detroit parade starts at 9 am. The meeting point for Members will be at IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, starting at 8am. Labor Day T-Shirts will be available.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Labor Day Parade in Genesee County sponsored by Sheriff Chris Swanson invites you to join the family fun

on Sept. 1. Staging begins at 10 am at the Church of Christ 1315 W. Bristol Rd Flint MI and the parade starts at 11am; ending at the UAW Region 1D, 1940 Atherton Rd., Flint MI. Labor Day T-Shirts will be available, site TBD.

The West Michigan Labor Day Parade starts at 11 am at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> & Western Ave.; heads east to Jefferson St., turns right onto Clay Ave and end at 4<sup>th</sup> St. Celebration in Hackley Park. BBQ, Music, Kids, Party, T-Shirts will be available, site TBD.

The 2025 Annual Mackinaw Bridge Walk will take place Monday, Sept. 1. There is no fee or registration required to participate. You may start walking any time after the Governor’s party starts the walk at approximately 7am. No one is permitted to start walking after 11:30 am so be sure you arrive early. <https://www.mackinawbridge.org/events/walk/> T-Shirts will be available, site TBD.

**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!

The ClickSafety program allows ironworker members to meet a myriad of training requirements, offering over 100 online courses in English and Spanish that include many OSHA-authorized courses. Simply log in: <https://sms.copperrange.com/impact/sms/login/> The username is the member’s book # and the password is the first 4 digits of your SSN

**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 no. is 866-635-2826. Or pay union dues with personal check or money order** and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) **from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).**

**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 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 & 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 years.**

The **Iron Workers’ Local 25**

**Novi Chapter Retirees’ Club:** The meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday Aug. 19 at 10 am. The Retirees’ Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday Sept. 2 at 8 am. All are welcome.

The **West Michigan Chapter** Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, Sept. 2 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, 49330. All are welcome.

The **Northern Michigan Chapter** next Retiree luncheon date and site is to be determined.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in Oct. 16 at the Iron Workers 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeway S. Saginaw MI 48604 at 12 pm. All are Welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter** next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be 9 am on **Oct. 17** at Mom’s Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. All are welcome.

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

**FindTreatment.gov** where you can search by zip code/city. **Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health. Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis.** Call or text 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis.

You can also Chat at [988lifeline.org/chat](http://988lifeline.org/chat) (English & Spanish). Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential.

**Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT:** <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text **HOME** to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. A volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Aug 4, 2025 12:00 pm E.S.T.).-

August 8, 2025

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 13



## Local 169 Boilermakers

### Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **August 15, 2025.** This meeting is at the Boilermaker Local 169 Hall. The address is 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI. 48101



BOB  
HUTSELL

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** – Was July 19 at Camp Dearborn, A good time was had by all and we look forward to next year’s picnic. **Area 2** - September 1, 2025 following the Labor Day Parade at Heritage Park. The address is 1050 Seventh Street, Muskegon, Mi. 49441.

**Area 3** – August 16, 2025 at Sanford Lake beginning at noon.

**Area 4** – Was August 2 at Pioneer Trails Park, Escanaba,

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 CommonArc testing for August 12, 13,14 and if necessary, the 15<sup>th</sup>. Please call B&G Processing at 586-477-1562 to schedule your appointment.

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

OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – [www.boilermakerslocal169.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com)- for more information.

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

Any members interested in EPRI Rigging, which is required for working in the Nuclear Plants. Please contact Tony Herrera at 616-296-9131, or Jamie Ratliff at 313-584-8520. Your name will be added to the list. Once we have a full class, you will be notified when and where to attend. Per your International, any member with EPRI training will not be required to have Rigging 1 through 4 for placement on the BDS.

#### Retirees: 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.

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

**Area 3** Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be August 20, 2025 at 11AM. This month the location is The Otherside Bar and Grill, located at 8301 Midland Road, Freeland, MI. 48623. Everyone from all areas is welcome to attend.

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

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Outdoors

Stability for the Kirtland’s warbler



THE KIRTLAND’S WARBLER, which lives in Northern Michigan’s jack pine forests, is one of our state’s biggest wildlife conservation success stories. But there are challenges to maintaining its population and habitat.

A team of conservation experts from state and federal agencies and nonprofit groups is undertaking a long-term plan to stabilize the population of the once-endangered Kirtland’s warbler.

The 2025 census of the colorful songbird indicates a decline in the population. According to the recent survey, there are 1,477 breeding pairs of Kirtland’s warblers in Michigan, which is home to 98 percent of the global population. Another 12 pairs were counted in Wisconsin, for a global population of 1,489 pairs, with Ontario’s numbers yet to be reported.

The last census, in 2021, estimated the global population at 2,245 pairs.

The decline is projected to continue over the next few years before the Kirtland’s Warbler Conservation Team’s efforts can stabilize the population through innovative strategies to manage the bird’s habitat. The team is a collaborative network of partner organizations including the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, American Bird Conservancy, Huron Pines and others.

“This is a situation we’ve been monitoring and addressing for several years now,” said Erin

Victory, a wildlife biologist and Kirtland’s warbler management coordinator for the Michigan DNR. “From a habitat management perspective, we anticipated a decline in the population and have been taking action to address it. We are confident we have enough tools and resources available to us, collectively within the conservation team, to reverse the decline and stabilize the population.”

The Michigan survey was conducted June 6-26 in the northern Lower Peninsula and Upper Peninsula.

One reason for the decline in the bird’s population is a reduced acreage of suitable breeding habitat. The ground-nesting Kirtland’s warbler relies exclusively on young jack pine forests to breed, with the vast majority of the birds living on designated state- and federally-managed acreage in northern Lower Michigan. But there currently aren’t enough young jack pine stands available to maintain a stable population of Kirtland’s warblers, so the state and federal agencies will adjust the tree-harvesting strategy to create more breeding habitat in designated management areas.

The Michigan DNR has worked closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Forest Service and other groups for decades to create habitat for the

Kirtland’s warbler through jack pine plantings (the bird will only nest in jack pine stands that are about 6-20 years old).

By selling timber to clearcut mature jack pine followed by planting jack pine seedlings, land managers provided a consistent amount of young habitat to support this goal. The strategy mimics how jack pine naturally regenerates after wildfire by creating a mosaic of thickets and openings.

However, in recent years it has become evident that previous management practices need to be updated. Early intensive efforts to create habitat ramped up in the late 1980s and 40 years of implementing jack pine plantings have resulted in a majority of the management areas with 30- to 40-year-old jack pine stands. Because these stands are intentionally planted at higher densities for better habitat compared to other types of planted stands, they are not commercially marketable for clearcutting until they are at least 60 years old. This has left land managers with less opportunity to create young habitat over the last decade.

“While a population decline is not what we wanted to see this census, it is encouraging that we already understand the principal cause and conservation team members are taking steps to address the issue,” said Steve Roels,

coordinator of the Kirtland’s Warbler Conservation Team and Kirtland’s warbler program director for the American Bird Conservancy.

The conservation team is developing a 10-year Breeding Range Conservation Plan to effectively manage the habitat. The primary strategy is to use novel approaches to cut jack pine stands in the surplus 20- and 30-year age classes, in addition to 60-year-old stands, to ensure annual habitat goals are met consistently.

“This strategy continues to create habitat and also allows the 40-year age class to continue growing and become merchantable. If we kept trying to harvest from the 40-year age class we would be perpetuating the problem,” said Jason Hartman, silvicultural specialist for the Michigan DNR. This strategy will benefit local economies, Kirtland’s warblers and other species associated with the jack pine ecosystem.

Other strategies in the management plan include transitioning away from jack pine plantations where possible in favor of lower-cost natural regeneration and partnering with university researchers to evaluate new habitat management techniques. The plan also calls for periodic monitoring of brown-headed cowbird nest parasitism. Cowbirds lay eggs in the nests of Kirtland’s warblers and other bird species. The larger cowbird chicks out-compete warbler chicks for food, which causes them to die, while the warbler parents unknowingly raise the cowbird chick.

Unforeseen factors affect the Kirtland warbler’s population as well. Victory referenced a 2023 hailstorm that wiped out half of the jack pine seedlings at a DNR-contracted nursery that were slated for planting and wildfire in the breeding areas that can change the amount of habitat. Additionally, hurricanes during migration and dry winters on the species’ wintering grounds in the Bahamas can stress or kill birds, with fewer birds returning to Northern Michigan.

(Continued next column)



CODIE CARLSON and his state-record catfish.

A record catfish

While bowfishing in Monroe County, an angler from Newport, caught a new state-record fish: a flathead catfish weighing in at 64.46 pounds and measuring 45 inches.

Codie Carlson was bowfishing Plum Creek in the early-morning hours of June 29, when he brought in the record-breaker. This fish beats the previous state-record flathead catfish – 53.35 pounds, 43 inches – caught in 2022 by Lloyd Tanner, of Hobart, Ind. on the St. Joseph River in Berrien Co.

DNR fisheries biologist John Buszkiewicz, who works out of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources’ Lake Erie Fisheries Management Unit, verified Carlson’s new state-record fish. Buszkiewicz and his crew may have even caught this exact fish during a survey in the same location in 2020; at the time, the fish caught weighed 55 pounds and measured 43 inches.

Carlson, a self-described “true fishoholic,” said, “I thought I was about to shoot a channel catfish for dinner. Turns out, I guess we do have flathead catfish in these waters.”

Michigan’s state-record fish are recognized by weight only. To qualify, fish must exceed the current listed state-record weight and be weighed on a certified commercial scale, and identification must be verified by a DNR fisheries biologist.

Kirtland’s warbler, continued

Michigan the following year.

“The decline in the Kirtland’s warbler population is likely due to a decline in available breeding habitat, but there are other factors that we can’t control that are associated with higher bird mortality,” Victory said.

The Kirtland’s warbler was federally endangered for nearly 50 years. The population dropped

to fewer than 200 pairs in the 1970s and again in the 1980s when the population was restricted to only 14 townships in six counties in northern Lower Michigan.

Thanks to a decades-long, collaborative effort to recover the species, the bird was removed from the federal endangered species list in 2019.

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