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Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades unions

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SHORT CUTS



Recovery for state: look to end of 2023

Look to the end of 2023 for the time when Michigan will nearly regain the 1 million-plus jobs lost in early 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Economists from the University of Michigan's Research Seminar on Quantitative Economics issued a briefing in Lansing on Jan. 15 that said Michigan has roughly recovered about 633,000 (about 60 percent) of the 1.060 million jobs lost from February to April 2020, the worst economic period of the pandemic.

"We're expecting Michigan to gain about 184,000 jobs from the end of 2020 to the end of 2021... to 90,000 during 2022 and 80,000 through 2023," said researcher Gabriel Ehrlich, as reported by the new service MIRS. "And that forecast leaves the state about 74,000 jobs shy of the pre-pandemic key by the end of '23. So about 1.7 percent shy of full recovery by the end of our forecast period."

Nationally, the report said the U.S. is expected to regain and match the pre-pandemic level of jobs, 152 million jobs, by the beginning of 2023. Although, the forecast said the U.S. unemployment rate would be a point higher in 2023, 4.5 percent, than it was last February.

Extended jobless benefit checks sent

LANSING—The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency beginning Jan. 16 started issuing \$300 weekly Pandemic Unemployment Compensation payments to an estimated 365,000 claimants on regular state unemployment insurance and Extended Benefit programs.

The PUC supplement, which is payable from Dec. 27, 2020, through March 13, 2021, provides an additional \$300 per week to all eligible unemployment recipients who receive at least \$1 for the week. Claimants do not need to take any action to receive this additional weekly benefit, it will be paid automatically after they certify. The additional payment comes from an extension of the federal COVID-19 relief package passed in December.

Workers who were on Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation continue to have no actions to take at this time, the agency said. They will not be able to complete certifications and payments will not be issued for weeks after Dec. 26 until technical updates to the UI system are completed. This will only be a disruption, the agency said, and claimants will be made whole once the extensions are fully implemented. An estimated completion date is not available at this time.

"The UIA team worked tirelessly to ensure that Michigan was one of the first states to implement the PUC program," said Liza Estlund Olson, acting director of UIA. "And now that we've received additional USDOL guidance we remain committed to implementing the remaining federal PUA and PEUC programs as quickly as possible to get money out the door. These workers should rest assured that they will not miss out on any benefits and will receive every dollar they are entitled to once the programs are fully implemented."

Quotable

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others."
—Pericles circa 495-429 BC

'Worker,' 'union,' 'organize...'

Labor likes what Biden keeps saying about plans for U.S. economy

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Go to President Joe Biden's "Building Back Better" agenda on his website and read through it. The word "union," the phrase "right to organize" and especially the word "worker" run through it like a constant thread.

No wonder AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, in a Jan. 12 telephone press conference, considered Biden the most pro-worker president in decades. "Joe Biden will be inaugurated and

we're ready to work with him," Trumka said.

That's because two key items of pro-worker legislation top both Biden's agenda and the Workers First Agenda Trumka unveiled at the press conference. And so does a lot of other legislation — from job safety and health rules to



Joe Biden

new infrastructure — the incoming U.S. chief executive advocates.

The first is more and more immediate aid to workers and their families battling the coronavirus pandemic and the economic depression needed closures to curb it caused.

The second, and the one with potentially longer impact, is congressional passage of the Protect The Right To Organize (Pro) Act, the most pro-worker comprehensive labor law rewrite since the original National Labor Relations

Act of 1935.

But back to Biden's agenda. Its very first section, *Build Back Better: Joe Biden's Jobs And Economic Recovery Plan For Working Families*, "worker" appears 59 times, "union" appears 26 times and "right to organize" is listed half-a-dozen times — all emphasizing the benefits of passing the Pro Act. But it's not just that.

"Let's not just praise them, let's pay them." Biden said of workers. That means "a decent wage, at least \$15 per hour, and
(Continued on Page 4)



A 12,000-SQUARE-FOOT addition to the University of Michigan's Central Power Plant, the white structure, at left, will house a new 15-megawatt combustion turbine. The new turbine will increase capacity to generate more energy and move the university halfway toward its goal of reducing total emissions for the Ann Arbor campus by 25 percent by the year 2025.

Trades install new works at century-old U-M power plant

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

ANN ARBOR—Enhanced reliability and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions are the goals of the ongoing expansion of the University of Michigan's Central Power Plant.

Located along East Huron Street near Washtenaw Avenue, the project involves the construction of a 12,000 square-foot

building addition to the existing power plant, which will house a new 15-megawatt combustion turbine that will reduce the university's greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 80,000 tons per year.

The plant generates and processes four main services to the University of Michigan Central and Medical Campuses, including steam, electricity, com-

pressed air and domestic hot water. The plant provides heat and power to most U-M Central Campus and Medical campus buildings.

"The Central Power Plant," said the University of Michigan, "is a highly efficient, reliable on-campus source of heat and electricity that supports mission-critical functions
(Continued on Page 2)



MEASURING FOR CONDUIT installation at the U-M Central Power Plant is Brett Shaner of IBEW Local 252. He's employed by Huron Valley Electric.

Contractors see 'difficult year' for U.S. construction

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

The COVID-19 pandemic isn't going away anytime soon, and neither are the challenges directly related to the virus that are negatively impacting the U.S. construction industry.

Most U.S. contractors expect that demand for many types of construction will shrink in 2021, as the pandemic is prompting many owners to delay or cancel already-planned projects. And that, of course, will limit the number of firms hiring workers.

That downbeat assessment came on Jan. 7 in the results of a new survey released by the Associated General Contractors of America and Sage Construction and Real Estate. The findings are detailed in *The Pandemic's Growing Impacts on the Construction Industry: The 2021 Construction Hiring and Business Outlook Report*. The *Outlook* was based on survey results from more than

1,300 firms from all 50 states and the District of Columbia

"This is clearly going to be a difficult year for the construction industry," said Stephen E. Sandherr, AGC's chief executive officer. "Demand looks likely to

continue shrinking, projects are getting delayed or canceled, productivity is declining, and few firms plan to expand their headcount."

Firms report that many of their already-scheduled projects

have either been delayed or canceled. Fifty-nine percent of firms report they had projects scheduled to start in 2020 that have been postponed until 2021. Forty-four percent report they had
(Continued on Page 3)

Industry momentum seeks traction in '21

The Dodge Data and Analytics "Momentum Index" for U.S. construction jumped 9.2 percent in December to 134.6 (2000=100) from the revised November reading of 123.3. It was a good end to a bad year, but the gain masked some broader realities in the industry.

For the full year of 2020, the Dodge Momentum Index lost 4.8 percent compared to 2019. The institutional component of the Momentum Index dropped 13.5 percent, while the commercial component increased 0.8 percent. In December, a 14.0 percent increase in the commercial con-

struction component of the Momentum Index "was heartening even though the increase was mostly the result of a sizeable in-

crease in warehouse planning," Dodge said on Jan. 8. "The warehouse sector has been one of the
(Continued on Page 3)



Biden pledges to roll back clock on anti-worker rules

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Get a shovel and a trashcan, too. President Joe Biden promises to immediately undo the most recent—and some of the most egregious—anti-worker damage perpetrated by his right-wing GOP predecessor, Donald Trump.

What Biden doesn't undo, the new Congress could take a crack at, if both House and Senate Democrats vote in unison. But that's no sure thing: The House's Democratic majority is reduced, thus enhancing the clout of so-called "moderates," and the Senate is tied 50-50 with Vice President Kamala Harris the deciding vote.

Biden Communications Director Jennifer Psaki announced her boss intends to quickly roll back so-called "midnight rules" issued by the right-wing ideologues who served Trump, his GOP predecessor. Biden will do that by halting their consideration, or their implementation.

Those are Trumpite pro-corporate federal regulations issued, basically since the November election. "This freeze will apply not only to regulations but also guidance documents that can have enormous consequences on the lives of the American people," Psaki told a virtual press conference via Zoom.

Prime among the rules to be rolled back: Rules mandating firms protect workers and customers against exposure to the coronavirus. National Nurses United and the AFL-CIO led that charge.

Among the worst for workers, Biden will halt a Trump edict that lets firms misclassify more workers as "independent contractors," with no rights and no benefits, including no right to unionize. The other Trump midnight rules, including the misclassification edict, are still alive. That rule in particular won't be published until March 8, Trump's DOL said. The delay

gives Biden the chance to yank it back.

"Streamlining and clarifying the test to identify independent contractors will reduce worker misclassification, reduce litigation, increase efficiency, and increase job satisfaction and flexibility," said Trump Labor Department Wage and Hour Division chief Cheryl Stanton. "It continues our work to simplify the compliance landscape for businesses," she said.

The Teamsters and construction unions disagree, and they're major opponents of the independent contractor rule. For truckers,
(Continued on Page 3)

Biden fires union-busting top NLRB attorney

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Call it poetic justice. Forty years ago this August, young right-wing Justice Department attorney Peter Robb drafted the memo to let GOP President Ronald Reagan fire the nation's air traffic controllers and destroy their union, PATCO. Now, after almost four years as National Labor Relations Board General Counsel, Democratic President Joe Biden fired Robb on his first day in office.

The catch is that Robb's term as GC, the agency's top enforcement officer, wasn't supposed to end for another ten months, and he bluntly told Biden's personnel chief, former ambassador Cathy Russell, that he wouldn't go—and that the law protects him in the job. But later that day the Biden Administration listed the job as "vacant."

The firing came on the day Biden was inaugurated. In a 12:23 p.m. email, Russell told Robb to quit or be fired by 5 pm. AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka lauded the firing. The Service Employees and the Communications Workers also pushed for Robb's ouster. *Bloomberg Law* reported.

Trumka said Robb's departure would be the first step toward making the NLRB worker-friendly again.

"In his first hours in office, President Joe Biden has taken immediate action to secure the rights and protect the well-being of America's working families by removing Peter Robb as NLRB General Counsel," said Trumka.

"A union-busting lawyer by trade, Robb mounted an unrelenting attack for more than three years on workers' right to organize and engage in collective bargaining. His actions sought to stymie the tens of millions of workers who say they would vote to join a union today and violated the stated purpose of the National Labor Relations Act—to encourage collective bargaining (his emphasis).

"Robb's removal is the first step toward giving workers a fair shot again, and we look forward
(Continued on Page 2)

Viewpoints



Now, Workers First

On Jan. 12 AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka held a press call "to introduce the Workers First Agenda to fight back against COVID-19 and build an economy that puts more power and prosperity into the hands of working people."

Today, we are unveiling the Workers First Agenda. It is bold, comprehensive and exactly what America needs to meet this moment of pain and uncertainty.

At the center of this agenda is the PRO Act - Protecting the Right to Organize. This worker empowerment legislation would allow millions to freely and fairly form a union. So we can raise wages and expand health care. So we can make workplaces safer and retirement more secure. So we can expand opportunities for women, immigrants, people of color and the LGBTQ community.

The PRO ACT is more than labor law reform legislation. It's an economic stimulus bill. It's a civil rights package. So we are going to fight like hell to pass it. An MIT study shows that more than 60 million Americans would join a union today if they could. And that number has increased during this pandemic.

No American should ever have to choose between our health and a paycheck. That is why workers' safety is another priority of our agenda. We will never get this pandemic under control if we cannot protect working people. That starts with emergency COVID-19 OSHA and MSHA standards so we can protect workers from this virus. We must also expand access to free vaccines and rapid testing, and ensure an adequate supply of PPE by executive order and through the Defense Production Act. And it is long past time to guarantee paid sick days, paid family leave and child care for all working people. None of this is controversial - just common sense.

Worker safety is how we begin to beat the virus. Investment in good jobs - union jobs - and infrastructure built by union workers is how we start to recover from it. Strengthening worker power and rebuilding America's crumbling infrastructure is at the core of Joe Biden's Build Back Better agenda. These promises resonate with our members, especially after Trump promised us the moon and gave us the shaft. It is time to invest trillions of dollars - that's trillions with a T - to rebuild our roads, bridges, schools and energy systems with union wages and standards.

And as we start to rebuild, we must remember that any hope for recovery is impossible without equity. That is why racial justice is a key component of this agenda. Structural racial inequity exists in nearly every facet of our country. Our workplaces, our health care system, our criminal justice system. This has always been true but never been clearer. It's why the incoming administration should appoint a racial equity czar. We need someone dedicated to leading an interagency task force that directly addresses racial injustice in all the places it exists.

And we need to rebuild the safety net for everyone who lives and works here. That means economic security for everybody. Health care security. Retirement security. Food and housing security. This will never be a reality if we don't strengthen Social Security or shore up multiemployer pensions. If we don't lower prescription drug prices and lower the Medicare eligibility age to 50. If we don't strengthen existing health care protections or rebuild the broken unemployment system.

Look, none of this will be easy, but all of it is necessary. When Americans cast their ballots in this seminal election, this is what they voted for. This is why working people poured our blood, sweat and tears into this campaign season. We did it to win a Workers First Agenda.

I started working in the mines as a teenager and have been a union member ever since. America's labor movement has never been more united than we are today. We are ready to work with Joe Biden to heal our country. To empower working people. And to build a sustainable economy and a stronger democracy for generations to come.

It's time to go big. Working people expect nothing less.

Rich Trumka, AFL-CIO President

We really are good people

By Jim Hightower

What's wrong with people? Has the savagery, selfishness, and raw, animal hatred within the human species finally come out of the darkness to devour our society?

We've seen fanatics in MAGA caps rabidly cheering a tyrannical, lying, insane president. We've seen gangs of "Proud Boys" strutting around in militia costumes beating protesters whose politics they dislike.

Seemingly every day we hear from wackadoodle extremists who advocate violence by promoting the group hallucination that Nancy Pelosi is leading a fiendish Democratic cabal of child sex traffickers and cannibals. And we saw all of these people sack our national Capitol Building in a vicious attempt to overturn a democratic election.

But is that really who we are? Given the media and political focus on all things awful about people, you would think so. But consider a couple of little discussed truths about humanity - two maxims might help all of us get a grip, step back from hopelessness, and push ahead in our political work with a fresh perspective on what is possible.

Warning: These truths are so contrary to our present-day conventional thinking - and so at odds with our recent sojourn through the dark jungle of Trumplandia - that when some people are first exposed, their brains whiplash. So, brace yourself. Here goes:

Truth No. 1: Most people are fundamentally fair minded, kind, and generous.

Truth No. 2: The basic human instinct is not dog-eat-dog selfishness, but social cooperation and sharing.

You might holler in disbelief: How can such happy "truths" jibe with the litany of horrors we are experiencing?

Well, although there are obvious exceptions to the rule, decades of behavioral studies, recurring surveys, in-depth conversations, cultural histories, real-life experiences, and every other kind of group observation have by and large produced the same finding: The great majority of people are guided in their daily actions and relations by deep values of fairness and sharing.

It turns out that humankind is, well, overwhelmingly kind. That's the deep, promising virtue that we should highlight. In these angry times, we need to make people's innate desire for an equitable, cooperative society the basis for every one of our economic, political, and social policies. (via www.otherwords.org)

Trades install new works at U-M plant

(Continued from Page 1) across U-M, including life-saving research and the 24/7 demands of a major regional medical center.

U-M says the original building was constructed in 1915, and was converted from coal to natural gas as a primary fuel in the 1960s to operate more efficiently. The current cogeneration system uses steam to heat buildings and waste steam to generate electricity, resulting in an overall efficiency of 80 percent. The Central Power Plant is a combined cycle facility which currently includes seven steam boilers totaling 1 million pounds of steaming capacity and 46 megawatts of electric generation capacity.

Walbridge is managing the \$80 million expansion project, which began in spring 2019 and is expected to wrap up early this year.

The university said upon completion of the expansion, a cumulative reduction of more than 400,000 metric tons of carbon can be expected within the first ten years of operation. In combination with a renewable energy purchase agreement announced in April 2019 and ongoing energy conservation efforts, emission reductions associated with the new turbine will help ensure the university meets its 2025 goal of reducing emissions for the Ann Arbor campus by 25 percent.



THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN Central Power Plant is the backdrop for two masons waterproofing joints on an elevated walkway on the Ann Arbor campus. At work are Bob Richmond and Paul Cyrus of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. They're employed by Pullman Services.

Biden fires union-busting top NLRB attorney

(Continued from Page 1) to building on this victory by securing a worker-friendly NLRB and passing the Pro (Protect The Right To Organize) Act so all working people have the freedom to form a union."

Robb, whose position holds a great deal of sway regarding which cases the federal panel hears, is the first NLRB attorney to be ousted in such a way since the Truman Administration.

The five-member board has three white right-wing Republican men, one Democrat and one vacancy. Biden also made the lone Democrat, Lauren McFerran, the NLRB's chair. By law, the board must have up to two members of the non-White House political party. But in practice, GOP President Donald Trump, who named Robb, left the two opposite-party seats vacant for months, producing a series of 3-0 pro-boss NLRB rulings.

Biden will no doubt fill one of those Democrat seats, and the first of the GOP-held board seats will become vacant this August, which will create a Dem majority on the NLRB.

Robb aided Trump's efforts with a concentrated plan, which he announced early in his tenure, to roll back all Obama-era NLRB rulings. He's gone even further. Rather than just bringing and winning anti-worker board decisions, he's helped the board majority draft and enact anti-worker federal rules, which are harder to overturn than laws.

Needless to say, Robb called his removal a bad precedent that would compromise the GC's independence and ability to enforce labor law.

And throwing Biden's inaugural words back at him, Robb said "It was my understanding the incoming administration intended to foster civility and unity...promising to adhere to

the rule of law. A presidential removal of the General Counsel prior to the expiration of his or her term violates these promises and principles."

Countered Rep. Andy Levin (D-Mich.), vice chair of the House Education and Labor Committee: Robb "has been a toxic figure in the NLRB. He has worked to undermine its mission."

Said the National Law Review: "Although President

Biden's campaign promised sweeping changes to the nation's labor laws and policy, the precipitous firing of General Counsel Robb was nonetheless an unexpected, and rather shocking, move. It is a signal to those who supported President Biden's campaign based on his labor-related promises that he intends to make good on them, and is also a signal that more changes are to come.

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor.

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"Who knew that dog saliva can mend a broken heart?" - Jennifer Neal

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Warning: These truths are so contrary to our present-day conventional thinking - and so at odds with our recent sojourn through the dark jungle of Trumplandia - that when some people are first exposed, their brains whiplash. So, brace yourself. Here goes: Truth No. 1: Most people are fundamentally fair minded, kind, and generous.

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BUILDING MICHIGAN! Sugar, sugar HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



CONSTRUCTED IN 1899, Michigan Sugar Co.'s Caro plant shown in this undated photo is still operating and produces 190 million pounds of sugar annually. It is the company's only manufacturing site for liquid sucrose. Michigan is home to four sugarbeet processing factories, all owned and operated by Michigan Sugar Co. They are located in Bay City, Caro, Crosswell and Sebawaing.

Michigan's vast acreage of forests was all well and good and profitable for many – while there were still trees to harvest.

But by the late 1800s, thousands of acres of the state's pine and deciduous forests were reduced to a vast acreage of stumps, with little or no thought for responsible harvesting and replacing the lost trees.

In Michigan's Thumb and in other areas, the question for landowners became inevitable: what to do with acres upon acres of land after the tree stumps were cleared? Some farmers planted corn, or soybeans or hay. Others grew sugar beets.

"Three crops of beets," said Dr. Robert C. Kedzie, professor of chemistry at Michigan State Agricultural College (now called Michigan State University), "grown in three successive years are worth as much as one crop of pine trees, which require 100 years to mature"

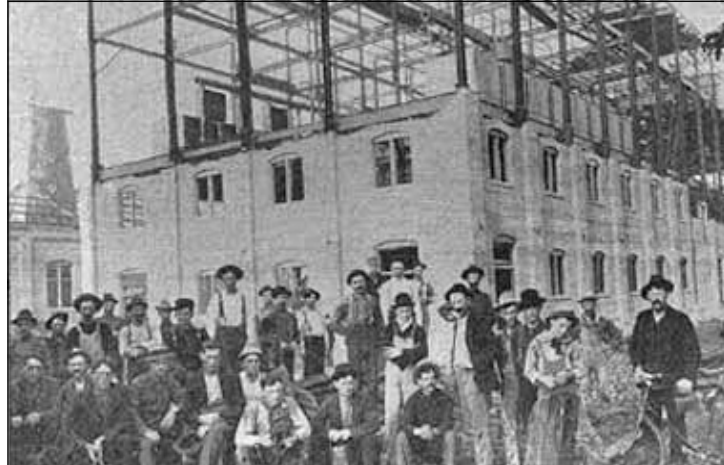
With Kedzie promoting the planting of sugar beets in the 1880s, Michigan farmers first had to have answered a key question that would be asked by many of their peers: What's a sugar beet?

Turns out the green-leaved plants with the sucrose-laden white taproots could be processed into sugar, and with the right conditions earn a tidy profit for farmers and processors selling to customers who could make from it all manner of sweet-tasting confections, candies and drinks. Cavities, diabetes and obesity followed for Americans and their developing sweet-tooth – but that's another story.

In the 19th Century, sugar beets were not a staple crop for American farmers – they offered little nutritional value nor opportunity for profit, and their successful growth required the right soil and climate. The first profitable U.S. processing plant for sugar beets wasn't established until 1879 in California. By then, European farmers had been growing the beets for decades.

By the 1880s, Kedzie and others could see that several areas of Michigan, but especially the Thumb region – with the proper soil, climate and available land – were ripe for planting sugar beets.

"Interest in the sugar beet was not revived until 1884, when Joseph Seemann, a Saginaw printer, happened to see how well the sugar beet was doing for the people in a region of Germany that he visited," says a history provided by the Michigan Sugar Co. "Another trip convinced him to send a sample of the seeds to his partner, who forwarded them to Dr. Robert C. Kedzie." Dr.



CONSTRUCTORS of the Caro, Michigan plant in 1899. Wrote Thomas Mahar in *Caro – A History of the Nation's Oldest Surviving Sugarbeet Factory* about the plant's start-up: "Inevitable construction problems always created delays; fine-tuning would deter full slicing capability for weeks, sometimes months. Added to the mix were factory crews more accustomed to walking behind plows or knocking down trees with axes than operating boilers, engines, diffusers, vacuum pans, and evaporators all in perfect harmony."

Photo credits: Michigan Sugar

Kedzie's enthusiasm for the beet's potential in the region earned him the title 'Father of the Michigan Beet Sugar Industry.'

Kedzie, Michigan Sugar said, imported 1,500 pounds of seeds from France and distributed them to farmers across Michigan. "The success of the planting helped encourage people to clear the stumps and better utilize the once-gain valuable acreage. Suddenly, the switch from 'trees to beets' brought the stump lands back into productivity."

The sugar beet industry also needed processing plants nearby. State and federal lawmakers and Michigan businessmen saw the potential for some sweet tax revenue and profits and got behind the beet wagon. High market prices, which of course would later fluctuate, made sugar beets a premier cash crop.

The local "Business Men's Committee" settled on Bay City as the locale for Michigan's "Pioneer" factory. As a result, the "Pioneer Michigan Sugar Company" was organized and on Dec. 9, 1897, with a factory built in nearby Essexville.

The nation had only 10 sugar beet factories in 1897, but in Michigan alone eight beet processing plants were erected in 1899 in Holland, Kalamazoo, Rochester, Benton Harbor, Alma, West Bay City, Caro, and a second factory in Essexville. An additional 14 factories rose on the outskirts of Michigan towns, from Marine City to Charlevoix to Menominee, during the next six years, reports Michigan Sugar, despite a lack of experienced factory builders and engineers to operate them.

The Bay City factory, built in 1901, evolved into the Moni- tor Sugar Co. and was the fourth in the city, giving it more beet sugar factories than any city in

America.

By 1905, seven of those Michigan factories had closed, with consolidations among plants taking place and other crops becoming more profitable for farmers. That still left Michigan with a considerable sugar beet industry, with 16 factories and a production of about 11,000 tons that year.

In 1906, six of those companies, Alma Sugar Co., Peninsular Sugar Refining Co. of Caro, Pioneer Michigan Sugar Co. of Bay City, Sebawaing Sugar Co., Sanilac Sugar Refining Co. of Crosswell and Saginaw Valley Sugar Co. of Carrollton were merged and formed Michigan Sugar Co.

By April 1911, Charles B. Warren, president of the Michigan Sugar Co., told the *American Sugar Industry and Beet Sugar Gazette* that the acreage planted that year "will be greater than ever before in the history of the industry in Michigan." The *Gazette* reported that approximately 175,000 acres of land in Michigan was devoted to sugar beet farming, with processing plants in Bay City, Saginaw, Alma and Caro all expected to be enlarged that year.

By 1939 Michigan was the third-largest grower of sugar beets and the largest east of the Rocky Mountains.

Today, Michigan Sugar Co. of Bay City is the only remaining sugar company in the state, and is the third largest in the U.S. It's most recognizable brands are Big Chief and Pioneer sugar. It has more than 1,000 grower-owners, employing 1,600 seasonal employees during peak processing season and 700 year-round employees. In 2019 the local cooperative of growers produced sliced 4.1 million tons of beets, and produced more than 1 billion pounds of sugar.



ERECTED IN 1902, the Sebawaing plant shown in this undated photo is Michigan Sugar Co.'s only facility that has never experienced a shut down. Today the plant processes 925,000 tons of sugar beets every year, as well as 260 million pounds of sugar and 36,000 tons of molasses.

Biden pledges to roll back clock on anti-worker rules

(Continued from Page 1) misclassification forces independent contractors to pay for their own gas, repairs, insurance, Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes, and the employers' share of those levies, too.

"When workers are misclassified, they are subject to

potential wage theft, law-abiding businesses are placed at a competitive disadvantage, and state and federal governments are deprived of much-needed tax revenue," said Rep. Bobby Scott, D-Va., chair of the House Education and Labor Committee.

Biden's "Building Back Better" platform pledges he will include "union and bargaining rights for public service workers, and a broad definition of 'employee' and tough enforcement to end the misclassification of workers as independent contractors," in the economic stimulus plan he will send to Congress.

Tipped workers were another Trump target. Another "midnight rule" allows tipped workers to be paid the sub-minimum tipped wage while performing an unlimited amount of non-tipped duties. The rule, implemented on Dec. 11, would cost tipped workers at least \$700 million annually, the Economic Policy Institute estimates. EPI economist Heidi Shierholz called the tipped workers rule "an emblematic parting blow from this administration to the working people of this country."

Unfortunately, Biden can't roll back everything Trump did. Trump issued most of his anti-worker rules long before the election, including virtually all rules from the GOP majority on the National Labor Relations Board. Getting rid of those prior Trump anti-worker rules, including those from the NLRB, would take court rulings or legislation to either repeal rules or to ban the NLRB from spending money to enforce them.

But Biden can, and Psaki said he will, roll back Trump anti-

worker executive orders, which are easy for one president to impose and another to repeal. There were so many anti-worker executive orders, especially those imposed on federal workers, that unions and workers will be happy with Biden's decision to dump them. They include:

- Invalidating a 2017 Trump edict making it easier for anti-union construction companies to get federal cash to run apprenticeship programs. North America's Building Trades Unions lobbied long and hard against that scheme.

- Reversing a Trump order to throw unions out of their small offices in federal buildings, used for meetings on grievances and other business. His order also confiscated phones, laptops and even photocopying machines from those offices, and ordered union reps to handle grievances for workers on their own time and on their own dime.

- A Trump order that would convert thousands of career positions of federal unionized employee positions into at-will "policy" jobs where bosses can arbitrarily fire workers with no notice.

- Using religion to discriminate on the job. The Labor Department and other agencies instituted this one since Election Day, too. The Department of Labor and the other Trump-run agencies said bosses at religiously affiliated institutions – not just schools, but hospitals, nursing homes and even day care centers – could discriminate in hiring, firing and promoting workers of another faith if those workers did not follow tenets of the sponsoring religion.

Contractors see 'difficult year' for construction

(Continued from Page 1)

projects canceled in 2020 that have not been rescheduled. Eighteen percent of firms report that projects scheduled to start between January and June 2021 have been delayed. And 8 percent report projects scheduled to start in that time frame have been canceled.

"Few firms expect the industry will recover to pre-pandemic levels soon," the AGC said. Only one-third of firms report business has already matched or exceeded year-ago levels, while 12 percent of firms expect demand to return to pre-pandemic levels within the next six months. Fifty-five percent report they either do not expect their firms' volume of business to return to pre-pandemic levels for more than six months or they are unsure when their businesses will recover.

Only 35 percent of construction firms report they plan to add staff this year. Meanwhile, 24 percent plan to decrease their headcount in 2021 and 41 percent expect to make no changes in staff size. Despite the low hiring expectations, most contractors report it remains difficult to fill some or all open positions. Fifty-four percent of firms report difficulty finding qualified workers to hire, either to expand headcount or replace departing staff. And 49 percent expect it will either get harder, or remain as hard, to find qualified workers in 2021.

"The unfortunate fact is too few of the newly unemployed are considering construction careers, despite the high pay and significant opportunities for advancement," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "The pandemic is also undermining construction productivity as contractors make significant changes to project staffing to protect workers and communities from the virus."

The AGC said that 64 percent of contractors report their new coronavirus procedures mean projects are taking longer to complete than originally anticipated. And 54 percent of firms report that the cost of completing projects has been higher than expected.

"The outlook for the industry could improve, however, if federal officials are able to boost investments in infrastructure, backfill state and local construction budgets and avoid the temptation to impose costly new regulatory barriers," Sandherr said "But even as we work to advocate for measures to rebuild demand for construction, we also need to take longer-term steps to continue developing the construction workforce."

The percentage of respondents who expect a market segment to contract exceeds the percentage who expect it to expand – known as the net reading – in 13 of the 16 categories of projects included in the survey. Contractors are most pessimistic about the market for retail construction, which has a net reading of negative 64 percent. They are similarly concerned about the markets for lodging and private office construction, higher education, public buildings, and K-12 construction.

Only relative slivers of the construction economy – construction of clinics, testing facilities and medical labs – are expected to see greater construction, and they track closely with the few segments of the economy to benefit from the impacts of the coronavirus.

Trades irked with Biden for quashing Keystone pipe

By Mark Gruenberg
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI)– President Joe Biden's decision to immediately yank the federal construction license for the remaining section of controversial Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline from Alberta through the U.S. promises to open the first rift between the pro-worker chief executive and U.S. construction unions.

Biden canceled the Keystone permit on his first day in office, drawing cheers from "green" groups, who strongly oppose the project and have for years, due to its threat to increase global warming.

But construction unions favor the pipeline, including the Teamsters, the Laborers and the Operating Engineers, who signed a Project Labor Agreement with Keystone's corporate sponsor, TransCanada Energy, more than a decade ago.

That pact means the 1,200-mile pipeline's final segment would have been erected and maintained by union construction workers. North America's Building Trades Union (NABTU), citing government reports, states Keystone's construction could provide a \$900 million payroll over the life of the project.

"North America's Building Trades Unions are deeply disappointed in the decision to cancel the Keystone XL permit on the President's first official day in office," NABTU said in a statement. "Environmental ideologues have now prevailed, and over a thousand union men and women have been terminated from employment on the project."

Construction unions also defend Keystone as a key to continuing U.S. energy independence, though much of its oil would be shipped abroad from the Gulf Coast.

NABTU also cited Obama-era federal environmental impact documents showing Keystone XL, heading east and south from Alberta into Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska to Guthrie, Okla., would be environmentally sound.

Industry momentum seeks traction in 2021

(Continued from Page 1)

few areas of construction that has flourished during the pandemic thanks to increased demand for online shopping."

The Momentum Index is a monthly measure of the first report for nonresidential building projects in planning, which have been shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential buildings by a full year.

Meanwhile, on the jobs front, construction employment also got a year-end boost, adding 51,000 jobs in December, according to the Associated General Contractors of America.

"December's employment gains likely reflect milder weather than usual for the month rather than sustained demand for projects," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "In fact, our survey found contractors expect the volume of work is likely to decline for nearly all nonresidential project types, and most firms have experienced project cancellations or postponements."

U.S. construction employment climbed to 7,413,000 in December, an increase of 0.7 percent compared to November. However, employment in the sector remains down by 226,000 or 3.0 percent since the most recent, pre-pandemic peak in February.

Just joking

Ever wonder why there are no dead penguins on the ice in Antarctica? Where do they go?

It is a known fact that the penguin is a very ritualistic bird which lives an extremely ordered and complex life. The penguin is very committed to its family and will mate for life, as well as maintain a form of compassionate contact with its offspring throughout its life.

If a penguin is found dead on the ice surface, other members of the family and social circle have been known to dig holes in the ice, using their vestigial wings and beaks, until the hole is deep enough for the dead bird to be rolled into, and buried.

The male penguins then gather in a circle around the fresh grave and sing:

"Freeze a jolly good fellow!"
"Freeze a jolly good fellow!"
Penguins are amazing.



Labor likes what Biden keeps saying about U.S. economy

(Continued from Page 1)

ending the tipped minimum wage and sub-minimum wage for people with disabilities, and strong benefits so they can live a middle class life and provide opportunity for their kids.

“This starts with passing the *Protecting The Right To Organize Act*, providing public service and federal government workers with bargaining rights, and taking other steps to make it easier for workers to organize unions and collectively bargain.”

And Biden promises to “address discrimination and harassment in the workplace, and pass the Paycheck Fairness Act as the next step in efforts to ensure women are paid equally for equal work.” Biden also will push “universal paid sick days and 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave.”

Biden wants to insert the Pro Act, including his own idea of sending repeat labor law-breaking corporate honchos to jail, into his plan to rebuild U.S. manufacturing. Other Pro Act parts include card check recognition to simplify union organizing, bargaining rights for public service workers, “a broad definition of ‘employee’” under labor law, to cover more workers “and tough enforcement to end the misclassification of workers as independent contractors.”

“Throughout the entire campaign, Joe Biden talked about the importance of rebuilding unions” as well as passing the key legislation, Trumka explained. Labor will build its campaign starting with current popular support, which polls put around 65 percent, for unions.

Trumka also declared the Pro Act has majority support in both the House and the Senate. He’s right about the House. It passed the Pro Act last year, but only after workers and their allies raised a ruckus about lack of movement. The vote was party-line.

The Senate is another matter: There’s a 50-50 partisan tie, to be broken by Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris. But that also means one defecting Democrat would imperil the law, if all Republicans hew to their party’s anti-worker, anti-union ideology. And even with passage by a tiny majority, such a bill could be killed anyway, by a GOP filibuster.

And Trumka acknowledged business will launch a massive campaign against the Pro Act. That’s what corporate capitalists and their well-funded lobbies did after Biden’s boss, then-President Barack Obama (D), initially put Biden in charge of shepherding the last major labor law rewrite, the Employee Free Choice Act, through Congress in 2009.

EFCA sank, for three reasons. One was the corporate campaign of lies. A second was that Obama switched Biden to lobbying lawmakers for passage of the Affordable Care Act. The third was labor’s top champion, Senate Labor Committee Chairman Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., also renowned for his legislative successes and ability to craft deals, died. EFCA died on the vine, upsetting unions.

“We’re going to fight for it,” Trumka vowed about the Pro Act. “And this administration is going to fight alongside us. None of this will be easy, but all of it is necessary.”

All this dovetails with organized labor’s agenda, which “is broad, comprehensive and exactly what is needed to lift America out of this pain,” he explained.

Trumka explained the Pro Act is “more than just labor law reform. It’s a civil rights bill and an economic stimulus bill.” Its passage would also help “rebuild housing security, health security and economic security...raise wages, protect health care and advance racial and economic justice.”

Federal data back Trumka’s assertion and Biden’s reasons for pushing the Pro Act. The median pay of union workers is at least \$200 more weekly than that of non-union counterparts. Union working women earn 90 cents for every dollar paid to a comparable working man, while all working women earn 80 cents – and union women out-earn non-union men.

And unionized workers are much more likely than non-unionists to have pensions, health insurance coverage and other benefits, including paid family and medical leave. All this lets people ascend to and live in the middle class, Biden says.

The Pro Act and the stimulus aren’t the only priorities where Biden’s and labor’s agendas agree. After that, both say, comes revitalizing and rebuilding U.S. infrastructure.

That doesn’t mean just roads, airports and railroads, but buses, subways and broadband – and other sections of the so-called “green” economy, such as massive retrofitting of buildings, sewer and water systems and power lines.

Biden says all these projects, including “green” growth, should be done by union labor. That cheered Trumka, who put spending \$1.5 trillion on infrastructure in the second section of pro-worker legislation unions will push.

“A modern sustainable infrastructure” needs “sustainable engines of growth — from roads and bridges, to energy grids and schools, to universal broadband,” Biden says. That’s where Biden’s nominee for Labor Secretary, Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, may be a key. Walsh, a member of Laborers Local 223 and a former chief of the Boston Building and Construction Trades “carried the tools, and he knows union membership is essential for building back better,” said Trumka. “And he has the ear of the White House.

“Because he’s a rank-and-file union member...it says to workers ‘You matter’ and that a worker will be at the Cabinet table every time.” Walsh’s rank-and-file background and—though Trumka did not say it—his political service also will give him credibility on Capitol Hill.

Walsh will have another role in Biden’s pro-labor agenda, Trumka predicted: Reversing “the thousands of” anti-worker decisions GOP Oval Office occupant Donald Trump’s Labor Department has issued over the last four years. “They hurt working people every day,” the AFL-CIO leader said. “And he (Walsh) will be a tremendous advocate for collective bargaining.”

Not just that, the union leader adds. Trumka expects Biden and Walsh will turn the federal government’s contracting power in workers’ favor, by setting pro-worker standards firms seeking federal contracts must meet. Biden’s promise that in his platform, too.

Biden’s old boss, President Obama, told federal contracting officers to consider if a firm obeyed or broke labor laws, civil rights laws or tax laws in awarding federal cash. Biden wants to require the contracting officers take those factors into account—by writing them into law.

That’s important, because federal contracts are a large share of the U.S. domestic economy, running into the hundreds of billions of dollars from the military alone.

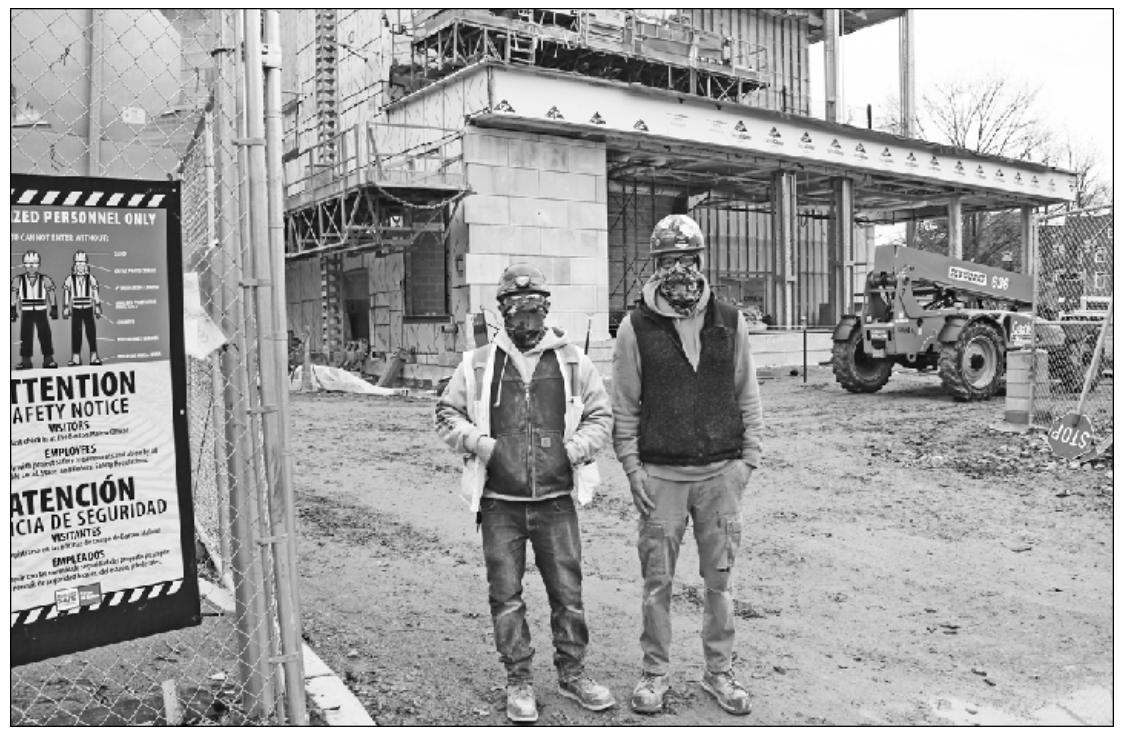
The Green New Deal, which Biden supports in all but name – the phrase angers building trades union leaders who see the GND costing their members jobs – will also benefit workers and unions, both Biden and Trumka say. Biden’s platform flatly pledges GND jobs must be union jobs.

“We’ve talked to the (Biden) transition teams about the right balance between going green and at the same time not putting people” in old energy industries such as coal and oil “out of work – or if they are, of transitioning them to a lower- or non-carbon” emitting plant, ex-coal miner Trumka said.

“If you’ve got computer programming jobs in California, it doesn’t help people in Pennsylvania, West Virginia or Louisiana....We can’t just forget about them.”

Biden said he won’t. “If we make smart investments in manufacturing and technology, give our workers and companies the tools they need to compete, use taxpayer dollars to buy American and spark American innovation, stand up to the Chinese government’s abuses, insist on fair trade, and extend opportunity to all Americans, many of the products that are being made abroad could be made here today,” his platform says, combining green jobs with another common labor goal, Buy America.

AT THE GATE OF THE Central Classroom project on the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor are Jamie Page and Ben Searle of Glaziers and Glassworkers Local 357. They’re employed by Madison Heights Glass. We took their photo as they were returning from their coffee break.



Michigan Painters District Council



Painters DC 1M

WARREN/LANSING - Dear Members, DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org

DC1M FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/iupat1m

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

FTI of THE GREAT LAKES APPRENTICESHIP SCHOOL BACK IN SESSION. To all Apprentices , the FTI of the Great Lakes Apprenticeship in back to in person classes. If you have any questions regarding this, call the Apprenticeship School.

UPGRADE CLASSES FOR FTI OF THE GREAT LAKES APPRENTICESHIP. The Lansing Training Center will be offering a Lead refresher on 1/30/21, and a Confined Space class on 2/20/21. The Warren Training Center will be offering a Lead refresher on 2/6/21 and a Confined Space class on 2/27/21. Start time for all of these classes will be 9am and members will need to register with me the week prior to the class.

SICKNESS AND DEATH. It is with a heavy heart to announce the following:

Local 357 Duane Blossom passed away.
Local 2353 Dave Weber, 3rd generation Contractor and Member passed away
Local 591 Donald Skarjune passed away.
Local 826 David Rose and Nick Manty are recovering from Covid-19.

Local 2353 Art Lack is recovering from covid-19.
Local 1803 Anthony View was in a car accident.
Please keep all of our Brothers and their Families in your thoughts and prayers.

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 591 Sign, Pictorial & Display

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

Meeting may be postponed due to Covid; will notify a.s.a.p.

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

Any questions on local

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

—Dr. Martin Luther King

“Education is a progressive discovery of our own ignorance.”

—Will Durant (1885 - 1981)

“Wisdom is what’s left after we’ve run out of personal opinions.”

—Cullen Hightower

“The whole is more than the sum of its parts.”

—Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)

“Dictators long ago found out it is easier to unite people in common hatred than common love.”

—Dagobert D. Runes

“Defer not till tomorrow to be wise, tomorrow’s sun to thee may never rise.”

—William Congreve (1670 - 1729)



Local 357 Glaziers & Glassworkers

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN – Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 6pm. We will be voting on our new District Council 1 Michigan By-Laws.

Work looks to be remaining steady in the area. Please keep your certifications current, along with your MUST, and drug screen.

Apprenticeship school in classroom classes has resumed as of January 11th. If you are an apprentice, and have a question on the schedule please contact Jeff Flynn, or Rich Oakey.

2021 looks like it will be another productive year for local 357. We have several large projects on the books.

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

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

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

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

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

–Business Rep- Don Stepp

District Council 1M

Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

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

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

Local Union 312

Business Rep: Tim Schwerin

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

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

Local Union 514

Business Rep: Scott Mikulen

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

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826

Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

Business Rep – Fred Frederickson

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

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

Local Union 1052

Business Rep – Jake Fluty

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovalle

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

Place: 7677 Midland Road, 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: Keith Anderson

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

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

A mind stretched by a new idea can never go back to its original dimensions.

[info][add][mail]

Oliver Wendel Holmes, Jr.



Pipefitter Apprenticeship

The JATC for the Pipefitting Industry and Pipefitters, Steamfitters, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Service Local Union #636 of the United Association will be accepting applications for our Apprenticeship **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Tuesday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am - 11:00 am beginning March 1, 2021 through March 12, 2021.**

Qualifications necessary for an applicant to be considered are:

1. Must be 18 years of age or older.
2. Complete the application and return to the Pipefitting Industry Training Center with:

- a. A valid driver’s license.
- b. High School diploma or high school equivalency (GED) certificate.
- c. There is a \$45.00 testing fee that will be collected when turning in application.

The Pipefitting Industry Training Center is located at 636 Executive Drive In Troy, MI between John R. and Dequindre Rds., north of E. 14 Mile Road.

No resumes please.

For more information please contact our web site at: www.pipefitters636tc.org.



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

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190
ANN ARBOR – COVID MEETING: DUE TO COVID a video informational meeting will take place on Feb. 8 and will start at 6 p.m. Please make sure the union hall has your current cell phone number in order to receive these notices on how to join in on the video informational meetings.

ATTENTION MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION MEMBERS - SURVEY: Please go to the Local 190 website www.ua190.org Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card number. **Please complete the 2021 Gas Distribution Negotiations Member Survey.** If you have any questions, please contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423

ROBO CALLS: We are sending out Robo calls to keep you updated and informed, if you are NOT receiving these messages it means we do not have a current phone number on file for you, please contact the hall to update.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – UNION HALL HOURS: Effective Monday, Nov. 23 the office will be open on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 (the office will be closed for lunch on these days from Noon to 1 p.m.) There will be no foot traffic to the back offices. Please feel free to stop by the union hall to see Karen to make your dues payments or if you have something to drop off.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the office will be closed to foot traffic. Members can still call the hall anytime.

GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES DOWN HILL WELDING SCHOOL: Will begin Monday, Jan. 4 and run for 2 months. This class will be held at the training center Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **In order to take the journeyman gas distribution weld test you must attend this school as a prerequisite. Please note that 4th and 5th year gas apprentices have preference to sign up for this welding school.** Limited space is available so please contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423, Jason Bannister 734-646-8838, or Roy Musgrove at 734-369-1432.

Currently Local 190 is not accepting any apprenticeship applications. A note will be put in the paper when this current status changes.

MASKS MUST BE WORN WHEN ENTERING THE UNION HALL BUILDING AND TRAINING CENTER DUE TO THE EXECUTIVE ORDER.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN WELDERS: Please remember it is very important to keep your continuity forms up to date.

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.

2020-MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union hall and pick up a copy of the instructions.

UALOCAL 190 WEBSITE: www.ua190.org Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card number. ****

NEW ON THE WEBSITE: Members can now view and sign up for job calls. The same procedure will be used as the call-in line. If you are laid off or go back to work, there are forms available to fill out on the website that will inform the hall.

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

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

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:
NEW VISION PROGRAM – DAVIS VISION: Please be advised

vised of the Jan. 1, 2021 change to your vision benefits. Effective Jan. 1, 2021, your vision benefits are now being offered through Davis Vision. Welcome letters and cards, detailing your new benefits, were mailed during the month of December 2020. If you have not received this information, please contact the Fund office at 888-390-7473. You can also go to the Local 190 website www.ua190.org and go to the benefit section for more information.

NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP FOR YOUR SMART DEVICE: Attention all members, you can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation of benefits and much more. **Download: BCBSM REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: Effective Wednesday, Nov. 25 due to COVID there will be no representative at the union hall the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month until further notice.** You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

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

CLASS INFORMATION – TRAINING CENTER-OFFICE PHONE: 734-426-3700. The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. We are following CDC, OSHA, MIOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. You must wear a face mask while inside the building. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2021 Schedule - All on Mondays - Rescheduled for Jan. 25, 2021 @ 5pm limited to 8, April 5, 2021 @ 5 pm, July 19, 2021 @ 5 pm, and Oct. 4, 2021 @ 5:00pm. Call Retha to be put on the list for the day you choose.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2021 Schedule - All on Mondays - Jan. 18, 2021 @ 5pm limited to 8, April 19, 2021 @ 5 pm, July 26, 2021 @ 5:00pm, and Oct. 18, 2021 @ 5 pm. Call Retha to be put on the list for the day you choose.

Aerial Lift Training (4 hrs): Two different classes. Monday, March 1, 2021 @ 5 pm. Tuesday, March 2, 2021 @ 5 pm. Each class size is limited to 8, so call and get your name on the list.

Welding Lab: Runs Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30 pm till 8:30 pm. Weld test days are determined as participants show they have the skills.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This class is a 40-hour class that will run Tuesdays and Wednesdays, for 5 weeks, starting Jan 12, 2021 until Feb 10, 2021. Class starts at 5:00pm. Call Retha to be put on the list for this class. Class limited to 4.

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): Tuesday-Wednesday, Feb 16, 2021 and Feb 17, 2021 @ 5 pm and Tuesday-Wednesday, Feb 23, 2021 and Feb 24, 2021. Check your certs to make sure of your expiration date. We will have another class in Sept. Call Retha to pick your dates and be put in the class. Each class will be limited in size.

Med Gas Installer and Brazier Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class that WILL BE ON-LINE, via Zoom. Must have an active e-mail address. Must have a computer with a camera and good internet. Camera must stay on and you must stay in front of the camera the duration of the class. Braze practice, braze test and written test will be in-person at the training center. Class will run Tuesdays and Thursdays @ 5 pm starting March 9, 2021 until April 8, 2021. Call Retha to be put on the list and give her your active e-mail address. Class limited to 16.

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): Tuesday and Thursday, April 13, 2021 and April 15, 2021 @ 5:00pm, and another class on April 20, 2021 and April 22, 2021 @ 5 pm. Both Tuesday classes will be ON-LINE, via Zoom and both Thursday classes will be in-person, at the Training Center for the test. For online part, you must have good internet and a web cam (Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704
FARMINGTON– The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M. Please note masks will be required for entry to the meeting.

Nomination of delegates to the United Association's 40th Convention will take place during the February meeting. There will be three delegate positions to be voted upon. The Constitution of the United Association Sect.17 states: No member shall be eligible as a delegate or alternate unless he shall have been a good standing member of the Local Union which he is to represent for at least two continuous years previous to his election and he remain in good standing from the date of his election through the period of the convention.

Election of delegates to the 40th United Association Convention will take place on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at the Local Union Hall. The polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 5:30 P.M. In case of a tie, there will be a runoff election held the same evening with the voting members present. Eligibility to vote is covered in the Constitution of the United Association under section 124: (a) No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for a period of one year immediately prior to the date of the election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to vote in any Local Union election.

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

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

NFPA All Access is available for all 704 members. Please contact the Local 704 Training Center for username and password. Phone numbers to remember: NASI is 1-800-638-2603 for information regarding Health and Welfare or Pension fund questions.

Continuing education classes are being formed. Please reach out to the training center for further information or future classes you would like to see added.

Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of retired Brother Robert Prater. Brother Prater was a 73 year member of the United Association. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please keep your information updated with the union hall.

Local 190, con't

era. Camera must stay on and you must stay in-front of your camera for the duration of the class. Call Retha to choose your dates and give her your active email address. Each class limited to 16.

ICRA Certification (16hrs): Looking to put on another ICRA certification class. Next class possibly in-person at the Training Center. In-person class is limited to 8 participants. Call Training Center to get put on the list for the next class. If it is on-line, it will be ran through Zoom. For on-line class, you must have a computer with good reliable internet access and a webcam. You must also have a valid email account. Test day will be at the Training Center.

RETIREE MEETINGS – SPADES and BREAKFAST MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

CONDOLENCES: Our lifetime member Clark Sampson passed away on Jan. 10. Clark initiated on Aug. 30, 1966, retired on March 1, 2003 and became a lifetime member Aug. 1, 2016. May our sincere condolences bring comfort to all family members and friends.

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



IN FRONT OF THE University of Michigan Central Campus Classroom Building project are (l-r) Sprinkler Fitters Jimmy Irwin (Local 669) and Lance Hewitt (Local 704). They're employed by Elite Fire Protection. The University of Michigan doesn't allow photography on its projects, so we took photos of tradespeople at the gate coming back from their coffee break.



Plumbers Local 98



Plumbers 98
DETROIT- **Membership of Plumbers Local 98.**

Brothers and Sisters, On behalf of all your officers and staff, we hope you and your family are safe and healthy. This is not how anyone envisioned this chapter of our lives.

MEETINGS. Union Meetings are still on video due to the hall being closed. The next video will be posted on **Thursday, February 11th at 7:00 pm.** At that time the old video from January 14th will be pulled down. You can access this video on our Local 98 website at the member section under **Member Zone.**

The next video Union Meeting after that will be **March 11th at 7:00 pm.** This will be the unfortunate norm until at least April 1st. For virtual meetings we will follow the same rituals and officer reports as usual. The confidentiality of our business matters has to be our priority. We will have to trust our elected officers, E-Board, and Committees to keep a transparent look at things down here. If you would like something added please call down and leave your suggestion. All bills will be previewed by the Finance Committee and recently our Executive Board. If you feel a need, you can set an appointment to ask questions.

Our awards ceremony will be put off until next year. If you are due a pin and would like it now please call the hall, we can mail it to you.

E-Board meetings. E-Board meetings are the first and second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you need to contact or see the board please call V.P. Jim Cools at 734-307-9841.

Retiree Meetings remain cancelled at this time.

COVID-19 Information & Vaccines! As I write this over 418,000 Americans have died by Covid-19 related illness and over 25 million people have contracted this disease. This is now a set reality of everyday life. **WEAR YOUR MASKS!** Any concerns with COVID-19 safety protocols or lack of PPE contact the **Business Agent in the area or the Union Hall.**

Vaccines! We now are covered in Detroit as an essential worker. If your job is related to the City of Detroit (this means any job in the city you may be working on) you can **call and get a scheduled Vaccine** at the TCF Center. The number is **313-230-0505 between 9am and 8pm M-F.**

Oakland County opened up this last week but only gave us 50 available slots to Oakland County residents. We are sorry for the short notice, but I hope as more vaccines become available we can do better on our notifications. Please get on our Facebook page or watch for emails from the Union Hall. At this time our information for Macomb or Wayne County is slow to get out.

UNION HALL. The Union Hall is CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC. You will need to schedule an appointment to come to the hall. The West doors will continue as our main entrance. Properly worn masks are required. There is a COVID-19 questionnaire that **MUST** be filled out by everyone entering the Union Hall. All the officers are working remotely at this time.

SUB APPS/ OOW CHANGES. It is your responsibility to fill out a SUB app when you are laid off. Please fill out SUB Apps electronically. This can be found on the web page under the **OOWL** section. If you're still having unemployment issues call

BAs Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams. For any member issues dealing with benefits contact Jon DeRoo. If you are less than a year from retiring, please set a meeting with Jon today.

NOTE ON DISABILITY. If you are filing for Social Security Disability you will need to file for your Local 98 Disability Pension at the same time in order to make sure you get all your pension checks. Social Security normally takes at least a year and sometimes a lot longer. If you file for your Local 98 Disability Pension at the same time, then when you receive your award from Social Security, we will be able to pay you all the retro money owed.

POLITICS. The rumors are true that the Keystone Pipeline out west is temporarily shut down, at the same time we seen our Governor shut down Line 5 in MI.

Local 98 has had a crew working out of Local 798 all summer in Wayne County. We have not had members there in force in years. Yes, I am pissed. But we knew this was coming as Biden tries to show concern for his other supporters, so score 2 for the Green Party.

The good news, our new President has fired a long time NLRB anti- Union judge Peter Robb and replaced him with a pro-labor person. He has also put former Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, who was the Boston Building Trades President and is a card-carrying Laborer, on as the Labor Secretary of the United States. I still see newer members and some older members who dislike the idea of a non-Trump era.

I can't express how important these picks are to us as a labor organization. We have 2 appointed UA members on Biden's transition team as well, and one of them is on the Energy Advisory Board. Think about this, in Michigan we are now down to 1 Blast Furnace in Dearborn and Zug Island (US STEEL) is nearly closed. We better remember who was in charge during this collapse and promised us these steel mills would be saved. That would be Trump, both parties are not perfect, it's up to all of us to keep them to their word.

LICENSE RENEWAL. For all continuing education opportunities or classes, call Training Coordinator Paul Baker at 248-585-1435. BAs Gary Glaser and Tom McWilliams are admins on the Most/Best program, contact them if you need help.

RETIREES. Congratulations to Brother Steve Blair on his retirement. We wish you all the best in the next phase of your life.

IN MEMORIAM. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families and friends of our Brothers Donald Trombley, who passed away on December 21, 2020, and Thomas Hrlie Jr., who passed away on January 19, 2021.

GOOD/WELFARE. We are looking for Residential and Service Plumbers at this time. This is a great opportunity to expand and grow, as many members are looking to retire. If you know anyone working Non-Union or is a past member that may be interested, have them call Organizer Rob Moses at 248-763-2187.

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

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org
The Apprenticeship Application process is closed until fur-

ther notice.
The Training Center is open and adhering to COVID-19 restrictions. Please call Paul Baker at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 if you have any questions.

ASSE Backflow Tester Recertification exams are scheduled quarterly. Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. For those who are eligible, please call the Training Center to register and pre-pay by check only **before the deadline March 26, 2021.** The next scheduled recertification class is **April 27 & 28, 2021.**

OPEN WELDING Every Thursday 4 pm-8 pm, other days & times available- Call Chris 248-585-1435 ext.146 to reserve a booth and visit the updated welding shop. Looking to try something new? Ideas for a class? We're here to help.

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **WELDING Tests** will be Saturday, February 6 & March 6, 2021. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the class. The next **BRAZING Cert Sessions** will be Friday, February 5 & March 5, 2021. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

2021 Course Hour reimbursement forms are now available at the Training Center. You **must have** 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from January 1 - December 31, 2021 to be eligible for the \$80.00 reimbursement. Deadline for 2020 reimbursement forms is March 31, 2021.

OSHA Training - OSHA 10, available as on an online class for \$25 at www.careersafeonline.com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website. Go to www.mustonline.org. ****Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.**

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

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

"I am only one, still I am one. I can not do everything, still I can do something. I will not refuse to do the something I can do."
—Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)

"I can accept failure, but I can't accept not trying."
—Michael Jordan (1963 -)

"The ordinary acts we practice every day at home are of more importance to the soul than their simplicity might suggest."
—Thomas Moore (1779 - 1852)

"I have no mercy or compassion in me for a society that will crush people, and then penalize them for not being able to stand up under the weight."
—Malcolm X (1925 - 1965)

"It is said that power corrupts, but actually it's more true that power attracts the corruptible. The sane are usually attracted by other things than power."
—David Brin (1950 -)



Local 370 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 370 FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday Feb. 9, 2021 at 7:00pm. In person at our Union Hall.**

In-person Apprentice training classes will resume the week of January 18th, 2021. Apprentices have been notified.

The hall is open for essential business. If you come to the hall, please follow all CDC Covid-19 guidelines.

Please note that we have moved to our new Union Hall/Training Center located at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI.

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 4:00pm

PAC Committee – Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:00pm

Finance Committee – Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:15pm

JATC Committee – Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 3:30pm

ALL GM Worksites and others require Must Safety and Drug Testing:

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

Local 370 office hours 7:30am–4:30pm.

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

Sub Pay: Remember to qualify for sub pay when you are laid off, you must sign the out of work list. You can also collect when you are on Jury Duty and miss work. If you are traveling, call Karla to see if you need to make sub-fund self-payments. All members were sent a Sub-Pay manual in 2018. If you did not receive one, please call TIC at (517) 321-7502 and ask for the 370 Sub Pay Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD)

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. Members present must have dues paid to date to claim award. 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 your cell phone. Go to the app store and search UA Local 370. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.

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

We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

Plumbing, Mechanical and Residential Code Books are now available at the hall. The books are \$75.00 each.

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

(Continued next column)

Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT – The Next Union Meeting will be held on February 16, 2021 and will be a VIRTUAL MEETING. It will start at 7pm. Information to join the meeting can be found on the Pipefitters 636 website under the MEMBERS tab.

Nominations for the 2021 UA National Convention: Names were drawn by President Bill Helwig as to the order which they will appear on the Ballot. Witnessed by Joe Bourgeois, Geary Tudball, Larry Krinskiski, Theresa Danko, Sam Cadena, and Steve Spurlock.

Vote for not more than SEVENTEEN (17). In the event of a tie for the SEVENTEENTH (17th) spot there will be a coin toss to determine the winner.

Ballots Will Be Mailed Out on Monday, February 1, 2021 and MUST be Returned by Monday, March 1, 2021. Due to issues with the United States Postal Service, we STRONGLY urge Members to remit your ballots as soon as possible.

1. Scott Regits
2. Val Pod
3. Lou Hadley
4. Mike Wright
5. Dan Gurley
6. Doug Bardy
7. Nicky Labute
8. Marc Lafferty
9. Bill Holsomback
10. Peter Dunn
11. Tony Sievert
12. Ozzie Munoz
13. Jeff Patterson
14. Brad Patterson
15. Frank Grammatico
16. Jason Selph
17. Jeff Selph
18. Mike Scanlon
19. Jake Regits
20. Rick Fast
21. Dave Fox
22. Bill Helwig

Pipefitters 636 would like to inform the Local 636 members of the current Office Administrative Changes they are as follows (please notice the changes in the SUB FUND correspondence):

Receptionist/Dues/Address Changes/General Inquiries:

Craig Harmon email: charmon@pipefitters636.org

Sub Fund Office: Kristina Springer: Please send all SUB

Fund Requests to email: kspringer@pipefitters636.org 248-538-7065

Account Management/Death Notice: Margaret April email: mapril@pipefitters636.org 248-538-6636 extension 102

The Pipefitters would like to extend our deepest condolences to Brother David Jarzab and Brother Kenneth Jarzab on the passing of their father Retiree Brother George Jarzab who passed away on Nov. 27, 2020.

To the family of Retiree Brother David Parrish who passed away Dec. 13, 2020.

Also, to the family of Retiree Brother James Kenyon who passed away Oct. 13, 2020.

And to the family of Retiree Brother Raymond Huddas who passed away Jan. 14, 2021.

By Law change was proposed to Article III which reads: No Foreman who has five (5) or more Journeyman under his supervision, shall work with tools. **The proposed change to:** No Foreman who has five (5) or more Journeyman under his supervision, or on a job with more than one (1) Foreman, shall work with tools.

The 3rd and final reading and the vote will be held at the next meeting that we resume face to face meetings.

The Hall is now open to all

Local 370, con’t

must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

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

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

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

foot traffic. Masks are REQUIRED. Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone. SUB email is kspringer@pipefitters636.org

CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences which is still beneficial to all our members and their families. Contact her @ 313-580-6887

The Retiree Association Meetings have been cancelled until further notice. The election has also been postponed until further notice. – President David Evans

UA password good thru March 31, 2021: UA2021

Any member who is Retiring contact Benesys @ 248-813-9800 for your Retirement paperwork or if you want to meet with the Financial Secretary Treasurer, please give him a 7 to 10 day notice so that he can get all of your paperwork in order.

Dues: If you do not pay your Dues by the end of each quarter. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Initiation fee.

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 website is www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys.

Are you “Work Ready”? Have any of your safety modules expired? Is your Drug Test current? Check your report card at mustsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be “ready” when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE BONUS PAYMENTS.**

Recovery Support Group: Pipe Dreamers, a Peer Support Recovery group for ongoing recovery from substance abuse and addiction meets the **second and fourth Tuesday** of each month at **4:30pm** at the office of “Work Life Strategies” 26789 Woodward Avenue, Suite 3105, Huntington Woods 48070. Call 248-545-8301 for details or with any questions.

Also, a Relations/Divorce Support Group meet on the **second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6pm.**

Worker Assistance Program: Work Life Strategies, LLC are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed, referral to other professionals. Call 248-545-8301 to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol and or drug addiction, bankruptcy, financial management, marital, depression, legal and family counseling. Consultations with Work Life Strategies are a service paid for by the Insurance Fund. Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits.

Training Center News. Call Kim at the training center for first aid online class.

Please send all emails and weld continuity’s to info@pipefitters636.org

WELDING -4pm to 8pm

Regular night welding from 4 pm to 8 pm on Mondays, and Thursdays. Cost is \$50 for 40 hours. Downhill Welding-6 Saturdays, call Kurt to sign up, cost \$75

GMAW Welding-4 Saturdays, Call Mike to sign up, cost \$50

Starting the week of Feb. 15th Call Kim to sign up, all classes cost \$50:

Certified Rigging/Signal person- Monday and Thursday Nights from 4 to 8

CSD 2- Monday night from 5 to 8

Cad Thursday night from 4 to 8.

Chiller Teardown class Wed. nights 5-8

HDPE class J

Orbital class

Basic Electricity: call Jason at the training center to sign up.

Monday and Thursday nights



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111

UPPER PENINSULA – **Both the Escanaba and Marquette halls have been closed to walk-in members until further notice. Please call either hall for any assistance you may need.**

The next scheduled union meeting will be on **February 25, 2021** at the Escanaba hall @ 7:30 p.m. EST. Masks will be required so if you plan on attending please wear a mask.

Condolences: To the family of member Willard (Willie) LaMarche passed away January 13, 2021. Also, to the family of member Edward Rossberg who passed away on January 12, 2021.

Please be aware that the new Zenith MRA cards have been mailed. If you have not already done so, please follow the instruction on activating your card.

Thank you to the membership for your patience during this process due to the current situation of the COVID-19 mandates of gatherings. Any questions please call Business Manager, Dean Gutzman and stay safe.

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.

Important Information: Contact the hall with any changes with any of the following: E-Mail, address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death. For those of you who have an email address that we do not yet have on record, please call and give it to April or Ann.

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.

2020 Upgrade Certification Class Schedule has been posted to Local 111 web-site (lu111.com).

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

2020 BTA Class Schedule has been posted to Local 111 web-site (lu111.com).

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

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

MSHA Training: The 2020 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. Call Ann at (906) 226-6511 ext. 4 to register. MSHA expires in one year.



Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

SAGINAW – Apprenticeship training will resume Monday, February 22, 2021. You will receive a letter stating your normal class day. We will adhere to all safety guidelines, and try to resume in person training as safely as possible.

Union Meetings are also cancelled due to the pandemic until further notice. The office is closed to in-person business. Please utilize fax, email and phone. If you’re are unable to conduct business by fax, phone or email, please call to set up an appointment at (989) 799-5261.

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

ALL NON-CRITICAL INTERACTIONS is cancelled until further notice. Please utilize email and phone calls whenever possible. Below is a list of main contacts for the hall:

Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513

jpomerville@ualocal85.org

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515

jbadour@ualocal85.org

Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514

tdanielak@ualocal85.org

Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330

csteele@ualocal85.org

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512

rjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511

ktuthill@ualocal85.org

Feather Reige, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8510

freige@ualocal85.org

The next Northern Meeting is postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

The new website is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card Number. If you should have any difficulties logging in, please call Kristin or Feather at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8511 or 8510.

The new Facebook page is live. If you are currently on the Local Eighty-Five Facebook account, invites were sent to have you join the new site. UA Local 85 page is our public Facebook account. UA Local 85 Members Group is our new members only Facebook. On this page, we will have important messages and reminders specific to our membership. Please like both and let us know what you think.

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

Training: Congratulations to our newest Journeymen: Marshall Davenport and Greg Donahue.

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

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

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 ext. 8510.

Beneficiary Cards: Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8510.

Email Addresses: Please email freige@ualocal85.org to update email addresses.

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: All retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up to date information.

CONDOLENCES: We extend our condolences to the family of Jerry “Jake” Elliott who passed away on December 31, 2020.

We extend our condolences to the family of Melvin Balzer who passed away on January 14, 2021.

Remember you all are essential to me.

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

“Let us take things as we find them: let us not attempt to distort them into what they are not. We cannot make facts. All our wishing cannot change them. We must use them.”

– John Henry Cardinal Newman (1801 - 1890)

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Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671 MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting scheduled for February 4, 2021 will be a "Virtual Meeting". The details for this meeting will be sent via our App (UA Local 671). The App is available in the Google Play Store or on iTunes.

It is important to download the App. We sent out a link on the App recently and conducted a "Informational" Zoom Meeting on January 7th in order to keep the Membership up to date.

The Hall is open if a Member needs to sign the out of work list or have any other problem that can only be handled in person, but we encourage everyone to call instead whenever possible. The payments for dues or insurance can be taken over the phone and no credit card fees will be charged at this time.

Health and Welfare: If you have any insurance problems or questions you can contact Carly using the health line on the back of your insurance card. 734-241-6180. Any MRA or Dental/Vision receipts can be mailed, emailed or faxed to the benefit office. Contact information is at bottom of article.

The Active Members should have received some informational packets in the mail recently explaining some of our upcoming insurance changes that were presented at the last Union Meeting. However, we have been experiencing some mail delays. If you have not received this information please contact the Hall, and also please DO NOT dismiss this important information.

In addition, all **Medicare Retirees** should have received their information packets by now. We will be doing informational meetings and phone calls to help in the transition from Local 671 insurance to Labor First and United Health Care. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to give Mike or Carly a call.

We have had a couple of questions from our Medicare Retirees during this transition: Do we still have the \$1000 Dental, Vision, and Hearing Benefit? – YES, you can submit them to the Hall like you always have.

Do we each have to use our own card? – YES, Medicare Retirees and their spouses each have their own United Health Care Member ID# and card; you will need to use each individual card for each person.

Work Opportunities: We continue to get a few much-appreciated travel calls coming in from our sister Locals. If you are considering working this winter, I would get on a job the first chance you get, as it looks like it will be a slow first quarter in Monroe.

Under the Weather: Retiree Rick Sonak has been battling some health issues lately please keep him your thoughts.

Mobile App: Our Mobile App titled "UA Local 671" is available in the App Store for iPhone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card Number). The Password is your book number.

We recently have sent Push Notifications out with important information such as Covid-19 updates and Informational Meeting notices. This mobile app is a great tool to stay current with all the latest information from the Union Hall. PLEASE DOWNLOAD THIS APP SO YOU CAN KEEP UP ON CURRENT INFORMATION THAT THE HALL NEEDS TO GET OUT.

In Closing: The Presidential Inauguration is now behind us and the hope is that it will bring some level of closure to the turmoil we have been experiencing in Washington. Let's all try keep an open mind during this transition period like we normally do during an administration change.

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: mike@uacomment.com
Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: vinnie@uacomment.com

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692



Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: All Union Meetings face-to-face are cancelled until further notice. The Finance Committee and Executive Board will conduct their regularly scheduled monthly meetings. We will conduct a Zoom Meeting in place of a face-to-face membership meeting starting at 6:30 pm on February 9th, 2021. There will be an email with instructions on how to participate in advance of February's union meeting. You can only receive this email if you have given us permission to send you emails. Please call Lori at the Hall, (269) 679-2570, to confirm your email address and/or consent to us sending you emails.

Brothers and Sisters, For those of you who have not heard, Sean Flora is now working for the Michigan Pipe Trades Association as an organizer. Ben Ranger, who is the lead organizer for the Michigan Pipe Trades Association, appointed Sean to his team starting January 1st, 2021. Congratulations to Sean on being recognized and rewarded for his hard work. We wish Sean the best in his new position.

At this time, Local 357 will be looking to hire another full-time Organizer. If you are interested in applying for the position, please call Ken Willcutt at (269) 569-3492 or email kwillcutt@uacomment.com, your resume. Interviews to fill Local 357's Organizer position are scheduled for March 18th.

MEDICAL CLAIMS ISSUES: As a member, TIC International provides a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at 1-888-281-3461. If you are not satisfied with the service you have received, please call me, Ken Willcutt, at (269) 569-3492.

WEBSITE INFORMATION – FRINGES – TIC: Check out the website at www.uacomment.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Members Access Your Information Here, then click on TIC International Corporation and then Register.

This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and Create your own password. Once you have completed all the information – click on the LARGE REGISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.

CHANGE OF STATUS: If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, remarried, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call TIC at the phone number above and Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date.

There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification) Time limits apply for reporting status changes so let the hall know ASAP!

TAX PREP INFORMATION: Dollar amounts WILL BE available February 15th, 2021 for 2020 withholdings & dues paid. If you sign up for the e-mail on the website, you do not need to call the Hall for your deductions because you can view and print

(Continued next column)



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333

LANSING – February's union meeting is cancelled. March's union meeting, March 17, 2021 at 7:30 pm. An announcement will be made at a later date if the meeting will be virtual or in person depending on the Covid circumstance.

The United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters will be holding the 40th General Convention in August 2021. Nominations were held on January 13, 2021 and these are the nominee's listed in the order they were nominated: **Trent Mauk, Andrew Martinez, Ben Wright, Nick Asher, Jeremy Garza, Rob White, Deshon Leek, Dave Mull, Larry Haggerty.**

UA Local 333 Delegate Election Ballots will be in the mail prior to February 01, 2021 and needs a return post-mark dated no later than March 01, 2021. All members eligible to vote will receive a voting ballot.

Weld Classes. (Dates are TBD). If you're interested in taking the weld class call Trent or Diana at 517-323-0333. There is a \$25.00 fee and must be paid before class starts, please call your respective hall to pay for the class.

Lansing's weld class: Tuesday's & Thursday's Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson's weld class: Tuesday's & Thursday's, 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

Battle Creek's weld class: Monday's & Thursday's (KCC) RMTIC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA, as of January 2019, all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired please contact Diana at 517.323.0333. Though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed; between changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it's the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated

If your Med-Gas Installer is going to expire within the next few months please sign up on our website to take the renewal class.

Med-Gas new certification: Please sign up online on our website or contact the Lansing Training Center.

Please make sure you contact your respective hall with address changes, births, deaths, or if you need to change your beneficiaries.

Get well wishes to Sallie O'Connell, the Local is wishing you a very speedy recovery.

Our thoughts and prayers to Jeremy Garza on the loss of his grandmother.

Local 357 cont'd

out your own information. The information that we have is what the contractors have reported on the fringes. If you think there is a discrepancy, then you should check your own pay stubs.

NOTE: HEALTH INSURANCE IS PAID BY THE CONTRACTORS AND IS NOT DEDUCTIBLE.

APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS: The Apprenticeship application process is starting for 2021. Applications must be picked up by the person who is applying starting on Monday, Feb. 1 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. Note that Masks are MANDATORY and only two persons will be allowed in at a time. The completed application along with various documents must be returned, by the person applying, no later than Friday, Feb. 26 at 5:00 pm. Call the Union Hall for further details.

MISCELLANEOUS: Congratulations to the family of Evan Daul on the birth of a baby girl, Loreali.

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to the family of Daniel Critzer on the recent passing of his father. Condolences to the family of Corey Smith on the recent passing of his grandfather. Condolences to the family of Mitchel Morlan on the recent passing of his great grandmother.



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174 COOPERSVILLE – Meeting Notice: ALL-IN-PERSON UNION MEETINGS AND RETIREE BREAKFASTS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. Tuesday February 2nd at 7pm we will broadcast our meeting on the Facebook members group chat and on Zoom (Meeting ID: 885 4962 6530 Passcode: 320323) to discuss nominations for the upcoming UA Convention.

Attention: This paper is to serve as the official notice to the membership.
Condolences: Local #174 would like to offer our sincere condolences to the family of Jerome (Hawkeye) Rogers who recently passed away. Please keep brothers Mike and John and the Roger's family in your thoughts and prayers.

Local Union Office: The office will remain open. To reduce foot traffic in the building we're asking members to conduct business by phone are use the website when possible.

UA Convention: The UA Convention will convene on the week of August 23, 2021. The convention will either take place in San Diego CA in person, be entirely virtual, or a hybrid approach with some delegates participating in person and others virtually.
Eligibility: UA Constitution SEC. 17. No member shall be eligible as a delegate or alternate unless he shall have been a good standing member of the Local Union which he is to represent for at least the two (2) continuous years previous to his election and he remains in good standing from the date of his election through the period of the convention.

Nominations: Nominations will open Tuesday, January 5th and close Friday February 5th. To nominate a person you must send an email to delegate@ua174.org or mail it to the hall to attention: Delegate. Self nominations are permitted and encouraged.

All nominations will be confirmed and eligibility verified by the election committee or president. On Tuesday, February 2nd at 7pm virtual meeting will be held via Zoom (Meeting ID: 885 4962 6530; Passcode: 320323) with the president and election committee to announce current nominations, accept new nominations, announce the date for the close of nominations and answer questions. On Monday, February 8th the final list of nominees will be published in the Building Tradesman, sent out in an email blast, placed on the website and on the members Facebook group.

UA Convention Delegate Nominations as of January 25, 2021: JEREMY RAAPI, TERRY BROWN, JASON MCDIARMID, FRANKIE PAGAN, JASON FINCH, NATHAN PHILLIPS, MARK MANGIONE, JEFFERY C RUMSEY.

Election: The election will take place at the assembly hall on March 2nd from 3pm to 7pm. The election committee will be there to verify eligibility, issue and collect secret ballots. The collection of ballots will be done in accordance COVID restrictions and may include a "drive through" vote. After the results are tabulated they will made known using the same means as nominations.

Our final number of delegates will be determined based off the March cash sheet which is due to the UA by April 15th. Any ties will be settled will be settled by coin flip to take place on April 16, at 3pm. Any protest should be done in accordance with Section 125 of the UA Constitution. Our election committee will be John Ruiter, Dennis Bennett and Tom Whitaker.

COVID-19: The virus is showing up on many jobsites throughout our jurisdiction. Please continue to practice social distancing, wear a mask and wash your hands frequently.

PAC Cards: Since the elimination of prevailing wage, the race to the bottom on wages and benefits for publicly funded projects has begun. Our political focus over the years to come will be electing people who support prevailing wage and wage standards in general. To do that we need to raise our PAC card participation. We currently have less than half of the local contributing to our PAC. Your PAC contribution DOES NOT COME OFF YOUR CHECK. When you sign the PAC card it allows us to move

money from your working dues over to our PAC. Please call Cami today and find out if you have current PAC card on file.

Medicare Retirees: Effective January 1st 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are as follows: Single Medicare \$262.55; Retiree and Spouse Medicare \$525.09; Retiree and Non-Medicare Spouse \$677.55

Short Term Disability: The Local #174 Board of Trustees recently voted to increase the short-term disability amount from \$300 per week to \$400 per week. This increase will be effective September 30th, 2019.

Dispatch: We will be splitting 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: dispatch@ua174.org which both offices have access to. There is a dispatch phone extension that will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retirees Aetna: (888) 290-7241 Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108 Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616) 345-0788

Organizing Update: Please contact Chris Pelton if you know of any jobsites with a non-union plumbing or mechanical contractor or if you are interested in actively assisting with our organizing efforts. There are plenty of opportunities available, ranging from a one-day ride-along with a Business Agent or Organizer all the way up to full blown salting.

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

Jurisdiction: Remember to always call into the local you are traveling to. Do not rely on anyone else to call in for you. They will not get into trouble. It is the member who is working in another local who has not checked in that gets into trouble. Please contact Ryan Bennett if you see another local's contractors/members working in our jurisdiction.

Contact Info: Please make sure we have your updated contact information. Check your info on the website or by calling Cami at the Union office.

Retiree Breakfast: Cancelled until further notice.

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.

Labor Councils: - Kent Ionia - 3rd Wednesday of the month / Labor Temple 918 Benjamin / 5:30pm

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

All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details.

FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR (TIC) West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275 (517) 321-7502 Phone (855) 40-PLUMB Toll Free (517) 321-7508 Fax

BENEFITS WEBSITE: westmichiganplumbers.org is the TIC website where you can check your contributions and benefit information. Click on benefit inquiry. Your username is your social security number. The password for first time users is

K4GHB39 (case sensitive). You will then be prompted to create a permanent password.

Forms: The forms for Dollar Bank Reimbursement and Sub Pay are on the www.ua174.org website under the Members Only section and Forms and Links tab.

Contract Requirements: Please remember Section 5.7 of our collective bargaining agreement states, "Persons called from the unemployed list will report to work with a UA/WMMCA issued drug card." Section 18.5 states, "... employees ... shall be required to maintain the following Safety Training Certifications: First Aid/CPR, Bloodborne Pathogens and OSHA 10." Please make sure you follow our agreement.

Out of work list: Please remember to call extension 17 when you are laid off. You must call line 17 to be put on the available to work list. When you leave a message, please speak clearly. Any member who goes to work without a referral is in violation of our Collective Bargaining Agreement and Article XXXI of our Constitution and By-Laws. Please contact the Union Hall to find out your position on the out of work list.

Union Hall extension numbers: Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext:12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext.14, Chris Pelton Organizer ext.15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager 11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Shumaker ext. 30.

Training News. **Announcement: Effective Monday, January 11, 2021, the Training Center is reopened to in-person training. If you were enrolled in a night class at the time the Training Center was required to shut down, you will be contacted with information on completing the class you were enrolled in.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next class will be held February 18. This will be the 3rd Thursday in February rather than the second, due to a schedule conflict for the instructor.

Open Welding will resume on Wednesday nights starting January 20 from 5pm – 9pm. Due to class size limits, you will need to call the Training Office to register so we can limit the number of participants to follow the State mandated guidelines.

Night classes will be added to the schedule based on student demand and instructor availability.

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

Please contact Jeff or Nicole if you have questions. Call the training office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Jeff)/Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30.

Or via text Jeff (231)923-8140 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

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

Please contact Jeff or Nicole if you have questions. Call the training office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Jeff)/Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30.

Or via text Jeff (231)923-8140 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

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Union leaders welcome Biden, but building trades blurt out 'c'mon, man!'

By Mark Gruenberg
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) — As might be expected, union leaders warmly welcomed the Jan. 20 inauguration of Democratic President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, whom organized labor helped push to victory last fall.

But they split between endorsement and silence on a main theme of Biden's inaugural address: Reaching for unity in a politically, culturally and ideologically deeply split country.

A typical comment came in an early tweet from AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka: "Today we celebrate #Inauguration Day. We look forward to working with @JoeBiden and @KamalaHarris to enact a pro-worker agenda."

He later posted labor's goals on the fed's website, at www.workersfirstagenda.org and urged people to sign at a link there, demanding Biden and Congress enact its measures.

"Working people have been struggling far too long against unfair wages, benefit cuts and attacks on our right to form a union in our workplaces. That ends now," declared Trumka.

"Our Workers First Agenda is about all of us, with no exclusions, because the real recovery working families need, expect and deserve is impossible without equity," Trumka said, omitting unity.

The unity theme ran all through Biden's address, given after Chief Justice John Roberts swore him into office at 11:49 am Eastern Time, 11 minutes before Biden's term officially began. And while Biden's Oval Office predecessor, Republican Donald Trump, boycotted the ceremony, his Vice President, Mike Pence, led prominent party members there.

"Here we stand where days ago, a riotous mob tried to override our democracy," Biden said of the Trump-incited Jan. 6 invasion of the Capitol, where thousands aimed to keep the auto-crat Republican in power, despite the results of last November's election.

"It did not happen. It will not happen. It will never happen," Biden declared. But "disagreement must not lead to disunion, and I promise that I will be a president for all Americans — those that did not support me and those that did."

While "speaking of unity may sound to some like a foolish fantasy... We must end this uncivil war that pits red against blue, rural against urban, conservative against liberal. We can do this if we open our hearts, show a little tolerance and stand in the other person's shoes."

Biden also invited, indeed urged, the U.S. people to join him in achieving that goal.

He also promised listeners that his government, unlike Trump's regime, would be one of truth, not lies (the *Washington Post* counted more than 30,000 lies by Trump during his term in office). And he promised again to tackle big-ticket issues, starting with overcoming the coronavirus pandemic, immediately. Others include pulling the U.S. out of the pandemic-caused depression, striving to end racial injustice, and combatting global warming.

"The dream of justice deferred will be denied no longer," Biden stated. There was "the rise of white supremacy and domestic terrorism, which we must confront and we will defeat."

Union leaders by and large took the same welcoming tack as Trumka did, often pairing it with goals they want the Biden-Harris administration to achieve.

"Today @JoeBiden and @KamalaHarris are ready to build a brighter future for our country's hardworking families. America's essential workers need action to protect them on the frontlines and @UFCW will work with the @WhiteHouse to deliver," the United Food and Commercial Workers tweeted.

That union is especially invested in anti-pandemic measures, as its 1.3 million members are heavily migrant, workers of color, or both, and include hundreds of thousands of grocery workers and meat and poultry plant packers.

All have been declared "essential," and are more-exposed to the virus than other worker

groups. Trump specifically ordered the packing plant workers back on the job even as their bosses often refused to protect them from the virus's spread by providing masks, sanitizers, gloves and physical distancing. Tens of thousands have become ill and hundreds have died.

"Today is a new day, and all Americans must unite behind President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris as they prepare to lead our country through unprecedented challenges," UFCW President Marc Perrone later elaborated. "Regardless of who any of us voted for, now is the time to heal and bridge our political divisions. We are all Americans first."

Trumka, Teachers (AFT) President Randi Weingarten and Machinists President Bob Martinez all paired optimism with pro-worker agendas.

"The Machinists and our 600,000 members, no matter how they voted, are counting on this administration to lift our nation out of this time of despair and bring jobs, dignity and democracy back home," Martinez said.

"We can all look forward to an administration that will set out to unite instead of divide. Now is the time to relearn how to respect those around us, regardless of our race, religion, gender or any other identity. This is America — and opportunity knocks for a great nation.

"We must return to putting the interests of the people ahead of corporations. We must advance the livelihoods and futures of working people and our communities.

"That means keeping workers safe, making it easier to form and join a union, affordable healthcare, secure retirements and much more. It means expanding 'Buy American' policies, fair trade and bringing jobs back home to the skilled and dedicated workers right here in America. It means real relief for the aerospace, defense, airline, manufacturing, healthcare workers and more who have bravely kept our nation and world moving through the COVID-19 pandemic," Martinez said.

By helping Biden and Harris win, "We proved once again the power of working people standing together," Amalgamated Transit Union President John Costa said. "Now is the time to help Joe Biden Build Back Better in the first 100 days to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and pass meaningful legislation that lifts up working people, expands public transit, and strengthens the labor movement.

"Now is the time to come together to pursue economic, social, and racial justice for all," added Costa, whose 200,000 members include a large share of workers of color.

AFT's Weingarten spent a whole long e-mail text detailing positive pro-worker and pro-people provisions of Biden's proposed \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill, named the American Rescue Act. She urged members to e-mail or call lawmakers and demand immediate passage.

The key provisions, Weingarten said, would raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour, expand paid family and medical leave, add \$1,400 per adult to the \$600 checks already sent and add \$400 in weekly federal jobless benefits to whatever states pay currently pandemic-sided workers.

Becky Pringle, president of the independent National Education Association, the nation's largest union, contented herself with a one-paragraph congratulatory statement: "Educators are encouraged not only by Biden's leadership, but also in knowing there is finally a true partner in the White House who will listen, value the ideas, and act in the best interest of students, educators, and families."

Biden's spouse, Dr. Jill Biden, is a longtime teacher and NEA member.

Service Employees President Mary Kay Henry, whose union has been the major backer of the Fight for \$15 and a Union drive among low-wage workers nationwide, concentrated on that goal — and on passing the Protect The Right To Organize Act.

"Today working people will take a moment to mark how far we've come, but tomorrow morning we will double down on the

work that still needs to be done to ensure everyone can join a union, regardless of where they work or what job they do," she said.

"Essential workers have a clear demand: Respect us, protect us, pay us. Our new president has called on Congress to pass a \$15 minimum wage, and to work with him to ensure caregiving jobs are good union jobs and to defeat the coronavirus. SEIU members and the millions more united in the Fight for \$15 and a Union will not stop until this vision is a reality."

The independent United Electrical Workers did not turn the other cheek against the Trump-inspired invaders of Jan. 6.

"The growth of far-right and white-supremacist groups is not only a danger to our democracy, and to the lives and safety of people of color, it is also a roadblock to the working-class unity that we need to win economic justice and a decent standard of living," UE warned.

The answer, the often-outspoken UE said, is to hit the streets "to push for the policies we need, using tactics such as mass marches, strikes, and civil disobedience, including occupations of workplaces.

"By focusing on issues that directly impact working people and their families, the labor movement can begin to heal divisions amplified during the (Trump) administration," UE said.

Building trades frustrated at cancelation of Keystone pipeline, jobs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — One of President Biden's go-to responses to hearing something he objects to is 'c'mon man!'

That was essentially the response of building trades union across the nation - not to Biden's inauguration, but to one of his first-day executive orders - canceling the the Keystone XL Pipeline and the jobs it would have created.

NABTU President Sean McGarvey responded to the new president and the KXL cancellation as follows:

"Our congratulations to President Biden and Vice President Harris on their inauguration. The weight of the country is on your shoulders — godspeed.

"North America's Building Trades Unions are deeply disappointed in the decision to cancel the Keystone XL permit on the President's first official day in office. Environmental ideologues have now prevailed, and over a thousand union men and women have been terminated from employment on the project.

"On a historic day that is filled with hope and optimism for so many Americans and people around the world, tens of thousands of workers are left to wonder what the future holds for them.

"In the midst of a pandemic that has claimed 400 thousand American lives and has wreaked havoc on the economic security and standard of living of tens of millions more, we must all stand in their shoes and acknowledge the uncertainty and anxiety this government action has caused.

"NABTU's position remains unchanged. Our unions support an all of the above energy strategy that supports and grows the middle class and those desperately trying to reach it. Addressing climate change is a priority for all of us, but a truly sustainable future cannot continue to dismiss the economic sustainability of working families. We welcome this Administration and the architects of the opposition for this and hundreds of other projects to engage with us on a rational national strategy going forward that does not treat workers, their families, and entire communities as an afterthought, but makes them equal to economic and climate imperatives.

"As the hard but necessary work begins to unite a bitterly divided nation, NABTU will continue to advocate for our members, all construction workers and indeed all of America's economic, energy and national security."



KLA rises in Ann Arbor Twp.

CALIFORNIA-BASED capital equipment company KLA and its partners at Barton Malow, its subcontractors and the building trades are moving along construction of a new 230,000 square-foot second headquarters building for the company. The \$150 million investment in the Ann Arbor Technology Park just east of U.S. 23 will allow KLA to expand its workforce to 600 at the site within the next several years. Construction started on the project last year, and it will be used as a research and development hub. KLA President and CEO Rick Wallace is a University of Michigan alum and has been involved with the School of Engineering for the past decade. "What really drove it for me is when I was graduating from U of M, I knew I was going to move and I liked Ann Arbor and I didn't really want to move," said Wallace. "And so, I always thought, if you had compelling work here, there's a lot of talent that actually wants to stay here." A rendering of the completed project is below.



Building Trades Council's Walsh a union-OK'd addition to Biden cabinet

By Brian Young
UComm Blog

President-elect Biden has continued to fill out his cabinet by announcing the selection of Boston Mayor Marty Walsh to be his Labor Secretary. Before Walsh was elected Mayor, he was a union leader coming out of Laborers Local 223.

Walsh first joined Local 223 when he was just 21 years old. He worked his way up in the union to become the Local's President. He then was elected as secretary-treasurer and general agent of the Boston Metropolitan District Building Trades Council, before being elected their President in 2011.

He served in that position until 2013 when he announced his run for Mayor. Additionally, Walsh served from 1997 until 2013 as a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Walsh became a frontrunner for the position when the AFT and AFSCME, the two largest affiliates of the AFL-CIO, announced their support for him. "Marty is a star, and he could hit the ground running as far as dealing with the issues and impact on working families," AFSCME President Lee Saunders said earlier this month.

Walsh beat out a number of extremely qualified candidates for the position including Rep. Andy Levin (D-Mich.), former Deputy Labor Secretary Seth Harris, California Labor Secretary Julie Su and AFL-CIO Chief Economist Bill Spriggs. With so many qualified candidates, the AFL-CIO decided to not issue a formal endorsement before the selection. However just minutes after Walsh was selected, they issued a statement saying:

"Boston Mayor Marty Walsh will be an exceptional labor secretary for the same reason he was an outstanding mayor: he carried the tools. As a longtime union member, Walsh knows that collective bargaining is essential to building back better by combating inequality, beating COVID-19 and expanding opportunities for immigrants, women and people of color.

"He will have the ear of the White House, the Cabinet and Congress as we work to increase union density and create a stronger, fairer America. From the Boston Building and Construction Trades Council to the Massachusetts State House to the mayor's

office to his own personal journey with overcoming addiction, Marty Walsh has always been a fighter who understands the power of working people standing together for a better life."

Walsh will be tasked with some important roles in the Biden Administration. On the campaign trail, Biden promised to be the most labor-friendly President in U.S. history and has promised to push important legislation like the PRO Act and a repeal of Right to Work, so it would be expected that Walsh will have his hands full instituting new worker rules that strengthen worker rights.

Walsh will also be tasked with rolling back many of the Trump era regulations that were passed to make it harder for workers to organize, like allowing unions decertification just 45 days after a union vote.

He will also be entering an agency that has been neglected over the past four years. One important department, OSHA, has faced a significant loss of inspectors and has come under enormous criticism during the pandemic for failing to protect workers and investigate complaints against companies that violated safety rules and COVID protocols. Walsh will need to rebuild this agency to better protect

working people.

"Marty will hit the ground running as a relentless worker advocate and ally, both inside the administration and in the public sphere," said American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten. "He will fight for dignity and respect for all workers, including for their right to unionize, for health and safety standards, to raise the minimum wage and to ensure workers and their unions have an opportunity to thrive. And he will help reverse President Trump's four years of callous and craven attacks.

"Champions aren't made in gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them: A desire, a dream, a vision. They have to have last-minute stamina, they have to be a little faster, they have to have the skill and the will. But the will must be stronger than the skill."

— Muhammad Ali (1942 - 2016)

"When you have once seen the glow of happiness on the face of a beloved person, you know that a man can have no vocation but to awaken that light on the faces surrounding him. In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer."

—Albert Camus (1913 - 1960)

Tax Time?

When it's tax time, it's time to call Kuderik at 248 835 7755.

- Over 20 years experience in Union worker returns
- Family members over 50 years in Local 636
- Maximize your deductions and returns
- Electronic filing for fast refund
- Call today to begin tax planning now

KUDERIK
AND ASSOCIATES

Kuderik and Associates PLLC
Certified Public Accountants
32121 Woodward Avenue
Suite 202, Royal Oak MI 48073
www.kuderikcpa.com



Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

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

****REMINDER**** Meetings are no longer held at the Plumbers Hall and are now held at Local 80's Union Hall.



TIM MULLIGAN

Southfield, 48076.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2021 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021, 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The Feb. 15, 2021 meeting has been CANCELLED. We will be going month to month for 2021. Please keep an eye on the paper for an updated schedule. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

SUB CHANGES: Effective immediately you will need to start sending your unemployment proof to smw80subfund@gmail.com or fax it to 248-557-0297. Your unemployment proof needs to be in by 2pm on Tuesdays to be paid on that Friday. Local 80 will be handling all of your proof now. If you have any questions please call us at 248-557-7575.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: James Dandurand, Anthony Nevedal, Jerald Cokewell, Dale Schmidt, Hayden Harper, Daniel T. Quinn, Lloyd Sherman, Mark Nadolski, Michael Riley, Janos Nacs, Michael Flora, Jeffrey Schmidt, Brian Cleveland, Gary Kushniruk, Brendon Barnum, Mike Wiedbusch, Christopher Cosgrove, Robert Moore, Michael Frasson, Scott Denver, Mark Kapala, Thomas Mears, Layne Stewart, Jason Lonsbury, Steve Wiseman, Nathaniel Hawk, Joel Borgula, Dan Schemanske, Eric Ketelhut, Rodney Fisher, Chris Malyz, Victor Nieves, Charles Holsing, John Foley, Matthew Stevenson, Ray Yee & John Kruemmer.

DUES PAYMENTS: YOUR DUES PAYMENTS ARE DUE PRIOR TO THE FIRST OF THE MONTH. The books will close at the end of the business day on the last day of the month. **Payments made on the 1st of the month are considered late for that month. There will be no exception, once the books are closed it cannot be undone.** Members will receive a text message dues reminder prior to the end of the month. If you are not receiving our text messaging please call the hall. **REMINDER:** We ONLY take Visa, Master Card & Discover and do not accept American Express.

READY TO WORK: SMANCA Detroit and Local 80 are in progress of developing a mobile smart app which will allow access to the Ready to Work program from your smart phone. The app is in development for both Apple and Android systems; once it is completed (est. early November) an announcement will be emailed, hard mailed and shared with you at your union meetings as well as published in the Bldg. Trades newspaper.

In complement, for the 2020 Ready to Work stipend requirement you will only need to download the app on your smart phone, review and confirm your contact information (email, mailing address, employer, list of your accomplished training).

When you download the app and review your contact information, the program will inform SMANCA Detroit of your interaction and this part of the stipend requirement will be completed.

There will be no custom Ready to Work modules required for the 2020 stipend.

In the meanwhile of receiving notice the Ready to Work app

is available, it is important to make sure you have all other stipend requirements completed, these are still the same:

Current MUST Drug Test; Current MUST 18 Safety Modules; OSHA 30; Current FA CPR certification. Deadline for stipend requirements is March 31, 2021.

For members who do not have a smart phone, contact Support 248-649-5450 and accommodations will be made for you.

BENEFICIARY REMINDER: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your Local 80 and international benefits. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your spouse first and if there is no spouse to your children UNLESS you designate otherwise in writing with each specific benefit. Depending on your classification you could have benefits due to your heirs from Local 80 pension, insurance, annuity and from international and SASMI. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary unless you want it to go to your spouse or children. As always seek the advice of an attorney.

ADDRESS CHANGES: If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the tradesman paper. You will need to call BeneSys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well, that is not done at the hall.

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. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International.

WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each members name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.

WORK ASSIGNMENTS: Everyone must obtain a work assignment prior to starting work. If you fail to do so you could be written up on charges.

LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off, even if you only work one day. These are the By-Law rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list 14 days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

LAY-OFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES: Lay off slips must accompany all applications for sub pay. Without lay off slips you cannot collect sub pay. It is the member's responsibility to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue one in accordance with our contract.

S.U.B. BENEFITS: Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

OUT-OF-WORKLIST: You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. benefits or SASMI. Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and Sept. 1-20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work (Continued next column)



Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers 7

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

The next **Statewide Meeting** will be, **February 11, 2021** at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 1- March 11th -6:00 p.m.
*Zone 2 – March 16th -6:00 p.m.
*Zone 3- (Saginaw) – March 10th -6:00 p.m.
*Zone 3- (TCity) March 18th -6:00 p.m.
*Zone 4- March 9th -6:00 p.m.
*Zone 5 –February 4th –6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2021. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.

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

ZONE 1 Info: Work in the Zone 1 area is still going strong. If you do get laid off, remember to inform James or Eric of your employment status.

Apprentices please remember to also inform Kevin at the Zone 1 Training Center. If you are experiencing any problems with unemployment, please contact your Business Agent. If you are experiencing any trouble with your insurance, please contact your Business Agent or call BeneSys at (866) 288-7037.

Any Journey person interested in upgrade classes, please contact Kevin at the Training Center (269) 781-7183. Please note that class availability depends on the level of interest. The Zone 1 Retiree meetings are still pending per the restrictions set forth in the MDHHS Order. **In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.**

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 is holding steady. Call if you are not working. Next meeting is May 18, 2021 at 6pm at the Grand Rapids hall. **Thanks Dave**

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the Zone 3 area is slow at this time. I have many guys traveling to Detroit and Lansing for shutdown work. We have

Local 80, con't

week due to weather you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the beginning or the end of a layoff. You may NOT collect if you are not laid off. You must complete a sub application at the hall, provide a pay stub for that week and the hall will submit it to the fund office. If you are not laid off and it is due to weather the company MUST provide written documentation that it was weather related.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program.

Ulliance is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com.

Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.

NOTARY: We have a notary public available at the hall at no charge. Please call to confirm availability.

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Classes Available: Seats for the Tuesday evening and Saturday First Aid Classes are available. Call the school to sign up before the March 31 Ready To Work deadline.

Seats are also available for the 4-week Trimble Total Station class. The class start March 3, 2021 for four Wednesdays.

projects coming up in the spring, looks like we should be able to keep everyone working. Make sure to keep updated on your OSHA 30 must modules and Mshaw so we can keep everyone employed. Hopefully everyone is staying safe. **Thank you, Wayne Stover**

Zone 3 Info: (Traverse City) Our next Traverse City Meeting will be Thursday, March 18th at 6:00PM. Please continue to follow the Trades paper for updates. It looks like 2021 is going to be another busy year with plenty of work opportunities. Hopefully we can schedule some Retiree Breakfast soon. **Thank You, Travis Eastman**

Zone 4 Info: Work in Zone 4 has slowed a bit with winter here; we only have a few members on the out of work list. Spring looks to be good with lots of good size projects. We will be trying to have an in person meeting in March, masks will be required in the union hall/training center. Anyone who is not working and has not contacted me, please do so. **Your Brother, Larry Kinzie**

ZONE 5 Info I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. Work in the area is still up and down at this time. Some projects are expected to start picking up closer to spring at this time. **Respectfully Greg Faust**

SASMI Information – Zone 3 and 5: Underemployment – Filing for period 2020-B is from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Eligible members who worked less than 750 hours from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 may receive an underemployment benefit. Health and welfare benefits paid on your behalf will be deducted from your benefit. NOTE: Members who received an Emergency Advance Benefit must file for Underemployment to receive the remainder of that benefit for the stabilization period.

In addition, you must provide copies of all W-2 forms for the entire year of 2020.

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

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

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

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

CONTACTUS: 4931 Contec Drive/Lansing, MI 48910 – 517-882-4064

Local 7 Officers:
Samuel Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) 517-882-4064

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

James Callahan (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-342-8842

David Rutz (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-458-2313

Wayne Stover (Saginaw) 989-692-0002

Travis Eastman (Traverse City) 231-943-5150

Larry Kinzie (Agent-Flint) 810-785-6831

Greg Faust (Agent-Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288

“If you would cure anger, do not feed it. Say to yourself: ‘I used to be angry every day; then every other day; now only every third or fourth day.’ When you reach thirty days offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the gods.”
– Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD)

“Look twice before you leap.”
–Charlotte Bronte (1816 - 1855)



Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 10, 2021.**



PAUL GUALDONI

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

The **E-Board/Stewards** meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall. ****Per the CDC guidelines, masks must be worn and social distancing must be followed during all meetings.**

CONDOLENCES: Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of Local 292 Retiree Jeff Arbaugh, whose wife Jeanne passed away January 21, 2021. Please keep the Arbaugh family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

NEW PRESCRIPTION CHANGES: The Board of Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Health Fund (the Fund) is introducing a new prescription drug benefits program effective January 1, 2021. The new program will be administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (replacing EnvisionRx).

Since Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan already administers our Simply Blue PPO Medical Plan, your medical and prescription drugs will be integrated and coordinated, which should make it easier for you and lead to better care.

You should be receiving your new Blue Cross cards in the mail soon. You will use the new card for both medical and prescription drug coverage. If you do not receive your cards, contact the union hall so we can advise BeneSys.

These changes are for active members and pre-65 retired members only.

SHEETMETALSCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Time is running short to get your application in for the SMART scholarship. Application deadline is February 15, 2021. Please follow the link for information regarding obtaining an Application Request Form, which can either be downloaded or completed online. smart-union.org/sheet-metal-scholarship-fund

RETIREES NOTICE: Dueto Covid-19 and restrictions placed for social gatherings, as well as the health and safety of our retirees and their families, the retirees' luncheons have been cancelled until further notice. We will notify when luncheons will resume. Stay healthy and safe.

Please contact Fred Engelman at fred_e1@yahoo.com if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

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

SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS: To access your MUST account, please go to www.mustonline.org or access it through the “links” tab at www.sheetmetal292.com. Members please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact Laura or Lee Ann at the Union Hall. With the amount of upcoming in-town work, all current Journeymen and Apprentices should ensure they have 18 safety mods completed and drug test should be current.

*****The NMA addendum for most of the upcoming projects states: 1) Prior to, but within thirty (30) days of referral for employment to the project site, all craft persons will: A) Attend a Project Specific Orientation facilitated by the Contractor at mutually agreed upon times and locations; B) Before being admitted to the job site, all contractors and subcontractor employees having active involvement in job site construction activity, must be current and maintain a current MUST or equivalent status regarding the Substance Abuse Program.**

Prior to the start of work on the project the employee must provide confirmation of negative results to a MUST Substance Abuse Test or equivalent test

within the last 30 days.

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

SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST: Many members have been receiving Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation be returned to the Fund office in a timely manner.

By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

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).

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

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

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

FACEBOOK & TWITTER: Be sure to check our website – www.sheetmetal292.com; Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 and Twitter - @SMW292, for updates and information.

NOTARY PUBLIC: For your convenience, we now have a Notary Public on site at the union hall. Notary services are free of charge to our members.

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 certs) with the 4 Plus logo, along with hard hat stickers and bragging rights. If you would like to be a “4-plus” member contact your Local 292 Training Center at: 313-623-9390 (Dave) or Quintin 248.495.6764.

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class February 6th, 20th and 27th.

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

Note: Anyone that 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.



What a pane

GLAZIERS AND GLASSWORKERS Local 357 members move panes of glass and their enclosures at the gate of the University of Michigan's Central Classroom Building in Ann Arbor. They're employed by Madison Heights Glass.

Laborers' International Union of North America
LIUNA! LOCAL 1191
Feel the Power

Laborers Local 1191

DETROIT—UNION HALLOPERATIONS- Laborers' Local 1191 has remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Local 1191 is making every effort to keep our members and staff safe during this time by limiting person-to-person contact at the Local Union Hall. Thanking you in advance and please follow the COVID-19 recommendations to stay safe and healthy.

Monthly Membership Meetings: We continue to monitor new orders and directives pertaining to COVID-19. Decisions about membership meetings will be determined and relayed to you as they approach. Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays), next membership meeting will on the 5th of February, 2021. **Reminder:** Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.

Union Dues For 2021: Effective January 1, 2021 regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00.

Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org!!! Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instructions... Please also check out our website and "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

NOTICE: 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 shall be deemed suspended by the International Union without notice.

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. Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!! To better serve our membership, we are accepting Credit & Debit payments.

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

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 visit the training school website 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 will still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include: Asbestos Awareness-Silica Awareness-Infectious Disease Awareness-Respirator Awareness-Hazard Communication-Blood borne Pathogens Awareness-Covid-19 Awareness-Lead Awareness.

NOTE: Classes & Certifications contractors have been asking for are: OSHA 30, ASBESTOS & LEAD AWARENESS, HOISTING & RIGGING, PIPELINE SAFETY, CLASS A CDL LICENSE, ASBESTOS REMOVAL SUPERVISORS LICENCE, CONFINED SPACE PERMIT REQUIRED, GRADE CHECKING BLUEPRINT READING & MEASURING TOOLS, GPS LOCATION. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not! FYI: 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.

Referral List: Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1-4 pm and 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. Also be sure to Check & Update your Skills regularly.

Retirees: Retiree Council's monthly meetings have been cancelled until further notice due to COVID-19.

Members are urged to report new project starts to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work.

CONTACT NUMBERS
 Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension & Vacation)
Telephone: (877) 645-2267 Fax: (517) 321-7508
 Website: www.michiganlaborers.org
 Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149
 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension) (248) 641-4942
 Fax: (248) 813-9898

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare) (800) 228 0048
 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Vacation) (877) 645-2267

Website: www.metrodetroitlaborers.org
BENEFICIARY REMINDER: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds.

Death Certificates: 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.

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

"The most important work you and I will ever do will be within the walls of our own homes."
 —Harold B. Lee (1899 - 1973)

"You have never done enough, so long as it is still possible that you have something of value to contribute."
 —Dag Hammarskjöld (1905 - 1961)



Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – To combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members to continue to work safe, and if you feel sick contact a doctor immediately.

Any retirees wanting to go to work, please call the office.

The Funds Trustees have waived the 79-hour rule.

All members should have received a letter from our International regarding the Asbestos Exposure Scientific Study. For more information on how to participate in this study, please contact Business Manager Patrick Welch at the main Local 47 Office number: 517-708-0665

Per the Rules and Procedures:

Members must notify the office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed.

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked. Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

OSHA 10: Local 47 will be offering OSHA 10 to any Active Member who is not current with the program. The course is done online, so if you wish to take the course please contact the Local Union office with your email address and we will be more than happy to set it up for you. If you do not have a computer at home, you are welcome to come to the Local Union Office to take the course.

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. Local 47 has been receiving a lot of returned mail from our members. We ask that if you have a change of address or phone number to please call the Local Union Office right away so we can update your information throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International. It is very important to make sure your contact information is always update with Local 47.

Anyone interested in joining the newly formed Breath Of Life Committee is asked to please call the Local Union Office.

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

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds

6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275

Toll Free Number: (800) 323-8079

Telephone Number: (517) 321-7502

Fax Number: (517) 321-7508

Josh Kroell will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Josh is the new Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be reached by phone at 989-385-2671

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 (10) days from the end of the current work week."

Good and Welfare: Get well to all our sick and injured members.



Abatement Workers Local 207

Abatement Workers Local 207

TAYLOR – There are a lot of upcoming projects slated for late winter so be prepared for work during a time when traditionally work is slowing down.



KEVIN MEAGHER

When you do return to work, follow all required Covid guidelines that may be in place for certain sites. Remember to call in if you are unemployed for help with future placement. Updated, working telephone numbers are necessary to help you with work placement. Do not get caught without the necessary current job site credentials, although several state agencies have relaxed renewal requirements due to the pandemic.

The General Office still has a ban on Union Meeting and Elections. Our current election process is still on hold until an ok is given to proceed. All members will be notified by mail when the election can resume.

Work in other areas of the region have been picking up over the last couple of weeks in Ohio and West Virginia. Winter outages in all areas in the region are on the horizon so make sure if you can travel that you make sure to get licensed as soon as possible.

With most state agencies working from home during this pandemic filling out on-line renewals is the way to go. They are processing much quicker than traditional mail in applications. If you have any questions about on-line applications or what states you may want to get a license for do not hesitate to call the office or my cell. We are looking at scheduling a new initial class for November so please if you can recommend anyone that you know can handle this work have them call the office to get an application filled out and sent in so we can get them into the next class.

UPCOMING ASBESTOS TRAINING CLASSES: Asbestos Supervisor Refresher January 17th with a new 40 hour Initial Scheduled for Feb. 3-7th.

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

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

— Classes begin promptly at 8AM and end at 4PM, followed by a Lead Awareness Update.

If you are due to expire and need one of these refreshers now, please call the Taylor Office (1-800-207-5622) to register.

— Class sizes are being limited due to state guidelines currently in place.

BE SAFE, WEAR YOUR MASKS, & FOLLOW THE SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES!

"We don't get offered crises, they arrive."

—Elizabeth Janeway

"We didn't lose the game; we just ran out of time."

—Vince Lombardi (1913 - 1970)



Local 25 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD – **RE-MINDER:** We continue to be under the directive of the International Union and pursuant to that directive, the FEBRUARY 2021 UNION MEETING has been cancelled.

Continue to monitor the Facebook page for updates.



CURT MCGLONE

UNION ELECTIONS: Election ballots have been mailed to eligible voting members. Please mark your ballot and return it as soon as possible. Ballots must be received by February 15, 2021 to have your vote count.

WEBSITE: The new website is up and running. It can be located at: <https://heatfrostinsulators.org>.

APPAREL: New Local 25 apparel is available at the Union Hall. New items include: knit hats and beanies, new hi-vis short and long sleeved t-shirts and hi-vis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

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

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

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

S.U.B. FUND: Please be reminded, in order to receive a S.U.B. Fund check on Friday, all paperwork must be submitted to the Office no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday.

SUBFUND TIME LIMITATION: Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 30 days of receipt of said State Unemployment check.

Any request for a benefit payment past the 30 days will be denied per the Plan Document.

BENESYS: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to **get the name of the person providing you information.** Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members. In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

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



Over 40 years of quality Administrative Services

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

THE FULL SERVICE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

Health and Welfare Plans

Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Defined Contribution Pension Plans

Claims Processing

Supplemental Unemployment Plans

HRA's, HSA's, FSA's

Vacation Plans

Eligibility Processing

Trust Fund Accounting

VEBA Administration

Web Applications

COBRA Administration

HIPAA Compliance

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

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Columbia, MD	Phoenix, AZ	Seattle, WA
Denver, CO	Pleasanton, CA	Troy, MI
Des Moines, IA	Portland, OR	Washington, DC
Hagerstown, MD	Riverport, MO	West Covina, CA
Las Vegas, NV	San Jose, CA	Youngstown, OH
Louisville, KY	Salt Lake City, UT	

www.benesys.com | (877) 923-6379 | info@benesys.com

DETROIT ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 58 IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58 DETROIT – Stay tuned for information on the next General Membership Meeting. We thank you for your continued compliance with COVID Safety and remind you to MASK UP!

Electrical Industry Training Center is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at http://www.detroitetc.org/continuing-education/

Local 58 Dues Information: Dues should be paid by the first day of the quarter. You can pay your dues with an APP. Go to Apple/Google Play and download the IBEW 58 APP.

Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund: The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:00 pm

The 18th Annual Ken Fitzhenry Super Bowl Raffle is starting. Tickets are \$20.00 and all proceeds benefit Local 58 Benevolent Fund. Grand prize: 65" TV and stadium recliner!

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021 at 5:30 PM. The Wobbly Kitchen is up and running again and we are assisting them every 2nd and 4th Sunday with food prep and distribution at Cass Park.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 pm.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The 2021 EWMC Virtual National Conference was a success. Thank you to all of our delegates. The recorded workshops, presentations, PowerPoints, etc. are scheduled to be posted on the website (ibew-ewmc.org) for members to access.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

IBEW Local 58's RENEW Virtual Town Hall: IBEW Local 58's RENEW Committee (Reach Out and Engage Next-Generation Electrical Workers) invites you to join our Virtual Town Hall via zoom on Tuesday, 2/23/2021 6:30 pm featuring our Benefits Director E. Craig Young.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee will now be meeting monthly immediately after the Safety committee meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month.

The Political Action Committee (PAC) meets the 1st Wednesday of each month Via Zoom. To be added to our email list please contact Jeannette Bradshaw (313-408-1287).

Local 58's Women's Committee- We will continue having our regular monthly meetings on ZOOM as needed. Please watch for emails with further updates and hopefully we will be meeting in person soon.

The Retirees Annual Florida Luncheon: Due to the uncertainty caused by the Covid-19 virus no plans have been made for the 2021 Florida Annual Luncheon.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association: Happy New Year! As we move into 2021, time to pay annual dues of \$8 per person, for the year. Please send your dues to Ray Owen (checks payable to the "Retirees Association"), 428 Welch Rd, Northville 48167.

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

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Paul R. Baldes, Michael T. Horgan, Randolph L. Maki, and William Sturm.

Members that have Passed Away: Martin V. Brogley Jr, pension member, 56 year IBEW membership; James M. Butler, Son of the late pension member, former Business Manager of IBEW Local 58 Thomas Butler, Brother to JIW Gregory Butler & Pension member Robert Butler, Uncle to JIW's Shea Butler, Evan Butler, Thomas Butler, & Brandon Butler, Brother-in-law to JIW Jason Doyen, Cousin to JIW's Thomas Shea, Bill Boland, Pension member Robert Eddy, & Tech I Nathan Nunnull; Walter A. Mills, pension member, 56 year IBEW membership; Mary Patricia "Pat" Peters, Widow of the late pension member Edward Peters, Mother to pension members Mark & Robin Peters; Jacquelyn D. Shaw, Mother to Apprentice Inside Wireman Larico Andres. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

IBEW Local 692 BAY CITY, MI

IBEW Local 692 BAY CITY – Message from the Business Manager. After careful consideration, the Union Hall will re-open to foot traffic on February 1, 2021.

Please be vigilant in your efforts to stay healthy and safe from Covid-19. Local 692 continues to have more and more members and their families affected by this pandemic by the week.

The February monthly membership meeting has been cancelled due to the latest Michigan Department of Health and Human Service order. My plan is to resume these meetings as soon as safely possible.

Work Report. With resolution finally coming to the presidential election, the work picture is beginning to clear up.

2021 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month

2020 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month

Organizers Report. The membership development team here at Local 692 continues to reach out to those workers in the industry not represented by the IBEW.

Retirees Lunch. All retiree's lunches have been postponed.

Fringe Benefits. REMINDER: if you have recently gotten married, divorced, had children, etc. make sure your beneficiaries have been updated accordingly.

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.

RENEW Committee. IBEW Local 692 is still working on supporting our RENEW committee as they get off the ground.

2021 Dues (Effective January 1, 2021) Monthly \$41.20 Quarterly \$123.60 6 months \$247.20 Yearly \$494.40

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

IBEW Local 948 FLINT, MI

IBEW Local 948 FLINT – Our February Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, February 22nd, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

The Retiree Club Meeting will return in April 2021.

Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. www.local948.com.

IBEW Local 252 ANN ARBOR – INSIDE AND RESIDENTIAL NEGOTIATIONS: The Inside and Residential agreements will be expiring this May.

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: We continue to monitor new orders and directives pertaining to COVID-19.

IBEW Local 252 ANN ARBOR, MI

IBEW Local 252 ANN ARBOR – INSIDE AND RESIDENTIAL NEGOTIATIONS: The Inside and Residential agreements will be expiring this May.

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: We continue to monitor new orders and directives pertaining to COVID-19.

CONTRACTOR CLASS: We will be hosting Pro-Union Consulting to assist IBEW Local 252 members in becoming profitable union electrical/ renewable energy contractors.

TRAINING CLASSES 2021: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM.

Local 252 Website & App: The Local's website www.ibew252.org is up and running.

Local 252 Website & App: There is also a Local 252 App available to download.

Local 252 Website & App: Search "IBEW 252" in the app store.

Local 252 Website & App: You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section.

Local 252 Website & App: 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.

Local 252 Website & App: AFILC Insurance: Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate.

Local 252 Website & App: AT&T Discount: Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans.

Local 252 Website & App: Important links & numbers IBEW Local 692, 989-684-4510

Local 252 Website & App: Health Plan, 517-321-7502

Local 252 Website & App: Michigan Pension Fund, 517-321-7502

Local 252 Website & App: First time logging in, use your Social Security Number in the "ID Box"

Local 252 Website & App: NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300

Local 252 Website & App: IO Pension: 202-833-7000

Local 252 Website & App: CASH FOR SCRAP METAL

Local 252 Website & App: Aluminum - Copper - Brass Nickel - Alloys - Carbide Radiators - Lead - Batteries

Local 252 Website & App: McNichols Scrap Iron & Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols

Local 252 Website & App: Detroit Iron & Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo)

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Local 252 Website & App: Detroit Iron and Metal Co. (313) 841-5100

Local 252 Website & App: (313) 365-6100

IBEW Local 445 BATTLE CREEK, MI

IBEW Local 445 BATTLE CREEK – Attention: The office staff will be at the Hall during normal business hours but is closed to walk-in traffic.

Attention: The dues for 2021 will not be changing from 2020.

The Annual IBEW 445 Golf Outing is scheduled for July 17, 2021.

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

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

PLEASE HELP! – The Hall is asking for each member to verify their address, phone number and email address.

Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings.

Local 252 cont'd UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.

Retiree's Breakfast: The retiree's breakfast is canceled until further notice.

Winter Gathering: Due to covid-19 concerns, the Winter Gathering in Lakeland, FL will not be held this year.

CREDIT CARDS: The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues.

UNION DUES FOR 2021: Effective January 1, 2021 union dues for "A" members will remain \$119.25 per quarter.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 12/2020, your dues are not current.

SERVICE PINS: If you would like your service year pin please call the hall to make arrangements to receive it.

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.

AFILC Insurance: Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate.

AT&T Discount: Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans.

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Local 252 Website & App: CASH FOR SCRAP METAL

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Local 252 Website & App: CASH FOR SCRAP METAL



IBEW
Local 498
"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498
TRAVERSE CITY – **Meetings.**

Regular E Board – The meetings are back to in person. The next meeting will be on Friday, February 12, 2021 at 6 pm.

MEETING – The meetings are back to in-person unless new Covid restrictions happen. The meeting will be held on Friday, February 12, 2021 at 7 pm.

Solidarity Picnic – Monthly Solidarity picnics before the regular meeting are still on hold due to Covid. Hopefully by Spring we will be able to resume them. We also need to know if anyone is interested in a union annual picnic this year. Please plan on attending the meeting in February.

PLC Class – There are 4 seats available. The dates are Feb 19 & 26 and March 5 & 12, if you would like one please call the hall.

PAYPAL – PAY PAL is now up and running!!! Please look into setting up a personal PayPal account. The Pay Pal option to use for paying your dues is "Friends & Family," if a different option is used it will deduct the credit card fees out of what is sent to the local for your dues. This leaves your dues short as we are a not-for-profit business and have no way to absorb those costs. If you need help with this you can call Caroline at the Union hall.

Email – Please get an email address to the hall so we can get info out easier and faster, thanks. You can email your address to the hall at ibew@local498.net. Please put your name in the subject.

Contracts – We have updated Inside Wireman Contracts available at the hall.

Dues 2021 – There is no Union Dues increase for 2021. Effective Jan 2021 the rate will remain \$140.10 per quarter.

Resale Items – We have Local 498 Beanie Hats for resale and T-shirts. Stop in to get yours today! Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

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

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

Made in America Websites – www.theunionbootpro.com - 100% American made/union made. Union member discounts 27% off. Use this code when ordering. Be0498mD or order toll free 1-800-723-5384.

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 on current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at ibew@local498.net. Thank you!

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:
MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508
MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-517-321-7502


(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)
TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917
NEBF 1-301-556-4300
NEAP 1-301-556-4300
IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES
Jan 1, 2020 - \$140.10/Quarter
Jan 1, 2021 - No increase. Still remains \$140.10/Quarter

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

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

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 3#



IBEW
Local 557
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN
IBEW
LOCAL 557

IBEW Local 557
SAGINAW – **COVID-19-**

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to dominate our lives. State restrictions are changing all of the time. Please continue to monitor emails and Facebook for updates on upcoming meetings for the Local. Keeping all members and their families healthy and safe is the number one priority for the Local. Please continue to wear masks and social distance to keep yourself and those around you safe while on the jobsite and at home.

The following policies are in effect to keep our members, their families, and the union hall staff safe:

• The Union Hall is closed to foot traffic until further notice.

• The February Union Meeting is CANCELLED due to COVID-19

• Please take care of business via email, phone, or fax. Special appointments available.

• Please try to take care of your quarterly dues payments by utilizing a credit or debit card over the phone. E-checks are also available.

• Apprenticeship classes are now all virtual until further notice, no in-person instruction.

All of these decisions have been made to keep members and their families safe. Hall operations will be re-evaluated as in conjunction with the State's re-evaluated orders.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - The next membership meeting scheduled for Feb. 2 is CANCELLED due to COVID-19. Keep an eye on these articles, emails from the Hall and the Local's website and Facebook page for updates on future meetings. The Local 557 Executive Board met on Jan. 19 and will meet again on Feb. 16.

RECENT NEWS IN THE LOCAL – The Local should be set for a good year of work ahead. Waiting through the winter to get to this work will be somewhat difficult, but good projects are on the horizon. The Michigan Pension Fund continues to make great strides with the aid of another strong investment year. Recent changes to the plan have set it up nicely for the future.

Upcoming Board of Trustee meetings should contain more good news as well. The Michigan Health Plan has also started to move in the right direction. Hard decisions to further fund the plan are starting to bring it back to a healthier status. New Market Share numbers for the Local have been released. Our number is up 3 percentage points from the previously released numbers.

While it has been difficult making it through the hopefully once in a lifetime pandemic, the Local is overall trending in a positive way. The promise of a vaccine to keep members safe is something to look forward to for 2021 and keep us heading in the right direction.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS - The Union Hall is still open for business. We ask that business to be taken care of with phone calls, emails, or fax. Special appointments are available if absolutely necessary. James Lamb is continuing organizing duties as much as possible during this time as well and if you have any useful information for him regarding work or new members please feel free to pass it along. He can be reached at 989-529-5943.

BOOK SIGNING - Out of work lists can be signed for other Locals through fax or email. This is to continue to cut down on as many in-person transactions as possible. Contact your home local and request a correspondence to be sent to the Local you are interested in signing.

HEALTH CARE - The Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan continues to cover 100% of the costs related to testing for COVID-19. During this pandemic, remote care is encouraged and Blue Cross members can call the 24-Hour Nurse Line at 800-117-BLUE. You may also want to inquire if your primary care provider offers telemedicine. The Health plan continues to meet regularly via teleconferences to stay on top of the pandemic and update coverage as necessary.

Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your an-

(Continued next column)



Local 169
Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169
ALLEN PARK – The next Union Meeting, scheduled for Friday, Feb. 12, 2021, will be held in Area Two if

conditions continue to improve. Please watch the website and Facebook groups for further details.

On Monday, Feb. 1, 2021, the Union Hall will resume "normal" operations with the previous safety

measures in place, which include social distancing, mandatory mask use, and limited occupancy. Apprentice advancements and indentures will begin on Feb. 15 at the Union Hall for Areas 1 & 3, at the Kiewit job site and the Spring Lake Holiday Inn for Area 2, and the Operators Training Center in Gladstone for Area 4.

Union dues for 2021 are \$49.85 per month. The union hall accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the hall and over the phone.

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

Training Center: The Boilermakers Local 169 Training center in Allen Park is currently closed. Please check the Facebook page and website for further information.

Apprentices: Please look for a letter in the mail with your upcoming advancement meeting date and time. All lessons must be completed by Feb. 12, 2021. First period apprentices must pay off the remainder of their initiation by their meeting date.

Sweatshirts are available for purchase for \$40. Payments can be made with cash or check. If you live out of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available.

Local 557 cont'd

nual physical, you could catch a health concern early and also help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

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: 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 requests.

WEX APP - Search for the "TIC HRA" app in Google or Apple and download it today. Utilization of this app will give you access to account balances, receipt reviews and submittals, barcode scanning for covered items, other helpful services. This is a great tool to accompany your Health Care benefits.

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.

STAYCURRENTONDUES - Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

CONTACT NUMBERS - Michigan Electrical Employee Pension Fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielelectricalhealth.org
Evan Allardyce,
Business Manager

Economic aid: Will Biden's pandemic plan see familiar, ill-fated future?

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) – Remember the Cares Act, the 2020 economic aid bill for a nation hit with a double disaster of the coronavirus pandemic and the resulting recession? The measure that now-Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., deep-sixed, twice? Well, the economic aid package President Joe Biden sent to Capitol Hill after he was inaugurated at noon on Jan. 20 is going to look a lot like it. The question will be if it suffers the same fate.

"We need to provide more immediate relief to families and businesses now," Biden told a Zoom press conference on Jan. 8. "The price tag will be high"—up to \$3 trillion — "but the overwhelming consensus among leading economists left, right and center" is "investing significant amounts of money right now" to keep the economy from collapsing, again.

After all, the economy is already sliding as the coronavirus is again spiking, setting a new daily death record, 4,085, in early January, and showing 374,000 people cumulatively having tested positive.

Meanwhile, the official unemployment rate for the end of 2020, released the day Biden spoke, was 6.7 percent, but almost double that percentage of workers were drawing state or federal joblessness checks.

Businesses shed a net of 140,000 jobs that month, and bar and restaurant jobs tanked (-498,000 jobs last year), due to renewed closures to prevent the plague's community spread. Those industries also collapsed after March and never fully recovered. Neither did hotels, travel, or state and local governments, including schools. Closures closed off their tax revenues, too. The government bodies let 1.35 million workers go in 2020.

"It is necessary to spend money now," Biden said. "With conditions like the crisis today, especially with such low interest rates, taking immediate action — even with deficit financing — is going to help the economy."

In a Jan. 12 telephone press conference, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka agreed, and added a key non-money goal: Protecting workers against the pandemic. Biden intends to. "Worker safety is how we begin to beat the virus," Trumka said, adding, "that starts with emergency COVID-19 (coronavirus) OSHA and MSHA standards so we can protect workers from this virus."

Biden plans that, too. It's a key goal of both the AFL-CIO and National Nurses United, who actually sued the Trump-run OSHA to get a standard. They lost.

"We must also expand access to free vaccines and rapid testing, and ensure an adequate supply of PPE (of personal protective equipment) by executive order and through the Defense Production Act. And it is long past time to guarantee paid sick days, paid family leave and child care for all working people," Trumka said. "None of this is controversial—just common sense."

While Biden has yet to roll out specific figures, both the Cares Act versions and his statements give some idea of what he'll propose, as his first big legislation:

• \$2,000-per-adult checks, although the first \$600 of that is in checks presumably being sent out now from the \$908 billion economic aid bill lawmakers approved in late December. Some 80 percent of U.S. adults would get the money.

• Extended federal unemployment benefits. The \$908 billion bill gives \$300 in federal jobless benefits, on top of state jobless aid, to workers, but only through mid-March. That's half of what weekly federal checks were before the original program, enacted last March, expired. Biden hasn't settled on a specific figure for federal jobless aid.

The Senate's Republicans, now in the minority, have had a simple answer: Zero.

• Money for state and local functions, not necessarily for all government programs. Biden is considering specific sums for specific functions, such as education and child care. The overall figure has not been released.

• Asking student loan institutions to forgive borrowers' first \$10,000 in student loan debt.

More money, besides the \$25 billion allotted in December, to speed up the distribution of anti-viral vaccines. That's been plagued by bottlenecks and slow deliveries.

Bureau of Labor Statistics: 18.8 million collect jobless pay as COVID toll continues

WASHINGTON (PAI) – Almost 18.8 million people either collected or sought federal or state jobless benefits in the weeks ending Jan. 16, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said, reflecting the coronavirus pandemic's continuing toll on the nation's workers.

That's almost two million fewer people, cumulatively, than sought the aid through the week before, BLS noted. The lower number, 18,775,778, was 13.2 percent of all workers seeking or getting some type of unemployment aid. That's also double the official U.S. jobless rate.

The entire decline in the week of January 16, BLS numbers showed, came because the last federal pandemic unemployment aid — hundreds of extra dollars per person on top of state jobless benefits—ran out at the end of December. Still, during that week, 1,384,402 more workers sought jobless aid. They haven't gotten it yet.

The coronavirus pandemic itself, however, has done anything but run out. As of the morning of Jan. 21, 24,446,837 people had tested positive for the virus, precisely a year after the first known sufferer, a 35-year-old man, checked into an Everett, Wash., hospital.

And including the 4,425 people who died on Inauguration Day, the virus has killed 406,384.

New Democratic President Joseph Biden wants to reverse that decline in the number of people getting jobless benefits. The \$1.9 trillion coronavirus pandemic economic aid bill he sent to Congress on Jan. 20, just after his inauguration that day, includes \$400-per-adult supplemental federal jobless benefits

for months. They would be on top of state jobless aid.

Economic Policy Institute Policy Director Heidi Shierholz says even the 18.8 million weekly figure for jobless checks understates the pandemic's impact on workers. That's because it counts just jobless workers, and not those who still work but whose hours — and pay — have been cut.

And a BLS footnote shows the U.S. labor force shrunk by four million people in a year, to 142.1 million.

"There are now 26.8 million workers who are either unemployed, otherwise out of work because of the virus, or have seen a drop in hours and pay because of the pandemic," Shierholz said. "Further, we started losing jobs again in December."

"Layoffs are rising and the virus is surging. More relief is desperately needed. A key reason more relief is so important is that this crisis is greatly exacerbating racial inequality. Due to the impact of historic and current systemic racism, Black and Latinx workers have seen more job loss in this pandemic, and have less wealth to fall back on," she explained.

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Local 149
Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers 149

DETROIT – **Main Office – Southeastern Lower Michigan – Regular Membership Meeting.** The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Feb. 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Feb. 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Website for announcements, news, and updates: www.rooferslocal149.com

Detroit Training Center Information. The next term for all Detroit Apprentices is scheduled for:

Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1- Monday, January 18, 2021

Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2- Tuesday, January 19

BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1- Wednesday January 20

BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2- Thursday, January 21

Apprentice 7 & 8 Hands On + Safety & Health- Thursday, January 21

All classes begin at 6:30pm

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 Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, or TJaranowski@DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements

Follow us on Facebook for announcement updates @ United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers Local 149

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. Members are reminded to call the Hall (313) 961-6093 to put their name on the out of work list.

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.

MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tues., April 13, 2021 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Mid-Michigan Training Center Information. The Mid-Michigan Apprentice classes are scheduled for:

Apprentice 1 thru 8- will start on Monday, February 15, 2021. Classes begin at 6:00pm

When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. 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.

The publication above is as 1/15/21, 1:00p.m.

In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149

"It seems to me that man has engaged in a blind and fearful struggle out of a past he can't remember, into a future he can't foresee nor understand. And man has met and defeated every obstacle, every enemy except one. He cannot win over himself."

– John Steinbeck (1902 - 1968)

"To win without risk is to triumph without glory."

– Pierre Corneille (1606 - 1684)

"Get not your friends by bare compliments, but by giving them sensible tokens of your love."

– Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)

"The trouble with normal is it always gets worse."

– Bruce Cockburn

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Outdoors

This winter, get out!



ASKIER ENJOYS a late-morning outing on the Blueberry Ridge Pathway in Marquette County.

MDNR photos

By Casey Warner
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

The colder, shorter days of winter – the time of year many Michiganders struggle with cabin fever and the “winter blues” – are now upon us. This year, with the need to avoid social gatherings and many indoor activities to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, winter may seem bluer than ever.

Many may be thinking about taking on new hobbies to get them outdoors and their minds off what is going on in the world, including activities that could involve family or friends while still maintaining social distancing and a healthy lifestyle.

Fortunately, Michigan offers ample antidotes to the winter blues in the form of outdoor recreation opportunities, with a variety of options for those of all abilities.

Here are some suggestions for accessible cold-weather recreation opportunities to stay active, engaged and in the outdoors this winter.

At the top of the list is the Muskegon Luge Adventure Sports Park, located in Muskegon State Park. The luge track – one of only four in the United States – and all other features of the sports park are accessible to people with disabilities. It was the first accessible luge created in the nation.

“We developed an accessible, year-round luge experience. You actually can luge if you’re somebody with a disability,” said Cindy Burkhour, member of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Accessibility Advisory Council, in a DNR video about accessible outdoor recreation released in November 2020 to mark the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The council provides guidance to help the DNR develop, manage and plan opportunities for accessible outdoor recreation.

“Michigan is absolutely at the forefront of creative, inclusive, universal design projects in the out-of-doors. Very unique things,” Burkhour added.

“Our park has made a commitment to providing accessible year-round recreation for all. Our team remains committed to working on solutions to make all of our guests’ visits to our facility enjoyable and meaningful,” Jim Rudicil, executive director of the Muskegon Luge Adventure Sports Park, said. “This includes making sure we have adaptive equipment and solutions in place that can assist persons with disabilities in the winter sports of luge and ice skating.”

In addition to the luge track, the adventure park offers adaptive equipment for ice skating and a track chair, an off-road, electronic chair that can easily handle trails, snow, sand and up to eight inches of water. With the track chair, available to reserve on a first-come, first-served basis, visitors can explore areas traditional wheelchairs might not be able to reach.

People should contact the sports park in advance at 1-877-TRYLUGE (1-877-879-5843) to check conditions, make sure accessible lugging and other activities are available and to reserve adaptive equipment.

If you would like to take a wintry stroll, possibly with family or friends, to enjoy snow-covered landscapes and hopefully see some wildlife, other state parks that offer the use of their track chairs at no cost year-round are Island Lake Recreation Area, Tahquamenon Falls State Park and Waterloo Recreation Area.

Talking about the track



THE YEAR-ROUND luge track at Muskegon Luge Adventure Sports Park, located in Muskegon State Park, and all other features of the sports park are accessible to people with disabilities.

chairs, Kristin Wildman, DNR Accessibility Team member and biologist with the Wildlife Division, said, “I’ve seen them in action, and they really are amazing. Track chairs are not considered a vehicle so you can use the track chair effectively wherever you want on appropriate terrain for that piece of equipment.”

There are also select state parks and game areas that allow the use of their accessible hunting blinds during the winter for wildlife viewing or photography. They include Sleepy Hollow State Park, Pinckney Recreation Area, Rifle River Recreation Area, Holly Recreation Area, and the Gladwin and Sharonville state game areas

It’s best to contact the park or state game area if you want to reserve a blind for a specific date and time, but they are available on a first-come, first-served basis when not already reserved.

In the DNR’s 2020 video on accessible outdoor recreation, Wildman talked about a variety of opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in wildlife-related recreation like hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing.

“Our goal is to reduce any kind of barriers to your participation in hunting and wildlife-related recreation,” Wildman said. “You can always contact the land manager for a state game area, state park, state wildlife area and just talk to them. Let them know what you want to do, what kind of things are keeping you from doing it, and maybe there’s something we can do to help.”

Hunting seasons currently open include rabbit, squirrel, crow and other small game.

For those who would like to hone their shooting skills, DNR shooting ranges – many open throughout the winter – offer accessible features, including wheelchair-accessible shooting lanes.

“Over the past five years, the Michigan DNR has really increased our range renovation and development across the state. Many of our facilities offer paved pathways that extend from the parking areas to the firing and target lines,” said Lori Burford, shooting range/facilities specialist with the DNR Finance and Operations Division.

For a scenic getaway, several

state parks have accessible lodges available in the winter. These include lodges at Cheboygan State Park, Fayette Historic State Park, Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, Tahquamenon Falls State Park and Traverse City State Park. If you’re interested in booking a stay, please check with the park to make sure pathways will be cleared to allow winter access to the lodges.

Lodging options also include RV rental service, with some rental companies and some state parks participating year-round.

Ice fishing is another great way to get outdoors and enjoy Michigan’s winter. Before heading out for a day on the ice, it’s wise to check with local bait shops to make certain the spot you’ve chosen is adequately ice-covered and at the thickness needed and to review all ice safety tips.

Michigan Ski for Light’s annual weekend of cross-country skiing for people with vision or mobility disabilities, held at the DNR’s Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center in Roscommon, has been cancelled for this year due to concerns about COVID-19 but is being planned for 2022. Learn more about the event at MSFL.org.

These are just some of the options for getting outside and beating the winter blues. The DNR continues to work to find more ways to make outdoor recreation accessible to everyone of all abilities in every season.

“For those of us who don’t own hundreds or thousands of private acres, we need to realize we still own a portion of the outdoors in the state of Michigan like the state parks. Getting outdoors again and being reunited with nature for people with disabilities is made possible through integration and accessibility,” said Billy Vickers, Accessibility Advisory Council member who works in business development for Rehab & Mobility Systems. “The state of Michigan and the DNR has gone to great lengths to make it possible to ensure everyone of all abilities can enjoy our great state.

“We have lots of opportunities, even more resources, so there’s no reason why we can’t get back to the outdoors to truly enjoy our great state.”



Local 25

Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – February’s ZOOM Union meeting will be Monday February 22, 2021 at 7:00 pm. This union meeting will be the second (2nd) Reading of the proposed by law(s). PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS.

The third (3rd) Reading will be during March’s ZOOM Union meeting Monday March 29, 2021. The VOTE WILL BE (in-person) MARCH 31, 2021 at all Union Halls & Kent-Ionia Center from 7am to 7pm.

ZOOM: If you have not yet signed up for Notifications please sign up as Notification will go out via the APP. To participate in the Zoom Union meeting is very easy ... just be sure you have downloaded our APP or signed up for our emails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We are leaning toward communication through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS – Please download the APP if you haven’t done so yet!! Again, via our website!

The 2021 Dennis O’Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available. Call the Novi hall to get one mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible. All requests for complete rules and the application must be received by **Tue. March 31, 2020** and turned in by **Thur. April 30, 2020**.

2021 is the year of the International Convention. (Aug. 2021). In March we will be holding nominations and vote for the Delegates who will represent Local 25 at the convention. More details to come as we get closer to the date.

2021 “NO” UNION DUES RATE INCREASE – The Gen. Executive Council of the International has voted to **NOT** increase the Per Capita Tax for 2021.

MANDATORY TO WEAR A FACE MASK IF YOU VISIT ANY OF THE UNION OFFICES OR UNION HALLS.

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

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

BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE: Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse **MUST NOTIFY** the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days. A Marriage certificate will be required.

Dispatch is OPEN. Please call 248-305-9282: Monday through Friday 7 am to 10 am. If you happen to get voicemail, just leave your name, book number and phone number. Local 25 Active Members, Apprentices and Probationary should call each day you are out of work. **OR use our website or the APP to sign up for the out of work list: www.ironworkers25.org**

Steward Meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Stewards’ Notes:

1) The Electronic Steward Reporting forms are online www.ironworkers25.org. Log in with your book number, and the password is the last 4 (four) of your social. For any new member that is logging in for the first time, your Username is your book number and your Password is your last name (all lower-case letters). After logging in for the first time you will be prompted to reset your password.

2) PLEASE be sure to check dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH THE RECIPROCAL AND THE ASSESSMENT-TARGETING

3) All members please be sure to keep your Union dues paid up to date as it is criteria for working. You can be asked to leave the jobsite if your dues are not current.

New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org, print the application, gather

documentation then phone the school for an appointment; no walk-in foot traffic. The Wixom Training Center – Phone: 248-960-2130.

Due to the high volume of apprentices doing their make-up days, we are limiting the number to 10 per day. We are currently booking for the week of 2/9/21.

Do not just show up and expect to be allowed to stay.

Apprentices: Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab “Monthly Report Sign-In” this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also located under the apprenticeship tab you will find “Evaluation Form” Journeyman/Supervision can use this to submit apprentice evaluations using computer/cell phone and submit electronically. **Please also note, you must check your email on a regular basis; we now email your annual MUST drug screen paperwork and your pay raise slips.**

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule; we are practicing social distancing protocols, etc.

Hudsonville Training Center: Qualified Rigger/Crane Signaler-Feb 2,4,9,11,16 and 18, First Aid/CPR Feb 23 and SubPart R-Feb 25.

Wixom Training Center: First Aid/CPR-March 2, SubPart R-March 4, Un-bonded Post Tensioning March 8,9,10 and 11 with time being 7am -4pm. Textbooks \$30 and must be purchased 2 weeks BEFORE class starts and turned in 1 week PRIOR to the start of class.

Welder online Verification: For an accurate and quick review of welder certifications please visit www.welderscertification.org. On the homepage click “login” and type “read only” as both your username and password. Once logged on, type the member’s book number in the column on the left marked “advanced search,” click the “go” button, wait until the name pops up, and then click on the welders first or last name.

On the next screen, click “list certifications.” Every welding certification the welder has will be available for viewing and you can see that if it has been renewed; it is good until the year 2021. The site also allows you to print out a copy of the welder WPQR if needed. Click on “list test results.” Click on the actual test code you want to see and you will see the test details. On that page click “Printable Form” (WPQR) and you can print the WPQR. If you read this please contact the Training Center for meeting credit.

Pay union dues with credit-debit card 24/7 by calling 888-386-8173 and follow the prompts. OR PAY at www.ironworkers25.org Any member payment for multiple members, fines, suspensions, withdrawal deposits, SHOULD NOT use this process. Whenever possible we are emailing you, your dues receipt.

Pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. PLEASE include your book number on the face of the check/money order. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO CASH). After-hours use the outdoor-dues-collection box.

Good Thoughts: Garry Johnson #752446 who resides in Florida would appreciate your thoughts & prayers at this time.

The Novi retirees Board of Directors will meet on **Tuesday, February 2nd** in Novi at 9:00 am; **The Novi retiree meeting will be Tuesday, February 16th at 10:00 am.** No Bay City Chapter meeting until April 2021 (hopefully). Updates will be posted on the local’s website and/or local’s column in the Building Tradesman.

REMINDER: RETIREES, LIFETIME, & SNOWBIRDS: when you change your address with the Fringe Fund, you need to also call the Novi Union Hall and update your address.

Watch for updates at (www.ironworkers25.org) or the Local 25 app that you can download by searching “Iron Workers Local 25” to stay informed on union matters.

In Remembrance: Leo Lefebvre #453883 passed away January 13, 2021 at the age of 91 in Atlanta GA. He was a 70-year (Continued next column)



Local 8

Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 8

Tim Roman

Business Representative

UPPER PENINSULA – WELD CERTIFICATIONS: Weld certifications are being held on an as-needed basis. Please contact Rich Hanson at the Apprenticeship office for more information at 414-476-9372.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The Membership Meeting will take place by video conference on February 24th, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. CST. Members can gain access to the meeting at <https://meeting.iwl8.org> on the afternoon of the meeting.

MINE SAFETY TRAINING: The next MSHA Refresher Class will be held on February 20th, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. To sign up for this class, and provide your email address, please contact Ann Lakenen at Pipefitters #111, 906-226-6511.

If you sign up for MSHA classes and do not attend or cancel, you will be charged a fee of \$30.00 and will be suspended from any further Mine Safety classes until the fee is paid.

IRON WORKERS LOCAL #8 ONLINE STORE: Check out Local #8’s swag at the online store at iwl8.org.

Local 25 cont’d

member and who had many fellow retirees & friends in the ironworking industry.

Ralph Owen #545046 passed away January 10, 2021 at the age of 93. He was a 66-year member of Local 25. His wife predeceased him, and he is survived by son Dan Owen #909927, daughter and former member Terrie Fox #1284022, and 2 other grown children. Many friends in the ironworking industry.

Gene Waller #994486 passed away January 13, 2021 at the age of 63. He was a 42-year member originating his membership with Local 340 in 1978.

Ersella Forguson passed away January 16, 2021. She was predeceased by her husband Tandy Forguson #832233 and is the mother of Andrew Forguson #1111614.

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

To all Union Members: Covid-19 has an effect on all of us and our ironworker community is no different. Please keep our membership in your prayers and please do your best to be safe during this pandemic as cases rise. We hope you and your family stay safe and healthy!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (01/25/2021 12:00pm E.S.T.).

“Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation for ’tis better to be alone than in bad company.”

–George Washington (1732 -1799)

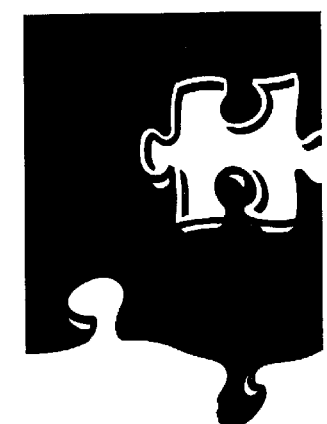
“My wife and I were happy for twenty years. Then we met.”

–Rodney Dangerfield (1921 -2004)

“We have flown the air like birds and swum the seas like fishes, but have yet to learn the simple act of walking the earth like brothers.”

–Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 -1968)

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Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No. _____

Date of Birth: _____

Union : _____ Local No: _____

Dates of Employment: _____ thru _____

Have you been exposed to asbestos?

Yes No

Have you been diagnosed with:

Mesothelioma Asbestosis

Lung Cancer Colon Cancer

Do you have shortness of breath?

Yes No

Return this form to:

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