

# THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

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## SHORT CUTS

### UIA getting up to speed on claims

LANSING—The Michigan Unemployment Agency is crawling out of its hole and catching up on claims.

The news service MIRS reported July 24 that the agency has caught up on jobless benefit claims filed before June 1. That's after the agency announced on July 6 it had met its July 4 goal "to make a determination on all currently eligible, certifying unpaid claims that were filed before May 1."

The great disruption to the state's economy caused by the COVID-19 pandemic led to about 2.1 million in unemployment claims from March 15 through July, with more than \$15 billion in benefits paid to more than 2 million workers. Michigan's maximum unemployment benefit is \$362 per week, and jobless workers received an additional \$600 weekly federal unemployment benefit that ended July 25 under the original federal CARES Act.

The Unemployment Agency said 97.2 percent of potentially eligible, certifying claimants have received or are approved for benefits. Of the remaining unpaid claimants, most are flagged for potential impostor fraud. The UIA said last month that less than 34,000 unpaid claims had yet to be resolved and were being held for additional identity verification while about 15,000 unpaid claims are held pending adjudication for other reasons.

"The UIA remains committed to quickly processing claims. While there is only a small percentage of eligible workers who have yet to be paid, we know that is no consolation to the thousands of claimants who are frustrated, desperate and owed the benefits they were promised," said UIA Director Steve Gray, who had previously apologized for the UIA's slow response to the rush of claims, which was unprecedented. "We will not rest until the claims backlog is eliminated and all eligible Michigan workers get every single dollar they are entitled to."

### Ouch: COVID leaves state in deep rut

Despite the relative strength of the state's construction industry, Michigan ranks third among the states for "fiscal shock" caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of course, the entire nation has experienced some effect from the pandemic, which has closed schools and businesses, generally disrupted our way of life and caused the infection of nearly 2.4 million Americans and claimed more than 153,000 lives.

But some states have been hit harder than others by the pandemic – and Michigan is among them.

"Due to the abrupt shutdown of their economies, states were left with a sudden shock to their revenue streams as withholding tax from employers was not collected, sales tax revenue fell as spending decreased, and other taxes and receipts were flat or negative in growth," said the report, issued in July by the Council of State Governments.

Michigan received the lowest score in four of five categories, including "revenue shortfall," "Medicaid increase," "economic risk," and "pension reliance on financial market returns."

### Quotable

"The truth is incontrovertible. Malice may attack it, ignorance may deride it, but in the end, there it is."

—Sir Winston Churchill  
1874-1965



**THE 1,150 MEGAWATT Blue Water Energy Center going up on the grounds of DTE Energy's Belle River Power Plant in St. Clair County is of a super-efficient, natural-gas-fired combined cycle design that will emit 70 percent less carbon dioxide, 99 percent less nitrous and sulfur, and use 99 percent less water than a coal-burner.**

Photo credits: Kiewit, DTE Energy

## Trades put a charge in DTE's Blue Water Energy Center

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

EAST CHINA TWP. – In a weird, turbulent year, Michigan's largest ongoing construction project is proceeding safely, on schedule, and with a lot of quality work.

Under Kiewit Engineering (MI) Co., the project's engineering, construction, and procurement manager, progress on

building the Blue Water Energy Center was approaching 40 percent completion in early July, with 1 million man-hours worked.

Significant work on DTE Energy's natural gas-fueled, combined-cycle power plant began with pilings in October 2018. The plant is being erected on the grounds of the utility's existing Belle River Power Plant in St. Clair County.

"There's a lot to be done, but so far everybody here has stuck with it, buckled down and is doing a lot of hard work, and we have managed to minimize the COVID impact," said Kiewit Project Manager Casey Williams. "It looks like we're set to hit a lot of important milestones in the next six months."

Despite a six-week shut-

(Continued on Page 2)



DTE ENERGY'S \$1 billion Blue Water Energy project going up in St. Clair County will provide power for 850,000 homes beginning in 2022. The project is being managed by Kiewit Engineering (MI) Co.

## Trades may not like the hand dealt by 'Green New Deal'

By Mark Gruenberg  
PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) – Building trades workers who toil on constructing energy facilities believe their jobs building oil and natural gas pipelines last longer and give them higher pay than jobs building wind farms and solar panel arrays, a new survey of 1,619 workers and accompanying analysis shows.

North America's Building

Trades Unions commissioned *Construction Job Quality Across U.S. Energy Industries*, and posted it at [www.nabtu.org](http://www.nabtu.org). It reports gas and oil pipeline construction jobs "are one of the biggest opportunities for our members to maintain their position in the middle class," NABTU President Sean McGarvey says.

The oil and gas jobs are especially valuable economically to workers in the trades, the study

says. That's not the case with wind and solar, though, McGarvey adds.

"We have to make sure" the wind and solar project construction jobs "are middle-class family-sustaining jobs, and right now, they're not," McGarvey told the July 17 telephone press conference on the studies. "What makes these good jobs is the training and the money, which our members gain through registered apprenticeships, and the opportu-

## For now, Michigan is an island in a swamp created by COVID-19

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

"COVID-19 crushes construction starts in most metro areas during first-half 2020," reads the headline of the quarterly report on the status of U.S. construction from *Dodge Data and Analytics*.

That headline is both accurate and inadequate – because it's also impossible to encapsulate in a few words the incredible roller-coaster that the U.S. construction industry has been riding before and after the pandemic started shutting down many jobsites in March. And this year Michigan has had a lower low – and a higher high – than just about any other state. And right now we're riding pretty high, but again, it's a roller coaster.

The latest numbers from Dodge paint an overall gloomy picture for construction, reflecting prospects for the greater economy. Michigan has been one of the few bright spots on the map for construction activity after the six-week COVID-related construction shutdown ended in the state, reducing construction activity by as much as 81 percent and likely creating a lot of pent-up demand. While the heightened activity isn't likely to last in Michigan, it has been stronger than expected.

"The full force of the pandemic bore down on U.S. con-

### 'Inequality grows and wages stagnate'

## U.S. labor law needs to start working for workers, study says

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

U.S. labor law, much of which was adopted in the 1930s and updated in the 1940s, is badly skewed against workers and many aspects – especially union election procedures – are desperately in need of reform.

A new report for the labor-backed Economic Policy Institute (EPI) describes how employers "routinely threaten, intimidate, and harass workers to stop them from exercising their right to collective bargaining."

The report, issued July 23, calls on Congress to reform federal labor laws, including by passing and enacting the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act and extending labor rights to

*The pandemic 'and resulting recession have wreaked havoc on U.S. building markets'*

construction starts in April as economic activity virtually shut down and local restrictions on construction took effect," Dodge said on July 22. "Construction resumed in some areas in May allowing starts to post a mild gain

(Continued on Page 3)

## Labor gags on GOP's relief bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Organized labor really, really doesn't like the Republican Senate's plan to support the nation's workers and sustain the U.S. economy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) on July 28 unveiled the GOP's \$1 trillion relief plan for the U.S. economy. Labor leaders panned it for being too late to keep federal jobless benefits flowing without interruption, while offering a paltrier benefit package than the Democrats' plan and zero help for budgets of

(Continued on Page 3)

farmworkers, domestic workers, and independent contractors who are currently excluded from federal union rights.

"Protecting the right to collective bargaining is key to solving the crisis of economic inequality," said Gordon Lafer, professor at the University of Oregon's Labor Education and Research Center and co-author of the report. "When workers have the ability to bargain collectively with their employers, the division of corporate profits is more equally shared between employees, management, and shareholders. When workers can't exercise this right – as is often the case – inequality grows and wages stagnate."

The report details common employer tactics that often turn overwhelming support for unions at the outset of a campaign into a "no" vote just weeks later, including:

- Forcing employees to attend daily anti-union meetings where pro-union workers have no right to present alternative views and can be fired on the spot if they ask a question.

- Plastering the workplace with anti-union posters, banners, and looping video ads – and denying pro-union employees access to any of these media.

- Instructing managers to tell

(Continued on Page 13)

## We have liftoff... space launch site picked in U.P.

By Marty Mulcahy, Editor

MARQUETTE – Michigan may be jumping into the modern-day space industry. In an era when private space travel is becoming increasingly common, the Michigan Aerospace Manufacturers Association on July 23 announced that a vertical rocket space launch site has been chosen on land just north of the city. Several months ago the group announced that Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport outside of Oscoda in the Lower Peninsula was chosen as the top candidate for a horizontal spaceport.

Conducted by spaceport consultants BRPH and Kimley-Horn, the site-selection process has been a year-long effort. Sites were ranked based on several factors, including existing commercial and public infrastructure, geographic and terrestrial mapping, living standards and workforce development. Operations in the U.P. are expected to begin by early 2025. The site selections follow the state Legislature's June 2019 appropriation of \$2 million to assess the feasibility of developing one or more low-orbit launch sites in Michigan.

"Michigan has a real opportunity to support a space-based ecosystem," said Gavin Brown, executive director of MAMA. "The Marquette location will be a critical component, bringing low-earth orbit vertical launch capabilities to the state to meet the domestic and global demand. By integrating sophisticated infrastructure with

(Continued on Page 5)



THE MICHIGAN AEROSPACE Manufacturers Association announced the chosen placement of a vertical launch site north of Marquette on the shores of Lake Superior, shown in this rendering. The process of securing funding for the project will take place after a feasibility study process has been completed.

# Viewpoints



## Trump vs. workers

Donald Trump campaigned as an insurgent outside of the political establishment who would restore the long-neglected working class. That was a lie. As president, he's turned his back on working people, governing instead as a lackey for billionaires, CEOs, and corporations. Even during a public health and economic crisis, Trump has left working people in the dust.

Consider his signature tax law, sold as a benefit to working people. More than 60 percent of its benefits have gone to people in the top 20 percent of the income ladder. In 2018, for the first time in American history, billionaires paid a lower tax rate than the working class.

Trump said every worker would get a \$4,000 raise, but nothing trickled down. Instead, corporations spent their tax savings buying back shares of their own stock, boosting executive bonuses and doing nothing for workers. To make matters worse, some of the richest corporations are paying nothing in federal income taxes, despite making billions in profits.

Meanwhile, Trump's corporate lobbyists and industry shills have systematically dismantled worker protections – rolling back child labor protections, undoing worker safeguards from exposure to cancerous radiation, gutting measures that shield workers from wage theft, and eliminating overtime for 8 million workers.

Trump has even asked the Supreme Court to take away the health insurance of 23 million American workers by invalidating the Affordable Care Act – in the middle of a global health crisis, no less! If Trump gets his way, protections for people with pre-existing conditions will be eliminated.

Oh, and remember his promise to rein in drug prices so working people can afford the meds they need? Well, forget it. Remdesivir, a drug to reduce the severity of COVID-19, from pharma giant Gilead, was developed with \$70 million of taxpayer funding, yet Trump is letting the company charge \$3,000 per treatment. And he is omitting pricing protections from federal contracts to develop drugs for Covid-19 – making it likely that life-saving treatments and vaccines will be out of reach for people in need.

Donald Trump doesn't give a fig for working-class Americans. He even wants to end the extra unemployment benefits that countless Americans are depending on to get through this crisis. So whose side is Trump really on?

Well, here's a clue: Tucked away on page 203 of the COVID stimulus package backed by Trump, is an obscure provision that delivers a whopping \$135 billion in tax breaks to millionaire real estate developers and hedge fund managers. One real estate tycoon who stands to profit handsomely from the provision is none other than the president's son-in-law and senior adviser, Jared Kushner.

In total, the cash secretly spent on tax cuts for millionaires in the COVID-19 package is more than three times as much money as was included for emergency housing and food relief.

Kushner isn't the only Trump insider getting paid off during the pandemic. Forty lobbyists with ties to Donald Trump have helped clients secure more than \$10 billion in federal COVID aid. And if Trump succeeds in getting the Supreme Court to repeal the Affordable Care Act, the richest 0.1 percent of Americans will get an average additional tax cut of \$198,000 each per year.

Donald Trump is no working-class champion. He's a corporate con man – the culmination of a rigged-for-the-rich system that's shafting working Americans at every turn.

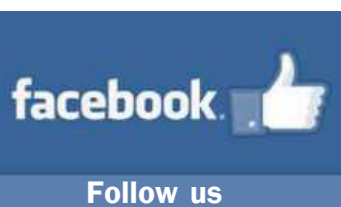
**Robert Reich**  
Professor, University of California-Berkeley  
Former U.S. Secretary of Labor

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# DTE's Blue Water Energy Center

(Continued from Page 1)

down at the plant beginning in March due to the COVID-19 crisis, Williams said the "commitment and hard work" by site subcontractors and building trades union workers, as well as strict safety protocols, is keeping the project on the original schedule of completion for the spring of 2022.

The Blue Water Energy Center, says DTE Energy, is expected to be the most fuel-efficient power plant in Michigan. It will run on natural gas and use combined-cycle technology that captures waste heat to produce additional electricity. The plant will emit 70 percent less carbon dioxide and will be 40 percent more efficient than the three coal-fired plants DTE plans to retire by 2022 – including the St. Clair Power Plant that's directly west of the new combined cycle plant.

In 2017 "DTE first announced a broad sustainability initiative to reduce carbon emissions by more than 80 percent and do it in a way that maintains affordability and reliability for our customers," said Gerry Anderson, then chairman and CEO, DTE Energy. "In fact, we're already doing it. Since 2009 we have driven investments of more than \$2.5 billion in renewable energy with more investments coming. But as we continue to retire coal-fired power plants – all of them by 2040 – we need to complement wind farms and solar arrays with high reliability assets. As we Michiganders know well, the wind doesn't always blow, and the sun doesn't always shine in our beautiful state.

"And that's why we need natural gas-fueled plants like the Blue Water Energy Center. When it begins operations in 2022, it will represent our single largest step in reducing carbon emissions to date."

Williams said there's a lot going on at the site of the combined-cycle plant, which is cordoned off from the existing plant by a fence and separate entrances.

He said earlier this month that the building trades and their employers are continuing to build

"Mix a little foolishness with your prudence: It's good to be silly at the right moment."  
–Horace (65 BC - 8 BC)

"Do not accustom yourself to use big words for little matters."  
–Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

"Slow down and enjoy life. It's not only the scenery you miss by going too fast - you also miss the sense of where you are going and why."  
–Eddie Cantor (1892 - 1964)

"Isn't it good just to be alive on a day like this? I pity the people who aren't born yet for missing it."  
–L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)



AT WORK AT DTE ENERGY'S Blue Water Energy Center in St. Clair County is Jim Maxson. Photo credit: Kiewit/DTE Energy

out the combustion turbine and heat recovery steam generator systems. They're building a new switchyard and transmission line to connect to the grid. All the major electrical enclosures have been set, and electricians are pulling wire and performing terminations. The site's administration building is also going up – among a myriad of other tasks.

The combined cycle plant technology and hardware are "fairly new to Michigan," Williams said, and the plant has required the importation and setting of some extremely heavy equipment, with the main hardware manufactured by General Electric. "There are some heavy, long and awkward pieces that we had to figure out how to get to the site, and fortunately, we have passed that process," Williams

said. The equipment, including an 800,000-pound generator, was brought in via an existing on-site rail spur, plus boat and truck. The rail link in particular, helped avoid the closure of local roads and the movement of existing power lines.

Another challenge was working with the soil at the site. The new plant is being erected on former brownfield land that was used as a disposal site for dirt. Ground conditions necessitated the driving of 1,600 W-shaped piles, 160 feet deep. Fortunately, Williams said during the construction of the foundations there was "very little underground" expected or found – which is not always the case when building on the grounds of older power plants.

DTE Energy said the 1,150

MW Blue Water Energy Center will provide power for 850,000 homes. The facility's technology will provide more flexibility, allowing the utility to start the plant up in less than an hour to meet the needs of the grid – about 50 times faster than a coal-fired plant.

From an environmental standpoint, the natural gas-fired plant will emit 70 percent less carbon dioxide, 99 percent less nitrous and sulfur, and use 99 percent less water than a coal-burner.

According to GE, a combined-cycle plant uses a gas turbine to burn fuel, and the turbine compresses air and mixes it with fuel that is heated to a very high temperature. The hot air-fuel mixture moves through the gas turbine blades, making them spin. The fast-spinning turbine drives a generator that converts a portion of the spinning energy into electricity.

Then, a heat recovery steam generator (HRSG) captures exhaust heat from the gas turbine that would otherwise escape through the exhaust stack. The HRSG creates steam from the gas turbine exhaust heat and delivers it to the steam turbine, which delivers additional electricity.

Always looming in the background at the plant – and in every corner of society – is the COVID-19 pandemic. Williams said Kiewit and DTE developed protocols to approach and plan the work to create a safe environment, as well as require the use of face masks, employ social distancing and enhanced hygiene. The project will peak in the next month or so with about 650 tradespeople on site.

"I've been impressed with the Michigan building trades," Williams said. "Together with DTE we have tried to cherry-pick best practices in dealing with COVID, and we have set a 'nobody gets hurt atmosphere.' From the first meeting with the business agents and workers, they have really embraced the culture."

## Greed is the other virus

By Jim Hightower

The holy mantra of health professionals was coined about 2,500 years ago by the Greek physician Hippocrates: "Do no harm."

Of course, that was before corporate healthcare took charge and asserted a new guiding ethic: "Jack up profits."

Putting this in practice, America's largest and richest hospital chains rushed to the front of the COVID-19 bailout line this spring to pull \$15 billion from the government's emergency fund. They pocketed the taxpayers' money despite sitting on tens of

billions of dollars of their own cash reserves.

But hold your nose, for it gets much stinkier.

The bailout was intended to keep hospital workers on the job. Yet the wealthiest chains have hit nurses, janitors, and other crucial frontline staffers with layoffs, pay cuts, and deadly shortages of protective gear.

For example, HCA, the \$36-billion-a-year health care behemoth that's wallowing in profits, snatched a billion-dollar taxpayer bailout for itself, then demanded hospital staffers accept wage freezes and the elimination of company pension payments... or have thousands of jobs eliminated.

However, in a public show of compassion, HCA's chief executive Samuel Hazen donated two months of his \$1.4 million

salary to an employee support fund. Magnanimous? Deceptive is more like it.

The trick is that a CEO's "salary" is a minuscule part of total pay. Hazen's annual bonus, stock payouts, and other compensation will raise his actual pay to almost \$27 million.

So his donation is less than 1 percent of his pay, and he almost certainly will write that off his income taxes. That means we taxpayers – including the nurses and others he's knocking down – not only underwrite his fat take-home pay, but we also subsidize his face-saving philanthropic gimmick.

What we have here is a raging virus of executive suite greed doing deeper damage to our society than COVID-19 ever could. ([via www.otherwords.org](http://www.otherwords.org))



## ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

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Union: \_\_\_\_\_ Local No: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_ thru \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been exposed to asbestos?  
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Have you been diagnosed with:  
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 Lung Cancer     Colon Cancer

Do you have shortness of breath?  
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**Call 800-799-2234**

Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as **mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestosis.**

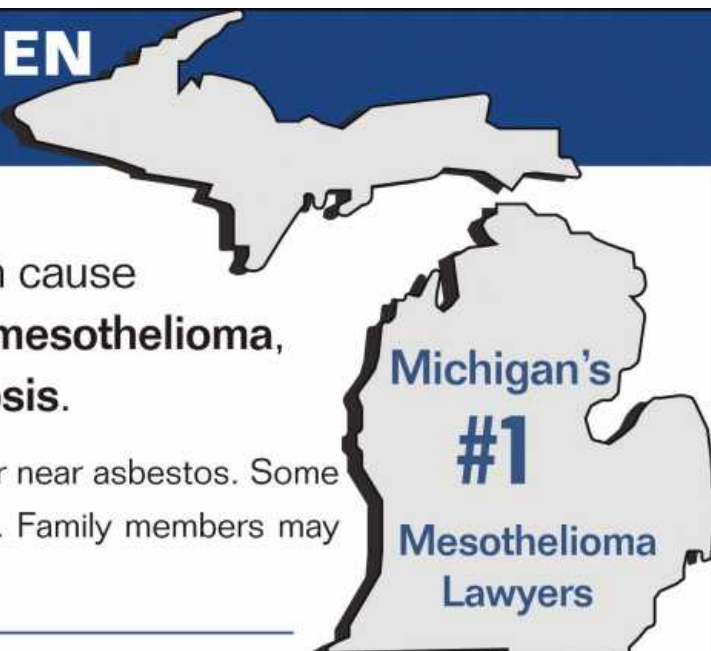
Many building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Some are not aware they were even exposed. Family members may be at risk of bystander exposure.



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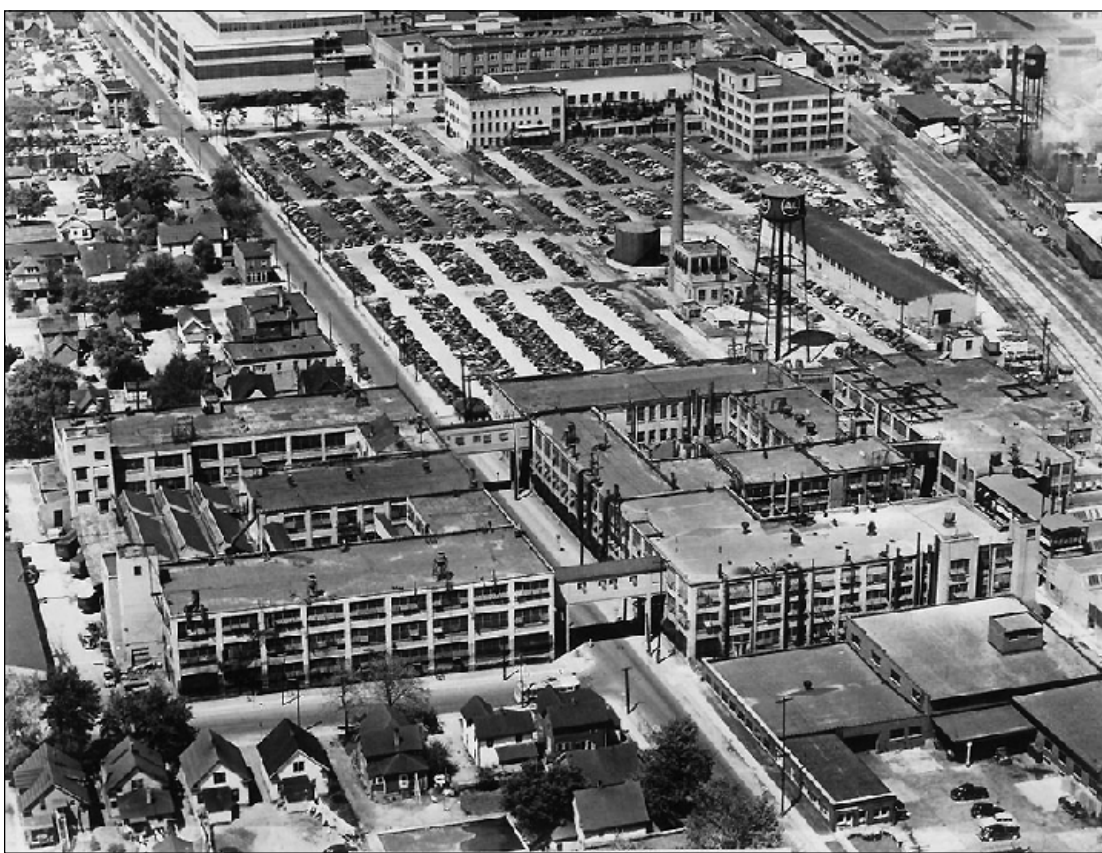
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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: AC Spark Plugs HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



FLINT'S AC Spark Plug plant on Industrial Avenue is shown in an undated photo after much expansion. The original factory is in the center portion on the left (west) side of the photo. Expansions were built to the north and south of the original structure, and also on the east side of Industrial Avenue. During World War II this was AC Spark Plug's main manufacturing plant. Many of the products it supplied for the war effort were built here. In 1975 the plant was closed and subsequently razed. Photo credit: General Motors

At the turn of the last century, the budding automobile industry was producing cars that were comprised of about 1,500 parts.

Of course, some of those components were more important than others in the operation of a vehicle. Spark plugs, for example, were indispensable to the operation of an internal combustion engine – and the essential nature of those metal and ceramic objects helped employ tens of thousands of workers in Flint over the course of the last century.

Flint is known as the birthplace of General Motors, but it was also home to the AC Spark Plug Co., manufacturer of spark plugs and a whole line of other automotive components – and when needed, war materiel.

"AC Spark Plug has been referred to as 'one of the most iconic auto parts names in history,' and is a big part of Flint's and General Motors' past," wrote Cheryl Dennison for *MyCityMag*. "The manufacturing facility underwent many name changes over the years, originally called Champion Ignition after its founder, Albert Champion (hence 'AC'). GM purchased it in 1909 and in 1922, it became AC Spark Plug Company." (The competing Champion Spark Plug brand, which Albert had been involved in starting, had previously been trademarked and its owners demanded control of the name).

Credit for the invention of the first spark plug goes to American Edmond Burger, who built such a device in 1839. But Burger didn't get a patent on his spark plug, and the internal combustion engine was barely in developmental stages at the time.

"So documented history points to Sir Oliver Lodge of England, whose sons parlayed the 'Lodge Igniter' into a profitable company founded in 1903," says *E3's History-Making Spark Plugs*. "The next year, Albert Champion, a world renowned bicycle and motorcycle racer who made extra cash by handcrafting spark plugs and selling them to friends, moved from France to Flint, Michigan and founded Champion Ignition Co. Investor drama left Champion jobless, but he soon found himself appointed president of the AC Spark Plug Co. formed with backing from Buick Motor Co."

The AC Spark Plug Co. was founded in Flint on Oct. 26, 1908 by Champion and William C. Durant, who founded General Motors Corp. the same year. Originally, Champion was located in a Buick building. In 1909, AC Spark Plug became a division of the General Motors Co. and the company started working out of a new factory.

"A.H. Goss, secretary of the Buick Motor Co. of Flint," said a local publication in February 1909, "has announced that work has begun upon a factory building for the Champion Ignition Co. at Harriet Street and Industrial Avenue. The building will be uniform in appearance with those of the Buick concern and the Weston-Mott Co. The concern is affiliated with the Buick Co. and will manufacture all kinds of electrical equipment, especially electrical ignition devices. A large number of men will be employed." The Industrial Avenue plant



THIS IS THE FIRST AC Spark Plug building, shown in 1909 on Industrial Avenue in Flint. Photo credit: Buick City Blogspot

as originally built was a tiny 33,000 square feet. A second building was added at the site in 1915, adding 18,000 square feet, and in 1918 more buildings were constructed, creating 88,000 square feet.

AC Spark Plug got more room in 1925 when it acquired new space to manufacture goods in the former J. Dallas Dort auto plant, where car production halted in 1924.

"The Flint factories extended from Dort Highway, along Robert T. Longway Blvd. to Center Rd., and the operations survived many highs and lows," said *MyCityMag*. "In its heyday, AC employed as many as 14,000 workers."

"The name of the division is AC Spark Plug, but it is obvious... that it made more than spark plugs," said *AC Spark Plug Division of GMC in World War Two*. "In 1919 AC Spark Plug added speedometers to its product line. In 1925 it added air cleaners, and in 1926 oil filters and gas filters started coming off its assembly lines. These were followed in 1927 by mechanical fuel pumps, ammeters, oil and temperature gauges, and tachometers. In 1928 the division began the manufacture of complete instrument panels and crankcase breathers. Fast forward to 1975 and past many other new products, and AC Spark Plug Division began producing the catalytic converters that were installed on all General Motors passenger cars and some light trucks. New products were introduced during its entire life cycle."

During World War II the plants manufactured a dizzying array of other products to help win the war, including Sperry Automatic Pilots, bombsights, torpedo directors, flaming arrestors, switches, bearings, and Browning 50-caliber machine guns, just to name a few.

AC Spark Plugs not only ignited the engines of GM vehicles, they rode along with aviator Amelia Earhart. The company's engineers helped NASA develop the inertial guidance systems for the entire Apollo program, with AC igniter



THIS IS THE ORIGINAL Champion spark plug plant at Industrial Avenue and Harriet Street in Flint, MI after the addition of 18,000 square feet in 1915. Albert Champion came to Flint in 1908, and tens of thousands of workers earned a living there because of him.

spark plugs used to fire the second and third stages of the Saturn V rocket that took Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Mike Collins to the moon. AC and GM also had a major hand in designing the buggy that astronauts drove on the moon.

AC Spark Plug's division was merged with GM's United Delco division in 1974, forming AC-Delco. GM demolished its original Industrial Avenue facility in 1975, with operations moving to the seven plants that made up the Dort Highway works. Last known as Flint Delphi East, the factories continued to produce numerous automotive components. In 2006, AC Spark Plug closed its doors and in 2013, Flint Delphi East (Plant 43) ceased operations and relocated the bulk of its work to Mexico.

Champion earned a place in the Automotive Hall of Fame in 1977 having "ignited the automotive industry with his innovative products," the Hall said. Further, the Hall said "Champion's spark plugs were designed to shield the center electrode from grounding against metal and were more resilient against moisture and engine heat. His products became wildly successful..."

In August 2015, Champion's contributions to the auto industry and the community was enshrined, with the unveiling of a life-size bronze statue in downtown Flint. Champion enjoyed racing, especially motorcycles, and he won his first event, the 160-mile Paris-Roubaix event in 1899.

"But Flint's not a cycling city," wrote Peter Joffre Nye for *Velo News*. "The statue has to do with Champion's contributions to the automotive industry. You've seen his name on Champion spark plugs and his initials in General Motors' AC Delco division. His products even powered Charles Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis flight across the Atlantic and into history. Yeah, amazing guy."

Albert Champion, only 49, died Oct. 27, 1927 of a heart attack just five months after Lindbergh's flight.

# For now, Michigan is an island in a swamp created by COVID-19

(Continued from Page 1) over the month. Advances continued in June. However, the damage to commercial and multifamily construction during the first half of the year was palpable." Dodge added: "The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting recession have wreaked havoc on U.S. building markets."

Dodge said during the course of the first half of the year, compared to the same period in 2019, among the top 10 U.S. metro areas, commercial and multifamily construction starts slid 21 percent and only one metro area (Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, Ariz.) posted an increase (+82 percent).

In the same time period, among the second-tier (ranked 11-20 by population) metro areas, commercial and multifamily starts plummeted 25 percent, Dodge said, "with just one metro area posting an increase." That one metro area would be the 20th-ranked Detroit metro area, which saw commercial buildings and multifamily housing starts jump a nation-leading 96 percent vs. the same time period in 2019.

Remarkably, every other top-20 major metropolitan area in the nation was negative in the commercial and multifamily construction sector, with the worst being the Nashville, Tenn. area dropping 45 percent and the Washington D.C. area falling 42 percent.

Separately, the Associated General Contractors of America reports a similar scenario in the area of U.S. construction employment, and as they reported a month prior, several Michigan metropolitan areas are continuing to be strong employers of building trades workers.

The AGC reported its analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) numbers on July 29 and found that construction employment decreased in 225, or 62 percent, out of 358 U.S. metro areas

between June 2019 and June 2020, despite widespread increases from May to June. In contrast, before COVID-19 hit, construction employment had increased in 61 percent of U.S. metro areas in February 2020 vs. February 2019.

"It's troubling to see construction employment lagging year-ago levels in most locations, in spite of a strong rebound in May and June," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "Those gains were not enough to erase the huge losses in March and April. Many indicators since the employment data were collected in mid-June suggest construction employment will soon decline, or stagnate at best, in much of the country."

In Michigan, areas outside of Detroit, fortunately, also continue to be an outlier in construction employment compared to the rest of the nation, landing four "metropolitan" areas among the top 10 in the U.S. for putting building trades workers to work.

Monroe was tops in the nation among geographical "metropolitan" jurisdictions in the U.S., for employment gains from May to June 2020, up 31 percent. "Detroit- Dearborn- Livonia" and "Warren- Troy- Farmington Hills" were among the regional designations tied at No. 2 (both up 24 percent during that month. Bay City was No. 10 on the list,

and Ann Arbor and Saginaw were among those tied at No. 15. Not far behind tied at No. 34 were Niles/Benton Harbor, Flint and Lansing, all up 12 percent for the month.

Michigan construction this year has been boosted by an outage at the Fermi II Nuclear Power Plant near Monroe, major automotive projects for Fiat-Chrysler in the Detroit area, a new power plant in St. Clair County, a new hospital and power plant in the Lansing area, among other major projects around the state. They were all ongoing when COVID hit.

"The COVID-19 pandemic and recession have devastated most local construction markets," said Richard Branch, chief economist for Dodge Data & Analytics.

"Across the board, building projects have been halted or delayed with virtually no sector immune from damage. Construction starts have begun to increase from their April lows and there is cautious optimism that as the year progresses construction markets around the country will begin a modest recovery.

"However, the recent acceleration of COVID-19 cases in the South and West as well as the upcoming expiration of expanded unemployment insurance benefits (from the CARES Act) puts the recovery at significant risk and could undermine the construction sector's ability to grow."

# Labor gags on GOP's pandemic relief bill

(Continued from Page 1)

financially devastated states. It also introduces a solution in need of a problem, in the form of the elimination of workers' ability to take COVID-related legal action against employers.

The Democratic House adopted a \$3 trillion "HEROES" plan on May 15 that would have extended the \$600 per week federal jobless compensation (vs. \$200 per week offered by the GOP) and offered significant financial help to states, among other benefits.

"For months," said AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka, "Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has been dragging his feet, refusing to acknowledge America's public health and economic crises. More than 150,000 Americans have died from COVID-19, and millions of working people have lost their livelihoods because of the pandemic."

"And after weeks of being on vacation, McConnell unveiled a weak piece of legislation that cuts unemployment benefits, fails to make the necessary investments in our vital public services and our infrastructure, and fails to create an emergency temporary standard to protect front-line workers."

"The labor movement has been saying since May that passing the HEROES Act isn't a choice, it's a necessity. With the future of America hanging in the balance, the stakes could not be higher."

Economist Heidi Shierholz of the labor-backed Economic Policy Institute said on July 30 that the GOP's \$400 cut in benefits "is not just cruel, it's terrible economics. These benefits are supporting a huge amount of spending by people who would otherwise have to cut back dramatically. The spending made possible by the \$400 that the Senate wants to cut is supporting 3.4 million jobs. If you cut the \$400, you cut those jobs."

Shierholz the last week of July "was the 19th week in a row that unemployment claims have been more than twice the worst week of the Great Recession."

McConnell released the plan knowing he did not have the full support of the Republican caucus in the Senate – a number of whom have said the initial \$1 trillion relief package adopted months ago was sufficient. McConnell said he hopes that in the next two weeks the Senate will be able to get the next coronavirus relief bill to the House.

"Republicans have put forward a framework that would do huge amounts of good for huge numbers of American families," McConnell said. "If Democrats ever come to the table, we'll be able to bridge our differences and make a law."

Many Republicans and chambers of commerce have argued that an extension of the \$600 per week benefit is a deterrent to workers returning to work. That's not necessarily so, said the *Wall Street Journal* on July 29. "Many economists who have studied the benefits say they so far don't see evidence in labor market data that the payments are affecting the rate at which people are returning to work during the pandemic," the article said.

Also included in the GOP bill, said EPI President Thea Lee, is a provision that grants "legal immunity to employers who fail to protect their workers, a blatant example of Senate Republicans exploiting the coronavirus crisis to forward a long-standing agenda aimed at shielding corporations from legal liability. To be clear, removing legal accountability from businesses would jeopardize the health and safety of workers and consumers and threaten the economic recovery."

McConnell said the legal immunity provision is a must have in the final legislation, and is a response to an "epidemic" of COVID-related lawsuits by American workers, but *Politico* reported on July 27 that "data suggests that coronavirus-related litigation isn't very contagious." *Politico* said of the 3,727 coronavirus-related cases that have been filed since March, just 185, or less than 5 percent, "fall into the personal injury category that McConnell describes – plaintiffs claiming fear of exposure, potential exposure or exposure to Covid-19, according to an analysis by the American Association for Justice."

*LA Times* business columnist Matt Rosendale wrote, "in plain English, the Republicans are proposing to eviscerate almost all workplace protections at the moment when the threat to workers' health may be its highest in a century."

# The Building Tradesman

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A woman awakens during the night to find that her husband is not in their bed.

She puts on her robe and goes downstairs to look for him.

She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a cup of coffee in front of him. He appears deep in thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of coffee.

"What's the matter,

# Just joking

dear?" she whispers as she steps into the room. "Why are you down here at this time of night?"

The husband looks up, "Do you remember 20 years ago when we were dating, and you were only 17?" he asks solemnly. The wife is touched, thinking her husband is having a caring and sensitive moment. "Yes, I do," she replies.

The husband pauses. The words are not coming easily. "Do you remember when your

father... caught us in the back seat of my car?"

"Yes, I remember," says the wife, lowering herself into a chair beside him.

The husband continues, "Do you remember when he shoved a shotgun in my face and said, 'Either you marry my daughter, or I will send you to jail for 20 years!'"

"Of course, I remember that too," she replies softly.

He wipes another tear from his cheek, blows his nose, sobs and wails, "I would have gotten out today!"



**Local 190**

Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters,  
Service Technicians,  
Gas Distribution

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190 ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING:** The next regular union meeting is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 10 at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. This meeting will take place outside under a large tent. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

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

**UNION HALL CLOSING FOR AN UP COMING HOLIDAY:** Our office will be closing at 12 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 4 and will be closed all day on Monday, Sept. 7 to observe Labor Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

**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.

**OFFICE HOURS: Effective Monday, Feb. 3,** the Union Hall office hours are as follows: Monday – Friday: 7:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

**The office will be closed daily from 12 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

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

**UALocal 190 WEBSITE:** [www.ua190.org](http://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**, to report 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:**

**VISION PROGRAM – EYEMED – IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** EyeMed benefit cards are not necessary to access benefits, however, you may print a card from the EyeMed website. Vision providers should be provided the following information at the time of the appointment; 1) Carrier Name -(EyeMed), 2) Member Name 3) Member Birthdate

EyeMed Customer Service Call: 888-581-3648  
In Network Provider Listings Call: 866-804-0982  
EyeMed Website: [www.eyemed.com](http://www.eyemed.com)

**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:** On the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month a representative will be available to meet with members from 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the union hall. Please feel free to come in for any information you may need on Health and Welfare funds, Met Life Insurance Policies and miscellaneous.

**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

TRAINING CENTER IS OPENED BACK UP TO MEMBERS WISHING TO UPDATE ANY CERTIFICATIONS, LICENSES OR QUALIFICATIONS.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We are following the State and CDC guidelines. You must wear a face mask inside the building.

**Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 hours):** Monday, Oct. 5 at 5 p.m. This is an in-person class, at the Training Center. To register for this class contact Retha, 734-426-3700.

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hours):** Monday, Oct. 19 at 5 p.m. This is an in-person class, at the Training Center. To register please contact Retha, 734-426-3700.

**WELDING LAB:** Will start back up by appointment only. It will run Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. **LIMITED TO SEVEN PARTICIPANTS.** Call Andy Fielder, at the Training Center to be added to the list on a daily basis, 734-426-3700. Weld test days are determined as participants show they have the skills.

**ASSE BACKFLOW RE-CERTIFICATION (8HRS):** This class begins, Tuesday, Aug. 4 and Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 5 p.m. This is an in-person class at the training center. Reminders are being mailed out for this, so check you mail and RSVP.

**ASSE BACKFLOW TESTER CERTIFICATION (40 HRS):** This class starts Tuesday, Aug. 18 and runs for five weeks on Tuesday and Wednesday, from 5-9 p.m. This is an in-person class at the training center. **CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO EIGHT.** Please contact Retha to register for this class, 734-426-3700.

**ASSE BACKFLOW RE-CERTIFICATION (8HRS):** This class starts Tuesday, Sept. 22 and Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 5 p.m. This is an in-person class at the training center. Please check your certifications for the expiration date. A mailing will be sent out. Please contact Retha to register for this class, 734-426-3700.

**MED GAS INSTALLER AND BRAZER CERTIFICATION (40 HRS):** This class starts Tuesday, Aug. 18 and runs for five weeks on Tuesday and Thursday, from 5-9 p.m. **This is an online class, ran through ZOOM and BLACKBOARD.** You must have a reliable internet connection and a computer to be in this class. Members wishing to be in this class must notify the training center no later than Aug. 11, so we can get you enrolled in Blackboard. Brazing practice and the tests for this certification will be at the training center

**MED GAS INSTALLER UPDATE (8 HRS):** This class starts Wednesday, Sept. 23 (online) and Thursday, Sept. 24 (in-person) at 5 p.m. **Classwork is done online, via ZOOM and BLACKBOARD on Wednesday and test is in-person at the Training Center on Thursday.** Reminders are being mailed out for those who will be expiring prior to the next update class. Please contact Retha to register for this class, 734-426-3700.

**CONFINED SPACE (4 HRS):** This class starts Monday, Aug. 17. **CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO EIGHT.** Please contact Retha to register for this class 734-426-3700

**ICRACERTIFICATION (16 HRS):** ICRA stands for Infection Control Risk Assessment. This is an ASSE certification, that is more in-depth than the Infection Control University certification that the University requires at their hospital and other medical facilities. Local 190 is working with the University to get the ASSE 12000 (ICRA) into their specs as a pre-approved course. If you are interested in this certification, call Retha to be put on a list. Once we have enough, we will reach back out to those interested with the dates of the class.

**APPRENTICES PLEASE NOTE:** Make sure your e-mail and phone number are updated at the training center. Please call and dial EXT. 2

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

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



**Local 370 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters**

**Plumbers & Pipe Fitters 370**

**FLINT –** The next Membership Meeting scheduled for August has been **canceled** due to the Governor’s order banning inside gatherings of more than 10 people.

**Please note that we have moved to our new Union Hall/ Training Center located at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. and will no longer be at our Pierson Rd. location.**

**Local 370 2020 Golf outing** will be held **Saturday, Aug. 22** at Flushing Valley Golf course in Flushing. 9 am Shotgun Start. The price is \$70 a man. \$280 per team. Price includes 18 holes with cart, lunch at the turn, Refreshments, Door prizes and Dinner. Stop by the hall and get the signup sheet with all the information. We are limited to 38 teams so sign up early if you want to play

**Upcoming Night Classes:** Call Kaytlin to sign up.

**CPR/ First Aid classes.** Wednesday Sept. 9 & Thursday Sept. 10th @ 4pm.

**Rigging Class:** Sept. 15, through Oct. 22nd, Every Tuesday and Thursday @ 4:30pm

**All Committee and Board meetings are cancelled until further notice.**

**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.

**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, Backflow 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.

**ALL GM Work requires 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 GM site 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.

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

We are now able to accept Visa, MasterCard, 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 in the paper.

(Continued next column)



**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.**

Congratulations on 1<sup>st</sup> place finish at the 35<sup>th</sup> annual UP Building Trades Council Golf outing; Jason Feathers, Kirk Millette, Dan Soderman & Alec Wandahsaga.

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.

**Training/Apprenticeship News:** Notice to members and apprentices: Jesse Harvala is stepping down as training coordinator and the JATC committee has chosen John Antoncew as his replacement. John Antoncew will begin his new duties August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Jesse will be staying on as a part-time instructor. Local 111 and the JATC would like to thank Jesse for his time as coordinator and welcome John to his new position.

Local 111 JATC has cancelled all Apprenticeship classes including open welding at the training center until further notice, with the exception of Med Gas and Backflow, they are on as scheduled. Please contact Training Coordinator, Jesse Harvala with any questions you may have.

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

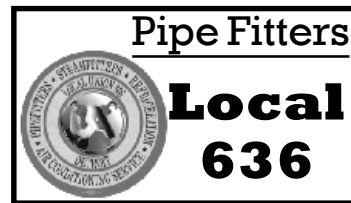
**MSHA Training:** The 2020 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. Call Cindy at (906) 228-6450 to register. MSHA expires in one year.

**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.



**Pipe Fitters Local 636**

**DETROIT –** There will be No August Union Meeting. The Hall will be Re-Opening on July 13, 2020 to all foot traffic. Masks are **REQUIRED**. Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone. SUB email is [mapril@pipefitters636.org](mailto:mapril@pipefitters636.org)

The Annual Pipefitters 636 Picnic has been cancelled due to Covid-19.

The Labor Day Parade has been cancelled due to Covid-19. The Leadership of Local 636 is doing their best to balance the concerns of our members in regards to their health with the concerns of the health of our Union, Trust Funds and Industry. We encourage everyone to fill calls as we are receiving for jobs where all the OSHA regulations working safely are being followed.

These jobs must be filled. If the hours are not worked by our members they will be worked by Travelers, which doesn’t help our Union or our Trust Funds as the money is sent to the Traveler’s Home Local. In situations where a member doesn’t have COVID, isn’t caring for someone with COVID or eligible under any of the other relaxed rules of the State of MI regarding unemployment benefits; we ask that you to take available work, and it is your choice if you do not, but please understand SUB benefits will not be paid in these instances where Traveler fitters are dispatched.

**Also it is your responsibility as a member** to report when you **return to work** not the **contractors**. So please call the Hall and speak to the Business Agent on dispatch to report your return to work date.

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. You can contact her @ 313-580-6887

**The Retiree Association Meeting for the month of July and all other Retiree Meetings moving forward, have been cancelled until further notice.** The election has also been postponed until further notice. – President David Evans

**Any member that 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.**

New Quarterly ending September 30, 2020 UA Password is: **ESSENTIAL**

**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.**

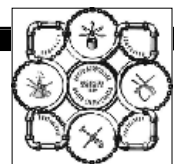
**Defined Contribution Pension Plan:** For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new number for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526.

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](http://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 [mustbsafe.org](http://mustbsafe.org) and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be “ready” when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE BONUS PAYMENTS.**

**Financial Planning:** Call Jason May at Morgan Stanley 248-258-1750 for assistance and consultation relating to your Defined Contribution Investments. He will help with a total financial plan if requested. Services are paid for by the Defined Contribution Pension Fund.

**Recovery Support Group:** Pipe Dreamers, a Peer Support Recovery group for ongoing re- (Continued next column)



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

**Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357**

**KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 pm. This meeting will be held **OUTSIDE** on the east end of the hall in front of the roll up doors. You will need to bring your own chair and adhere to the current social distancing rules. This meeting is weather dependent.

**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.ualocal357.com](http://www.ualocal357.com) and the **FACEBOOK** Page @ [www.facebook.com/UALocal357/](http://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!

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Congratulations to the family of Cory Chopp on the addition of a baby girl, Madison.

Congratulations to Brandon Arntz on his recent marriage.

**Local 636 cont’d**

covery 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 any questions you may have.

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.





**Plumbers and Steamfitters 85 SAGINAW – All Union Meetings are postponed until further notice.** Currently we have canceled the July Meeting. We will make decisions on all future meetings as we get closer.

The Annual Local 85 Picnic 2020 is cancelled.

The Annual Local 85 Golf Outing 2020 is cancelled.

We encourage members to do as much of their business as they can by phone, email and fax. We will adhere to social distancing practices. SUB checks will continue to be mailed ONLY. We will be available by phone and email anytime for your convenience. Please utilize the phone numbers and email addresses listed below.

**ALL NON-CRITICAL INTERACTIONS** are 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 13  
jpomerville@ualocal85.org

Jamie Badour  
Business Agent  
(989) 799-5261 x 15  
jbador@ualocal85.org

Tim Danielak  
Business Agent  
(989) 799-5261 x 14  
tdanielak@ualocal85.org

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

Bobby Anderson  
Organizer  
(989) 799-5261 x 12  
rjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill  
Office Professional  
(989) 799-5261 x 11  
ktuthill@ualocal85.org

Feather Reige  
Office Professional  
(989) 799-5261 x 10  
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. 11 or 10.

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 Center News: Congratulations:** to our newest Journeyman Steve Allen and Dylan Miller.

The UA Local 85 JATC also held interviews for a new Service Instructor. Congratulations and welcome to Jason Boensch. I am certain you will be an asset to the Service Training Program.

**SUB Fund:**

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

**Where to submit documents:** Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, P.O. Box 6547, Saginaw, MI 48608 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.

(Continued next column)



**Plumbers & Pipe Fitters**

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333 LANSING – August’s union meeting is CANCELLED.**

LOCAL 333 PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS GOLF OUTING HELD IN AUGUST IS CANCELLED.

If you’re interested in taking any classes please sign up at www.ua333.org or call Trent or Diana at 517-323-0333.

**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 contractors, changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. **Ultimately it is the member’s responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.**

Weld Test (Second Tuesday of the Month) Weld Test are scheduled each month. (Unless lack of participants)

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 training center.

We have long sleeve and short sleeve t-shirts available. Long sleeve are \$25. And short sleeve tees are \$20. We have a large assortment of colors and sizes.

Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Jackson member Richard Cummings who passed away July 22, 2020 Richard was a Master Plumber for over 40 years and a Life Member of our local. Our thoughts and prayer are with you.

## Local 85 cont’d

**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. 10.

**Beneficiary Cards:** Please call the Union Hall for any changes in beneficiary information at (989) 799-5261 ext. 10.

**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 retirees’ 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 Gary Brandon who passed away on July 7, 2020.

We extend our condolences to the family of Stanley McCallum who passed away on July 17, 2020.

Remember, you all are essential to me.  
**Justin M. Pomerville  
Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary  
Local Union 85**



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

Brothers and Sisters, Your officers and I are in hope this letter finds you and your family well.

We hope to have a Special Called meeting sometime in August. Please keep an eye out for an email blast for further information. All distributed allocations are posted on our UA Local 98 web page (UALocal98.com) and went into effect the first week of June 2020.

Election information on who we are supporting and, most importantly, who will support us is now found under the “About” section under “Political Action” on our webpage. Click on the red “2020 Primary Election Endorsement List” banner toward the top of the page. If the person is not a labor-friendly candidate please do not vote for them. It’s not hard to look them up, trust me on this one. These days you cannot outrun a camera. There is a big split in our area politics from the City of Detroit as well as the rest of Wayne County, Oakland County, and Macomb County. It appears no one has a common goal but to stay in power.

For example, State Rep. Joe Tate is a representative in the city of Detroit. He comes to our aid on all issues. He now he has a contested race due to greed of some sort. Rep. Tate had been planning to donate his PAC money to the House Democratic Party, but now has to spend money to support his contested race.

The same is happening in Oakland County as two good men from the same political party go head to head. Local 98 is backing Dave Coulter as he is the current holder of the Oakland County Executive office. He has proven to be a true Union supporter, getting the workers a great raise and keeping AAA bond rating in the County as well. So don’t just vote, spend a few minutes a research your candidates. I will try to put an update in here going forward until Election Day.

I am not sure when the last time this has happened, but if you are unaware, the Labor Day Parade and Rally are cancelled this year due to COVID-19.

Due to our compliance with Mayor Duggan’s STEP program, we have been given access to free COVID-19 testing to all Local 98 members at the old State Fair Grounds on Woodward and 8 Mile Road in Detroit. Prior to going you must call for an appointment at 313-230-0505. No doctor note is needed, but they will ask you for a code. Our code is 289488PL. This is free with no copay required.

Our auto plants, as well as construction sites, are up and running again. If you are asked to do any pre-hire safety of any type prior to entering the plant on your own time, it is not acceptable. You must be reimbursed for your time. Contact the BA in your area if you have a problem.

If you are not supplied with personal protection equipment (PPE) or feel the job is not properly addressing safety issues, you have the right to call your agent and leave the job. If you are still worried of retaliation by the owner, we have established an anonymous safety hotline call in number for U.A. locals 98 & 636 members and our Contractors to investigate any lack of protection or wrong doing by the owners we all work for. That number is 313-340-7339.

I believe I must constantly reiterate the dangers of this disease to all of us as tradesmen. We have seen small mistakes that can evolve into serious situations or missed time, there is no set pattern as it has gone from a killer of the old and weak to now having no concern to age, health, race, or creed. Please take caution and watch out for each other.

The Union Hall is now open only to essential foot traffic, as the parking lot is being redone. Please use the West entrance, until further notice. Masks and gloves are required. You need to make an appointment to visit. Temperatures will be taken and a questionnaire must be filled out when you arrive.

Although the Union Hall and our Training Center have been shut down to all unnecessary foot traffic, that does not mean the officers cannot be reached or center cannot be used. In the meantime, any pertinent information can be found on our

new web page. A whole list of information is now available to you under the member only section. You have to log in to the web page in order to have access to that section.

Until further notice, E-Board meetings are slowly getting back underway on the first 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.

Please fill out SUB Apps electronically now. This can also be found on the web page under the Benefits section. The new Out of Work (OOW) list is also available at the top of the webpage, just follow the instructions. If you’re still having unemployment issues call BAs Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams.

It’s that time again for your **2020 Plumbing License Renewal, it MUST BE DONE ONLINE ONLY!** For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit [www.michigan.gov/bcc](http://www.michigan.gov/bcc). Or call 98’s Training Center and they will assist you. Any Must/Most, Upgrades, Continuities, or Letters of Certifications will still be taken care of by Paul Baker at 248-585-1435, or our Officers at 248-307-9800.

We are looking for Residential and Service Plumbers at this time. It will be a great chance to expand and grow again as many members are looking to retire. So, if you know anyone working Non-Union or is a past member that may be interested in us, have them call 98’s Organizer Rob Moses on his cell phone at 248-763-2187.

Don’t miss out on our agreement with the Detroit Land Bank Authority. Local 98 members can purchase homes or buildings in the Land Banks Holdings for half the list cost. Go to [www.buildingdetroit.org](http://www.buildingdetroit.org) to see what this is about, or contact the hall for details.

**In Brotherhood, Carlo Castiglione Business Manager Plumbers Local 98**

**All Retiree Meetings are cancelled.**

**Golf Outing.** The Detroit Plumbers Local 98 Scholarship Fund Golf outing will be held Saturday, Aug. 8 at Oakridge/Marsh Oaks Golf Club. For tickets or sponsorship information call Jon DeRoo at the hall.

**Workers Assistance Program: I personally can’t tell you how lucky we are to have Work Life Strategies, LLC. They are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and, when needed, referrals to professionals in Recovery and Relationship/Divorce Support Groups/Child Custody/Criminal Defense.**

This program is not only for medical and/or personal issues, they also can steer you through governmental resources with any consumer rights or child disability and much more. Please don’t hesitate to call C.J. Harrison at Work Life Strategies at 313-580-6887 for an appointment.

**Out of Work List Changes/SUB Pay.** All working members will be required to complete a SUB application within 48 hours of their lay-off online or in person to ensure placement on the Out of Work List. If you are out of work due to Disability or Workers Compensation, please contact Jon DeRoo first at 248-762-9238, then BeneSys at 248-813-9800 to verify your continued Insurance eligibility.

**TRAINING CENTER NEWS** Phone#248-585-1435

Check out The Training Center’s website [www.Plumbers98tc.org](http://www.Plumbers98tc.org)

The Apprenticeship Application process is closed until further notice.

As the COVID-19 restrictions begin to relax the Training Center is open and slowly returning to normal operations. 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 September 25, 2020. The next scheduled recertification class is **October 27 & 28, 2020.**

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The **(Continued next column)**

# The COVID virus is here and it’s nasty – let’s act accordingly

## Viewpoint

I certainly do not have all the answers and I do believe the dismal daily news reports of the awful affects of this pandemic. Thanks to the current arrogant people in power, who ignore scientific facts to gain some sort of power, I can only see more economic downturns ahead. Many Americans are led to believe this virus is a hoax or will burn itself out in a short time. Either theory couldn’t be further from the truth.

The coronavirus has evolved from striking the old and sick to now having no concern of race, creed, or age. On the jobsite, if one contractor’s representative or a worker believes this to be a hoax, they can sicken or kill many people. Perhaps it will take the sickness or death of a friend or family member before the doubters understand the severity of this real-world event.

I believe we must constantly reiterate to our trades people of the dangers of COVID-19 and point out mistakes that have been recently allowed to happen on our job sites, putting workers in danger. Maybe each week we can hold the job site talks at our sites between our general contractors our own contractors and tradespeople – in a safer manner. Too often our tradespeople are being asked to congregate during such meetings, and then sign off on daily job site talk sheets – using the same pens and handling the same paperwork other have touched.

For example, on one large project we have the blessing of upper management to address this issue by having our members call out their names and having one person write down the person’s name as having attending the meeting.

Currently some contractors, in an effort to provide water to the trades people on site, have multiple Igloo coolers filled with ice and water bottles floating in them touched by all other crafts – creating a petri dish for germs. These are just some examples of potentially sickening mistakes that are being repeated on jobsites across Michigan, and these practices must end.

Plus we all know examples of times when our fellow tradespeople or contractors are simply not wearing masks or not wearing them properly, nor are they maintaining the proper social distancing. We know from the occasional project shutdown, to workers being sent home to quarantine, to having our temperatures taken, to the forms we have to sign to gain access to jobsites every day – that this virus is real and a constant threat both to our health and livelihoods. The governor has already shut down construction activity in Michigan earlier this year in an effort to slow the spread of the virus – if we continue to see lapses in vigilance in halting its spread it can happen again.

As one of my members has told me, “if we look insane beating the drum of caution and telling everyone the sky is falling, just by saving one life no matter what the cost – that should be good enough for anyone.”

**In Solidarity, I remain, Carlo Castiglione  
Business Manager, Plumbers Local 98**

# GOP inaction means millions fell off financial cliff after July 31 deadline

**By Mark Gruenberg  
PAI Staff Writer**

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Millions of people fell off a cliff – financially and otherwise – after Friday, July 31, when Senate Republicans and GOP President Donald Trump were unable to come to terms with themselves much less House Democrats – over a COVID-19 relief package.

The AFL-CIO, social welfare groups and other organizations are still lobbying hard and marshalling public support, including through an online petition at [www.actionnetwork.org/forms/heroesact](http://www.actionnetwork.org/forms/heroesact) make sure that disaster doesn’t happen.

Whether the rest of the Republicans will muster enough courage to buck Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Trump is up in the air. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., told Sunday television news shows that half the GOP senators don’t

## Local 98, con’t

next **WELDING Tests** will be Saturday, September 12, 2020. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the class. The next **BRAZING Cert Sessions** will be Friday, September 11, 2020. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

**2020 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, 2020 to be eligible for the \$80.00 reimbursement.

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

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

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.

want to provide any aid at all. July 31 was the date of the last \$600 weekly federal unemployment check for the 13.18 million people – farm workers, household help, actors, musicians, freelancers, “gig economy” workers and so-called “independent contractors” among them. After then, they get zip.

And since those workers aren’t part of the regular state-run jobless benefits system, that effectively means no income at all.

Those workers and their families “bought the groceries and paid the rent” with those checks, AFL-CIO Policy Director and chief economist Bill Spriggs said in a roundtable zoom discussion with reporters in early July. “Remove them, and it will be a catastrophe.”

Those \$600 checks also top off the states’ jobless benefits, and in many cases – especially in GOP-run and Sunbelt states – it’s a big “top.” At least 17.189 million people get those top-off checks, too, the latest Labor Department report shows.

The House rode to the rescue, or so it thought, by passing the \$3 trillion Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (Heroes) Act, HR6800, months ago. One key provision would extend those checks through January 31.

But McConnell deep-sixed HR6800 and Trump’s Office of Management and Budget demands he veto it. OMB alleges the bill “is more concerned with delivering on long-standing and partisan ideological wish lists” than fighting the virus.

Failure to pass the Heroes Act as is would make the curtailment of income only one of the problems facing most Americans. Homelessness, even more rapid spread of the coronavirus, an end to countless essential social services and skyrocketing bills for everything from water to electricity and gas are among the potential catastrophes that could hit millions.

In addition, the collapse of state economies, closure of hospitals, shuttering of public school systems, a chaotic November election that that has nothing in common with what one should see in a democracy and more could become part of the new reality in America if HR6800 is not enacted.



**Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47**

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

LANSING - The Union Meeting originally scheduled for August 14, 2020 has been cancelled due to the current Covid-19 pandemic.

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.

Remember that all Union Meetings have been suspended until further notice.

The International Union is requesting all the names of past and present members that are Veterans of the Armed Forces. This list will be going back to our charter in 1937. We need the name, registration number, military branch and dates served. Please call the office for more information.

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: Larry Tolbert (269-345-8944) Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275

Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Telephone: (517) 321-7502 Fax Number: (517) 321-7508

Larry Tolbert will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Larry is the Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be reached by phone at (269) 345-8944, or by mail at: P.O. Box 19541, Kalamazoo, MI 49019.

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 (Continued next column)



**Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25**

**Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD-REMINDER: We continue to be under the directive of the International Union and pursuant to that directive, the AUGUST 2020 UNION MEETING has been cancelled. Continue to monitor the Facebook page for updates.**

**APRIL PER CAPITA:** The required Per Capita payment for any member working less than 32 hours in the month of April 2020 has been waived. Any payments already made to the Union Office will be returned.



**CURT MCGLONE**

**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.

**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 is to call the Office - (248) 352-1850.

**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 thirty (30) days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the thirty (30) days will be denied per the Plan Document.

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

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

**Local 47 cont'd**

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.

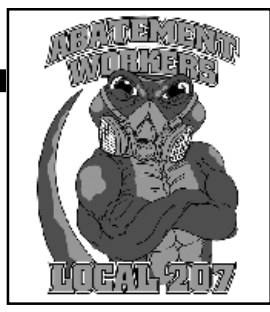
Members having questions regarding Pension and Welfare Fund please contact TIC International at the numbers below or log onto their Website: www.heatfrostlocal47benefits.org:

**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.

**Good and Welfare:** Local 47 sends our Condolences to the Family and Friends of Raymond McWilliams.

*"Experience is a good school, but the fees are high."*  
-Heinrich Heine (1797 - 1856)



**Abatement Workers Regional Local 207**

**Abatement Workers Local 207 TAYLOR**

Work is improving slowly but not near the rate that was anticipated. Covid still has us under restraint for now. 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.



**DAN SOMENUER**

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 has not yet lifted the 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.

After a wage re-opener negotiation meeting for the remaining 3 years of our contract, an agreement was reached. The Executive Committee met by conference call to review the offer of \$2.50, \$1.65, & 1.65 with \$1.30 per year for the trainee classification. After consideration, the offer was approved. It was made known the Welfare Fund needed a \$1.00 increase. Therefore, the Committee allocated the increase as follows: Journeyman \$1.50 on check with \$1.00 to the Welfare Plan. Trainee: \$0.30 on check with \$1.00 to the Welfare Plan. New rates go into effect on Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

**UPCOMING ASBESTOS TRAINING CLASSES:** Asbestos Supervisor Refresher > Saturday, August 29th, 2020

**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!**

*"It makes you feel very virtuous when you forgive people, doesn't it?"*

—L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

*"To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk."*

—Thomas A. Edison (1847 - 1931)

*"If you cannot lift the load off another's back, do not walk away. Try to lighten it."*

—Frank Tyger



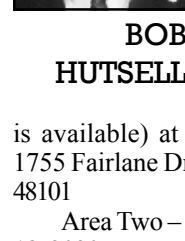
**Local 169 Boilermakers**

**Boilermakers Local 169**

ALLEN PARK - The union meeting will be held in Area One on Friday, August 14, 2020 at 8pm at the union hall - 1755 Fairlane Dr, Allen Park, MI 48101.

The Fall 2020 Advancements meetings have been scheduled as follows:

Areas One & Three - Monday, August 17, 2020 from 2 p m - 7 p m (Upon arrival, you will be directed to your testing room, or asked to wait in your car until space is available) at the Union hall, 1755 Fairlane Dr, Allen Park, MI 48101



**BOB HUTSELL**

Area Two - Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 5pm at the Spring Lake Holiday Inn, 940 W Savidge St, Spring Lake, MI 49456

Area Four - Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 5pm at the Operators Local 324, 802 Robert Hupy Drive, Gladstone, MI 49837

The Area Three picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2020 at 12PM at the Bay City State Park - Shelter Number Three. Camping is available, as well as a beach, and play area. Contact Scott Ivey with any questions. Subject to change due to Covid-19.

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.

Retired member, Terry Dewyer, passed away on July 19, 2020 and retired member, Duane Kraai, passed away on July 25, 2020. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their family and friends during this incredibly difficult time.

*"The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug."*  
-Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

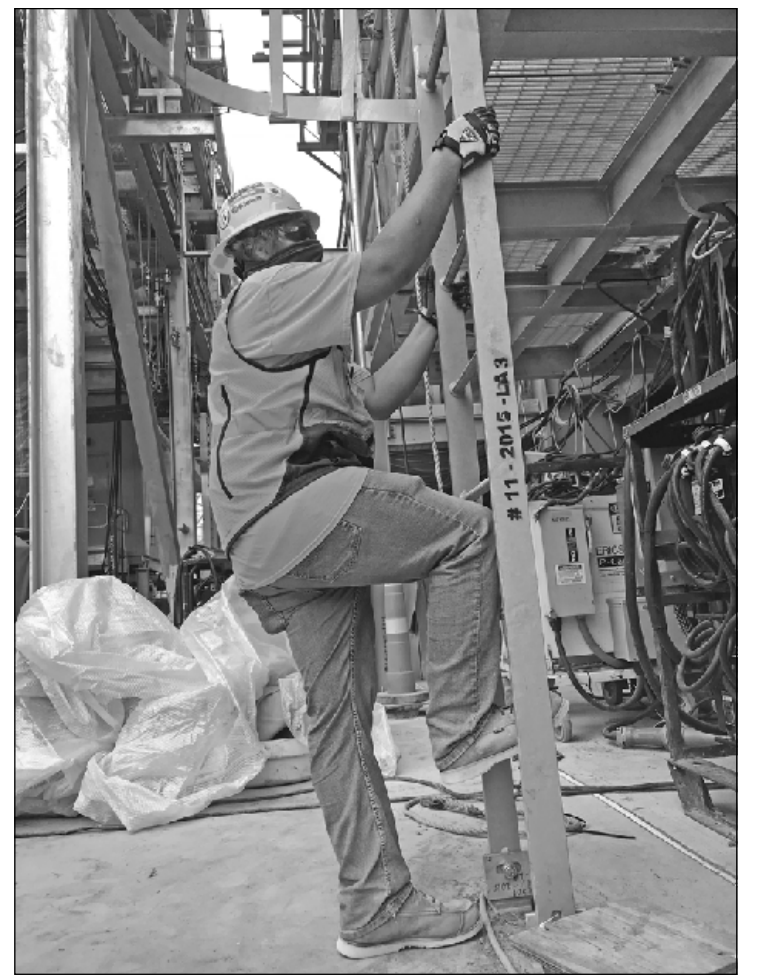
*"The desire to take medicine is perhaps the greatest feature which distinguishes man from animals."*  
-Sir William Osler (1849 - 1919)

*"The world is wide, and I will not waste my life in friction when it could be turned into momentum."*  
-Frances Willard (1839 - 1898)

*"Be very circumspect in the choice of thy company. In the society of thine equals thou shalt enjoy more pleasure; in the society of thy superiors thou shalt find more profit. To be the best in the company is the way to grow worse."*  
- Francis Quarles (1592 - 1644)

*"Do not speak of your happiness to one less fortunate than yourself."*  
-Plutarch (46 AD - 120 AD)

*"To play it safe is not to play."*  
-Robert Altman (1925 - 2007)



**AT WORK** at the DTE Energy Blue Water Energy project in St. Clair County is Dylan Dyer. Photo credit: Kiewit/DTE Energy

**Data shows economy tanked by one-third in second quarter of year**

By Mark Gruenberg, PAI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (PAI) - The economy tanked in the second quarter of 2020, from April through June, government data shows, as U.S. gross domestic product - the sum total of all goods and services - declined by 32.9 percent at an annual rate.

And it could have been worse, even the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis, which released those numbers, says. Federal checks to workers, both the \$1,200 check when the crash began, and \$600 weekly jobless aid on top of state unemployment benefits, propped the economy up, BEA explained.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., wants to knock that prop out, cutting the \$600 to \$200. Half of his ruling Republicans want to reduce it to zero. Succeeding in those aims would only make things much worse.

How much worse? For comparison, BEA's historical statistics add that in the worst year of the Great Depression, 1932, the economy shrank by 12.9 percent.

The day before BEA's release, the AFL-CIO used the gloomy outlook to once again lobby for the House-passed Heroes Act (HR6800). It would extend the federal \$600 weekly jobless aid checks, now sent to at least 30 million unemployed workers through January 31. They're scheduled to end July 31.

"After months of sitting on his hands, McConnell has finally released a proposal for COVID-19 relief. The package is called the Heals Act, but unfortunately this poorly named bill will heal nothing and will only hurt working people and our families," federation President Richard Trumka said.

McConnell's "relief package... is \$2 trillion short and 73 days late. The bill drastically reduces the \$600 in weekly unemployment benefits that thousands of America's families are relying on right now." The fed provided a toll-free number to call senators: 866-832-1560.

"And during a time when millions of working people are without a job, health care or retirement security, the package also includes a bill from" Utah Republican "Sen. Mitt Romney that fast-tracks Social Security and Medicare cuts," Trumka warned.

The 2020 BEA statistics reflect the mass closures needed to combat "community spread" of the coronavirus - closures also reflected in continual increases in jobless claims from unemployed workers.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics provides those numbers, and it reported that in the week ending July 25, 1,205,871 people applied for regular state-provided jobless benefits and another 829,697 sought federal-only \$600 weekly unemployment aid. Since the pandemic-caused crash began on March 13, an official total of 30,202,498 workers have sought jobless benefits, combining both types, BLS added.

Add in jobless people who can't claim benefits, have had them denied, who are still waiting for their first checks due to creaky state jobless systems, plus the seven million unemployed before the coronavirus crash began, and the total rises above 50 million.

The \$600 checks are especially vital to "gig economy" workers, farm workers, home health care workers, so-called "independent contractors" and other workers the regular state-run jobless benefits system doesn't cover.

They also lessened the impact of the April-June crash, BEA's statement said. It explained that a key part of the economy, personal income, rose, on an annual basis, only because "government transfer receipts" - i.e. the initial \$1,200 checks after the crash began and the \$600 weekly benefits since then - "more than accounted for" declines due to lost jobs.

"GDP collapsed faster in the second quarter of 2020 than it has in any other recorded quarter of U.S. history. Congress needs to restore the extra \$600 in unemployment insurance and provide large-scale, flexible aid to state and local governments," the Economic Policy Institute tweeted.

"We are in a historic economic crisis with no end in sight - now is not the time to slash additional unemployment benefits by \$400 a week," Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., tweeted in reply.

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**IBEW Local 131**  
KALAMAZOO – The next **Executive Board** meeting will be August 17th, 2020 at 5 p.m. The next **Women in the Trades Meeting** will be August 18th, at 6 p.m.

Due to the Governor's current executive order, we ask that those coming to the Local Union to conduct business, please wear a face covering.

**Work Outlook:** The work outlook is strong. We expect to have a busier than usual summer continuing into the winter. If you are aware of interested electricians, working in our jurisdiction, please have them visit [www.poweringkalamazoo.com](http://www.poweringkalamazoo.com) or call the office.

The LMCC has launched a new website [www.poweringkalamazoo.com](http://www.poweringkalamazoo.com). This website will be used to highlight local signatory contractors and used as an organizing tool.

Follow us on Facebook @poweringkalamazoo, Twitter @PoweringKzoo, Instagram @poweringkalamazoo, and LinkedIn @poweringkalamazoo. Please feel free to share the wage calculator feature of this site.

**If you believe we do not have your email address or correct cell phone number, please email Christine at [cbohms@ibew131.com](mailto:cbohms@ibew131.com)**

**Dues pricing** – The price of dues for 2019 is \$39/month. The price for dues in 2020 will increase to \$40/month. If you're unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid through, July 2020 your dues are not current; please call the Hall.

We have finalized our automated dues reminders, these reminders will be sent ahead of possible late dues. You may receive a message via text or email if you have not tendered your most current I.O. Dues payments.

Life events happen, and we'd always like to make sure you have updated beneficiary forms. If you're questioning whether yours is up to date, stop on down to the Hall to get new forms.

If you're interested in receiving updates from the Hall, please email Christine at [cbohms@ibew131.com](mailto:cbohms@ibew131.com) to get your email address added.

**Retirements:** Congratulations to the following retiring members: Adrian DiVisser, July 2020. Michael Chaddock, May 2020. John Magnan Jr., May 2020. Robert S. Davis, June 2020. Roger Clark, March 2020. Patrick Klocke, May 2020. Keith Moore, April 2020.

**Condolences:** With a heavy heart, Local 131 would like to announce the following members passing, Brother Dale Bothwell passed away on April 23, 2020. Brother Charles Krull passed away on May 3, 2020. Brother John Ingram passed May 2020. Brother Josh Batten passed away on July 24th, 2020.


All Memorials and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the Memorials Tab.

**FROM THE APPRENTICESHIP: Drug Test Renewals.** Please keep track of your drug test expiration date through [www.safe2work4you.com](http://www.safe2work4you.com). It is your responsibility to stay current on your drug test. Please contact Nicole (269) 388-4434 to get your authorization form printed for you to pick up. If you don't want to come to the Hall to pick it up, please email Nicole and request your form to be emailed to you. [nwolf@ibew131.com](mailto:nwolf@ibew131.com).

**Organizing:** As much technology as we use to track non-union electricians in our jurisdiction, often, our best resources are you the members. If you see a non-signatory in the area working at a location, please let the Hall know.

The Local LMCC is working towards holding a Virtual Job Fair, on the HOPIN application. There may be potential volunteer opportunities running up to the job fair for members to participate in. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Scott Bryer or Fritz Tull.

**Brian O'Donnell**  
Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary



**IBEW**  
**Local 58**

**IBEW Local 58**

DETROIT – The next **Regular Membership Meeting** will be **August 18, 2020 at 6:30 PM** at the Union Hall. Social Distancing and Masks will be required.

The **Electrical Industry Training Center** is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at <http://www.detroitietc.org/continuing-education/>.

We will start to cancel classes if they don't meet the minimum enrollment requirements, or more hopefully we will order books for those of you who've signed up. Members on the Storm Book must secure their training through the Continuing Education Program offered by the school. If you need assistance in registering for a class please call the Training Center at 586-751-6600.

**Local 58 Dues Information:** Dues are due by the first day of the quarter. You can now pay your dues with an APP. Go to Apple/Google Play and download the IBEW 58 APP. In the APP go to My Profile, My Member Tools and that's where you find the information to pay. You can also pay by phone with credit/debit or mail a check. At this time we are not taking cash transactions. Dues for the quarter are \$124.50 without PAC and \$128.50 with PAC.

**Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund:** The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, 2020 5:00 pm.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 5:00 PM. Every member is invited to attend and to bring their ideas about our Local's involvement in our communities.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next meeting will be directly after the Community Service meeting. The Entertainment Committee has decided to cancel the Annual Family Picnic for 2020 based on health concerns caused by the COVID 19 pandemic. Hopefully, the Annual 58 Family Picnic will be held next year on August 7, 2021.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – Thank you to all of those who are attending our Zoom meetings as we continue to navigate through these unprecedented times.

The next meeting of the chapter will be on Monday, Aug. 17, 2020 at 5:30pm. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available.

As we enter this election season we will be participating where needed to try to get candidates who have our best interests as their agenda elected to office. Also, please submit your census data and encourage others to do the same. We do not want our community to be underrepresented for the next TEN YEARS.

The Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (E.W.M.C) is delighted to invite you to our national webinar series "The War on Workers: Coronavirus Style." This webinar is presented by Mark McDermott, an economic justice and labor educator who has been working for economic, racial, and social justice for many years. Brother McDermott is a long-time ally of the EWMC, and we are incredibly pleased to be working together. Mark and our EWMC co-host will present an interactive experience by engaging you through various features of Zoom technology. We want to create a dialogue despite the challenges of social distancing and virtual presentations. More information can be found on the website at [www.ibew-ewmc.com](http://www.ibew-ewmc.com). Please continue to stay safe at work, home, and in the community. #ibewstrong

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, August 10, 2020 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)** meetings are held at 5:00 PM on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

**Local 58's Women's Committee** – With the union hall being closed all in person meetings has been postponed. 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.

Help Wanted – The Women's Committee will be keeping the bid process open for caterers, photographers, band/deejay and other vendors for the ARC Awards until we have a new date.

If you know of vendors interested you can contact Angela Panicucci @ 586-291-8014 or Diana Wright @ 734-934-9029 for further information. We are also looking for a few good sisters to continue on with our newsletter and articles. If you have any experience or affinity for writing please reach out.

If there are any retirees that need help with getting groceries or other essentials during this pandemic, please reach out, we are here for you. You can email us. Email us at: [58Womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58Womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org). Follow us on Instagram @ibewwomen58; Check us out on Facebook.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Board meetings and Luncheons have been cancelled, until further notice. When luncheons resume, due to increasing prices, the cost will be \$20.00 per person. Please keep your contact information and email address updated with the Union hall and the Retirees' Association. Send your email address to [58retirees@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58retirees@ibewlocal58.org). IF you haven't paid your 2020 dues yet, please send them to Ray Owen, 428 Welch Road, Northville MI 48167. Those in arrears will be receiving reminder postcards. The 2020 Retirees Fall Bus trip to Charleston, SC has been postponed until next year. All deposits have been refunded. We look forward to traveling again in September 2021. We will be gathering together again when things have settled down into the new normal. Consider dropping a note or making a call to a fellow retiree's association member, we all could use a bit of socializing during this time of Social Distancing. Stay safe and healthy!

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

**As of 06/30/2020, the following members have lapsed membership.** If you wish to obtain membership, please contact the Union Hall to speak to a Business Agent: Acevedo Jr, Edwin; Barnes, Jermaine A.; Beresford, Joseph P.; Campbell, Allan J.; Codron, John C.; Deal, Christopher C.; Dobbs, Kurt B.; Fileccia Jr, Frank; Fornalewicz, Michael; Gean, Kevin; Hadden, Dale E.; Hall, Joshua D.; Hardy, Andre F.; Johnson, Margaret A.; Kennedy, Kevin D.; Kirby, Philip D.; Moylan, Kenneth R.; Offutt, Ryan M.; Panicucci, Matthew A.; Rider, Lawrence W.; Rowe, Skitch; Schroeder, Adam C.; Slater, Tranette M.; Strugala, Paul R.; Teschendorf, Jacob N.; Tomlinson, Luke A.; Tumminello, Vincent J.; Tyler, Eric M.; Ware, Richard S.; Wilson, Patrick A.; Woznick, Dean T.; Zapinski, Scott M.; Zemke, John P.

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Stephen M. Balbaugh; Lori Blakey; Micheal K. Hall; Robert Hamlin; Margaret Haske; Clyde Jones; Lawrence E. Klein; Richard N. Koebel; James K. Lane; Peter Maniaci; William Remkus.

**Members who have Passed Away:** Charles E. Cain, pension member; Ruth Parant, wife of pension member Roger Parant. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

*"Don't SAY things. What you ARE stands over you the while, and thunders so that I cannot hear what you say to the contrary."*  
–Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882)

*"We pay a price for everything we get or take in this world; and although ambitions are well worth having, they are not to be cheaply won, but exact their dues of work and self-denial, anxiety and discouragement."*  
–L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

**IBEW**  
**LOCAL 58**



**IBEW**  
**Local 252**  
Since 1916

**IBEW Local 252**

ANNARBOR – **LOCAL 252 UNION MEETING:** August 12, 2020 union meeting will be held outside, please bring a lawn chair. Mask and social distancing will be required.

**LOCAL 252 ANNUAL PICNIC:** The Local's Annual Picnic is cancelled this year due to Executive Orders related to the pandemic.

**UNION DUES FOR 2020:** Effective January 1, 2020 union dues for "A" members will be \$119.25 per quarter. Union dues for "BA" members will be \$61.80 per quarter.

**TRAINING CLASSES 2020: ALL CLASSES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**CREDIT CARDS:** The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3.5% to use your card.

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

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

**Local 252 Website & App:** The Local's website [www.ibew252.org](http://www.ibew252.org) is up and running. There is also a Local 252 App available to download. Search "IBEW 252" in the app store. You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section. Your login for the old website is no longer valid.

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

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

**CONDOLENCES:** The Local sends our sincere condolences to Brother Robert Twichell for the recent passing of his mother.

**Retiree's Breakfast:** The retirees' breakfast is cancelled until further notice.

**NOTICE TO RETIREES:** If your 50-year commemorative watch stops working for any reason please contact the Union Hall. Do not attempt to have it serviced yourself.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 6/2020, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2020. "BA" members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2020. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your third quarter dues (July through Sept.) are due now.

**Payments for third quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, September 30, 2020.**

*"We learn from experience that men never learn anything from experience."*

–George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)

*"Things won are done; joy's soul lies in the doing."*

–William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)

*"Much of the social history of the Western world over the past three decades has involved replacing what worked with what sounded good."*

–Thomas Sowell (1930 - )

*"Acceptance is such an important commodity, some have called it "the first law of personal growth."*

–Peter McWilliams

*"Youth is a wonderful thing. What a crime to waste it on children."*

–George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)



**IBEW**  
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TRAVERSE CITY – **Meetings.**

**Regular E Board-** will be held on Wednesday, August 12th, 2020 at 5:30 pm, in person meeting.

**MEETING** – The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, August 12th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

**JATC First Aid/CPR** – The Traverse City JATC will be providing First Aid/CPR/AED Training on Tuesday the 11th of August at 5:30 P.M. This class size is limited based on current Covid 19 rules. Call the hall to sign up. If we need to, we will add more classes as needed. Our cards are good for 2 years, so please check your card or call the hall to see if you are due.

**Covid 19 office hours-** For your information the hall is open to limited walk in traffic. To follow state guidelines there is a 6-foot distance rule in effect, so if there is more than 1 person at a time in the hallway outside of Caroline's window the second person should wait outside or in the meeting room until their turn at the window. Masks are available at the hall for personal use as well as hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies to be able to sanitize the restroom after you use it if needed.

So far Local 498 has not seen any confirmed cases with members that I know of and it would be nice to keep it that way. For extended stays or business needs at the hall you will be asked to fill out a health questionnaire and take a temperature reading just like apprentices do for class or applicants do for interviews, again to try and follow State of MI safety guidelines.

**Picnic** – this summer the picnic will be cancelled due to the Covid 19 pandemic. It was a difficult decision to make but for the safety of the members and their families the entertainment committee decided to postpone it until next year. Please stay tuned for further information about the annual Christmas party in November and the Santa Party for the kids, hopefully we will be back to normal enough to have these 2 events.

**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 "pay someone you trust," 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 email George Shumar at [gshumar.ibew@gmail.com](mailto:gshumar.ibew@gmail.com) Also keep in mind that George is now on a furlough/lay off to address Covid 19 requirements and is NOT drawing a paycheck, so please be mindful of using his time.

**Election of Officers** – We held the July 8th meeting and swore in all of the new officers for the local. I would like to thank all of the outgoing officers for donating their time in helping make this local operate.

**JB Webb East and West-** At last report, everyone who was off work due to the pandemic is now back. Negotiations will be coming up in March for the West side agreement, if you have any ideas for negotiations, now is the time to start thinking about them. We will have several meetings between now and then to discuss any options the membership would want to have considered.

**Election year for state and federal elections.** This is an important year for local, state and national elections as well as our local union elections, it is important for your voice to be heard in all of these elections to support organized labor. The State of MI now has absentee voting for everyone that is a registered voter.

Please visit the State of MI website or visit your local Secretary of State office to get registered to vote in the upcoming primary elections and general elections in November.

**Website** – The new website is up and running. Please take a look and let us know what you think. Pay Pal is up and running on the website. There should be no reason for late dues now. Thanks to George for getting this done for the membership!!!!

**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](mailto:ibew@local498.net). Please put your name in the subject.

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

**Dues Increase 2020** – The union dues will increase \$1.00 a month. Effective Jan. 2020 the new rate will be \$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.

**Meeting Cookouts** – cook out and drawings will be suspended until further notice.

**Volunteer** – We will need people to volunteer for events coming up. Contact the hall and let George know.

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

**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](http://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 to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at [ibew@local498.net](mailto:ibew@local498.net) Thank you!

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 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

NEBP 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300

IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES. Jan 1, 2020 - \$1.00/month increase New Rate \$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#

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**IBEW Local 692**

**IBEW Local 692**  
**BAY CITY – Union Meeting.**  
 Due to the Labor Day holiday, the next regular membership meeting will be **Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7pm.**

**Executive Board Meeting.**  
 The next E-board meeting will be **Monday, August 17, 2020 at 6pm.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** It seems as though Covid-19 will never go away and the dark clouds continue to loom over us all. Covid-19 has definitely taken a toll on the work picture in Local 692. We need to be vigilant when fighting this global pandemic. It is our hope that the wearing of masks will either stop or at least slow the spread of this wretched virus.

Following the governor's orders, monthly membership meetings will continue to be held outside, weather permitting. Masks will be required at all times by anyone coming or going into the union hall. There will also be strict guidelines to adhere to with social distancing. Please do your part brothers and sisters to protect each other. If we all do our own little part maybe life will return to somewhat normal. Enjoying high school sports, college football Saturday's or even attending an outdoor concert in the fall will be our reward for doing the right thing and looking out for each other.

With regards to the referral procedure, "dings" or "hits" for all calls began again on June 15. We continue to have calls for manpower that have kept the out of work list moving. With that being said, make sure to continue to call the job line in the evening. The out of work list has been turning over regularly.

**Work Report.** Work continues at both the Pincanna project and the Bay City Meijer's remodel with both projects wrapping up in the next month.

The new Consumers Energy Service center in East Tawas has ramped back up again along with the Wind Farm project (grounding and bonding) located near the Rosebush area. Clements Electric has picked up work at the H Hotel due to the May flooding. Work also continues on Augres and Midland Schools. Ted's Electric has work at the Bullock Creek Schools.

Nelson has Sanford Meridian schools along with Akron Fairgrove Schools. Conti Electric along with Newkirk have work on the Consumers Energy dams along the Ausable River. Newkirk also has a project about to begin at Bay City Powertrain. John's Electric out of Alpena has been awarded the Alpena Library Project. Hardies Electric has a nice project at Atlanta Schools.

Master Electric has been awarded the new Midland Costco. Calls have begun to come in for this project. Countyline Power has picked up a sizeable project in Midland Hospital, another job at the Michigan State Extension site, work at the old 4D building under the Poseyville bridge, Red Coats ball fields, and Currie stadium due to the severe flooding in the Midland area.

We anticipate more work at GM Powertrain beginning in the near future. Work around the state continues to be very hot in Ann Arbor, Lansing and Detroit.

Please stay safe and look out for your fellow brothers and sisters.

**Union Dues.** Dues can be paid in person, via phone, by mail or automatic withdrawal from your bank account. We also accept payments via credit/debit card. *Please note to use the credit card machine to process payments, there will be a 2% charge applied.*

Monthly dues can also be paid on-line from the 692 website. Visit [ibew692.net](http://ibew692.net) and log into the member section.  
 2020 Dues (Effective January 1, 2020)  
 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.

**Retirees Lunch.** All retirees lunches have been postponed.

**Golf Outings.** The Michigan Wireman's Golf Outing and the IBEW 6th District Golf Outing have been **CANCELLED** for this (Continued next column)



**IBEW Local 948**

**FLINT – Our August Union Meeting is cancelled.**

Our August Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, August 24th, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. at the Union Hall.

The September Retiree Club Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 1st, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Union Hall.

**Please make sure you are registered to vote this year.**

https://mvc.sos.state.mi.us/RegisterVoter

Don't forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. [www.local948.com](http://www.local948.com).

You can pay over the phone with debit or credit card. You can also stop by the Hall during business hours (7am-noon/ 1-4pm) and pay by cash, check, debit or credit card. **Don't wait till you owe a reinstatement fee (4 months behind).**

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

2019 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$42.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$39.70 a month

If you are unfamiliar with our referral procedure please refer to our website @ [http://local948.org/job\\_referrals/](http://local948.org/job_referrals/)

**Don't forget after 3 turn-downs on the out of work list you must come down to the Union Hall to resign.**

**Gregory Remington Business Manager**

**E-mail and Re-signs:** If the Hall does not have your e-mail address it would be a good idea to send us an e-mail to [jwallace@local948.org](mailto:jwallace@local948.org) so we can add you to the e-mail list. This is a great way to keep up with the latest information on job calls and other information sent from the Hall.

**Local 692 cont'd**

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

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

**Organizing.** Brothers and Sisters, as we slowly open the state back up amid a global pandemic, getting out onto job sites to make contact with unrepresented workers continues to be a struggle. However, we have made some great additions lately to Local 692 through our organizing campaign.

Sometimes it just takes one guy to jump from the merit shop for his co-workers to see that they have been lied to for years from contractors. Our members are the biggest tool we have when it comes to organizing. Talk to that neighbor or family friend that has been working non-union. Tell him or her about the benefits of the IBEW and what we have to offer. You, the membership, is the greatest tool this local has to build those relationships.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me when you see a non-signatory contractor doing work in your neighborhood. Our jurisdiction is huge and impossible for me to try and tackle this task alone. Don't hesitate to pass my phone number along. Thank you. Brian Klele, (989) 252-9225

**Ryan Charney, Business Manager / Financial Secretary**  
**Important links & numbers**  
 IBEW Local 692  
 989-684-4510  
[www.ibew692.org](http://www.ibew692.org)  
 Health Plan  
 517-321-7502  
[www.mielectricalhealth.org](http://www.mielectricalhealth.org)  
 Michigan Pension Fund  
 517-321-7502  
[www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)  
 First time logging in, use your Social Security Number in the "ID Box"  
 NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300  
 IO Pension: 202-833-7000



**Local 275**

**IBEW Local 275**

**COOPERSVILLE – Dear Brothers and Sisters:** The LMCC has approved the purchase of 500 IBEW 275/NECA facemasks to be given to the Members of the Local. We will send out notification when they will be available.

The following Members are 3 or more months behind in dues: Vern Brink, Shelley Cummings, Michael Demond, Tony Kilgo, Avanti Lopez, John Miller, Steven Mutschler, Eric Quinn, Matt Reiber, Jeremy Rinehart, Jeffrey Stark.

The JATC is looking for volunteer retirees and laid off Journeymen to help w/this years' apprenticeship classes. While these will not be paid positions, we will offer volunteer reward points to each retiree or JIW who would like to help. Please contact Dave Kitchen, Apprenticeship Director if you would like to learn more.

EWMC is having a can drive. You can drop off your empty cans or donations here at the Union Hall. All proceeds will go to relieve student lunch debt at local schools.

For now on, all resign request will be sent to [gyonkers@ibew275.org](mailto:gyonkers@ibew275.org). The procedures are still the same.

Regular meetings for the EWMC and RENEW committees are every month on the 4th Tuesday @ 6:00pm at the Union Hall in Coopersville and/or via zoom. Both of these are great ways to get involved with the local as well as the community.

Dues increase for the year 2020 will be \$1.00 per month to \$42.90 per month. Please make adjustments when making payments through mail and automatic bank payments.



**IBEW Local 445**

**IBEW Local 445**

**BATTLE CREEK – The General Membership Meeting is the**



**IBEW Local 557**

**SAGINAW – MONTHLY MEETINGS-** The August 4th Regular Membership Meeting was cancelled due to Governor Whitmer's issued EO 2020-160, prohibiting indoor gathering of more than 10 people statewide.

Policies are ever-changing these days in regards to COVID-19. It is unclear if State guidance will allow for the September Membership Meeting. Please continue to monitor emails and the Local's Facebook page for updates. Everyone should continue to do their part to slow the spread of the virus by practicing proper social distancing and wearing a mask in public to protect you and those around you. Proper PPE should be worn on job sites and safety policies should be followed as well.

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS-** The Union Hall continues to be open for in-person transactions. If you will be coming into the Hall for business, a mask is mandatory due to the Governor's Executive Order. I urge all that come in for in-person transactions to also adhere to social distancing and the utilization of the service window in the main entry way if you can.

Please try to take care of business remotely as much as possible to cut down on visitors to the Hall. James Lamb is continuing organizing duties during at this time as well and if you have any useful information for him

**IBEW Local 557**

second Monday of each month and starts at 5 p.m. at the Hall. Please make sure to wear your masks.

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

**PLEASE HELP!!** – Please make sure you have updated the Hall with your current address and phone number. Also, if you have had any life changes such as a marriage/divorce/new child, please contact the Hall to ensure your benefits are correct.

**Local Website** – Please check the Local 445 website for

the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is [IBEW445.com](http://IBEW445.com).

**Local 445 Picnic** – After a great amount of thought, it has been decided to cancel the Local 445 Picnic. It was not an easy thing to do, but we feel that it is the most responsible action to take.

There will be zoo tickets available for pick up at the Hall. The Binder Park Zoo tickets will be good for September 11-13, 2020. If you would like tickets, please contact the Hall (269) 964-4545.

**IBEW Local 557**

regarding work 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.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING** – The Local 557 Executive Board met on July 21st. With continued guidance from the International Office, the E-Board has the power to take any action that would normally be approved at a Local membership meeting. All operations are still on track at the Hall and they have done a great job helping to guide the Local through these difficult times while we are unable to have Monthly meetings. The next E Board meeting will be Aug. 18th.

**NEW WEBSITE** – Local 557's website recently received a refresh but is still under construction. There are still some bugs to be worked out, so please be patient as we work to make improvements to the Local.

**2020 ELECTION-** The overwhelming majority of Local 557 is registered to vote. If you are not registered you should do so immediately. The 2020 Election will impact us in so many aspects of our lives. As informed IBEW members we cannot afford to sit out this election. I strongly encourage all members to apply to vote via ABSENTEE BALLOT.

Skip the long lines at the precinct in what is expected to be a record year for voter turnout. If you are working on the road or the possibility exists you may be working on the road in November, this is a great way to ensure you get your votes in. Information for this is available at the Union Hall as well as online under the Secretary of State at [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos).

We will no doubt need a great many volunteers to help out with various election related events this year. If you are interested in helping out please reach out and offer up your services. We cannot afford to be inactive during the election season this year.

**HEALTH CARE** – The Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan has taken steps recently 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 plan continues to meet regularly via teleconferences to stay on top of the pandemic and update coverage as necessary.

As you know, the Michigan

no-fault insurance law changed effective July 1. Notifications were sent to each member from the Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan. This letter encouraged members to purchase unlimited PIP to ensure proper protection for themselves and their family. The Health Plan will not offer Qualified Health Coverage and therefore members must purchase PIP coverage. You should discuss PIP coverage and other auto coverage with your auto carrier or agent.

Help keep the cost of Health Care down. Schedule your annual physical with your doctor today if you have not done so recently. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit [www.bcbsm.com](http://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 CROSSAPP** – 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 submissions, 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.**

**STAY CURRENT ON DUES** – Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use this service. Credit card payments to pay dues can also be accepted over the phone to ensure you stay current on your dues.

**CONTACT NUMBERS-** Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, [website mielectricalhealth.org](http://website.mielectricalhealth.org).  
**Evan Allardyce,**  
**Business Manager**



**IBEW Local 665**

**IBEW 665**

**LANSING – LOCAL UNION ELECTION RESULTS –**  
**President** – Mike Smith;  
**Vice-President** – Vacant;  
**Recording Secretary** – Chris Laverdiere;  
**Treasurer** – Christopher Brown;

**Business Manager/Financial Secretary** – Aaron Pangborn;

**Executive Board** – Roger Cole; Benjamin Freeman; Ken Kolp; Jaime Lugo; Avery Rogers; Michael Scranton; and Carrie Talbott;

**Delegate to the Convention** – Jonathan Burne.

**We would also like to thank the following:** Election Judge Dale Goerge and the Election Officials: Blake Greiner, Dillion Hall, Jen Feasal, James Pock II, Timothy Daniels, Lindsey Gould, Dane Songer and Mike Kruger.

The new officers will be sworn in at the next union meeting on Monday August 17, 2020.

We would like to thank all those that ran for office and a big thank you for the outgoing officers who served our local union with integrity.

**CPR/FIRST AID** – Will be held on Thursday August 20th at the Union Hall. To register, contact Sara at the LEJATC: 517-483-9686.

**OSHA 30 CLASS SCHEDULE** – Classes will start in September beginning with: Tuesday, September 1, Thursday, September 3, Thursday, September 10, Tuesday September 15, Thursday, September 17, Tuesday, September 22, Thursday, September 24, Tuesday, September 29, Thursday, October 1 and Tuesday, October 6. Seating availability will be limited. To register, contact Sara at the LEJATC: 517-483-9686.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** – The next General Membership (Union Meeting) will be held on Monday August 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS WHO HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS HAVING PASSED AWAY** – Bruce Bryan - 01/16/2020 – DB 306; Frederick

**Pardee** - 01/31/202 – DB 307; **Richard Hersey** – 04/15/2020 – DB 308; **Charles Coil** – 12/11/2019 – DB 309; **Robert Bierwagen** – 07/03/2020 – DB 310.

**CONTINUE TO STAY SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY!**

*"Don't be sweet, lest you be eaten up; don't be bitter, lest you be spewed out."*  
 – Jewish Proverb

*"Iron rusts from disuse; stagnant water loses its purity and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so does inaction sap the vigor of the mind."*  
 – Leonardo da Vinci (1452 - 1519)

*"Fanaticism consists in redoubling your effort when you have forgotten your aim."*  
 – George Santayana (1863 - 1952)

*"Spare no expense to save money on this one."*  
 – Samuel Goldwyn (1882 - 1974)

# INJURY CASES ONLY

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## 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**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The next general membership meeting is scheduled for August 25th, 2020 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday Aug. 18, 2020 at 5:00 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 MEETINGS SCHEDULE:** All remaining meetings and activities have been cancelled for 2020. We will inform you at a later date what we will be doing for 2021. 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 questions please call us, 248-557-7575.

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** Charles Taormina, Austin Runyan, David A. Clark, Nathan Houle, Sandor Kulcsar, Martin Tibbs, Ron Lau, Ralph Coffman, Robert Jablonski, Greg Outland, Robert Caswell, Christian Hedlund, John Meloche, Michael Postinger, Jay Kuczynski, & Martine Nahernak.

**CANCELLED EVENTS:** Unfortunately the golf outing, picnic and Labor Day parade are cancelled for 2020. We hope to resume back to normal for 2021.

SMART INTERNATIONAL has announced that they will be endorsing Presidential candidate Joe Biden for the 2020 election.

**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.

**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.

**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.**

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

**SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY:** If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work week due to weather you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the **beginning or 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.**

**Training Center News.** Upgrading classes will resume their normal schedule for the Fall 2020 term. Building Trades and Architectural Journeymen, Indentured Apprentices and Production Workers that pay into the JAC fund can register for classes starting Monday, Aug. 10. Probationary Apprentices can register starting Aug. 17.

To register, please call the Local 80 Training Center between 7:30am and 3pm at (586) 979-5190. The Fall 2020 classes are as follows:

**Monday:** Detailing 1-4 (Altizer); HVAC Field Installation (DuFour); Trade Math (O'Rourke); Welding 1-4 (Velez)

**Tuesday:** First Aid (Jackson) \*Three week classes start Sept 1, Oct 6 & Nov 3

**Wednesday:** Grease Duct Welding (Zabik); Intro to AutoCAD (Wilkos); OSHA 30 (Jackson); Sheet Metal Layout (Flood); TAB 1 (McGow)

**Thursday:** Architectural (Velez); Gas Heating Service (Hedlund); Pipe Welding (Kelly); Reading Plans & Specs (Blackwood); Revit 1&2 (Shuboy)

Masks will be required at all times in the Training Center and necessary precautions will be in place to minimize the risk of spreading germs



## Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292

**TROY – MEETING NOTICE:** The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **August 12, 2020.**

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](http://www.sheetmetal292.com) for the location and date.

The **E-Board/Stewards** meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2020 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.**

**ELECTION NOTICE:** The election of Local 292 officers will be conducted at the date, time, and place indicated below: **Date: Friday, Aug. 21, 2020; Time: 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Place: Knights of Columbus, 870 N. Main St. Clawson, MI 48017**

Any member in good standing will be eligible to vote. Members will be asked to present a current Local 292 Dues receipt and driver's license, or some other form of identification at the polls.

Any nominee who would like to speak and answer questions will be given the chance at the August 12, 2020 membership meeting.

**Business Manager / Financial Secretary – Treasurer** (Vote for not more than 1): Paul Gualdoni

**Business Agent / President** (Vote for not more than 1): Tony LaForest, Iro Galea, Paul Brown

**Vice President** (Vote for not more than 1): Antonio (Tony) Silvestri

**Recording Secretary** (Vote for not more than 1): Chuck Garry

**Warden & Conductor** (Vote for not more than 1): Kim Hartman

**Executive Board** (Vote for not more than 5): Dave Pistotti, Tom Paquette, Jason Csurgo, Lloyd McMillon, Frank Lewandowski, Jason Houth (Hooch)

**Union Trustee** (Vote for not more than 3): Denny Lau, Brandon Whipple, Dean Fournier

The term of office will run from the Regular Membership Meeting, Sept. 9, 2020 through the first Regular Membership Meeting in June 2023.

**To be eligible for election on Aug. 21, 2020, dues for the month of August must be paid in advance, that is, on or before July 31, 2020.** Please take time to participate in this important process.

**2020 ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF OUTING:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions placed by the golf course, the Local 292 Charity committee has decided to cancel the outing for this year. We look forward to 2021 when we can resume this wonderful event.

**RETIREES NOTICE: THE AUGUST 6TH LUNCHEON HAS BEEN CANCELLED.** The retiree's luncheon will be held **Thursdays** at: Tavern on the Main, 235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017. (248) 588-1-696. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old! **2020** meeting dates are as follows: **Oct. 1st and Dec. 3rd.** Please contact Fred Engelman at [fred\\_el@yahoo.com](mailto:fred_el@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](http://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 when they become available.

**SAFETY MODS AND DRUG TESTS:** To access your MUST account, please go to [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) or access it through the "links" tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com). 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 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](http://www.LifeAdvisorEAP.com) for completely confidential assistance. Ulliance is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Services are of no cost to 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 p.m. on the last business day of the month.** Payments received after **4 p.m.** on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you **WILL** go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online ([sheetmetal292.com](http://sheetmetal292.com)).

**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](http://www.sheetmetal292.com); Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 and Twitter - @SMW292, for updates and information.

**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 August 15th and 22nd.

These classes would be for members that are ready to try and obtain a 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.

**(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 held August 13, 2020 at 4931

Contec Drive/Lansing, MI at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 1- September 10th -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 -July 28th -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- (Saginaw) - September 8th -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- (TCity) September 17th- 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 4- September 8th - 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 –October 1, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. Meeting

**Please register on our website at [sheetmetal7.org](http://sheetmetal7.org) for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2020. 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.**

**\*\*Attention Certified Welders from Zones 2, 3, 4 and 5:** Starting April 1, 2020 all welding certification renewals will change to a twice a year schedule. The new renewal deadlines for all Certified Welders will be April 1 and Oct. 1. In order to keep your certification from expiring you will be required to submit a **Welder Maintenance Form** to the Training Center dated **no more than 5 days prior** to April 1 or Oct. 1. You will no longer be required to submit a **\$10 Filing Fee** with your renewal paperwork. If needed, you can request a maintenance form from the Training Center. **\*IF YOU FAIL TO SUBMIT YOUR FORM BY THE DEADLINE YOUR CERTIFICATION WILL EXPIRE.** Feel free to contact Training Coordinator Darek Scarlavai (@ 231)288-6325 if you have questions.

**ZONE 1 Info:** Any Zone 1 apprentice that is laid off should notify Kevin at the school. Any Zone 1 Journeyman that is out of work should contact your agent. There is travel work available, so if you are interested please contact James or Eric. If you are experiencing any trouble with your insurance, please contact your agent or BeneSys at (866) 288-7037. Apprentices should be in contact with Instructors to make sure you don't fall behind. If you are interested in Fire Life Safety Training and Certification, CAD or Welding, please contact the Zone 1 Training Coordinator Kevin Dowdy at (269) 781-7183 or by email at [kdowdysmw7@gmail.com](mailto:kdowdysmw7@gmail.com).

**In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.**

**ZONE 2 Info:** If you are currently not working please call to make sure I have you and the out of work list and have a good number to reach you. Our next meeting will be September 15, 2020 at 6pm in Grand Rapids. **Thank you, Dave Rutz**

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Zone 3 is slowly returning everyone to work, following all CDC guidelines as close as possible. Looks like the rest of the year is going to be busy, there is a big job that will start this fall in Alpena, and we will be needing man power to go up there to work. Hopefully everyone is recovering well from the pandemic.

**Thank you, Wayne Stover**

**Zone 3 Info: (TCity)** Congratulations to the newly retired Edward Bush! We all wish you a lengthy, healthy retirement. Our next meeting will be Thursday Sept. 17 at the Union Hall in Traverse City. Masks will be required inside the building. The next Traverse City Retirees Breakfast will be held at Willies Rear Friday Sept. 4 at 9 AM.

**Stay Safe, Travis Eastman**

**ZONE 4 Info** Work in the area is good with everyone working, anyone that is not please call me ASAP. I know it feels great to be back to work but please be safe and take the necessary precautions to keep yourself safe and your family. **Your Brother, Larry Kinzie**

**ZONE 5 Info** If you are having issues with your unemployment or SASMI please give me a call. There are jobs still waiting to start across the U.P. and if you are interested there is work in other areas if you want to travel. If you have not already signed up on the Local 7 website please do so at [sheetmetal7.org](http://sheetmetal7.org), there is lots of good information also you can pay your dues there. If your MSHA 5000-23 safety training has or is about to expire please contact me.

**Respectfully, Greg Faust**

**Congratulations:** to Justin and Kaylee Peckham, on the birth of their son born on July 27th, 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.

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

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

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

**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**

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## Local 292, continued

tion 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 scheduled in the class.

**APPRENTICE APPLICATION NOTICE. SHEET METAL WORKERS LOCAL 292 APPRENTICE TRUST FUND, 64 PARK ST. TROY, MI 48083-2752. [www.smw1292jatec.org](http://www.smw1292jatec.org).**

**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY.** The Apprentice Training Program operated by Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) admits qualified applicants without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, disability (except to the extent that such disability actually affects the applicant's ability to work at the trade or craft), marital status, or other classification protected by federal, state or local law or ordinance. (You must be 18 years old at the time of application.)

Application must be made in person. No faxes or emailed applications will be accepted!! Applications for Apprenticeship are accepted all year every business day.

**All applications must be filed in person at the Training Center and a copy of your High School diploma, or GED certificate, along with a picture ID must be submitted with the application or it will not be accepted. At the time of filing you will be registered for a written test at Macomb Community College, at a cost of \$60 (Non-Members Only) which you must pay at time of testing. Cash only will be accepted. If you have any questions, call Dave at (313) 623-9390 or visit [www.smw1292jatec.org](http://www.smw1292jatec.org) for more information.**

REFURBISHING the exterior of the Tech One property on the Wayne State campus are BAC Local 2 masons Jim Cusin and apprentice Josh Lloyd. They're employed by Grunwell Cashero.



## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

**BAC Local 2**  
**WARREN/LANSING** – We take the COVID-19 outbreak seriously and recognize the importance of minimizing the spread of the virus. So, while we continue to provide services to our members, any visits to our offices should be scheduled by appointment. If you have any questions, please contact either the Warren office at (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office at (517) 886-9781.

The health and well-being of our members and their families and continuity of service to our members is our highest priority. Please visit our website for updates: [www.bricklayers.org](http://www.bricklayers.org)

**AUGUST 2020 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:**  
 The SEMI-ANNUAL UNION MEETING will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at 10:00 am at Local 2's office located at 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, Michigan 48906. This meeting will be outside under a tent with physical distancing in place with our seating. Face coverings will be provided and required for those who attend this meeting.

ALL CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2020 DUE TO THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

**CRAFTWORKERS NEEDED:** If you are available for work, it is important to contact your Field Representative on their cell phone. We are looking for experienced Craftworkers in all of our trades: Bricklayers, Caulkers, Masonry Restoration Workers, Cement Masons, Tile, Marble and Terrazzo Workers. Those who are interested should contact either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781. Tell anyone who is doing our work, that we are looking for craftworkers!

**SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS:** Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors for at least a month. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get a **Finders Referral Bonus** for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781, or go to <https://bit.ly/BAC-2-MI-2000-Signing-Bonus>.

**DEATHS REPORTED:** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother James McCall** (Bricklayer) who passed away on July 28, 2020. Brother McCall had been a member for 34 years. Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother Joseph Sorgi** (Tile Layer) who passed away on June 29, 2020. Brother Sorgi had been a member for 64 years.

**\*IMPORTANT CHANGE Regarding Union Dues\*** All Local 2 Members are now eligible for a Union Dues discount, regardless of what month you are paid through currently. This offer is a great way to catch up on your monthly window dues by taking advantage of this annual dues discount.

**We are making available to ALL Local 2 members the opportunity to pay for 6 months of union dues and receive credit for 12 months. An entire year for half the price!!**

**UPDATE – BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS.** Both Local 2 Training Centers have re-opened to our members but **visits to our offices should be scheduled by appointment.** Please contact our Training Centers at the numbers listed below for an appointment for annual RESPIRATOR FIT TESTS and other services.

**DETROIT IMI TRAINING CENTER:** To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Tom Ward directly at (734) 552-7066.

**METRODETROIT APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD:** Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Metro Detroit Apprentice Worksheets are available for download at [http://bit.ly/Apprentice\\_Worksheets](http://bit.ly/Apprentice_Worksheets). If you do not have a printer you can pick them up during our monthly meeting or contact Tom Ward at (586) 757-6668 to request them by mail. For more information on the Detroit Training Center visit: [detroittradeltrades.org](http://detroittradeltrades.org)

**LANSING TRAINING CENTER:** To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Lansing Apprenticeship and Training website and register future 2020 online training classes.

**MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE:** During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at <http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday - Friday 8 am-8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

**MEMBERSHIP GOLF OUTING:** Local 2's 7th Annual Membership Golf outing will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2020 at Hawk Meadows Golf Course in Howell, MI. If you are interested in golfing with your fellow Union members, the registration form is next to this article!

**MEMBERSHIP GOLF OUTING:** The 7th Annual BAC Local 2 Membership Golf Outing: will be held Saturday, Sept. 12. All are welcome and invited to participate. This outing will be held at Hawk Meadows Golf Course in Howell, 410 E. Marr Rd., Howell, MI 48855. (517) 546-4635. Please return the completed registration form below with your check payable to BAC Local 2, and mail to: BAC Local 2, C/O Golf Outing, 21031 Ryan Rd., Warren, MI 48091. The paid reservation deadline is Sept. 4.

For more information contact: Paul Dunford, 248-521-0856, Brett Gierak 248-705-3660 or Shaun Gajewski, 586-601-7539.

Detroit & Vicinity Health Insurance (Brick, Cement and TMT) (800) 435-4080 or (248) 828-6000 (dvtv.org)

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION:**

Bricklayers Metro Detroit Local Pension Fund (248) 641-4954

Detroit & Vicinity Health Insurance (Brick, Cement and TMT) (800) 435-4080 or (248) 828-6000 (dvtv.org)

MI BAC Health & Welfare and MI BAC Pension (800) 531-2244 (outstate funds, michiganbac.org)

Cement Pension Fund (248) 645-6550 (detroitcementmasons.org)

CALL-A-DOC (800) 835-2362 (D&V Health Fund)

International Pension/Annuity Fund (Brick, Cement and TMT) (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (dvtv.org)

### \$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled BAC Craftworkers!

**Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 MI is offering up to a \$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Craftworkers. Our Members who refer them will get the same bonus if they stay working for our contractors!**

**Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, Masonry Restoration Workers, Caulkers, Cement Finishers, Tile, Marble and Terrazzo Workers!**

**For more information about our Signing Bonus Program and our need for Skilled Craftworkers, go to: [www.bricklayers.org](http://www.bricklayers.org) and click on the Signing Bonus page!**



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

**DETROIT** – The next membership meeting will be Aug. 18, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Local. Please feel free to call the office (248) 548-0800 or any agent with your questions or concerns. Stay safe!

There is a special called meeting Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2020 at 6 p.m. at O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514, 1154 E Lincoln Ave, Madison Hts., MI. Regarding the Executive Board Recommendation to Article 10 Sec. N in the Constitution and Bylaws of Local Union 514 Business Agent.

Please make every effort to attend this meeting!!  
 Election Results – July 31, 2020

**Business Manager/Financial Secretary** – Henry Williams  
**President** – Keino Walker  
**Vice President** – Lance Ryan  
**Recording Secretary** – Mike Stanfield

**Sergeant of Arms** – Jack McCool

3 Executive Board members at large- Juan Hernandez, Chris Richardson, Terrance Smith

We are asking all members to contact the Local with their email addresses, it will be a more efficient way of contacting everyone.

Lance Ryan is now the new Plasterer Business Agent, if you have any questions for him please call (586) 615-1564.

2020 is a very important election year! We are encouraging every member who has not regis-

tered to vote to do so. You can register at any Secretary of State office.

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

Lawrence Nemeth is now the new Apprenticeship Coordinator; he can be reached at (313) 350-0389.

Attention all Apprentices now you will need to go to the website: [www.micementplasterertraining.com](http://www.micementplasterertraining.com) to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions." You will be able to put in your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please feel free to contact Larry with any questions you might have.

Effective September, 2018 every member in Good Standing will only be allowed to use the Hall twice per year, also effective January, 2019 there will be a \$100.00 refundable deposit required for any cleaning and/or damages that may incur.

Miller Cohen PLC is extending an invitation to our members to participate in free Estate Planning Seminar. Learn about Wills, Trust, Durable Power of Attorney, and Medical Power of Attorney, and Guardian Designation. Contact the Union Hall if interested and a date will be scheduled for the free Seminar.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PLASTERERS AND DETROIT COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS:** You can track your annuity fund status at the Wells Fargo website. You may do so by logging on to: [www.retirement.wellsfargo.com](http://www.retirement.wellsfargo.com) or call (866) 640-5138, you can also call the fund office at (248) 645-6550 with any related questions.

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

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **ROAD BUILDERS** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. **PLASTERERS AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS** can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All **Plasterers and Cement Masons** can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. **For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

**BAC Local 2 Golf Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Golfers' names

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Golf fee (dinner included) \$60.00 ( )

Foursome \$240.00 ( )

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Apprentices Needed!

**Free Training for Bricklayers – New Work and Restoration Tile and Cement Masons**

**12 Week Pre-Apprentice Class Based on Skill Level and Demand**

In preparation for the re-opening our training centers, we are encouraging anyone interested in a Trowel Trades Apprenticeship and able to meet the physical demands of the work to complete the application process.

If you live in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe or St. Clair County, go to [detroittradeltrades.org](http://detroittradeltrades.org) to download the application. If you live outside the above-mentioned counties (outstate), go to [michiganbricklayers.org](http://michiganbricklayers.org) to apply online. Read and follow instructions carefully and completely.

Veterans are given highest priority as a thank you for their service.

Metro Detroit and the Outstate programs differ slightly, below are common minimum requirements for both programs. You will find the complete list of instructions online.

**Applicants Must:**

- Remain drug and marijuana free, applicants must pass initial and random testing if accepted into program.
- Shall be physically capable of performing the essential functions of the Apprenticeship program without posing a direct threat to the health or safety of the individual or others.
- Have a valid Michigan driver's license.
- Pass physical evaluation.
- High School Graduate or GED, higher education a plus.

### Local 149

#### Roofers & Waterproofer

**Roofers 149**  
**DETROIT** – Main Office – Southeastern Lower Michigan – **Regular Membership Meeting.** The next regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Sep. 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Aug 25, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

**The 2020-2021 ratified contract is as follows:**  
 \$1.50 increase across the board  
 Zone 2 \$75 a day  
 Zone 3 \$85 a day  
 Mileage 30 cents per mile

**Condolences.** It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of the following Brother. Brother Randy Nutt, he was 34 years old and an 8-year member. Brother Nutt past on 7/30/2020.

**Detroit Training Center Information.** The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows:

Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1-Monday, July 20

Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2-Tuesday, July 21

BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1-Wednesday July 22

BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2-Thursdays, July 23

Apprentice 7 & 8 Safety & Health - Thursday, July 23

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 TJarowski@DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements.

**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 put their name on the out of work list.

**Follow us on Facebook for announcement updates @United Union of Roofers, Waterproofer, and Allied Workers Local 149.**

**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 is scheduled for Tue, Oct 13, 2020 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

**Mid-Michigan Training Center Information.** The Mid-Michigan Apprentices will be as follows:

Apprentice 1, thru 3- are on Mondays

Apprentice 4, thru 8- are on Wednesdays

All classes begin at 6:00pm

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

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Rick Baird at the Training Center, 810-687-1368, or [rickbaird81@gmail.com](mailto:rickbaird81@gmail.com) to make arrangements.

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.

*"Your manuscript is both good and original, but the part that is good is not original and the part that is original is not good."*  
 –Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

### CASH FOR SCRAP METAL

**Aluminum - Copper - Brass  
 Nickel - Alloys - Carbide  
 Radiators - Lead - Batteries**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>McNichols</b>                  Scrap Iron &amp; Metal Co.                  6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott)  <a href="http://mcnicholsscrap.com">mcnicholsscrap.com</a>  <b>(313) 365-6100</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Detroit</b>                  Iron &amp; Metal Co.                  8300 Dix (corner Lonyo)  <a href="http://detroitironandmetal.com">detroitironandmetal.com</a>  <b>(313) 841-5100</b></p>
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## Local 25 Iron Workers

**Iron Workers Local 25**  
NOVI – **Work is Available!**  
**We are in need of manpower. If you or someone you know is off, please call Dispatch or a Business Agent. We must fill our jobs in order to protect them!**

**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 to sign up for the out of work list: www.ironworkers25.org**

**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.**

**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.**

The next **Union Meeting** will be via Zoom on Monday, August 17, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Please sign up as Notification will go out via the APP. Participation was very good in July and we look forward to more members joining us in August. 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!

**Unfortunately Steward Meetings are still cancelled** until further notice as we adhere to the Governor's Executive Orders.

**Classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School** have started up again, please go the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule; we are practicing social distancing protocols, etc. **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.

**Welder online Verification:** For an accurate and quick review of welder certifications please visit www.weldercertification.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.

**The following events are cancelled:** August Pin Award Ceremony, Detroit Labor Day Parade, and the Labor Day Bridge Walk in Mackinaw. The Annual Iron-

worker Festival in Mackinaw is CANCELLED. The Annual September Ironworker Benefit Dinner is cancelled. If anyone wishes to make a donation to the ICIF please contact Jimmy Horvath at the Novi Union Hall. Thank you.

**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.

**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.*

**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.

Pay a year's dues or more (\$429.00 Journeyman) (\$426.00 Apprentice) and you will get a (1) one-month dues paid for by Local 25. (Get the 13<sup>th</sup> month free). This is intended to encourage members to pay their dues in a timely manner. The one month will be credited in the month **AFTER** your actual 12-month payment.

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson announced last month that all REGISTERED voters in Michigan will receive an **application** to vote by mail in the November elections. By mailing applications, the Secretary of State will ensure that no "Michigander has to choose between their health and their right to vote," said Benson. "Voting by mail is easy, convenient, safe, and secure, and every voter in Michigan has the right to do it." The application is also available for download at Michigan.gov/Vote. At the same website, voters can also register and join the permanent absent voter list so they always have the option to vote by mail. Check your voter registration at Michigan Voter Information Center Michigan.gov/Vote

**"If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools."**—PLATO.

The International Association (IABSORIW) has endorsed Joe Biden for president of the United States of America.

Curtis Schmidt would appreciate thoughts and prayers for **Patrick Allen #1007390** as he battles lung cancer. Best wishes to Patrick from all the Officers here at Local 25.

**ATTENTION RETIREES:** The Novi Retirees regular meeting is "in person" August 18, 2020 at 10:00am. Social distancing, face masks and good hygiene will be observed. There will be no luncheons in the near future, coffee and cake will be provided however. The Novi Retirees Board of Directors meets "in person" September 1, 2020.

**The Retirees' Scholarship Fund Golf Outing is scheduled for September 10, 2020.** The Bay City Retirees are planning a regular meeting for October 15, 2020. 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.

**Diversified Members Credit Union: Located at 25880 Novi Rd. Phone: 248-344-2560 - CALL FOR HOURS.** Services available: debit or credit cards, interest bearing checking accounts, IRAs, CDs, Benefits Plus program, **HOME MORTGAGES**, low interest loans and part of Co-Op Shared Branching. We have other branch locations in Detroit and Clawson.

Home Mortgages for Union (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. 414-476-9372.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The Membership Meeting will take place by video conference on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. CST. Members can gain access to the meeting at https://meeting.iw18.org on the afternoon of the meeting.

**RETIREE & ACTIVE MEMBER UPDATES:** Michael J. Lester, Book #1175417, age 60, of Garden, Michigan, passed away on June 9, 2020.

Mike was initiated into Iron Workers Local #783 in May 1990, and then into Local #8 in January 1994. Mike was a 30 year Member of the Union and a Honorary Member.

Our condolences to the Michael Lester family. Gregory Davis, Book #73455, age 82, of Gwinn, Michigan, passed away on July 22, 2020.

Greg was initiated into Iron Workers Local #17 in January 1966, transferred into Local #783 in November 1968, and then into Local #8 in January 1994.

Greg was a 54-year Member of the Union and a Lifetime Member.

Our condolences to the Greg Davis family.

Former Member, Gary Stroud, age 71, of Amasa, Michigan, passed away on June 13, 2020 of an apparent drowning.

Our condolences to the Gary Stroud family.

## Local 25 cont'd

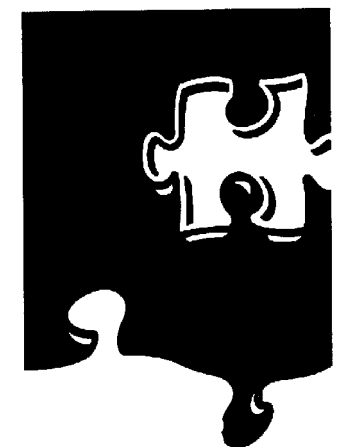
Families: Learn more about the unique benefits available to union members, their parents and children. **CALL 866-802-7307, M-F 8am - 10pm EST, Sat 9am - 5:30pm EST** www.unionplus.org

**Those who have passed:** James Kirchoff #535013, Lifetime Reinforcing Ironworker from Alpena, MI, passed away July 16th, 2020 at the age of 85. He was a 66-year member. Apprentice Alex Satawa #1527584 passed away on July 22, 2020 at the age of 24. He was a 3-year member. **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:** We hope you and your family are safe and healthy. Thank you for all you continue to do to support each other during this pandemic response.

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (8/03/2020 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

## You Are the Missing Piece.



**Attend Your Union Meetings!**

"You can't wait for inspiration. You have to go after it with a club."  
—Jack London (1876 - 1916)

"Seek not, my soul, the life of the immortals; but enjoy to the full the resources that are within thy reach."  
—Pindar (522 BC - 443 BC), 518-438 BC.

"You must learn from the mistakes of others. You can't possibly live long enough to make them all yourself."  
— Sam Levenson (1911 - 1980)

## Local 36 Elevator Constructors

**Elevator Constructors Local 36**  
DETROIT – **ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED** that our next regular **Membership Meeting is set for Monday, Aug. 24, at 5:30 pm, as of this printing we are having a meeting in the parking lot only, we are seeking alternate ways to communicate if the weather does not cooperate.** Any changes in this schedule or venue will be included in future *Building Tradesman* articles and emails. The Local requests your email so we may inform you on any last-minute changes or the possibility of virtual meetings.

**Attention All Apprentices,** please keep an eye on the NEIEP website for next semester classes. Check your NEIEP email address for additional information. NEIEP will be continuing the next semester with the format of online classes. Apprentices who have completed their classes will soon receive their invite for the Mechanic's Exam and received an e-mail from the Local in regards to the Mechanic review courses.

**Monthly OJT Forms** are still required of **ALL APPRENTICES!** You can drop these forms at the hall. **This is a requirement of the Department of Labor.** Do not put your apprenticeship in jeopardy by failing to fulfill your responsibility. This will also result in your appearance before the Local JAC Committee.

**All Members,** Local 36 is working with Local 85, Lansing and the EIWP holding classes on Monday nights, 6-8:00 pm. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes. Contact the Hall if you are interested. The link will be sent to you for either online or phone participation.

Brothers and Sisters, due to recent conditions, **ALL** are requested to follow guidelines put out by the CDC, the state of Michigan, the buildings and your companies. Common sense and personal health practices should always be followed. **ALL** safety policies must always be followed.

The City of Detroit is open by appointment only for license renewal on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, be advised they would like it done online. Send emails to kurtj@detroitmi.gov with photos of current driver license and current city of Detroit Elevator license and your phone number attached or call 313-316-8711. Kurt Johnson has said all licenses expiration dates have been extended during the shutdown. These instructions have been sent to you through email.

We are **STILL** requesting your email addresses. If you are not receiving emails, please confirm your address with the Hall. During our recent situation we have received updates daily and we want this information at your disposal as soon as possible.

There is a mailing from American Income Life. If you fill the form out and mail it back in you will receive phone calls from them, it is unnecessary to fill the form or any paperwork out for this policy. If you feel the need for more life insurance you can contact them. If any retirees are interested in Life insurance please contact the hall and we will forward the information on.

All members are reminded that your company is responsible to deliver material to the jobsite. Use of personal vehicles for delivery of material is for only emergency situations. There are no emergencies in modernization or construction. All construction, modernization and cab work is **TEAMWORK.** This is according to our agreement and follows your company's safety policy. A licensed journeyman must also be onsite while any work is performed. If you are asked or told differently call the hall **immediately.** Also, all jobs are to be reported to the **HALL,** this does include all unloads, crane picks and cab modernizations. This is our work and **SHALL** be performed by **ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS!**

We regret to inform all members on the fatality in Local 63, Oklahoma City. On July 27, 2020 Brother Joseph Crook was killed on the job. We will be collecting for two Death Assessments on behalf of our lost Brothers with our next quarter cards.

Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Keep safe and healthy. Be a Brother to a Brother, regardless of what Local they might belong too. We are all in this and will get through this, together!

## Local 1M

**Painters District Council 1M**  
WARREN – Dear Members: We have been informed OSHA will be visiting construction sites across the state of Michigan and issuing fines on the jobsite for NOT wearing a mask.

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASK WHEN WORKING ON YOUR JOB SITE!** Take care of yourself and each other.

DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org  
**DC1M FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/iupat1m

**DC 1M UNION CARDS\*** Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or if you

have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:

Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100

Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

**\*LABOR DAY PARADE CANCELLATION\*** Due to COVID-19 concerns the Labor Day Parade scheduled for Monday September 7, 2020 has been cancelled.

**FIT OF THE GREAT LAKES MICHIGAN APPRENTICESHIP.** The Apprenticeship School has sent letters to all Apprentices regarding their schedule.

Painter, Drywall Finisher and Glazier Apprentices: should you have any questions, please contact Director of Training Shawn O'neill at (517)304-4425 or by email dot@iupatdc1m.org.

**PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL IMSMART PHONE APP**

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

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

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

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

**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 810-232-0005. New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.

**Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591**

Sign Pictorial & Display 591  
WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Sep. 1, 2020 at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

The August 4, 2020 meeting has been cancelled as usual.

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

Any questions on local union issues, please call John Sape at 586-899-8082, or Keith Anderson at 586-899-7958, your Business Representatives.

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

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

"What a blessing it would be if we could open and shut our ears as easily as we open and shut our eyes!"

—Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742 - 1799)

**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:** John Sape

**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.

## Local 357 Glaziers & Glassworkers

**Glaziers & Glassworkers 357**  
WARREN – Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be Monday, Oct. 5 at 6pm.

This year's Detroit Labor Day Parade has been cancelled. Our Local union meeting for September falls on Labor Day. That meeting has been cancelled.

Unfortunately, brother Dan Diehl passed away on May 26<sup>th</sup> in a fatal car accident. Dan was a member of Local 357 since 1999 and was a father to three young girls. Please keep Dan and his family in your thoughts and prayers. He was our brother, and our friend. Mike Pheny is gathering donations currently for Dans family. If you wish to contribute something please get the money to Mike, or you can send the money to the union hall, attention Dan Diehl, or Don Stepp and we will get the money into Mike's hands.

The Governor has let construction resume. This being said please follow the specific guidelines required on each project. It will take some get used to, the new ppe required, but it is necessary to keep each other safe, and our families safe.

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.

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**



## Local 1191 Laborers

Laborers 1191  
DETROIT – Due to COVID-19, Laborers' 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.

The Office is now Open.  
Thanking you in advance for complying with the above conditions and please follow the COVID-19 recommendations to stay safe and healthy.

Members can now pay dues online 24/7 on our website!!! Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instructions...

Check out our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org). Important information about your Local Union ... Also, on Facebook!!!

**Dues:** Beginning January 1, 2020 regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$ 8.00.

**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.**

We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs!

**Retirees:** Retiree Councils' meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11:00 a.m. at the Local Union Hall located at 2161 West Grand Boulevard in Detroit.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the

MUST website at [www.mustonline.org](http://www.mustonline.org) to see how many modules you have. **Members are reminded to get your 18 modules and keep them up to date also a current Drug Test.** You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training school by calling (734) 729-7005 or 517-625-4919 website [www.mltai.org](http://www.mltai.org). You can also contact the Local 313-894-2241.

Also, check out the training classes available to you at no cost.

**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.**

All are 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, we will help make arrangements for you to complete them.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 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 this Local Union. (Be sure to

Check & Update your Skills.)

Also please be advised: Per the out of work list rules, all members on the list must re-register your availability for work every quarter and do so within the first five days of the following months: **March, June, September and December (Roll Call).**

Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. \*Example: If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't re-register by June 5<sup>th</sup> your name will be removed from the list.

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. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

**Save Time & Money:** no more checks or money orders to mail no more worry if it gets here on time, **monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check** and sent direct to the Local. Please stop by the office to get one of the forms or you may call the office (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!!! Also, be sure to keep your current address and phone numbers up to date with Local. Current E-mail address is also very important! Also, we are now accepting CREDIT & DEBIT payments.**



## Concrete walls gets their due as masons rehab TechTown building

By Marty Mulcahy Editor

DETROIT – The exterior of the home of “TechTown” is anything but high technology, but the mass of reinforced concrete in its walls has served its occupants well for the past 93 years.

The TechTown technology incubator, which serves as a home to more than 50 small businesses, has been in the five-story building since the group was incorporated as a nonprofit in 2004. That's the year the group established their headquarters in the landmark 1927 Albert Kahn-designed building on Burroughs Street just north of the Wayne State University campus, dubbed TechOne.

Masonry contractor Grunwell Cashero, as it has done on so many other historic Detroit buildings in recent years, has been rehabilitating the exterior of the building in recent months, in preparation for a paint job that's expected to freshen up the building's exterior. One the job last year and this year have been Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 foreman Jim Cusin and fourth year apprentice Josh Lloyd. Their task: patching, caulking and making repairs to exposed re-rod and spalled areas, leaving all four sides of the building ready for paint.

“This place was really well built,” Cusin said, “it could probably stand up to a bomb. As we've gone over the building, we've removed a few chunks of material that looked like they might fall off, but overall the building and the walls are well-preserved and we've found them to be in pretty good shape.”

Cusin and Lloyd are using a fiber reinforced mortar to make repairs on cracked and missing concrete. Cusin said the original builders used a “form-it and pour-it” method of building the 140,000 square-foot structure, with one floor constructed atop the other.

The exterior walls of TechOne comprised of poured concrete and concrete block – which was a style that, for better or worse, was adopted in the

Modern-style architectural era two decades later. It differs from a lot of 1920s-era buildings whose exteriors were made of limestone, granite or other quarried stone, whose use could help the architect offer differentiation and ornamentation on a building's facade. But Kahn's use of large windows effectively breaks up TechOne's monotony of concrete walls, leaving a building that has been pleasing to look at for nearly a century.

According to TechTown, which is part of Wayne State University's Research and Technology Park, the building's original use was as a service depart-

ment for Pontiac. It later became the Chevrolet Creative Services building, where the original Corvette was designed on the third floor. Interior ramps allowed cars to be moved within the building.

Today, the owners offer a range of spaces for lease, including small offices, office suites and wet labs. TechTown calls itself “Detroit's Entrepreneurship Hub,” where “we help tech startups and local businesses launch and grow.”

The group lists a number of partners, such as Amazon Web Services, Apple, Bank of America, Beaumont Health, GM and IBM, to name a few.

## U.S. labor law needs to start working for workers, study says

(Continued from Page 1)

employees that there's a good chance they will lose their jobs if they vote to unionize.

A 2019 EPI report showed that employers collectively spend \$340 million per year on “union avoidance” consultants who teach them how to exploit weaknesses in federal labor law to effectively scare workers out of exercising their legal right to collective bargaining.

Last month's report comes a month after the International Trade Union Confederation ranked the U.S. among the worst countries in the world for (not) supporting workers' rights, putting the U.S. on par with nations like Jordan, Uruguay and Haiti for “systemic violations” of worker rights.

“The Global Rights Index exposes a breakdown in the social contract that governments and employers have with working people,” the confederation said. “There's a trend to restrict working rights through violations of collective bargaining, withholding the right to strike and excluding workers from unions.”

The Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act that passed the U.S. House in February is one of the most significant bills since the 1930s that would bolster workers' ability to organize. The PRO Act – adopted with nearly universal Democratic support – would amend U.S. labor law to tilt the scales back to giving workers more power during disputes at work, adding penalties for companies that retaliate against workers seeking to organize, and introduce the ability to collectively bargaining to workers who don't enjoy that right.

Michigan is one of 27 states with right-to-work laws, and the PRO Act would weaken those laws and end the ability of workers to enjoy union representation without paying dues. But the PRO Act isn't going anywhere in the Republican-led Senate, and President Trump would almost certainly veto it, anyway – which brings the importance of getting the right candidates into office during the November election for those who support a stronger U.S. labor movement.

“The importance of unions has been even further heightened by both the COVID-19 pandemic and the national protests around racial justice. In recent months, thousands of nonunion workers

have been left without personal protective equipment, hazard pay, and access to sick leave,” said Lola Loustaunau, research fellow at the University of Oregon's Labor Education and Research Center and co-author of the report.

“Unionization has helped bring living wages to once low-wage jobs in industries such as health care and is a key tool for closing racial wage gaps. Congress must ensure workers have a meaningful right to organize and bargain collectively.”

The EPI report said that most American workers want a union in their workplace but very few have it, because the right to or-

ganize – which is supposedly enshrined in the National Labor Relations Act of 1935 – has been effectively cancelled out by a combination of legal and illegal employer intimidation tactics.

The EPI focused on the legal tactics – heavy-handed actions “that would be illegal in any election for public office but are regularly deployed by employers under the broken National Labor Relations Board's union election system,” the report says.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported earlier this year that union membership continued its decades-long decline last year, down to 10.3 percent from 10.5 percent in 2018.

## Trades may not like hand dealt by ‘Green New Deal’

(Continued from Page 1)

takes longer to build an oil and gas pipeline. That's important for construction workers, whose livelihood depends on moving from project to project, a process often punctuated by unemployment. When a project takes several years, workers can settle down to predictable schedules for themselves and their families, McGarvey said, and there is generally a variety of crafts involved.

The views on the comparative advantage of building the oil and gas lines parallel NABTU union leaders' skepticism about the Green New Deal, and particularly its goal of ending U.S. dependence on fossil fuels, thus making the nation carbon-neutral, within a few decades. The Green New Deal is a major bone of contention within organized labor.

Rank and file workers, speaking in focus groups involved in the surveys, backed McGarvey's observations up in quotes in the report.

“In refineries there's always new technology in production,” one male union electrician said. “Wind you only have wind, solar you only have solar. There's not anything really new that you can do with it other than it just runs a cell, or it blows the wind turbine blades. But lots of different things in the petrochemical world change radically. And with those (radical changes) they have to do lots of upgrades.”

The survey of 1,619 workers, union and non-union, before the coronavirus pandemic hit, found renewable energy project construction lasted from 3.5-15.5 months, with a median of six months – i.e. half the projects lasted longer and half were shorter. Oil and gas construction projects lasted from 4-20 months, with a 6.5-month median.

One sector, including building trades unions and the Mine Workers, opposes complete divorce from fossil fuels, especially from their use for electricity generation. Those unions' leaders recognize, however, that “carbon capture” is needed to prevent more emissions that cause global warming. They advocate pro-capture “clean coal” and similar projects.

They also point out that even with the goal of cutting carbon emissions, there will still be a long transition period, where traditional fuel plants, run on oil, coal and natural gas, will need to keep going until capacity in the non-carbon technologies catches up.

“There's anecdotal evidence” that construction workers building oil and gas pipelines “make 50 percent more” than those building renewable energy projects, added Dr. Thomas Kriger, NABTU's education and research director. “But we need more research on that.” He also noted the oil and gas lines involve a “bigger mix of construction crafts,” represented by NABTU's 14 member unions, than the renewable energy projects involve.

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Snail Shell Harbor at Fayette Historic State Park in Delta County offers traveling boaters the opportunity to experience life as it was in this partially restored company town, once one of the Upper Peninsula's most productive iron-smelting operations. MDNR photo

By Casey Warner  
Michigan Department of  
Natural Resources

With more than 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline and thousands of miles of rivers and streams, Michigan offers ample opportunity to traverse the state over the water – no matter the size or speed of your vessel.

While designated water trails are a relatively recent development, use of Michigan's waterways for transportation isn't new.

**Historical headwaters.** "Our harbor system along the Great Lakes is the first water trail system we've had in this state," said Jordan Byelich, waterways development program manager for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. "In fact, going back hundreds of years, the Great Lakes served Native Americans and Europeans as a water trail system."

Native Americans first used Michigan's waterways for sustenance and trade, early European settlers used them to transport goods and timber, and water resources were the foundation of Michigan's earliest manufacturing and shipping industries.

These waterways also had a significant impact nationally. "The Great Lakes and a network of rivers opened the vast American heartland to a nation moving west. In-

land waterways are a road map to much of the nation's history," explains a passage from the National Museum of American History's online exhibition *On the Water: Stories from Maritime America*.

"They guided the travels of Native Americans, explorers from Europe, and streams of newcomers who established businesses, towns, and cities. ... Inland waterways helped hold together the people and economy of the nation as it grew throughout the 1800s."

Today, while still important for industrial transport, Michigan's waters often host more leisurely travelers. Michigan consistently ranks among the top three states in the nation for watercraft registrations and boat sales. Recreational boating has an economic impact of more than \$7 billion annually in Michigan, according to data from the National Marine Manufacturers Association.

**Finding safe harbor.** As boating became a popular pastime, the state set out to provide safe public access to the Great Lakes and inland waters of Michigan. In 1947, the state Legislature created the Michigan State Waterways Commission – a seven-member advisory board that works with the DNR on the use of dedicated funds, provided by boaters, for the acquisition, development and

maintenance of public harbors and boating access sites.

So began the state's Great Lakes Harbors Program. The Waterways Commission was granted authority and supporting funds to create a marine "highway" along the 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline.

From 1947 to 1964, the commission developed the majority of Michigan's harbors of refuge, providing tens of thousands of boaters safe harbors and hospitality as they circumnavigate the state. In 1966, the commission became part of Michigan's Department of Conservation, the precursor to the DNR.

"Today, the number of safe harbors has grown as the Waterways Commission continues its mission to provide safe public access to the Great Lakes and inland waters of this state," reads the Michigan Harbors Guide. "The program's goal is to locate harbors so that no boater will ever be more than 15 shoreline miles from safety."

Boaters have paid for much of this harbor network through taxes on marine fuel purchases and boat registration fees. Under the Waterways Grant-In-Aid Program, local units of government are given grant funds for construction of facilities. Federal

funding also supports the development of harbor facilities.

"Of the over 80 public harbors, most are operated by our Grant-in-Aid partners," said Linnae Dawson, DNR recreational harbor coordinator. "GIA harbors are owned and operated by a local unit of government but have received waterways funding in the past."

Local communities are responsible for continuing operation and maintenance of harbor facilities. The state only considers assuming these responsibilities where local resources are unable to support them, so the DNR operates only 18 of Michigan's harbor facilities.

Information about planning a day or overnight trip to one of Michigan's 83 state-sponsored harbors is available on the DNR's 'Boating the Great Lakes' page. Here boaters can find access to the digital harbor guide, includ-

ing harbor locations, amenities, reservation information and more.

Michigan also has more than 1,300 public state and local boating access sites, both developed and undeveloped.

**Hitting the water trail.** While boating has long been a popular pursuit for Michiganders, participation in paddle sports like kayaking, canoeing and stand-up paddle boarding has flourished in recent years.

In 2018, to offer paddling travelers more opportunities, the state first designated water trails – eight waterways totaling 540-plus miles that flow through more than a dozen counties.

A water trail is a designated route on a navigable waterway such as a lake, river, canal or bay, which is designed and managed to create a positive outdoor recreation experience for the user.

They feature well-developed access points, often are near significant historical, environmental or cultural points of interest and often have nearby amenities like restaurants, hotels and campgrounds.

"Water trails naturally are an increasing trend in Michigan and

throughout the country, as interest in paddle sports and other water-based recreation continues to grow," said DNR Parks and Recreation Chief Ron Olson. "We are pleased to help advance these opportunities by recognizing model public water trails that set the standard for the future of Michigan's water trails program."

Paul Yauk, the DNR's state trails coordinator, said that Michigan is in a great position to work with partners to create a state-wide water trails program that complements Michigan's broader trails system.

"Designating these rivers as official water trails shines an even brighter light on some incredible natural resources," Yauk said. "We fully expect that offering – and expanding – water trail opportunities in Michigan will encourage more outdoor recreation and healthier lifestyles, and also serve as regional destinations that will give a boost to local economies."

Find tips on keeping you safe in and around higher water levels, plus ideas for lessening the impacts to fish and wildlife, at Michigan.gov/HighWaterSafety.

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