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SHORT CUTS

Go ahead and swear, NLRB says

A little profanity or unpleasant speech in pursuit of supporting your union is now permissible when dealing with management, the National Labor Relations Board ruled last month.

In a ruling from the *Lion Elastomers* case, the NLRB restored the rights of union representatives to use heated language, including occasional profanity, during arguments with management. The Board ordered Texas employer Lion Elastomers to reinstate steward Joseph Colone with full back pay going back to a 2018 discharge, *Labor Notes* reported.

The ruling upended the President Trump-NLRB era's infamous *General Motors* decision, which flipped 70 years of precedent protecting workers' rights, outlawing the use of strong language when pressing union points during grievance discussions and other meetings.

Colone, *Labor Notes* said, was a United Steelworkers member who had worked for Lion Elastomers at a Texas synthetic rubber plant for 41 years. He was fired largely for making two allegedly uncivil comments during a monthly union-management safety committee meeting. In one outburst, he told the safety and security manager to "just go ahead and leave." In another he said the manager was not doing his job.

"Union supporters are enthusiastic about *Elastomers* because *General Motors* was one of the most backward decisions issued in the years the Board was under the control of its Trump-appointed chairman, John F. Ring, a management labor lawyer who steadfastly served employer interests," *Labor Notes* reported. "The principle behind *Elastomers* (and the longstanding precedent it brought back to life) is an understanding that grievances and other workplace issues are by nature hot-button disputes where the normal job rules of civility and respect cannot be applied. How could stewards defend their members if they must politely defer to their bosses?"

U.S. job market remains resilient

Economists were surprised once again by the resilience of the U.S. job market, as the Bureau of Labor Statistics on June 2 reported that U.S. employment rose by a seasonally adjusted 339,000 in May, far exceeding expectations and marking the 29th straight monthly increase in employment.

Construction employment joined the fun, rising by 25,000 in May, following an increase of 13,000 in April.

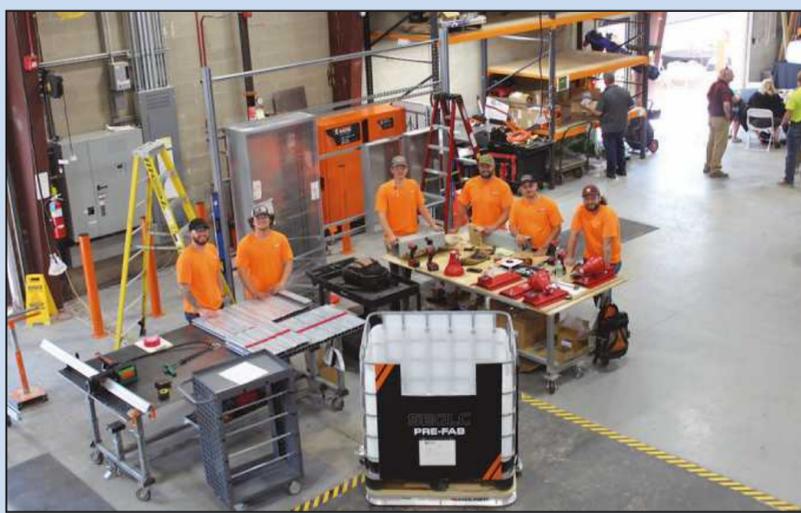
The construction unemployment rate dropped to 3.5 percent in May, from 4.1 percent a month earlier. Meanwhile, average hourly earnings in construction increased 0.4 percent in May (+5.1 percent on a year-over-year basis), faster than overall wage growth as construction labor continues to be scarce in the face of strengthening starts activity.

"Despite its resiliency, construction employment faces strong headwinds in the short term," says Dodge Data and Analytics, indicating that the good jobs report increases the odds of another Federal Reserve interest rate hike in June.

Quotable

"As to diseases make a habit of two things – a habit of least, to do no harm."

–Hippocrates (460-370 BC)



WORKING ON PROJECTS in the new Superior Electric Great Lakes Co.'s Lansing fabrication shop that will serve the nearby Ultium Battery Plant currently under construction are a group of IBEW Local 665 members. They include (l-r) journeyman David Garver, and apprentices Aaron Seward, Ryan Lay, Tanner Allison, Hunter Rhodes, and Joseph Van Douser. The photo was taken at the grand opening/open house of the facility on June 1.

Superior Electric flips the switch on new building; targets mid-state market

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – Confidence in the prospects for a healthy construction market prompted Superior Electric Great Lakes Co. to seek more workspace in the mid-Michigan region.

The result: renovation of a former retail location at 4255 Five Oaks Drive into 12,000 square-feet of new office and warehouse/fabrication space that will provide enhanced, dedicated room for electricians

and company staff to do their jobs. The company held an open house on June 1 to celebrate the newly created space.

Superior Electric, headquartered in Troy, had been working locally out of what was essentially a regional marketing office that was less than 1,000 square feet of space in nearby Okemos, before purchasing the Five Oaks Drive building in December 2019.

"We think establishing this building here in the Lansing area will open up a lot more opportu-

nities for us," said Superior Electric Senior Vice President Alan Keith Austin. He said the new shop sends a message to the community that their team is ready to go to work in mid-Michigan. "In a way it's like a big billboard along a freeway," he said.

With an all-union renovation managed by Ideal Contracting, the project to transform the building began in November 2021 and effectively wrapped

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SUPERIOR ELECTRIC Great Lakes Co.'s new location in Lansing was renovated and re-purposed by union trades workers. The new facility will give the IBEW-NECA-affiliated contractor a greater physical presence in the mid-Michigan area, which is expected to be a busy place for the building trades.



On-the-job fatality rates in U.S. remain steady, unfortunately

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

It's hardly a happy title, but the annual report on workplace fatalities issued April 25 by the AFL-CIO offers some helpful insights on safety and fatality trends in U.S. workplaces.

It is the 32nd year the AFL-CIO has released the report, *Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect*, and it outlines the state of safety and health protections for America's workers.

"Over the last 50 years, there has been significant progress toward improving working conditions and protecting workers

from job injuries, illnesses and deaths," the report said. "Federal job safety agencies have issued many important regulations on safety hazards and health hazards like silica and coal dust, strengthened enforcement and expanded worker rights. These initiatives have undoubtedly made workplaces safer and saved lives. But much more progress is needed."

Following are some of the key points from the report, which uses the most recent Bureau of Labor Statistics numbers made available from earlier this year (covering 2021). The numbers are naggingly consistent during

the course of this century:

- 343 workers died each day from hazardous working conditions, up from 340 in 2020.

- 5,190 workers were killed on the job in the United States, a 9 percent increase from the 4,764 who suffered fatalities on the job the year prior.

- An estimated 120,000 U.S. workers died from occupational diseases, about the same as last year. That includes slow-moving diseases, such as black lung and silicosis – even after-effects from toxic gases that, 20 years later, still kill former workers who

(Continued on Page 3)

Industry strong, but uncertainty a certainty for ENR's Top 400 U.S. contractors

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

Construction contracting isn't for the faint of heart these days.

Federal debt negotiations, higher interest rates, bouncing material prices, supply chain issues, hiring challenges – those are just a few items on the collective plates of the nation's largest construction contractors. *The Engineering News Record* last month took its annual look at the

revenues of the nation's Top 400 contractors.

The headline: "Contractor revenue grows despite rising costs as firms say owner confidence waning in an increasingly cloudy market."

"As economic uncertainty swirls around the Capitol Hill debt-limit negotiations, some ENR Top 400 Contractors are worried about reaching the limit of their ability to keep projects profitable," the ENR article said. "Through

Supreme Court sets new curb on union members' right to strike

By Mark Gruenberg
Press Associates

WASHINGTON (PAI) – By an 8-1 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court curbed workers' right to strike by, in so many words, letting companies sue unions whenever they want in state courts for alleged "damage" strikers cause, even if the National Labor Relations Board is already investigating and handling the dispute.

The six-year-old case is titled *Glacier Northwest v. Teamsters Local 174*. In it, Glacier, a cement company, sued Local 174 for striking, walking out and letting cement dry in trucks in Glacier's yard, costing it \$100,000 in damage to the trucks, plus lost business. Local 174 denied the charges, saying the workers ensured the cement truck drums were still spinning, keeping cement wet, when they left. It called Glacier's suit retaliatory labor law-breaking.

Under current law, strikes are legal under the National Labor Relations Act unless there is deliberate property damage, violence or both. In plain English, the justices in the majority took away the word "deliberate," letting bosses sue unions for any alleged damage strikes cause.

"It's like putting a tax on the right to strike," Harvard labor law professor Sharon Block, a former NLRB member, told CBS's busi-

Are workers liable for 'damage' as they walk off the job?

Supremes say 'yes'

ness channel.

The decision in outraged Teamsters President Sean O'Brien. AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler predicted that when the case will be tried over again in Washington state, the union will win.

The majority's ruling also upset the dissenter, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, who said her colleagues misread the primacy of federal labor law and could make workers "indentured servants."

She said the ruling "places a significant burden on the employees' exercise of their statutory right to strike, unjustifiably undermining Congress's intent. Workers are not indentured servants, bound to continue laboring until any planned work stoppage would be as painless as possible for their master."

The ruling has the potential to stop strikes before they happen – if it can be broadly argued that workers can cause damage to an employer simply by walking off the job. Cornell Law School's analysis said Local 174 cited several cases where opportunistically

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Supreme Court's strike ruling: for now, unions may have dodged a bullet

By Alexandra Bradbury
Labor Notes

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Glacier Northwest v. Teamsters Local 174* is outrageous – valuing property over workers' rights. But it could have been much worse.

Unions still have the right to strike. Employers still can't generally sue unions in state court for losses caused by strikes. But the decision does open the door to whittling away those rights more in the future.

The practical impact of the court's decision is that employers will be suing unions more often for alleged property damage caused by strikes – and that therefore unions (and their attorneys) are likely to be more cautious.

But the Supreme Court did not do what many had feared it would do in this case: overrule longstanding precedent that employers generally cannot sue unions in state court over activities – like strikes – covered by the National Labor Relations Act.

Instead, it found that this case

fell under an already-existing exception for failure to take reasonable precautions to prevent foreseeable, imminent, aggravated damage to employer property.

Workers and unions are right to be furious at this ruling. But we should be careful not to sensationalize or overstate it – which could do more damage to the right to strike than the ruling itself does, by making workers scared to exercise it.

"American workers must remember that their right to strike has not been taken away," said Teamsters President Sean O'Brien in response to the ruling. "All workers, union and nonunion alike, will forever have the right to withhold their labor."

The question the Supreme Court considered in the *Glacier* case was whether the employer could sue Teamsters Local 174 in state court over the allegedly intentional destruction of the company's concrete when striking drivers who had set out with deliveries of ready-mix concrete returned their loaded trucks, requiring the company to dispose of it before it set.

Prior court cases say that an employer can't sue a union in state court over activity arguably covered by the National Labor Relations Act. Instead, the employer has to go to the National Labor Relations Board.

There is an exception, though, if striking employees don't take reasonable precautions

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Flint sites to see a cool \$1.3 billion in investments

FLINT – General Motors on June 5 announced plans to invest \$1.3 billion in two manufacturing sites in the city: Flint Assembly and Flint Metal Center. The investments will employ hundreds of building trades workers – and prepare those plants for production of the next-generation internal combustion engine (ICE) heavy-duty (HD) trucks.

And a former GM property, Buick City, will see a \$300 million investment. The GM announcement increases the automaker's U.S. manufacturing and parts distribution facility investment commitments to more than \$30.5 billion since 2013 – and its Michigan properties have enjoyed the lion's share of the plant construction. The automaker has more than 50 assembly, stamping, propulsion, component and parts distribution centers nationwide.

"Today we are announcing significant investments in Flint to strengthen our industry-leading full-size pickup business by preparing two plants to build the

(Continued on Page 2)

GM's longest-operating assembly plant in North America, Flint Assembly (1947), will soon be the recipient of \$788 million in upgrades.

Photo credit: GM



Viewpoints



A 90% tax rate on the B's?

What happens when you tax billionaires at 90 percent?

We did it before, and the result was the creation of the world's first and largest middle class and a level of peace and prosperity that held its own until Ronald Reagan took a meat-axe to it...

America's billionaires (and soon to be trillionaires) pay an average of around 3.1 percent as their functional income tax rate; as a result, America is the most unequal developed society in the world. The last time severe poverty and extravagant wealth coexisted in such extremes as today in this country was during the 1920s and 1930s.

The last time we saw the consequences of such inequality was during the Republican "Roaring '20s" 100 years ago, when Warren Harding dropped the top income tax rate from 91 percent to 25 percent, the morbidly rich openly bought our politicians, and gangs whose names are still known today roamed the country robbing and killing with impunity.

Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal put an end to all that, and we need to repeat his example today. FDR raised the top income tax bracket from 25 to 90 percent. Wealthy people in America screamed and yelled, claiming it would crash the economy, but instead that top tax rate kicked off the first middle class to encompass more than half a nation's population in world history.

FDR created America's first widespread middle class with a combination of high taxes on the rich and strong unions for working class people. He broke the politically corrupt power of organized wealth for two generations.

Abraham Lincoln was the first president to use the word unions to describe labor organizations; it was such a novelty that newspapers of the day put the word in quotation marks. By the 1920s the union movement had seized the nation, but employers and Republican politicians were still using police, the army, and private armed militias to kill union leaders and intimidate people who wanted to join them.

Franklin Roosevelt put an end to that with the Wagner Act in 1935, fully legalizing unions. By the time Reagan took office in 1981 about a third of Americans had a good union job, and as a result fully two-thirds of American workers had union-level wages and benefits (because unions created the local wage and benefit floor for employers).

The people who were obscenely rich throughout the era from the 1930s to the 1980s had mostly inherited their money from their 19th Century Gilded Age ancestors (the Rockefellers, Vanderbilts, DuPonts, Carnegies, etc.), because the combination of the 90 percent income tax bracket and union demands for meaningful wages kept inequality at reasonable levels.

Rich people were still rich, but that top income tax bracket combined with the power of unions kept the average CEO from taking much more than 30 times what their lowest-paid worker made every year. (Today, some CEOs make more than a thousand times what their workers make.)

FDR's and LBJ's social safety nets caught Americans before they could fall into the dire poverty that characterized earlier eras when Republicans ran the show. Social Security and unemployment benefits – both rolled out by FDR in the 1930s – lifted the elderly and the jobless out of poverty, and LBJ's Medicare and Medicaid (1960s) kept Americans healthy.

The result of this was that crime went down and lifespans increased. When the grinding inequality of the Roaring '20s and the Republican Great Depression went away in the 1940s and 1950s, the crime sprees and hate-promoting demagogues went with it. Working people with decent wages and benefits, after all, have neither the time nor the need to engage in criminal activity.

Corporate executives lived and worked in normal – albeit upscale – neighborhoods, and workers made enough to sustain a decent lifestyle.

Nonetheless, the morbidly rich campaigned relentlessly to take us back to the oligarchic 1920s, demanding tax cuts and union-busting. They funded media campaigns, think tanks, publications, judges and politicians.

In 1981 they got their guy into office; Reagan dropped the top tax rate all the way down to 27 percent and destroyed the nation's air traffic controllers union as his opening salvo in the modern-day Republican War Against Workers.

Reaganism kicked off a 42-year-long explosion of wealth at the very top of our economic hierarchy, making today's billionaires richer than the pharaohs.

Simultaneously, the middle class began its collapse from two-thirds of us in 1980 all the way down to today's 45 percent (and today it takes two incomes to sustain the same middle class lifestyle that could be done with just one when Jimmy Carter was president).

As the middle class collapsed, lifespans in America followed the same trajectory, unlike other countries in the world that rejected Reaganomics.

To solve this crisis, we must gather and gain the political strength and will to once again raise the top income tax rate up to 90 percent; to overturn the Taft-Hartley Act and restore the right to unionize without interference; and to strip the poison of big money out of our political system.

The morbidly rich will squeal at even the mention of these tried-and-tested solutions, just like they did in the 1930s.

FDR framed the need to raise taxes on the morbidly rich into the 90 percent region. Again, FDR took the truth right to them:

"You would think, to hear some people talk, that those good people who live at the top of our economic pyramid are being taxed into rags and tatters. What is the fact? The fact is that they are much farther away from the poorhouse than they were in 1932. You and I know that as a matter of personal observation."

Like today, there were Republican politicians and media commentators who warned about a "welfare nanny state" and predicted that if people weren't kept in near-poverty they'd lose their incentive to work.

Like today, it was a lie. Republicans act like raising taxes on the morbidly rich, enforcing anti-monopoly laws, returning the right to unionize to workers, and ending the "right" of billionaires and corporations to buy politicians and Supreme Court judges is some sort of radical, untried experiment that will ruin our nation.

It's a lie. When you tax billionaires at 90 percent, they're still fabulously rich and you have the resources to rebuild a healthy and happy middle class across the nation.

We did it before, and the result was the creation of the world's first and largest middle class, a life expectancy never before seen in all of history, and a level of peace and prosperity that held its own until Ronald Reagan took a meat-axe to it.

We can do it again. If we want to preserve our democracy, in fact, we must do it again.

Thom Hartmann
From *The Hartmann Report*

OPENED IN 1954, the Flint Metal Center produces sheet metal stampings for GM's heavy duty and light duty trucks, full size SUVs, and crossovers. The 1.6 million square-foot plant on Bristol Rd. sits on 85.6 acres. The plant is due to receive \$233 in upgrades.

Photo credits: GM

Flint sites to see \$1.3B in investments

(Continued from Page 1) next-generation ICE HD trucks," said Gerald Johnson, executive vice president, Global Manufacturing and Sustainability. "These investments reflect our commitment to our loyal truck customers and the efforts of the dedicated employees of Flint Assembly and Flint Metal Center."

Details of the June 5 announcements include work at:

•**Flint Assembly:** GM will invest \$788 million to prepare the plant to assemble GM's next-



generation internal combustion heavy duty trucks. Plant updates will include a body shop building expansion, general assembly conveyor expansion, and new tooling and equipment.

Flint Assembly is located on Vanslyke Road. The 5.2 million square-foot plant, now spread over 159 acres, opened in 1947 and has produced more than 15 million vehicles. Workers there currently build truck products: the Chevrolet Silverado Heavy Duty, the GMC Sierra Heavy



Duty Denali and the Sierra Heavy Duty.

•**Flint Metal Center:** GM will invest \$233 million for new stamping dies to support production of GM's next-generation internal combustion heavy-duty trucks, as well as press refurbishments and new equipment.

Opened in 1954, the Metal Center produces sheet metal stampings for GM's heavy duty and light duty trucks, full size SUVs, and crossovers.

GM said the investments in the Flint plants "highlights the company's commitment to continue providing customers "a strong portfolio" of internal combustion engines "for years to come."

In 2022, GM said it achieved a 38 percent year-over-year increase in heavy duty pickup sales

with nearly 288,000 trucks sold. Additionally, the 2023 Chevrolet Silverado Heavy Duty was the best-selling retail full-size HD pickup.

GM has now announced more than \$1.7 billion in investments for Flint-area operations in 2023, including \$579 million in Flint Engine Operations for a sixth-generation small block V-8 engine production and \$103.5 million in Davison Road Processing Center for technology upgrades to improve workplace safety and ergonomics.

•**Buick City:** After GM's announcement, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Flint Mayor Sheldon Neely and U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Flint Twp. drove several miles north to the empty, former grounds of GM's Buick City for an announcement of a \$300 million investment at the site. Ground was broken to launch the new Flint Commerce Center, which will be set up to will host industrial tenants. GM left the site in 1999.

"Force is all-conquering, but its victories are short-lived."
—Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

Why we should care about striking entertainment industry writers

By Jim Hightower
Hollywood! Glamour! Riches!

Yet, people who make a living writing movies, TV shows, and streaming programs are on strike! Most people find it hard to relate to complaints about working on projects with multi-million-dollar budgets, A-list stars, and famous

studio moguls. So what's wrong with this picture?

It's a faded picture taken in the long-ago golden age of Hollywood when creative writing was prized by industry's barons and writers got respect and decent paychecks. In today's reality, projects are rich, but writers are poor, for Hollywood has shifted to the same model of plutocratic inequality that has swamped banking, high-tech and other monopolistic sectors.

Wall Street now rules. While we consumers still pay top-dollar for tickets and monthly fees, practically all of the money flows upstream to financiers and corporate poobahs.

This has sunk the real creators (writers, directors, actors, tech crews, and craftpeople) into the quicksand of low-wage, temporary jobs. Legacy production giants like Disney, Paramount, and Universal, (along with über-rich new players like Amazon, Apple, Comcast, and Netflix), kowtow to Wall Street, stifling the people who actually have talent, squeezing corporate profits from their labor.

This is the blue-collar reality of Hollywood you don't hear about, and battling the same old rank greed of elite bosses is what this writers' strike is about.



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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.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2023 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. The General Election will be held on this day. The polls are open from Noon-8pm at the union hall.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

ELECTION NOTICE: 2023 is a general election year. The Election will take place on Tuesday June 27, 2023 from 12 noon – 8pm at the Local 80 Union Hall. Candidates are as follows in order of ballot draw:

Business Manager/FST: Timothy J. Mulligan, Alexander Brzuszek
Business Agents: 4 positions
 Chip Herndon, Jason Grunenwald, Scott Lewis, Tamuk Scruggs, Eric D. McPherson, Frank Livingston, Tim Gay

President: Joe Brick, Robert Kelly McFarland
Vice President: Aaron Griffin, Richard Saharчук

Recording Secretary: Thomas Drost, unopposed
Conductor: Shaun Allen, David Capps
Warden: Chris Peltier, unopposed
Executive Board: 5 positions.

Lawrence Ateman, Jason Lane, Mike Luedtke, Tom Brown, Dave Angelo, Jason Constantine, Jessica Zarna
Trustee: 3 positions
 David Germain, Tony Stocker, Ed Zabik, unopposed

GOLF OUTING: Tickets are SOLD OUT! If you would like to be added to the waiting list, please contact the hall. They are on sale for members only until May 12th! Please join us on July 15th at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$100 a ticket for members and \$135 a ticket for non-members. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts & danishes, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner. Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket! *Payment must be received to lock in your ticket*

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2023 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: June 19, 2023, August 21, 2023, October 16, 2023 (Holiday Party) and December 18, 2023. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

RETIREE NEWS: Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the Local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

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

BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL: There will now be a representative from Benesys at the union hall to help our members with anything related to benefits or funds. She will be available all day on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9-4pm. If you are interested in setting up an appointment, please contact Lashone at 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: James Thornton, Johnnie Downing, Richard W. Donovan, Justin Cook, Brian Niedzwiecki, Zachary Schwendemann-Whitman, Eric Brady, Chris Dufour, Neil Yagley, John Willcocks, Mike VanSickle, Mark Boyd, Timothy LaRoy, James Mitchell, Frank Baran, Dennis Trinkle and David Canady.

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.

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

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

WEEKEND WORK ASSIGNMENTS: 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 member's name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.

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

LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off, even if you only work one day. These are the By-Law rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list 14 days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven (7) days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

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

S.U.B. BENEFITS: Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven days from your

(Continued next column)



Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7

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

The next Statewide Meeting will be, Aug. 17, 2023, at 6 p.m.

- *Zone 1 July 13th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 2 July 18th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 3 July 12th at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)
- *Zone 3 September 21st at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
- *Zone 4 July 11th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 5 August 10th at 6:00 p.m.

NEWS: Mark your calendar for the local picnic at the Double J Resort in Muskegon on July 22, call for reserving campsites at (231) 894-4444, let them know you are from Local 7.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2023. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.

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

SMART Members Assistance Program provides counselors to speak with members experiencing crisis. Call (877) 884-6227 for 24/7 assistance with Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

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

ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:

- 1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202
- 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202
- 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49014

(Retirees, please notify Vance or Eric of any changes or additions you would like)

– **In Solidarity, Eric Farrington and Vance Saunders**
ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 remains the same and looks good thru the summer. Our next scheduled Zone 2 meeting is July 18th. Local 7 annual picnic is July 22nd at the Double JJ Resort in Rothbury. Please keep me informed of address and phone number changes and dues are always due prior to the first of the month.

– **Thank You, Mike Adams**

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) -Work in Zone 3 (Saginaw area) is getting busy with some of the projects getting started. If you are traveling to work in other areas and want to work locally, please contact me. With the shortage of -manpower in the state we are looking to hire qualified people with experience once we are at full employment. If you know anyone have them contact me at 989-225-0095. With all this work starting its going to be busy and with Summer here that will bring higher temperatures please remember to work safe.

Retiree's meeting will be at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City on June 27th hope to see you there.

– **Thank you, Joe Dotson**

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City). Mark your calendar for the Local picnic at the Double J resort in Muskegon on July 22, call for reserving campsites at (231) 894-4444. Currently, we have full employment with an open call for more. If you know anyone interested in our trade, have them contact me. Update your address with the Hall or just call them and check to see if you are current as we are going into a contract year for our zone and will be sending out important information. If anyone needs any personal assistance with anything, contact me.

– **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**
ZONE 4 Info: I hope all is well, spring is here, and work is about to get very busy statewide. If anyone is interested in traveling let me know. If any members know of anybody that has Sheet metal experience or is interested in becoming a member let us know. Any member that is interested in upgrade classes please contact Dan Bryant at the Zone 4 training center. – **Your Brother Scott Brotherton**

ZONE 5 Info: Work in the U.P. is very good. We have some travelers up here right now. If you know anyone that would be a good fit for our trade, have them give me a call at 906-250-6045. If you're laid off and want to work let me know.

Also, the retirees are planning to have their next meeting at A&M Restaurant in Skandia, July 12th at 10:00am.

– **In solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223
Vance Saunders (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200
Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752
Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095
John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112
Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552
Brandon Langenfeld (Upper Peninsula) 906-372-9288

Local 80 cont'd

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

(Continued on Page 5)



Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. All Newly Elected Officers will be sworn in prior to the meeting.

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

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on **June 27, 2023**, at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

SAVE THE DATE: The 35th Annual Charity Golf Outing will be on August 20, 2023, at Boulder Pointe Golf Club in Oxford. We will be posting more information as it becomes available.

ELECTIONS NOTICE: The election of Local 292 officers will be conducted at the date, time, and place indicated below:

Date: Friday, June 29, 2023,
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, driver's license, or some other form of identification at the polls.

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

Business Agent / President (Vote for not more than 1) Antonio (Tony) Silvestri, Paul Brown

Vice President (Vote for not more than 1): Tammy Durmen, Jason Csurgo

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

Warden & Conductor (Vote for not more than 1): Austin Olson
Executive Board (Vote for not more than 5): Anthony (Tone) Smiley, Ken Delargey, Lloyd McMillon, Leon Weathers, Frank Le-wandowski, David Pistotti, Chris Hrivnak

Union Trustee (Vote for no more than 3): Aaron McKeehan, Quintin Turner, Denny Lau

The term of office will run from the Regular Membership Meeting, July 12, 2023 and serve a term of 3 years.

To be eligible for election on June 29, 2023 dues for the month of June must be paid in advance, that is, on or before May 31, 2023. Please take time to participate in this important process.

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.

PLAN BENEFIT CHANGES: The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the addition of Dental and Vision benefits under Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan for Non-Medicare eligible Retirees effective April 1, 2023.

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

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

DUES: Membership dues are required to be **paid in advance of the month for which they are due.** The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are **60 days late.** To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by **4:00 p.m.** on the **last business day of the month.** Payments received after **4:00 p.m.** on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you **WILL** go suspended. **All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).**

LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: Check out the online store to purchase Local 292 shirts and jackets. Purchased items will be shipped directly to you. Access through Sheetmetal292.com at the online store tab or <https://sheetmetalworkers292.itemorder.com/sale>. Contact Paul or Tony if you have any suggestions for new items or artwork changes.

ADDRESS UPDATES: If you move, please contact the union hall to update your address.

RETIRES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The 2023 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree luncheon are as follows: **Aug. 3, Oct. 5, and Dec. 7**

The retirees' luncheon will be held at: Tavern on the Main @ 12:30 p.m., 235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017. (248) 588-1696. It is located 3 blocks south of 14 Mile on the east side of the street.

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

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

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

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

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

SUBSTANTIATION REQUEST: Many members have been receiving Substantiation Request letters from the Local 292 Benefit Fund office. IRS regulations require that every use of the Benny Card be substantiated or validated as an eligible covered expense under the Plan. This validation is required by the IRS, the Fund cannot make exceptions. It is the member's responsibility to ensure all requested documentation be returned to the Fund office in a timely manner. By not responding to the Substantiation Request letter, your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

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

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

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

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

(Continued on Page 5)



Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25

Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD – UNION MEETING - The next regularly scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

WORKING ASSESSMENT: Per Article XIX Section 15 (b) of the International Constitution and Bylaws, as of 6/8/2023 the Union office had to begin imposing a daily working assessment for any members working during the strike. The daily working assessment is as follows for each classification:

Mechanic: \$36 per day worked, 1st year Apprentice: \$18 per day worked, 2nd year Apprentice: \$21 per day worked, 3rd year Apprentice: \$25 per day worked, 4th year Apprentice: \$29 per day worked.

The daily assessment went into effect on 6/8/2023, meaning for each day you work during the strike on or after 6/8/2023 you owe the amount listed above that fits your classification. Please note: the daily assessment will continue until a new agreement has been ratified. The Union office has a list of people that are/were manning agreement jobs during the strike. Unless you present a paycheck stub showing less than 5 days worked during the weeks effected by the strike, you will be expected to pay 5 days' worth of assessment for those weeks. It is your responsibility to make sure your financial obligations are up to date. If you have any questions, contact the Union office.

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

MUST SAFETY MODULES: In order to be eligible for the safety module stipend, you must contact the Union Office PRIOR to taking the safety modules.

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

LAYOFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within 48 hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.

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

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

NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program.

(Continued next column)



Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next regular Union Meeting will be held on Friday, July 14, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., and will be held at J.A.T.C. Training Center, 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

Local 47 would like to Thank all the Officers and Members who attended this years picnic

Please join us for our Annual Golf Outing on Saturday, July 22, 2023, please call your foursome in by June 30, 2023. The cost is \$75/person or \$300/team.

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.

Per the Rules and Procedures:

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked. Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds

6525 Centurion Drive
Lansing, MI 48917-9275
Toll Free: (800) 323-8079
Telephone: (517) 321-7502
Fax: (517) 321-7508

Joshua Kroell will be available via phone to answer any questions regarding Pension, Welfare and Vacation Funds. Joshua is the Secretary for the Pension, Welfare, Vacation and Special Benefits and can be reached by phone at (989) 385-2671, or by mail at: P.O. Box 1498, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804.

To all active members, if you have not sent in your Coordination of Benefits Form, your Spousal Form, or your Birth Certificates for your Children, no one will be covered on our insurance until these items are sent to TIC. Please call TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and get the above-mentioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

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



Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 4)

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

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. Ulliance is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns,

elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisor.EAP.com. **Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.**

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

Save the Date:

General Election Vote: June 27, 2023

Golf Outing: July 15, 2023

Picnic: August 12, 2023

Training Center News.

Entrance Exam Information. The next Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Apprenticeship Entrance Exam is scheduled for July 26, 2023. The deadline to apply is July 21. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver's license and applicants must be 18 years old by Oct. 1, 2023. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center @ (586) 979-5190.

Part-Time Instructor Opportunities. The Joint Apprenticeship Committee is accepting applications for part-time instructors to teach upgrading classes in the evening, including Introduction to AutoCAD, Revit 1 and Revit 2. Ideal candidates should have strong knowledge and experience using the particular CAD program as a detailer and show have a strong interest in helping Local 80 members improve their skills. The same person can apply to teach more than one class or one specific class.

Interested Local 80 members can submit their resume to the "Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee" by email at info@smw80jac.org, as well as in-person or by mail to the Training Center at 32700 Dequindre Road, Warren, MI 48092.

Call Matt at the Training Center with any questions.

Local 25 cont'd

tage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

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

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



CONGRATULATIONS to Evan Mahoney who took runner-up in the Boilermakers Great Lakes Area Apprenticeship Competition in Connecticut. Evan's second place finish qualifies him for the National Apprenticeship Competition. With him (l-r) are Boilermakers Local 169 President Mike Card and Business Manager Robert Hutsell.



Local 169 Boilermakers

Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on June 16, 2023, at 8PM at IBEW 692:

1300 West Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706. **Please note the date change.** Current Union dues for 2023 are \$55.85 in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

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

Congratulations to Evan Mahoney who took runner-up in the Great Lakes Area Apprenticeship Competition in Local 237, Connecticut. Evan's second place finish qualifies him for the National Apprenticeship Competition which will be held in Local 107, Wisconsin. Brother Mahoney represented Local 169 well at the competition and we are confident that he will do the same at the National Competition. Way to go Evan!

Retirees: Retiree luncheons have resumed.

Area 1 Retiree luncheon is on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 am at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 West Jefferson, River Rouge, Mi.

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

Area 3 Retirees luncheon lunch is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be June 21 at 11AM at The Green Spot Pub, at 808 N. Mission Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI. 48858. All area boilermakers and retirees are welcome to attend.

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

Any apprentice interested in working in other local areas should contact their area business agent.

Spring is here and with it will come our annual activities. Any member interested in volunteering to help with an area picnic or parade should contact their local agent. As members retire, we are in constant need of assistance with these events. I encourage you to get involved and participate.

The following events are planned for our members & their families.

Annual Scholarship Golf Outing at the St. Claire Golf Club. Tickets are \$100.00. Contact the Union Hall for additional information.

Area 1 picnic is July 22,

2023, starting at noon at Camp Dearborn. Lots of activities for kids of all ages along with multiple raffles. Please bring a dish to pass if you can.

Area 2 picnic follows the Labor Day Parade at Heritage Landing in Muskegon.

Area 3 picnic June 17th at Lake of Dreams Campground.

Area 4 picnic at Pioneer Trail Park on July 29th in Escanaba.

Please keep in mind that all members are welcome to attend events in all areas. Food and Beverages are provided at all events. Get out there and enjoy some fellowship with your Union Brothers & Sisters.

Hoodies have arrived and are for sale at the hall. We now have ALL sizes, medium through XXXL. The cost is \$40.00. Payments can be made with cash, check, or credit. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps are also available. Varsity jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at www.boilermakerslocal169.org or on our Facebook page.

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

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability. Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

Retired member Art LaFav's wife passed away on May 22, 2023. Please keep her family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

"No one forgives with more grace and love than a child."
–Gordon Atkinson

"We rarely think people have good sense unless they agree with us."

–Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680),

"Humans are the only animals that have children on purpose with the exception of guppies, who like to eat theirs."

–P. J. O'Rourke (1947 -)

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Local 671

MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2023. There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on July 6, 2023. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

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

Also, please refer to our website <https://www.unitedassociationlocal671.com/> and its calendar for the latest updates.

UA Local 671 Softball Team: Local 671 is taking a team down to Cincinnati to compete in the UA National Softball Tournament. If you are interested in playing, please call the Union Hall to get the details. The date for the tournament is June 23-25 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

If you are planning on attending, make sure you reserve your hotel room by June 1st. For more information contact me (Mike Jewell) or Nate Schneider.

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

Local 671 Scholarship Golf Outing: The Local 671 Scholarship Golf Outing will be held on July 8th at Green Meadows Golf Course, 1555 Strassburg Rd, Monroe, MI 48161. Registration will be at 7 a.m. and golf will begin with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Local 671 Member prices are \$80 per ticket or discounted to \$300 for a foursome if paid in advance. The last day to pay will be Friday, June 30th. Please call Carly at the Hall to pay.

Local 671 Annual Picnic: The Annual Local 671 Picnic will be held on August 26th. As always, all members will receive a letter in the mail with details. We look forward to seeing you all there!

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

Open Weld Shop Nights: The open weld shop nights will change to Tuesday nights from 6pm-10pm for the Summer. You would need to reserve a booth by noon on the Monday prior to the practice night. If we have 3 or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first-come, first-served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

Per the UA Weld Quality System Manual, any member who does not currently hold a UA Welding certification must prove that they are ready to take a UA weld test prior to the UA Weld test date. **Contact Justin if you want to sign up for the next UA Weld Test.**

Veterans Auxiliary: We recently announced that we are starting a Local 671 Veterans Auxiliary Group. Please contact Justin if you are interested in becoming a part of it!

In Closing: Just a reminder that we all took an oath. This is my favorite part of that oath of obligation "I will at all times assist members of the United Association to the extent of my ability, defend them when unjustly treated or slandered, and cultivate for each and every member the warmest friendship and brotherly love." Brother and Sisters this is only one part of that oath; If we all just try to live that part of it, we will be unstoppable.

God Bless Local 671 and Union Labor.

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: mike@ualocal671.com

Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: vinnie@ualocal671.com

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692



Local 357 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

UA Local 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, July 11th** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

PICNIC: Saturday, July 29th, 2023, UA Local 357 will host the annual picnic. We are looking forward to this quality time with our brothers and sisters! The festivities start at noon with door prize drawings at 3:00 pm. Every member who RSVPs by Monday, July 24th, will receive a \$50 gift card at the door. **Go to www.eventbrite.com and search Local 357 to RSVP or call the Union Hall at (269) 679-2570.**

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

RETIREE MEETINGS (NOTE CHANGE): Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9:00 am at Long Island Cafe located at 5222 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 218-0003. **The First One will be on Monday - JULY 3rd, 2023.**

MEDICAL CLAIMS ISSUES: As a member, TIC International and Labor First provide 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 not paid correctly, please contact TIC international at (888) 281-3461. For Medicare Retirees – Contact Labor First at (269) 218-3533 or (833) 933-0036.

WEBSITE INFORMATION – FRINGES – TIC: Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the **FACEBOOK** Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Member Resources, then click on MRA / TIC Intl Information 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 the 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, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date.

There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

"The truth is the kindest thing we can give folks in the end."

—Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811 - 1896)



Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

UA Local 85

SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at the Union Hall, 3535 Bay Rd. starting at 7:00 PM.

The next Zone 2 Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Grayling Eagles, at 602 Huron St. Grayling, MI 49738.

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

Contact Information: Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513 jpomerville@ualocal85.org Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515 jbador@ualocal85.org Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514 tdanielak@ualocal85.org Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330 csteele@ualocal85.org

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512 rjanderson@ualocal85.org Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511 ktuthill@ualocal85.org

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

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

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!

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

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

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

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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: The next retirees' luncheon will (Continued next column)



Local 190

UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on **Monday, July 10th at 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.**

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE - 49th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: Our annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, July 29th. Our event will be held at Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake. Mark your calendar for this special event.

The prices are as follows: \$100.00 union member, \$70.00 retiree union member and \$125.00 for non-union. **Payment can be made with a check or cash only. Please purchase your tickets no later than Wednesday, July 26th.** If you have any questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210

SCHOLARSHIPS: Local 190 Scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than July 1st.

MICHIGAN GAS JOURNEYMAN: Requalification testing for Consumer Energy and Semco Energy will start **Monday, June 5th** and run the whole month of June. Testing will be held at our training center. Please contact Ralph Booth 734-369-1432 for more information and to schedule your testing date.

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

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

MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL: Plumbing license renewals are done online ONLY! For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions. The link is now on the website in the "Members Only" section under "Helpful Member Forms"

CREDIT CARD MACHINE: You now have the ability to pay your union dues or purchase merchandise by credit 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.

LAID 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. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contactor and the date you reported back to work.**

PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

INFORMATION – FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 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**

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: A representative will be at the union hall each month on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of each month. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until

Local 85, con't

be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass.

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

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5:00pm. Friday 8am. to 3:30pm. We will be closed for lunch from noon to 1pm.

The Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JATC would like to welcome Kristyn Goebel as our new Administration Assistant. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MD-HHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines.

Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!

Congratulations to Tyler Walden for winning first place in the 2023 Michigan apprentice competition, pipefitting event. Tyler will be going to the District 2 contest June 5 representing UA 190, wish him luck.

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

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2023 Schedule - Mondays - July 17, and Oct 2. Each class will start at 5:00 pm. Please register through the website: ua190.org

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2023 Schedule - Mondays - April 17th, July 24th, and Oct 16th. Each class will start at 5:00 pm. Please register through the website: ua190.org

Welding Lab: The welding lab is open. The schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 4:30pm-8:30pm until May 25, 2023. The welding lab will be closed for Union Meetings and Holidays. The open welding lab will be shutting down for the summer starting May 25 and opening back up for night classes starting September 5. Welding tests will be scheduled by the Training Coordinator after participants are approved by welding instructors.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2023 Schedule:** Second course starts Sept 12th. Courses run on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Please register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE PRICE INCREASE ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2023 Schedule:** Second course starts Oct 17th. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5:00 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer and Brazing Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. **2023 Schedule: Second course starts Aug 22nd.** Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Please register through the website: ua190.org

Med Gas Installer Update (8hrs): This is a two-day course. **2023 Schedule: First course starts April 18th. Second course starts Sept 26th.** Courses will be on Tue. and Thu. and are



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday July 12, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

A vote for allocations of money will be held Wednesday July 12. Polls will be open from 12:00 P.M. until 5:30 P.M.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Save the Date for Local 704's Golf Outing. This year's outing will be held on August 26th. This year's outing will be held at Maple Lane Golf Club in Sterling Heights. The ticket price is \$85.00 which includes golf, lunch at the turn and dinner. Please contact the hall for more information.

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

A speedy recovery for all our sick and injured members.

Local 190, con't

limited to 24 participants, per course. Please register through the website: ua190.org

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be late spring. Class size is limited to 8. Please register through the website: ua190.org

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Classes scheduled for the following dates: No classes currently scheduled. Please register through the website: ua190.org

RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, July 6th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries and a warm cup of coffee.

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

"He who reigns within himself and rules his passions, desires, and fears is more than a king."

— John Milton (1608 - 1674)

"Enquire not what boils in another's pot."

—Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661)

"The important thing is not to stop questioning."

—Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

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Local 370 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service

UA Local 370

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 7:00.**

Organizer: Local 370 is in search of our next organizer as Jeff Peake is now working for the Michigan Pipe Trades. If interested, please send resume to Dan at dgaudet@ualocal370.org.

Local 370 Annual Golf Outing: The 2023 Local 370 Annual Golf Outing will be Saturday, July 15th 9:00 am shotgun start. Registration will start at 8:00 am.

Memorial- The family of brother Chan Stone would like to thank all who attended and a special thanks to all the retired officers who made the drive to share their stories.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

Weld Test: Local 370 will host a weld test, Saturday, June 24th at 7:00 am.

First Aid/ CPR: September 20th

All classes and test days can be signed up with Kaytlin at 810-720-5243 ext 15.

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

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 4:00pm

FMR Committee – Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 5:00pm

Executive Board – Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 5:00pm

Building Committee – Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 6:00pm

Finance Committee – Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 6:15pm

JATC Committee – TBD

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

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

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

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. 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.

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

We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1.00 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

(Continued next column)



Plumbers Local 98



Plumbers 98

DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers Local 98,

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

Meetings & Union Hall. The Union Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 13th at 7:00 pm at the Union Hall.

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

Retiree Meetings. The next Retiree Meeting is Wednesday, July 12th from 12 pm – 2 pm.

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

It's time for renewal of your State of Mi. Plumbing License for Journeymen and apprentices, for detailed instructions visit www.michigan.gov/bcc

The **LABOR DAY PARADE** is back on this year, more information to follow.

98 Family Picnic: Sunday July 30th 2023 12 -5 pm. East Playfield Pavilion Kensington Metro Park, 4570 Huron River Pkwy, Milford Mi. 48380. Free admission, bounce house, Kona ice truck, kid's prizes. Hamburgers & hot dogs. Any other information or if you wish to volunteer, please call Pres. Jim Cools @ 734-307-9841

2023 Local 98 Golf Outing: Tickets are available for the 2023 Local 98 Golf Outing. The outing will be held on August 12th, 2023 at Oak Ridge Golf Course located at 26 Mile Road and I-94. Tickets are \$120.00 and can be purchased by calling the Union Hall. We have started a charity for this event so please make checks payable to "Detroit Plumbers CARES". For more information or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Financial Secretary Treasurer Jon DeRoo at (248) 762-9238 or by email jderoo98@ualocal98.org.

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

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

Please select option #4 for Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo for Pension issues. If you are looking to retire, please set a meeting up with him. We recommend doing this at least 6 months

Local 370, con't

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

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

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

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

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

before retirement.

Congratulations to those who have hung up their bibs: Donald VanSickle; Roy Pung; Bob VanDike; Kelly Smith; William Scarpace

Dues. You can pay your dues online, over the phone, in person or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto payments. Any other dues questions, please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 ext. 3. If you ordered a yearly dues flannel before you come pick it up, please call first to make sure it's in. Thank you.

Good/Welfare. Special Thank you to U.A. Local 663 Sarnia's retiring Business Manager Ross Tius, he spent the last 23 years as the Business Manager (that's not an easy task folks) and great friend of 98. Thru all the tuff times we endured, 663 always put our members to work at their refinery. God Bless you and your family on a long - deserved retirement.

Local 98 is now accepting applications for Scholarships. Please contact the office for more information.

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

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

Training Center News. Phone # 248-585-1435

Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 28th, 2023. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2023. All classes are register and pre-pay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class.

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

Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber- 40 hour class- \$100 fee

Fall: September 18 to November 20. Deadline to register September 1

Hydronic Heating and Cooling – 40 hour class - \$100 fee

Fall: September 18 to November 20. Deadline to register September 1

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

4 hour recert class July 25 & 26 Deadline is June 23

4 hour recert class October

24 & 25 Deadline is September 22

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour): Fall: September 18 – November 27 Deadline is August 11-\$200

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

Fall: September 21 - October 26, Deadline is August 11 -\$100

ICRA and Water Quality: Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30 Fall: September 19 to October 28, Deadline is August 11 -\$200

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour): Fall: September 20 – November 29 Deadline to register September 1 -\$200

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

2023 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month. If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next Welding and Brazing sessions will be Saturday, July 8 and August 5, 2023. **You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

2023 Course Hour reimbursement forms are 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, 2023 to be eligible for the \$100.00 reimbursement.

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

It is each member's individual responsibility to keep all their Certifications current. If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your call. We attempt to return all messages by the end of the business day.

"My future starts when I wake up every morning... Every day I find something creative to do with my life."

—Miles Davis (1926 - 1991)

"When people are free to do as they please, they usually imitate each other."

—Eric Hoffer (1902 - 1983)

"We confess our little faults to persuade people that we have no large ones."

—Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

"The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook."

—William James (1842 - 1910)

"Stress is an ignorant state. It believes that everything is an emergency. Nothing is that important."

—Natalie Goldberg



UA Local 333

LANSING – June's union meeting will be held Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI 48911 at 7:30 pm.

The July meeting will be Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr Blvd. Lansing, MI 48911.

Attention: Congratulations to Dustin Howard on his new job as Business Agent in Local 333. Your Regional Business Agent will continue to handle the day to day needs as they arise. Brother Howard will be working with potential customers/contractors on a regular basis to assure we are well-positioned when some of the large projects come to an end.

Also, Congratulations to Eric Kosloski on his new position as a full time JATC instructor to help shoulder the heavy load in our JATC and night classes. We wish them both the best.

Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 333 scholarship applications for the school year beginning this fall are now available at all three halls or by calling Joni at 517-784-1106, ext#4. Applications must be complete and turned in by July 1, 2023.

Local 333 Retirees' Golf Outing will be on Wednesday, June 28 at Burr Oak Golf Club, 3491 N. Parma Rd., Parma, MI 49269. Cost is \$30.00 per person. This includes 18 holes of golf, cart, coffee, donuts, and lunch. Prizes are included. All team registrations and fees must be received no later than June 21. Registration forms are available at all three union halls. Contact Brandon Snyder with questions, (517) 260-4659.

BACKFLOW RECERTIFICATION - Class will begin June 19, 2023 at 5:00 pm.

MED-GAS RECERTIFICATION - Class will begin June 20, 2023 at 5:00 pm.

WELD CLASSES - There will be an open weld class at the Lansing Training Center on Tuesday 4:30 - 8:30 pm as long as the classes are well attended.

Jackson will also have an open weld night on Thursday 5-8 pm as long as the classes are well attended.

Weld Tests will remain on the second Tuesday of each month. Call the Training Center at 517-323-0333 to get on the schedule.

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. Even though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it is the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.

Battle Creek Retirees' Breakfast will be held the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Café, 2587 Capital Avenue SW, Battle Creek MI at 9:00 am. Please spread the word.

Jackson Retirees' Breakfast members meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10 am at the Alpha Coney Island, 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. The restaurant is at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center. If you have any questions or need directions just contact Joni at 517-784-1106 ext#4. Please pass the word to fellow retired members.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

UA Local 111

UPPER PENINSULA – MARQUETTE – The next Union Meeting will be in **Marquette June 29, 2023 @ 7:30 p.m.**

GOLF Outing: The 38th Annual UP Building Trades Council Golf Outing will be Saturday, August 12th, 2023. 8:00 am registration, followed by 9:00 am Shotgun start @ Wawonowin Country Club. All reservations must be made no later than Friday July 21st.

Call Ann in the Marquette hall for more details.

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

MRA CARD: Please note, after using your MRA card, you will still need to "substantiate" your claim by sending in your Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or an itemized bill which includes:

**Patient Name
Provider Name
Date of Service
Description of Service
Amount of Service w/receipt of payment**

Remember, when using your MRA card, your date of service must be within a year of the date you use your card. If you are having trouble, please call Zenith American at (866) 823-4730 ext. 1 and they will assist you.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,
Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636
DETROIT – The next Union Meeting will take place on July 18, 2023, at 7 p.m., at St. George Romanian Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48075.

CALLING ALL RETIREES! The Retiree Association is looking to recruit more retirees to their meetings. The meetings are a great place to catch up, find out helpful information and enjoy very informative guest speakers. The Retirees will be meeting the 3rd Thursday of every month at 11 a.m. at Local 636 Union Hall. **The next retiree meeting will be held, July 20, 2023.**

PLDF update. For the members who have not paid their PLDF see the information below. Remember, dues cannot be accepted until the ten week assessment beginning the week of June 20 through August 28, 2022, is paid.

\$140 for Journeymen/\$70 apprentice, Service Graduates and MES members.

For those claiming vacation, it is necessary to send the week before and after paystubs for verification. There is a separate email address for the PLDF, pldf@pipefitters636.org to send a copy of your paystubs.

If you wish to send in a check or money order made out to **Pipefitters Local 636 PLDF** directly to the hall-Please send to: Pipefitters Local 636, 30100 Northwestern Hwy., Farmington Hills, MI 48334

You may contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall if you wish to pay the PLDF assessment by phone, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit card or bank account.

THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO OUR LOCAL 636 INSURANCE POLICIES ARE EFFECTIVE AS OF January 1, 2023:

Active Participants: We are pleased to announce that Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) will be your preferred provider network for medical claims and your prescription drugs will be processed through BCBSM. This means BCBSM will be replacing Health Alliance Plan (HAP) as the in-network provider for your medical claims, and BCBSM (in partnership with Optum) will also be replacing Express Scripts (ESI) for prescription drug processing. We believe this change will provide our participants greater access to in-network providers locally and throughout the United States, as well as reduce costs.

You should have received new insurance cards to be used on or after January 1, 2023. If you have not received your new ID cards, please contact the fund office at 248-641-4936. You can also download the BCBSM app on your smart phone and access your ID card information from there. You may also register your account on the BCBSM website to help manage your costs and care.

We believe the vast majority of your providers are in the BCBSM network. A list of in-network providers can be found at www.bcbsm.com. Instructions to navigate the site are:

1. Select "Find a Doctor" on the left hand side of the page,
2. Click "Search Without Logging In",
3. Enter ZIP CODE and select "PPO".

From there you can search by provider category, provider name or specialty.

Please contact the fund office with any questions.

NON-Medicare Retirees: Medical and prescription drug coverage for NON-Medicare retirees will be provided through a fully insured policy issued by HUMANA. This means HUMANA will be replacing Health Alliance Plan (HAP) as the in-network provider for your medical claims, and HUMANA will also be replacing Express Scripts (ESI) for prescription drug processing.

You should have received new insurance cards to be used on or after January 1, 2023. Due to a coding error, some members and dependents may have received a second ID card from HUMANA. Please use this ID card and destroy the one received previously. Please contact the fund office with any questions regarding eligibility or ID cards

at 248-641-4936. We believe the majority of your providers are in the HUMANA network. A list of in-network providers can be found at www.humana.com. Instructions to navigate the site are:

1. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select "Find a Doctor",
2. Enter ZIP CODE and select "Insurance Through Your Employer".
3. Select network "HUMANA/Choice Care Network PPO".

From there you can search by provider category, provider name or specialty. Any questions you have in regards to the provider network, pharmacy Rx or claims, you can call HUMANA Customer Service at 800-448-6262.

Our deepest condolences go out to the members, families and friends of the following, who have passed from our ranks:

Retired Journeyman Brother Leon Graham, who passed away on May 19, 2023, and also Retired Journeyman Brother Leonard Sims, who passed away on May 23, 2023.

May they Rest in Peace. **Dues.** Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit or debit card.

S.U.B. Please send all requests for payment to Wanda A. Turey at subpay@pipefitters636.org to be processed. All requests must be filed within 30 days per the S.U.B. Trust Plan agreement.

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

Considering Retirement? Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Theresa Danko, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Please allow a 7-10 day notice when you call her at ext.5, so that she can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact Kristal Mar, ext.3224 at the BeneSys numbers above as well for your retirement paperwork.

Financial Advisor Jason May with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has a new contact number **248-655-4048** or email him at jason.may@ml.com

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.

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 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.

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.

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

WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY (Continued next column)



Local 174

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174
COOPERSVILLE – **MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Due to the 4th of July holiday, the monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 7pm.

The Union Hall will be closed on Tuesday July 4, 2023 in observance of Independence Day.

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

Wage Allocation: The 2023 wage allocation was voted on at the June 6, 2023 membership meeting. Results were \$0.10 to the retirees and \$2.13 on the check.

****Magnet Edit:** The magnets that were mailed out, listing our insurance vendors and 3rd party administrators, had a misprint in Solxsys' address. It should be noted that their correct address is **5600 New King Drive**. We apologize for any confusion.

AutoPay Participants: Please update your auto pay information. Local 174 has upgraded its payment processing service. Please log in to the web app to update your credit card information or go to our ua174.org website and sign into your page.

CHANGE OF THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS) The Boards of Trustees of the West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters, and Service Trades Local Union No. 174 Pension Plan, Health and Welfare Plan, and 401(K) Retirement Savings Plan (collectively, "Plans") are pleased to announce that Solxsys Administrative Solutions is now the Plans' **NEW Third Party Administrator effective November 1, 2022.**

WEX DEBIT CARD: If you have not received your new Wex card please contact SOLXSYS at **855-407-5862**.

Website: www.ua174.org We have recently changed our website vendor and will no longer be utilizing the Member Info section of our website. If you are unable to find what you are looking for please call Cami @ ext. 10 and she will help you. **You are still able to pay dues online.**

Contract Ratification: At the special-called meeting in July 2022 the members voted to accept the bargaining committee's recommendation and ratify the new three-year collective bargaining agreement. The new agreement is as follows: 1st year \$2.75/ 2nd year \$2.23 /3rd year \$2.22 \$7.20 over 3years. The only language change is adding essential workers to the 10% hazard pay language. Thank you to the bargaining committee for their work on negotiations and to the members of Local #174 for continuing to prove their value day in and day out.

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

Local #174 Golf Outing: August 5, 2023 at The Falls Of Barber Creek. Registration will be at 8am with an 8:30am Shotgun start. Four person scramble, at least 2 UA members per team. Cost per person is \$75. Call Cami or come into the hall to sign up. We can now take credit cards for payment along with cash or checks.

Retiree Breakfast: The retiree breakfast will be held on **Thursday July 6, 2023** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Local #174 Golf League: The Local #174 Golf League will start on Wednesday, May 3rd at 5pm at Hickory Knoll Club in Whitehall. Sign-ups will take place at that time. Please show up with your partner. If you need a partner, or are interested in being on the sub list, contact Ryan Bennett.

Local #174 Annual Family Picnic: This year the picnic will be on Saturday July 15th at Heritage Landing in Muskegon. Invitations will be mailed out mid-May. Volunteers will be needed for both set-up and take-down. Call Cami to let us know if you would like to volunteer.

U.A. Scholarship: The UA Scholarship application is open and the deadline for submission is June 6th. There is a link to the online application in the Local's Facebook Group, or you can contact Cami for more information.

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

Organizing Update: The need for workers that do what we do is great! It's a perfect time to organize the unrepresented worker! I challenge each of you to reach out to a non-union worker, we all know at least one and they deserve the same opportunities we have! Give them my # and let's get them here! We're ramping up different advertising avenues in the next couple weeks to get the message out "Were all doing the same work but we're NOT all getting the same wages and benefits." The message is clear, better wages/benefits and representation, you need a UNION! Advertising is great BUT our biggest voice is our workers in the field!! If you have workers in the non-union sector please give them my number, I'd love to speak with them. Work safe, Johnny Ortiz (616) 307-8551

Health Insurance Contact Info: Active and NON Medicare Retirees:

Aetna: (888)290-7241 • **Save-Rx:** (800)228-3108
Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616) 345-0788

Health insurance premium decrease: Effective January 1st, 2023 the Local 174 health insurance premiums will be as follows:

| | Current Rate | 1/1/23 Rate |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Active Member/Working Retiree | \$1,233.70 | \$1,110.33 |
| Non-working Pre Medicare Retiree: | \$879 | \$791.10 |
| Medicare Single | \$262.55 | \$123.63 |
| Medicare Couple | \$525.09 | \$247.26 |
| Medicare w/ Pre-Medicare Spouse | \$677.55 | \$497.13 |
| Medicare Surviving Spouse | \$269 | \$126.67 |

Solxsys, Aetna, Labor First: If you have issues with any of our fund service providers please contact Ryan Bennett at rbennett@ua174.org. Please try to remember who you spoke with, this will help

Local 636, continued

MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE CERTIFICATION PAYMENTS.

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. The JATC for the Pipefitting Industry and Pipefitters, Steamfitters, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Service Local Union #636 of the United Association will be accepting applications for our Construction Apprenticeship beginning Wednesday, May 31, 2023, through July 20, 2023.

Application dates and times will be as follows: Monday, Wednesday & Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., with Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 10 & Saturday June 24, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Qualifications necessary for an applicant to be considered are:

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

This is a drug-free Program. An individual tentatively selected for entrance into the Program after testing and interview will be required to submit to a drug test, which will include testing for marijuana. The Pipefitting Industry Training Center is located at 636 Executive Drive in Troy, MI between John R. and Dequindre north of E. 14 mile Road. PH: 248-585-0636

Regular night welding through the summer will be Monday and Thursday night from 4pm till 8pm

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8 Starting Thursday June 29th: VRF basics class with Jason 5pm till 8pm

Starting Monday June 26th: Basic home refrigeration and boiler class with Jason 5pm till 8pm

the company fix the problem.

PAC Cards: Our political focus over the years to come will be electing people who support prevailing wage and wage standards in general. To do that we need to raise our PAC card participation. We currently have less than half of the local contributing to our PAC. Your PAC contribution DOES NOT COME OFF YOUR CHECK. When you sign the PAC card it allows us to move money from your working dues over to our PAC. Please call Cami today and find out if you have current PAC card on file.

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

Dispatch: We will be splitting up the dispatch responsibilities between the business agent and the assistant business manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email: dispatch@ua174.org which both offices have access to. There is a dispatch phone extension that will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

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

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

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

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

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

FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS) West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds

5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098
(855) 407-5862 Toll Free

BENEFITS WEBSITE: Soon after the transition to SOLXSYS is complete, we will be rolling out a Participant Portal. The easy to use portal will allow you to see your personal benefits information, access Plan information and forms, view all contributions made to Plans on your behalf, and contact the Benefits Office after hours, and much more. Members will be notified when access to the Participant Portal is available.

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

Out Of Work List: Please remember to call the out of work list when you are laid off. You will be placed on the list based off the date you call in your layoff. When you leave a message, please speak clearly. Any member who goes to work without a referral is in violation of our Collective Bargaining Agreement and Article XXXI of our Constitution and By-Laws. Please contact the Union Hall to find out your position on the out of work list.

Training News: ANNOUNCEMENT: The Training Center will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next classes will be held Thursday, July 13, 2023, and Thursday, August 10, 2023.

HVAC/Low GWP Refrigerant Safety: Flammable and Mildly Flammable Refrigerants (A2L): As the HVACR industry continues to move forward and innovate, common refrigerants that were once used are now being phased out and replaced with Low GWP refrigerants(A2L). Technicians will require additional training for the safe handling and transportation of these refrigerants. Night training classes will be offered for A2L safety certifications and dates will be announced soon. The prerequisite required to attend this class is holding a current EPA608 certification.

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

Please contact Jeff Rumsey or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Jeff) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30.

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

Union Hall Extension Numbers: Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext:12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext.14, Johnny Ortiz Organizer ext.15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager ext.11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Schumaker ext. 30.

"Patience serves as a protection against wrongs as clothes do against cold. For if you put on more clothes as the cold increases, it will have no power to hurt you. So in like manner you must grow in patience when you meet with great wrongs, and they will then be powerless to vex your mind."

–Leonardo da Vinci (1452 - 1519)

"Regard your good name as the richest jewel you can possibly be possessed of – for credit is like fire; when once you have kindled it you may easily preserve it, but if you once extinguish it, you will find it an arduous task to rekindle it again. The way to gain a good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear."

–Socrates (469 BC - 399 BC)

"What we think, or what we know, or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence. The only consequence is what we do."

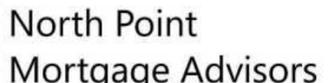
– John Ruskin (1819 - 1900)

"When you wish to instruct, be brief; that men's minds take in quickly what you say, learn its lesson, and retain it faithfully. Every word that is unnecessary only pours over the side of a brimming mind."

–Cicero (106 BC - 43 BC)

"You can't connect the dots looking forward you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something: your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. Because believing that the dots will connect down the road will give you the confidence to follow your heart, even when it leads you off the well worn path."

–Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011), Stanford commencement address 2005





North Point
Mortgage Advisors

Nicole Jenner
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NMLS# 2236230
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(586) 362-4689



Proud Sheet Metal Workers
Local 80 family member



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI – The June Union meeting will be Monday, June 26, 2023 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be IN PERSON ONLY AT THE NOVI UNION HALL. All other Union Halls will be CLOSED. We will be swearing in all Officers at this meeting. We would like to congratulate all the newly elected Officers of the Local and recognize all Candidates for their participation!

Steward meeting(s): The Flint Steward meeting will be Wednesday, June 21 at 5:30 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, June 22, at 6:00 pm. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday June 26, at 6:00 pm. All are welcome.

The 39th Annual International Iron Workers Festival will be held August 11-13, 2023 in Mackinaw City MI. The Committee is looking for any Active or Honorably Discharged Veterans to lead the Parade with the American Flag and the POW Flag. Please call Bill Miller if interested and/or able 989-965-0813. Please plan ahead and reserve your hotel room(s). For more information, please go to www.mackinaw-chamber.com

SAVE THE DATE: Awards Night will be held on August 28, 2023 at the Novi Union Hall. Eligible members will get a letter mailed to them in the next several weeks.

We will have a social hour with snacks/beverages starting at 5pm. Awards ceremony starts at 7pm. All are welcome.

New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org where you can now make your application appointment & pay the application fee online; you must have an appointment to turn in your application. No walk-in foot traffic.

Apprentices: Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In" this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also, located under the Apprenticeship Tab you will find "Make-Up Days" & "Welding Test Certifications". You can now electronically schedule your make-up days and welding tests.

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go to the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule. The 2023 Raising Gang Training schedule is on the website as well. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow! **If you read this entire article to the end and would like one (1) Union meeting credit, please call the Wixom Training Center and mention this article. The Wixom Training Center – Phone: (248)960-2130**

The Ironworkers Local 25 APP & Website: Members are able to access the log-in section and can sign up for our Alerts & E-mails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS.

24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website www.ironworkers25.org. The phone number is 866-635-2826. Or pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 – P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The mailing address for member BENEFIT related matters is: Iron Workers Local 25 Fringe Benefit Funds, PO Box 99219, Troy MI 48099-9219. Blue Cross Health Claims and Customer Service 877-790-2583. Delta Dental Claims and Customer Service 800-482-8915.

BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD: Any member who has a new born child, or a new dependent child through marriage MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).

BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE: Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April

30).

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Novi Chapter Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday June 20, 2023 at 10:00 am in Novi. The Board of Directors will meet on WEDNESDAY July 5, 2023 at 8:30 am. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday July 11, 2023 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The Retirees Club Scholarship Fund Golf Outing will be July 13, 2023 at the Green Hills Golf Course, Pinconning Michigan. Contact Dallas Compeau (989-737-5518 for registration information.

The next quarterly meeting for the Bay City Chapter will be the picnic on July 20th starting at 12 noon. Location: Bigelow Park, Evergreen Drive, Bay City MI 48708 at the north end of Middleground Island. Enter on Evergreen Dr. off Salzburg Avenue near the Lafayette Street Bridge. Come join the camaraderie, food, beverages, good times and special guests. All retirees are welcome.

The Downriver Chapter The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be in July 21, 2023 at 9:00 am at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

(NEW) Dial 988 help in a Time of Crisis. Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. 988 connects cell phones & land lines to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 24/7. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential. Alternately 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255).

The OpiRescue App can be used to Find Treatment for substance abuse & mental health, with a quick link to the National Help Line.

MDHHS launches the OpiRescue smartphone app to help Michigan residents prevent and reduce opioid overdoses. The OpiRescue app is available for Android and iOS platforms/cell phones. It is free to use and anonymous. It can be downloaded at Apple iOS app store or through Google Play. "OpiRescue provides information and a 5-step process for how to respond to an opioid overdose event. The guidelines have been developed by the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)".

Help available at: Find-Treatment.gov where you can search by zip code/city etc. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-HELP (4357).

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

In Memory: Gerald Mendek #807547 passed away March 14, 2023. A member for 54 years, he was age 75. Mark Karchefski #975815 passed away May 8, 2023 at the age of 66. He was a member for 45 years. Former Member Dwight Craddock #875891 passed away May 22, 2023 at the age of 72. He had been a member for 30 years and is survived by his brother Stephen Craddock #807527. John Coomer #1342207 passed away May 25, 2023 at the age of 54. He was an 18-year member. Roy Harris #725628 passed away May 29, 2023 at the age of 84. He was a 57-year member. Former member David Robinson #1129989 passed away on May 30, 2023 at the age of 67. He had been a member for 29 years. Francis "John" Davis #964044 from Hudsonville MI passed away June 6, 2023 at the age of 77. He was a 46-year member of Local 340/25. JIW Laurence Stokes III #1492247 passed away June 6, 2023 at the age of 41. He was an 8-year member. Arthur "Tom" Knill #871439 passed away June 7, 2023 at the age of 74. He was a 51-year member. He is survived by his wife Adrienne, cousin Laurence "Bud" Knill #930147 and cousin John Knill #785044.

(Continued next column)



Michigan Painters District Council

Painters DC 1M

WARREN – Dear Members,
DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org
DC1M FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/iupat1m



ROBERT GONZALEZ

Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

FTI of the GREAT LAKES INSTRUCTOR POSITION Local 357 and Local 826. FTI of the Great Lakes is looking for a part time Glazing instructor at our Lansing Training Center. Members of Glaziers Local 357 & 826 should apply. Anyone interested should submit their resume to Shawn O'Neill at dot@iupatdc1m.org or (517) 304-4425

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP. Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store, For ANDROID got to Google Playstore

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

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

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

OUT OF WORK/ BACK TO WORK: To keep work placement efficient, please notify the



Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN – Our next regular scheduled union meeting has been canceled, due to falling up against the July 4th holiday.

That being said, our next regular scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 6pm. Please make every effort to attend.

The IUPAT pension has updated the pension website. There is new information that could be helpful. iupatpension.org

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal. You can find this in the app store, and it is a free app. Once you download this app, you will need your union member id to log in.

You can find your member ID printed on your quarterly union card. Once you log into this app it's a helpful tool to track your hours worked, and it all has a digital copy of your union card. Keep your working status current; this helps protect your benefits. If you have a mailing address and/or telephone number change, please notify the Union and Fund Offices of the changes.

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

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

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-0666; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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

– Business Rep. Don Stepp

Local 25 cont'd

Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (June 12, 2023 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

office when you are laid off or going back to work.

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



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

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.
Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826

Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman
Meeting date: 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

Business Rep – Fred Frederickson
Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

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

Local Union 1052

Business Rep – Jake Fluty
Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovalle
Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

Place: 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352

Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland
Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

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

Local Union 2353

Business Rep: Tony Parker
Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

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



Sign Pictorial & Display Local 591

WARREN –The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday August 1, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

"Don't let us make imaginary evils, when you know we have so many real ones to encounter."

–Oliver Goldsmith (1730 - 1774)



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36

DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS ON MONDAY JUNE 26, 2023, AT 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

Attention All Members. The picnic will be held on Saturday July 29, 2023, located @ 11541 21 Mile Road, Shelby, MI. All members, active and retired, are invited along with their family members. The Picnic is less than 2 months away and there is a lot involved in putting it together, if you would like to volunteer, please call the hall, or contact Jon Bujan, Picnic Committee Chair @ (586) 787-1114. Hope to see you all there.

If you are working in the City of Detroit or the State of Michigan, there **MUST** be a city or state license on the job! It doesn't matter if you are doing standby, unloading a truck, doing cabs and flooring, running a car, mod, construction, repair, or contract service you must have a licensed elevator constructor on the job.

I just wanted to remind anyone doing safety tests, you are doing these tests under your State or City license. You are to perform these tests per State or City code and not the time frame your boss tells you it takes.

Anyone driving a personal vehicle during working hours, Mechanics can carry their personal tools, meter, safety bag and a drill, Apprentices can carry their safety bag. You are not to transport anything for the company in your personal vehicle, if they need something taken out to a job, they have company trucks, boss's trucks, and other means to transport the material.

As you are aware, individuals with a Mechanic Exam Pass Date on or after Jul 9, 2022, must take a Mechanic Required (MR) Continuing Education course in 2023 to receive their scheduled pay raises Jan. 1, 2024. I highly recommend if you fall in this category and haven't done so, take the course and keep up on it.

If you are going to be working in another local's area, you and your Apprentice **MUST** call their hall to make sure it is ok to work, don't take your supervisor's word for it.

If you start a new job in MOD/construction, you **MUST** call those jobs into the hall!! If you are going to be working a 4/10 job in construction or MOD, it **MUST** be submitted in writing to the Local Business Representative per Article VII Par. 2A. and Article VIII(A) Par. 2A.

Anyone interested in becoming a State of Michigan Elevator inspector, contact the State of Michigan or call the Hall.

Anyone interested in getting certified in Welding, you can sign up with NEIEP @ Local 85 or call Mike Janca.

If you are interested in getting involved with the Local Golf Outing, please contact Bill Avery or Ron McKay or call the hall and we will put you in contact with them.

Attention All Apprentices, Check your NEIEP emails frequently for any additional information. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!**

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

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

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

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

Be safe and stay healthy!

"I never feel age...If you have creative work, you don't have age or time."

–Louise Nevelson (1900 - 1988)

"Some weasel took the cork out of my lunch."

– W. C. Fields (1880 - 1946)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com



IBEW LOCAL 252

IBEW Local 252
ANN ARBOR – 2023 Official Ballot of Local 252:
President: elect 1 (one); Mike Cox.
Vice-President: elect 1 (one); Doug Sanders.
Recording Secretary: elect 1 (one); M. Lisa Grove.
Treasurer: elect 1 (one); Stacie Butler.
Business Manager/ Financial Secretary: elect 1 (one); Ryan Husse.
Executive Board: elect 6 (six); Dan Beck, Jeff Burdick, Jake Church, Traverse Cogan, Johnnie Hall Jr., Jacob Isaac, Geoff Morning, Rick Plisko, Travis Stachlewitz, Rob Steele.
Examining Board: elect 3 (three); Kalen Coffelt, Dennis Locks, Chris Parks, Jason Shuster.

In order to vote you must have a current dues receipt (paid through March 2023). The election of officers shall take place at a special-called meeting between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at the Union Hall located at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. The ballots will be counted immediately following the close of the polls and the results shall be announced immediately after all ballots are counted.

A complete listing of the results shall be posted on all union bulletin boards by the close of business on the day following the election. In the event a runoff election is required, same shall be held a special called meeting on Saturday, July 8, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Union Hall located at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

The same rules shall apply to the runoff election as were applicable to the regular election. Members who requested an absentee ballot for the regular election will automatically receive the same for the runoff. Absentee ballot will automatically receive the same for the runoff. Absentee ballot will not be entitled to vote at the polls without first presenting the election judge with their unused ballot and the envelope used in the mailing.

Absentee ballots received at the post office box after 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 17, 2023 will not be counted. All officers shall be installed and begin their 3 year terms at the regular meeting of the local union on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. Candidates shall be entitled to an observer at the polling place, during the counting of the ballots and when the absentee ballots are picked up from the Post Office.

Any member who believes a protest of the election is warranted is urged to contact the election judge as soon as possible before the election is certified. Once the election is certified, any protest of the election is to be filed in writing with the International Vice-President of the district within 30 days following the election.

The decision of the International Vice-President shall conclude the processing of a protest within the IBEW. In the event the protesting member is not satisfied with the decision of the International Vice-President, the member may submit his/her protest to the U.S. Department of Labor. Any questions about the conduct of the 2023 Local 252 elections can be directed to 252electionjudge@gmail.com, Pat Ulanowicz P.O. Box 58 Adrian, MI 49221 or by phone 517-918-8948.

SOLAR: The Biden Administration's investment in infrastructure and renewable energy generation is going to result in massive amounts of labor hours for all of the building trades. Please take advantage of the continuing education courses offered at our training center to help secure this work and show our commitment to this scope.

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

2023: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM

CPR/FIRST AID: Tuesdays, June 6, 13, September 5, 12, December 5, 12.

Photovoltaics: Mondays, July 24 thru August 28.

Instrumentation Part A: Mondays, September 11 thru December 18.

Master License Prep: Mondays, September 11, 18, 25, October 2, 9, 16.

EVITP: Tuesdays, September 12, 26, October 10.

BICSI TE350: dates TBD if enough interest.

Will there be a code update required in 2023? We will offer classes as soon as the state adopts a new NEC 2020 or 2023.

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

George Perros Memorial Golf Outing: This year's annual golf outing will be held at 8 a.m. on July 22nd at Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118. Registration begins at 7 a.m. Cost is TBA. 1st year apprentices and retirees play for free. Please contact the Union Hall to sign up your team: (734) 424-0978.

Detroit Tigers IBEW Night: We are organizing a bus trip to the Detroit Tigers game on July 8th. The cost is \$30 per person and includes the bus ride and ticket to the game. Please contact the hall if you are interested: (734) 424-0978.

Roy George Celebration of Life: Brother George had a clause in his will to hold a party at the Hall after his passing. The George family is inviting all members to honor Brother Georges' last wishes and join them June 23rd from 4pm to 7pm at the hall for dinner and refreshments. Please RSVP by Monday, June 12th to help get an accurate count for food.

Local 252 Picnic: This year's picnic will be held at the Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Orban Rd, Grass Lake, MI 49240 at noon on August 19, 2023. More information to follow. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dan Beck at (810) 858-0033.

Union4Life Charity Golf Outing: *Please note new date* This year's annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at Timber Trace Golf Club, One Champions Circle, Pinckney, MI 48169. 8 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. tee off. Teams of 4 are \$400, or \$100/person and includes 18 holes of golf, lunch and dinner, a 50/50 Raffle and a Silent Auction. All proceeds benefit the University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center's Breast Cancer Research Fund. Register online at www.union4lifefcharity.com or contact the training center: (734) 475-1180.

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

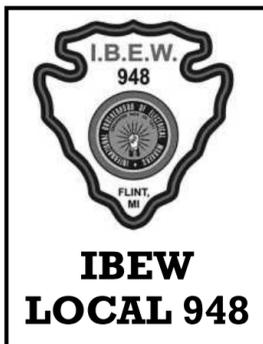
Retiree's Breakfast: The Retiree's Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant.

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

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

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. (Continued next column)



IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Our July Union Meeting will be held on Monday, July 10th, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Our June Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday June 26th, 2023, at 4:30 pm.

The Next Retiree Club Meeting will be Tuesday, June 20th, at 8:00am. This is a working meeting. The July meeting will be Tuesday July 11th, at 9:00am.

Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. 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. **Do not wait till you owe a reinstatement fee (4 months behind).**

2023 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$47.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$44.70 a month

If you are unfamiliar with our referral procedure, please refer to our website @ http://local948.org/job_referrals/

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 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.

IBEW 252, con't

for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.

RETIREMENT: NEBF and applications take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date.

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

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

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

UNION DUES FOR 2023: Effective Jan. 1, 2023, union dues for "A" members will increase to \$131.25 per quarter. Union dues for "BA" members will increase to \$67.80 per quarter for 2023.

DUES PAYMENTS – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/2023, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$131.25 per quarter for 2023. "BA" members pay \$67.80 per quarter for 2023. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (April thru June) are due now. **Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, June 30, 2023.**

The Union Hall will be closed July 3-4, 2023 in observance of Independence Day.

"It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that they are difficult."

–Seneca (5 BC - 65 AD)

"They say such nice things about people at their funerals that it makes me sad to realize that I'm going to miss mine by just a few days."

–Garrison Keillor (1942 -)

"Be faithful to that which exists nowhere but in yourself - and thus make yourself indispensable."

–Andre Gide (1869 - 1951)



IBEW LOCAL 58

IBEW Local 58

DETROIT – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

Disbursement from the Vacation Fund is anticipated to be transferred to your PNC Bank Stored Value Card or if you elected, direct deposited into your checking or savings accounts, on or around May 23, 2023. Please check the listed contributions from your employers with your pay records for accuracy. A list of contributions may be obtained from the Benefit Office Website, www.ewjbt.org by logging into your personal information and clicking My Benefits then Vacation Benefits. If you require a paper statement, contact the Benefit Office for a printout. If there is an error, contact the Benefit Office, (586) 575-9200 ext. 212.

ATTENTION - You may check your Stored Value utilization history by logging on to www.pncpaycard.com and by entering your 16-digit card number listed on the front of the card and the last four digits of your Social Security No., also referred to as your Account Access Code (or AAC for short). Customer Service: (866) 453-5071.

Electrical Industry Training Center is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at <http://www.detroit-etc.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.

IBEW Local 58 Brick Pavers- are available for purchase, if you would like to purchase a brick, please contact the Union Hall for an Order Form. 7x9 brick pavers can have up to 6 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line. 9x9 brick pavers can have up to 7 lines of lettering and 17 spaces per line (letter height .75"). \$100 Donation per Brick. NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015.

Local 58 Dues Department- Stay current on your dues! Look at your Dues Receipt – if your paid through date shows 03-23 or earlier, you are not current and will have a reinstatement fee (4 months or more behind). If it has 12/2022 you are going to lapse on 6-30-2023. It is YOUR responsibility to pay your dues on time – this could affect your retirement or death benefit. The last day to pay on the APP/Website is 6-27-23 to be credited by the end of the month and if paying by phone/cash/check must be in office by 6-30-2023 at noon. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone no. When you are putting your information on the APP/website – please use your dues receipt for your Name and Card no. Put in your information as it appears on your dues receipt so that your information matches. Please this is important! Thank you!

Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund: Due to the upcoming holiday, the next meeting is Tuesday, July 11. We are proud to announce we are officially a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

The Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing held on June 2 was a great success! Thank you to all the contractors, members and friends who participate and supported this outing. A big thank you to the volunteers as well, without their help it wouldn't be a success! A list of winners will be in the next building trades article.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 11, at 5:30 pm. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 am to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information to volunteer or participate.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 11, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 PM.

EWMC of Southeastern MI – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 19 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and email address are up to date. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement.

SELL! SELL! SELL! Tickets are available for our EWMC raffle. Only 300 tickets are available for some awesome prizes. The drawing will take place at the June 20 membership meeting. Please reach out to Stacy at the hall to sign out your tickets. Thank you to everyone who came out to work on the Malcolm X House. We will be doing another day of service there in the near future. Watch for the announcement.

We will once again participate with WHOH Detroit to play soccer with the kids and the community.

Our "Detroit Nights" Casino Party is scheduled for Saturday, July 29 at Local 58. We will have more information and flyers at our chapter meeting on June 19. Help spread the word to make this a successful event.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, June 27 at 5 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, July 10 at 5:30 PM.

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

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

Local 58's Women's Committee- Our Sister Exchange Closet is looking for donations. If you have any new or gently used work clothing, cold weather gear, boots, coats, or even tools, please consider making the contribution.

Our next meeting will take place on June 22 at the Hall and on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Angela Panicucci (586)291-8014 or Liz Gorski (586)921-3087 or email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

Local 58 Motorcycle Group: Our next meeting will be Sunday, June 25 at 10 a.m. with location TBD followed by a local ride. Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Save the date, Saturday, Sept. 9. The IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle group will be hosting the Poker Run this year. For more information, please visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Vice President Anthony Anderanin @ 313-999-3829, aanderanin@gmail.com or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info.

IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association: Our July Board meeting is Wednesday, July 12, 2023 in the Bill Rushford Room in the lower level of the union hall. The meeting begins at 10 a.m. The June Luncheon takes place on June 28, at the Gazebo Banquet Center, 31104 Mound Road, Warren, doors open at 11 and lunch will be served at noon. For luncheon reservations, send your checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to the address at the bottom of the front page of the Retirees Association newsletter. \$20 per person. Questions about reservations, call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

Local 58 Retirees' Association Fall Bus trip, to Charleston, S.C. has seats available. It is also open to friends and family. Dates for the excursion are Sept. 10-16. Deposits are due now, and balance is required by July 1, 2023. Departure is from IBEW Local 58 Electrical Industry Training Center. For further info contact Rick Koerber at rick_dona@hotmail.com or 248-421-2636.

Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members: This year the 2023 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 86, Rochester, NY on Aug. 15-18. NY), The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Holiday Inn Downtown, 70 State Street, Rochester, NY 14614 – phone:

585.355.4811. Any questions call Ron Krajenke at 313-475-0487 or Brad Garrity at 313-850-1837.

Local 58 Senior 55+ Softball Team is getting underway. Games will be played at two locations. FF = Shelby twp., Ford field on 23-mile road just west of Van Dyke. And MS = Mae Stecker field on 24-mile road just east of Van Dyke. For more info, please contact Gerry Cassani 586-804-8026 or Jim Miles 586-933-3551. The Schedule is as follows and is subject to change: 6/19/23 10AM West D, M.S.; 6/21/23 12PM D1, F.F.; 6/28/23 10AM D1, F.F.; 7/10/23 10AM West D, M.S.; 7/12/23 10 AM D5, F.F.; 7/17/23 12PM D1, F.F.; 7/19/23 10AM East D, M.S.; 7/24/23 10AM West D, M.S.; 7/26/23 10AM D4, F.F.; 7/31/23 10AM D5, F.F.; 8/2/23 10AM D5, F.F.; 8/7/23 10AM D4, F.F.; 8/9/23 10AM East D, M.S.; 8/14/23 10AM TBD, TBD; 8/16/23 & 8/21/23 are the League Playoffs.

Local 58 IBEW Senior Golf Outings 2023: are as follows: Thursday, June 15, 2023, Maple Lane Golf Club, 33203 Maple Ln Dr, Sterling Heights, MI 48312, tee time 9:30 am; Thursday, July 13, 2023, Whitmore Lake Golf Links, 1111 Six Mile Rd, Whitmore Lake, MI 48189, tee time 9:30 am, Thursday, September 14, 2023, Rouge Park Golf Course, 11701 Burt Rd, Detroit, MI, 48228, tee time 9:30 am; Thursday, October 5, 2023, Tanglewood Golf Course, 22805 Country Club Dr, South Lyon, MI 48178, tee time 9:30 am. Call Art DeCoste at 248-887-3396, two weeks in advance for a headcount due to the security deposit at most of the golf courses. Come on and join the golf outings! This is a great opportunity to catch up with some old friends, to make new friends, and to get out and enjoy the camaraderie!! Remember, All IBEW Local 58 members are welcome to participate!! Call Art for questions or concerns.

Electrical Workers Credit Union – Our website is <http://WWW.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates!! New auto as low as 5.75%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.net>. Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed. State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

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

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Gary Grab, Timoleon Nicholaou, Keith Reichenbach, and Ronald Schweiger.

Members who have Passed Away: Richard Conflitti, Pension member, 68-year IBEW membership, Father to JIW Richard Conflitti Jr., Cousins to Pension members Gerald and Michael Conflitti, & JIW Linda Conflitti-Joudi; Brandon Grose, Journeyman Inside Wireman; Dennis McCann, Pension member, 53-year IBEW membership, Board member of the Retiree Association; Joseph Phillips, Pension member, 56-year IBEW membership; George Puddy, Pension member, 71-year IBEW membership. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

"Furious activity is no substitute for understanding."

–H. H. Williams

"Remember that nobody will ever get ahead of you as long as he is kicking you in the seat of the pants."

–Walter Winchell (1897 -1972)

"Getting caught is the mother of invention."

–Robert Byrne





IBEW
Local 131
Serving Southwest Michigan
Since 1916

IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on July 10, at 6 p.m.

The next **Renew** meeting will be held on July 10, at 5 p.m.

The next **Executive Board** meeting will be held on June 19, at 5 p.m.

The Union Hall will be closed on July 3 and 4 to observe Independence Day.

On June 1 Wilson-McShane will establish a new website (www.michiganelectrical.org) for Michigan Benefits. MEEHP, WEX and 131 Pension Plan will be found there. You will need to set up your account with a new password. A new WEX card will be mailed to you this month. It does not become active until June 1, 2023. The new phone no. starting June 1, 2023, will be (855) 633-4584. Wilson-McShane will be sending a postcard to the membership shortly after June 1, 2023, with directions on how to utilize the portal and how to sign-in for the first time.

Retiree lunches at the following locations:

June 21, Godfather's Pizza, 3815 E. Cork St. Kalamazoo, @11.00

July 19, Bob Evans, 5641 S. Westnedge Ave. Portage, MI. @11.00

Aug. 16, 2023, LaRue's, 6375 Stadium Dr. Kalamazoo, MI. @11.00.

September 20, 2023, Robin's Nest 28640 M-40 Hwy. Paw Paw, MI. @11.00.

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

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

With a heavy heart I am said to report Brother Mark Sears, a 23-year member passed away on June 8, 2023, at the age of 59. Mark was a great brother, an excellent mentor to all apprentices and I am proud to call my friend. Mark will be missed.

Tigers: Local 131 is going to Comerica Park this Summer, July 8 at 1p.m. start. Only 3 Tickets are left. Go to the Local website to be able to purchase their own tickets by following the link to the official Tigers Ticket Pay site. All Tickets for Local 131 will be grouped together in the same section. There will be two charter buses for this event free to members. Plan to arrive by 8:45AM, Saturday morning.

Picnic on July 29, 2023. The location is at River Oaks Park in Galesburg. From 11:00 to 3:00, Lunch will be served from 12:00 to 2:00. RSVP, please call the hall and leave your name. Keep an eye out for a postcard in the mail to use to cover parking at the park.

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady. Moore, Hi-Tech, KEI all have crews working on the Pfizer site. Gurtz is still working on the MAPS Project and plans to be there until the fall. F.E. Moran was hired for fire protection and Flemington Instrumentation has work for 5 months on the MAPS project. Gun Lake Casino Hotel and Water Dome look like a future project. Moore Electric is working on the new Justice Facility. Block Electric has the Meijer remodel in Plainwell. Work is steady and will be getting into Book 2 very soon.

The new wage package became effective on May 29, 2023, check your paystub.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in counter dues payments: Nicholas Blaskie, Brian Clemons, Christopher Conforti, Peter Deutsch, Ruben Dunbar, Mark Johnson, Russell McBride, Nic McKenna, Mark Melching, Thomas Pickett, Richard Riley, Thomas Seeds, Justin Sowash, Herbert Sykes, William Wolgast and Joseph Zirkelbach II.

RETIREMENT: NEBF, IBEW PBF, and Local Pension application take at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement,



IBEW LOCAL 692
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS BAY CITY MICHIGAN

IBEW Local 692
BAY CITY – **Union Meeting.** Due to the 4th of July holiday, the July monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, July 10, 2023.**

Executive Board Meeting. The June Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, June 19, 2023.**

Message from the Business Manager. After many years of our members not receiving the service they deserve from our third-party administrator for our health insurance, a change has been made. Effective June 1, TIC was replaced by Wilson-McShane. It is my belief at this time that Wilson-McShane will give our members the service they deserve regarding both our Health Plan and Pension Plan.

You should have been notified by US mail regarding this change. Your new WEX (Special Fund) Cards were also mailed out a couple of weeks ago. Please be very careful when going through your mail not to throw out important new Health or Pension documents coming from Wilson - McShane.

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

-Nelson Electric (Currently) GM Powertrain - Many more projects to come at Powertrain.

Mt. Pleasant Schools Fire Alarm

-J. Ranck Electric – continuing work on phase 2 of the SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility. Ranck Electric has also secured the Balance of System work on a Solar Farm in Gladwin County. Call coming soon.

-Newkirk Electric also has a solar project near Mio. Calls coming soon.

-Master Electric has the new Isabella County Jail.

-Countyline Power (Robinson Industries) in Coleman plans to rebuild facilities damaged in a fire. Airport Work as well.

-Clements Electric is on site at Northpointe Distribution Center (Frito Lay) and has begun work.

-Conti Many projects inside I-Park. (Dow)

- Escon has secured a nice project at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing are currently having many calls getting into Book II if you are looking for work. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

In Solidarity,
Ryan Charney,
Business Manager /
Financial Secretary

Organizers Report. Applications for apprenticeship are accepted in-person every first and third Wednesday at the Bay City Electrical Apprenticeship Training Center during regular business hours. There is currently no application fee. Please feel free to share this information with anyone who may be interested in applying. As more members become eligible for retirement, we must continue to train and recruit the next generation of qualified electrical workers.

It is likely there will be a need for unindentured helpers this summer on multiple solar projects. Any potential helpers interested in summer work can contact the hall and be put on a list.

As always, 692 Organizers continue to visit jobsites within our jurisdiction to speak with un-

IBEW 131, con't

please call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications.

Congratulations to all of the new Journeyman. 18 fifth year apprentices have completed the apprenticeship. Matt Aeed, Alex Applebey, Chris Beadle, Frank Carrizales, Adam Colvia, Patrick Compas, Vincente Costanzo, Joseph Jurhs, Ben Karr, Jon Krcatovich, Kevin Kuhlman, Shaun Larimer, Nick Leitch, Neil Miller, Tyler Monroe, Adam Poling, Jonah Ransler and Spencer Sears. Now they can show everyone how smart they are.

Morris Applebey
Business Manager

represented electricians, building relationships and discussing the opportunities that exist by joining our Brotherhood. We should never lose sight of the organizing mission that guided the birth and growth of the IBEW. Our founders built a strong union by organizing all qualified workers, which allows us to achieve higher union density and ultimately increases our bargaining power during negotiations. If you know any unrepresented workers in our industry, please reach out to them and share your experiences as an IBEW member. There is a pathway to IBEW membership available to all workers in our industry.

Work is picking up around the state and at home. Feel free to contact agents if you are interested in up-to-date work reports or if you'd like to register on out-of-work lists.

Brian Klele 989.252.9225
bklele@ibew692.com

Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131
bbaranek@ibew692.com

Union Dues. PLEASE NOTE: The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022 approved a per capita increase of \$2.00 as well as a \$2.00 increase paid into the Pension Benefit Fund (PBF). Therefore, effective January 1, 2023, monthly dues will increase to **\$45.20** per month.

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

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

2023 Dues • Monthly \$45.20 • Quarterly \$135.60 • 6 months \$271.20 • Yearly \$542.40

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

Death Benefits. American Income Life Accidental Death Benefit. Recently you may have received a letter in the mail regarding the \$3,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit available through a partnership with the IBEW and American Income Life. All active and retired members are eligible for this benefit.

The letter states that you need to return the enclosed yellow card in order to qualify and name your beneficiary. Please note you are **NOT REQUIRED** to return this card in order to name your beneficiary; the beneficiaries you have on file at the hall are sufficient. The \$3,000 benefit would be paid to your named beneficiary, not to your estate.

American Income Life does offer other policies and services. If you are interested in having a representative contact you to discuss available options, you may return the yellow card in the postage paid envelope provided.

If you have any questions, please contact the hall at 989-684-4510.

RENEW. It is the goal of the RENEW committee to increase younger members' involvement in their local union. If you are a member in good standing, 35 years old or younger and would like to participate in 692's RENEW committee, please contact Cody (989.600.4643) for more information. RENEW meetings are held once a month following our general membership meeting.

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

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

Effective June 1, our third-party administrator (TIC) has been replaced by Wilson - McShane. Here is updated contact information for the Health Plan & Pension Fund:

Important links & numbers.
Health Plan & Pension Fund
855-633-4584
www.michiganelectrical.org

NEBF/ NEAP: 301-556-4300



IBEW
Local 498
"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

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

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, July 10th, 2023 @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting –The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Jul 10th, 2023.

Solidarity Picnic- We have a volunteer to do the picnics before the meetings! That being said, plan on hamburgers, hot dogs and a side dish for a meal before the next regular meeting. Food will be served at about 6:30 directly in front of the meeting.

ELECTIONS RESULTS-
President: Dylan C. Odwyer; Vice President: Nicholas Harris; Recording Secretary: Brendon C. Carey; Treasurer: Shaine R. Kuczynski; Business Manager / Financial Secretary / Delegate To The International Convention: David L. Fashbaugh; Executive Board: Joshua J. Brown, George D. Shumar, Micheal A. Jean, Glenn A. Stein, Timothy S. Kelly, Daniel J. Tuttle Examining Board: Collin Bush, Robert J. Peplinski, Robert Danbert, Jakob P. Smith & Christopher E. Henriet; Alternate To The International Convention: Ryan D. Lautner

Wilson McShane transition update – The website should be updated to Wilson-McShane Corp (WMC). You should have received your new Wex cards in the mail as well as several other notifications and how to log into your site. If you haven't received anything, please call the hall to check your address to make sure it is correct. Some recent retirees received Wex cards that should not have. Please notify WMC if you are one of those retirees. The new site will be changing as we request changes. If you have any suggestions, please let the hall know to get the request submitted.

Resale Items – We still have some Local 498 Challenge Coins left at the hall for your purchase. They are \$10.00 each. We also have Local 498 t-shirt, and Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

Work outlook- We expect work to pick up for the second half of the year. Please do not wait to take a call in another local.

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

EVITP – Please call the JATC and get signed up for your EVITP training. There are state and federal requirements for all workers that are on Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure projects to have this training. Tim will get you set up if you call him, it is an online class and a proctored exam at the hall when completing the class. There is \$100 deposit for the class refunded on completion. So far we have two Journeyman that have completed the training. Please consider getting this important training if you want to be eligible to work on these projects when they are available.

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

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

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

Email addresses - Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communica-

(Continued next column)



IBEW Local 275

IBEW Local 275
COOPERSVILLE – Work in the jurisdiction is getting busy. Recently, I was informed that a second signatory contractor has been selected for differing projects at the LG battery plant. They are anticipating 30-60 people at peak for this project which is supposed to last about two years. Newkirk has steadily been putting in calls for their portion of the project as well. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call you may be interested in as other contractors have been looking for manpower too.

Our new administrator, Wilson-McShane, now has the website up and running for the pension and health care. Please log on to: michiganelectrical.org and click on the "Member Portal" (on the left side of the screen) to begin the steps to register your account.

We have begun planning the 2023 annual picnic. If you are interested in helping with this event, please call Geoff Yonkers at the Hall. We will have more information in the coming weeks.

At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Jacob Cleary, Robert Haddad, Joshua Hansen, Andrew Holmes, Michael Johnson, David Lebeck and Fred Wohlfert. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.



IBEW
Local 445

IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – **Local 445 Officer Elections 2023.** The Officer election was held on June 12, 2023. See the website for the updated Officer list.

Condolences - it with a heavy heart Local 445 informs you of the passing of retired member Ken Eyre on March 17, 2023.

IBEW Local 445 Night at the Ballpark is scheduled for June 17 and July 14, 2023. Mark your calendars. More info to follow.

IBEW Local 445 Annual Golf Outing is scheduled for July 15, 2023, with shotgun start at 8am. Mark your calendars.

IBEW Local 445 Annual Picnic is scheduled for September 9, 2023. Mark your calendars. More info to follow.

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

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

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

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

Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is IBEW445.com.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wanda Secrest, Recording Secretary



IBEW
Local 557

IBEW Local 557
SAGINAW – **Union News-** Good morning brothers and sisters! The start of June marks the beginning of the last year of Local 557's latest 3-year agreement. Please make sure your paychecks have been updated starting with the paid week ending June 4th, paid no later than June 7th at quitting time. Get that money guys! The membership voted at the May Union Meeting to up the JIW to \$37 an hour on the check.

IMPORTANT- Wilson-McShane now has complete control of the Michigan Electrical Pension Fund and Health Plan. Correspondences have been sent to all members that utilize the services. Do not ignore these mailings! New cards for member's Special Funds have been sent out. The membership's fringes should be managed more efficiently now that the switch has occurred. Please note that some patience will be necessary as we work through the transition process.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS- Our next meeting is July 11th at 5:30pm. Come on out and
(Continued on Page 12)

IBEW Local 498, continued

tion to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at ibew@local498.net Thank you!

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 Fax# 1-952-854-1632

Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

MEPPP (MI Pension) 1-855-633-4584
(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425
NEBF 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300
IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

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

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

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

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#



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Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING – JUNE 2023 CHAPTER MEETINGS:

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, June 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Road West, Traverse City, MI 49685

JULY 2022 CHAPTER MEETINGS:

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 has been

CANCELLED due to the Fourth of July Holiday

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

The Ann Arbor Chapter will be having the wage allocation at the **JULY** chapter meeting. Please make sure you are current on your dues to participate.

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, July 05, 2023 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

HOUGHTON CHAPTER: Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, July 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, July 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

DEATHS REPORTED: Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Albert Morolli** (Cement Mason) who passed away on October 21, 2022. Brother Morolli had been a member for 49 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Gasper Serra** (Bricklayer) who passed away on May 22, 2023. Brother Serra had been a member for 45 years.

BAC 2 MI TEXTING PROGRAM** We are now communicating via text message with our membership regarding important updates and meetings. Please sign up via the following: texting **2MI to 50607**

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

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

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

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

SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS: Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get the same amount as 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.

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

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!!

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

Go to <https://www.michiganbricklayers.org> to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2023 online training classes.

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

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE. 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 <https://bacweb.org/member-service/member-assistance-program-map> and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for Member-ship 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."

E-MAIL ADDRESS: Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via e-mail. Please submit your address by sending an e-mail to information@bricklayers.org and in the subject line place "Local #2 e-mail address" then type your name, phone number and e-mail address in the body of the communication. We appreciate your time and effort in helping us accomplish this task.

PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION
BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000
Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) – (800) 531-2244
Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension & Vacation Fund – (248) 813-9800
Cement Pension & Holiday Funds – (248) 645-6550
CALL-A-DOC – (800) 835-2362
International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT – The next membership meeting is Tuesday June 20, at 7:00 pm. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

Please keep Bro. Henry Williams and his family in your thoughts and prayers, on the passing of his father.

Membership gold cards- Congratulations!

June Larry Davault-25 Years; Baldemar Salinas-30 Years

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

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

BENEFICIARY REMINDER: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all of your OPCMA Local 514, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds.

The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

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

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

Lawrence Nemeth is the 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 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.

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

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

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

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

Please make sure your modules and drug test are up to date,

there are some plant jobs that do require the MUST modules. You can go online at: www.mustonline.org Call the Local if you need a drug form sent out.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PLASTERERS AND DETROIT COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS: You are able to find out more about Fund investments, change your investments, obtain your balances, and, during regular business hours, speak to a representative by contacting Principal either via its website, www.Principal.com or by telephone, 800-547-7754. Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

Go online: Principal.com
If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started.

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

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, **ROADBUILDERS** 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.



Local 149 Roofers & Waterproofers

Roofers Local 149

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

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Aug. 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Aug. 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2023 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

The July 2023 General Membership Meeting. The July general membership meeting has been canceled.

International Convention. The International Convention Delegates are:

Brian Gregg, Joseph Gilliam, Gary Johnsen, Jonathan Crosby, Thomas Jaranowski, Dean Kucharski, Donald Watkins III, John Johnson, Rick Baird, Joseph Zsembery, Adrian Bonds, Robert Colston, and Randy Witherspoon.

Mid-Michigan Wage Allocation. Starting June 1, 2023, the allocation of this year's \$2.50 raise is as follows: \$2.20 Check, \$0.30 Health & Welfare

Detroit Wage Allocation. Starting June 1, 2023, the allocation of this year's \$1.60 raise is as follows: \$1.00 Check, \$0.19 Annuity, \$0.41 Pension.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

MID-MICHIGAN AREA – Clio Office: The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2023 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

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

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368, or midmichroofers149@gmail.com to make arrangements.

Notice: When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up-to-date phone number. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work list.

The publication above is as 6/12/2023, 2:00p.m.

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



IBEW Local 557

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have a hotdog!

MICHIGAN INITIATIVE- Please contact Brother Gus Voisine for any organizing issues you see or have. If our members have any questions or work tips they can reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS- Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm.

BOOK SIGNING- If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off, please come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-town Books, please call the hall to arrange this.

WORKOUTLOOK- Many calls have come in for an array of projects. Hiring is still happening at the Wind Farm for both contractors. Local contractors are gearing up for their summer school work very soon with more calls to come. Members should continue to watch the job line if they are looking for a call in 557. Some recent calls did go to Book 2. This should be a busy summer everyone. Hold on tight!

HEALTH CARE- Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and also help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbasm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

BLUE CROSS APP- Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for "BCB-SM" 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- You will need to download the new WEX app for your phone. Search for "MI IBEW Special Fund" in the Google or Apple store. After doing this step, it will work the same as the old app, only more efficiently.

JOB CALLS- Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. **All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK DON'T FORGET TO CALL 989-781-0516, option 3.**

STAY CURRENT ON DUES* Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

CONTACT NUMBERS- Michigan Electrical Employee Pension Fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielectricalhealth.org
In Solidarity, B. R. DePotter PS / Registrar

Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

BLUE CROSS APP- Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for "BCB-SM" 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- You will need to download the new WEX app for your phone. Search for "MI IBEW Special Fund" in the Google or Apple store. After doing this step, it will work the same as the old app, only more efficiently.

JOB CALLS- Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. **All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK DON'T FORGET TO CALL 989-781-0516, option 3.**

STAY CURRENT ON DUES* Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

CONTACT NUMBERS- Michigan Electrical Employee Pension Fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielectricalhealth.org
In Solidarity, B. R. DePotter PS / Registrar

"The man who insists on seeing with perfect clearness before he decides, never decides."

–Henri-Frédéric Amiel

Job creation rises, as does the nation's jobless rate

WASHINGTON (PAI) – Private sector businesses claimed to create a net of 283,000 new jobs in May, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported June 2.

The U.S. unemployment rate increased 0.3 percent to 3.7 percent. Governments added 56,000 new jobs, with just over half of them in local governments and schools and another third in state government and schools.

The number of unemployed increased by 440,000, to 6.097 million, BLS added. But while

the coronavirus pandemic's emergency was lifted and the pandemic is "officially" over, its impact continues to run through the jobs market.

"While the boost in government jobs is welcome news, state and local employment is still down 1.4 percent since Feb 2020," the last report before the pandemic really hit. "Private-sector jobs fell further and came back stronger due to large-scale policy investments. Lagging public sector jobs is concerning for the vital services

they provide," Economic Policy Institute Senior Analyst Elise Gould tweeted.

Factory owners shedded 2,000 jobs in May, down to 12,984 million, despite a gain of 6,800 jobs in car and parts plants. Other changes in factory jobs were small.

Construction companies created 25,000 new jobs in May, rising to 7.928 million. Almost half of those were in heavy and civil engineering.

As usual, the lowest-paying occupations added the most jobs

in May, and both were in services. Health care added 52,400 jobs, to 16.812 million. Bars and restaurants added 33,100 jobs, to 12.287 million.

"Gains in both leisure and hospitality," which includes the bars and restaurants, "and government employment are particularly welcome news as they remain the sectors with the largest job shortfalls since before the pandemic. Those deficits are steadily shrinking month after month," Gould tweeted.



IBEW LOCAL 665 apprentice Ryan Lay marks up conduit strut hangers while working in the new shop at the Superior Electric Great Lakes Co. in Lansing. They will be installed at the Ultium Battery Plant project under construction several miles away.

Superior Electric flips the switch on new building; targets mid-state market

(Continued from Page 1)

up last month. Superior Electric Regional Director/Project Management Jim Baker was tasked with managing the project for the company.

Baker led the company's efforts to find the space, redesign it from its past purpose as a sporting goods store, and create a new, efficient space for the building's 17 employees. "We have phenomenal people here," he said. "And we're trying to make a nice environment for our staff, and treat them the way they want to be treated."

Last fall Superior Electric Great Lakes Co. was recognized by Crains Detroit Business among the top 10 in their category for medium-sized companies, and 28th overall for "100 Cool Places to Work in Michigan." The company was founded in 1950 by William Hull and his wife Viola, in their Lansing home.

Today Superior Electric is a full-service, employee-owned electrical contractor with extensive engineering and design experience. It provides union-backed electrical services for large and midsize industrial and commercial projects in manufacturing, automotive, oil and gas, health care, civil/state and specialty industries throughout the nation.

Baker said with major projects like the nearby Ultium Cells battery plant, expansion work at a wastewater treatment plant in East Lansing and projects at the GM-Delta Twp. plant ongoing or on the horizon, Superior Electric and the rest of the area's construction industry likely has a solid window of work ahead. The company is already employing some 250 electricians on area projects.

"It's been 28 years for us working in Lansing, and it's time that we established a home here," Baker said. "Our folks have identified five years of work ahead, and it's great to have that kind of certainty in employment."

The new warehouse/fabrication shop at the site provides space for eight IBEW Local 665 electricians to fabricate, organize and prepare for shipment all manner of electrical fixtures that will be installed in their projects.

"We really needed the space that this location provides," Austin said. "A lot of hard work went into making this happen, and it's like a dream come true for us. It opens up a lot more opportunity for expanding what we do."



AT THE RECEPTION area of the Superior Electric Great Lakes Co. Lansing location are (l-r) company Vice President of Human Resources Jackie Hernandez, Senior Vice President Alan Keith Austin, Regional Director/Project Management Jim Baker, and CFO Scott Janssen.

Laborers' International Union of North America

LIUNA! LOCAL 1191

Feel the Power

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

DETROIT - Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

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

Monthly General Membership Meetings: General Membership meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays).

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on July 7, 2023. August's General Membership meeting will be held on Aug. 4, 2023.

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11 am at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. **The next Retiree Council meetings will be held on July 28 and Aug. 25.**

Union Dues For 2023: Regular monthly dues are **\$35.00 for Active Members**. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same **\$8.00**. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org.

org! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you. *FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!*

Referral List: Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1-4 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be re-

ferred out for work by the Local Union. **FYI:** It is the Member's responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not!

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

Training: Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules**

are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

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

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

IMPORTANT UNION CONTACT INFORMATION: Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)
 * Telephone: (877) 645-2267
 * Website: www.michiganlaborers.org
 * Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149
 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)
 * Telephone: (248) 641-4942
 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)
 * Telephone: (800) 228 0048
 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' AND Michigan Laborers' Vacation Funds WPAS (833) 389-0025 EXT. 3359

\$1.8 Million Goldberg, Persky and White Verdict Considered Largest in History of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.

ASBESTOS

FREE ASBESTOS CLAIM EVALUATION

GOLDBERG PERSKY WHITE P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
SAGINAW SOUTHFIELD

ASBESTOS CLAIMS

Evaluation Request Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No. _____

Date of Birth: _____

Union : _____ Local No: _____

Dates of Employment: _____ thru _____

Have you been exposed to asbestos?

Yes No

Have you been diagnosed with:

Mesothelioma Asbestosis
 Lung Cancer Colon Cancer

Do you have shortness of breath?

Yes No

Return this form to:
Goldberg, Persky & White, PC
P.O.Box 5769, Saginaw, Michigan 48603 or

Call 800-799-2234

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

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

Many Michigan building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Thousands have developed asbestos disease. Some are not aware they were even exposed.

For more than 30 years, GPW has represented thousands of Michigan union workers in lawsuits against the asbestos industry. We can arrange a free chest x-ray review by a NIOSH Certified B-Reader to all qualified building tradesmen with start dates prior to 1980.

Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. No recovery-no fee

We are considered the Very Best Mesothelioma Attorneys in Michigan for good reason- our results speak for themselves

Return the form or contact us today:

800-799-2234

www.gpwlaw-mi.com



Outdoors



Cheers to the Kirtland's Warbler

By Kathleen Lavey
Forest Resources Division
Michigan Department of
Natural Resources

The tiny, gray-and-yellow bird known as the Kirtland's warbler is a lot of things.

First, it's extremely rare, with only a few thousand of the birds alive anywhere – 95 percent of them in Michigan's northern Lower Peninsula. A comparative handful of others are found in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Ontario.

Second, it's a conservation success story, the first passerine (perching songbird) removed from the federal endangered species list in 2019, although it remains on Michigan's threatened species list.

It's also a life-list must for birdwatchers who flock to Michigan to see or hear the bird each season.

And the warbler is extremely picky about where it lives, nesting only on the ground under the sheltering branches of shrub-like, young jack pine trees.

Tall trees won't cut it as condo space for this rare bird, which is why people may notice some large jack pine harvests in the northern Lower Peninsula this summer.

The warbler also needs lots of space. And nesting birds favor the edges of clearings.

This why the bird needs human help to survive and thrive into the future.

"Jack pine is a fire-dependent species, which means the cones need heat to open," said Keith Kintigh, acting supervisor of the Planning and Adaptation Section for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Division. "Because we protect against wildfire to keep communities safe, the large-scale fires that historically created the habitat the birds need aren't regularly happening."

That leaves cutting and re-planting as the best way to make sure warblers have the conditions and space they need to thrive.

"The DNR will plant 1 million to 1.5 million jack pines on



A KIRTLAND'S WARBLER is shown perched in a jack pine tree in Lower Michigan.

MDNR photos

1,000 to 1,500 acres per year to create Kirtland's warbler habitat," said Jason Hartman, silviculturist for the DNR's Forest Resources Division.

Combined, the DNR and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service contract for the harvest of about 2,000 to 3,000 acres per year to create young forest for the bird.

Most of those cuts are sized at 300 acres or more, since the warbler prefers to have room to roam. They will rarely nest in disturbed areas that are less than 80 acres.

Trees also are cut and planted into patterns that allow for many clearings that warblers prefer, a pattern known as the "opposing wave." It's sometimes also referred to fondly as "the warbler weave."

The warbler's story. The Kirtland's warbler – about 5.5 inches from beak to tail – was first identified and named in, of all places, Ohio. In May of 1851, Jared Kirtland, a doctor and naturalist, spotted some birds as they passed through Ohio on their way to Michigan from their winter home in the Bahamas.

He started the process to determine if the bird was separate and distinct from others in the wood warbler family.

Kirtland's warblers eat in-

sects and berries, and they incubate about four eggs each year.

Besides the loss of habitat and suppression of wildfire, the warbler population also shrank through the 1980s due to brown-headed cowbirds.

The cowbirds are called nest parasites because they lay their eggs in the nests of other birds, leaving those other species to raise its young. The host bird parents typically cater to the largest birds in the nest, which in this case is the cowbird young.

Inattention by the parents leaves the young warblers to wither and often die.

Efforts to trap, poison or otherwise remove the cowbirds from areas where the warbler nests have helped ensure that warbler babies can thrive.

Bringing the Kirtland's warbler back from the brink of extinction and making sure it has appropriate nesting space has been a conservation success story that will continue into the future, said William Rapai, executive director of the Kirtland's Warbler Alliance.

Created in 2014, the alliance is one of many public and private groups working together to ensure the warbler thrives.

"People come from all over the world to see it every spring

because of its unusual story," Rapai said. "This is a bird of fire. Unfortunately, we can't allow fire to run wild across the landscape anymore, so we have to harvest trees and plant young trees to accommodate it."

He pointed out that other species such as turkey, grouse, whitetail deer and snowshoe hare also benefit from the young forests and open spaces that warblers need.

And because it creates clear spaces on the landscape, the cutting of older trees also reduces the risk of later fire. Jack pine trees have a relatively short life as trees go, and they become a greater fire risk when they are older and larger.

"If we do not harvest those trees, it increases the chance of a disastrous fire that could run across the landscape and do tremendous damage, not just to forests but to people and their houses and property," Rapai said.

Want to see a Kirtland's warbler? The Michigan Audubon Society and Hartwick Pines State Park work together to offer birdwatching tours to find the Kirtland's warbler in the wild from May 27-June 30.

Tours are at 7 a.m. weekdays and 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays and leave from

Michigan Forest Visitor Center at Hartwick Pines, located along M-93, just east of I-75, near Grayling. Tours cost \$15 per person, and a state Recreation Passport is needed to enter the park.

Dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to walk up to a mile or so with good shoes or boots. Sunscreen, bug repellent and a hat will help keep you comfortable on the tour. Binoculars, a spotting scope or a camera with a telephoto lens are helpful in getting a good look at the warblers. Register at www.michiganaudubon.org/kirtlands-warbler-tours/ for: June 17–23 or June 24–30.

The Forest Service offers guided tours of warbler habitat in the Huron-Manistee National Forest and a self-guided map for a driving tour.

To learn more, contact the Mio Ranger Station or email sm.fs.miokwtours@usda.gov.

The self-guided tour is a 58-mile driving route through pine barrens favored by the warbler and other types of wildlife. You can also learn more through a story map. Be aware that warbler nesting grounds are closed to foot traffic during breeding season, although you may observe birds

from the roadsides.

Celebrate the bird. Across Michigan, the story of the comeback of Kirtland's warblers is a worthy success lauded by many. Efforts to showcase the warbler and even celebrate its occurrence in our state bear witness to our affinity with this species.

The Kirtland's warbler even appears on a specialized Michigan license plate. In short, the bird is the word.



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