

# THE BUILDING

# TRADESMAN

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## SHORT CUTS

### Candidates endorsed for Nov. 7 election

A list of endorsed candidates in Michigan for the Tuesday, Nov. 7, General Election can be found in this edition on Page 4.



Candidates are reviewed and endorsed by local councils of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, based on their past or anticipated support of issues of importance to organized labor.

### State starts course to 100% renewables

The Michigan Legislature took a first step toward the elimination of fossil fuels as an energy source in the state, with a Senate panel voting in a package of bills to instruct utility providers to run on 100 percent "clean energy" by 2040.

The Senate Energy and Environment Committee on Oct. 25 voted 9-5 along party lines (Democrats for, GOP members against) to advance the measures to the full Senate for consideration.

According to the Senate Fiscal Agency, Senate Bill 271 would require an electric provider regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to ramp up a renewable energy credit portfolio to at least 15 percent through 2027, 50 percent by 2030, 80 percent in 2035 and 100 percent in 2040 and after.

The legislation does allow for "off-ramps," where a utility company can make a case to the regulators at the MPSC if it is struggling to meet those deadlines.

Power costs and uncertainty are major concerns for the state's business community as they watch these bills.

"Our concerns about this package is it's rooted in mandates, and mandates by definition don't prioritize price reliability and our ability to compete in the global economy," said Michael Johnston, vice president of government affairs for the Michigan Manufacturers Association.

The legislation is in line with policies sought by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. The writing is on the wall for fossil fuel-burning power plants, as Michigan's largest utilities, DTE Energy and Consumers Energy, are both well into those timelines to retire their coal-burning power plants.

"Let's enact a 100 percent clean energy standard for Michigan," Whitmer said in September. She also board with two large windmills on it. "This means all the energy we produce will be from wind, solar or other common-sense energy sources."

There remains much skepticism over where the replacement power will come from. And many in the building trades have made a career out of working in those baseline fossil fuel power plants over the past century.

### Quotable

"Many people think that if they were only in some other place, or had some other job, they would be happy. Well, that is doubtful. So get as much happiness out of what you are doing as you can and don't put off being happy until some future date."

-Dale Carnegie (1888-1955)



MAKING SPARKS FLY earlier this year while re-constructing the base of one of 14 lattice-steel columns at the Michigan Central Train Station project in Detroit is Tiffany Younk of Iron Workers Local 25. The rotted steel on the lower column was replaced with new, while the original 1913 riveted lattice steel above has been mostly retained. The iron worker crew on the project is employed by Midwest Steel.

Photo credit: Rob Younk

## Re-built carriage house a final piece of train station's rebirth

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

DETROIT – This month, construction is winding down on the massive, years-long renovation of Michigan Central Station.

But on a structure connected to the west side of the 18-story tower, there continues to be a buzz of activity on what will be the final, major portion of the project. That's where the former train station's "carriage house" – originally erected to facilitate the ingress and egress of horse-pulled carriages – is undergoing a wholesale renovation that will meld together old and new steel and masonry.

"This carriage house is so unique, and it's great to be able to bring it back to its original beauty and function as part of the train station," said Midwest Steel Senior Project Manager Al Moyski. "It's an opportunity for us to repair and replace the steel and make this functional for years to come. And we also get to work with lattice steel, which is quite rare, and all the other decorative steel that's here."

The Beaux-Arts style Michigan Central was the tallest train station in the world when it was completed in 1913. Ford Motor Co. purchased the decrepit station in 2018, and hired Christman-Brinker to lead a construction team to renovate the 647,000-square-foot property.

The rehabilitation of the former carriage house has been ongoing since April 2020. Overall, its condition was mixed, with some steel able to be saved but some that had disintegrated. The roof of the carriage house is supported by 14 vertical latticed columns which extend down into a basement area that held a boiler house. Because the basement had flooded, the bases of many of the columns were completely rotted even though they

were encased in concrete. Oddly, they were set in sand as a filler inside the concrete. About 90 percent of the iron supporting the concrete floor of the carriage house was unfit for re-use and was replaced.

(Continued on Page 13)



LIMESTONE BLOCK at the MCS carriage house project is getting cleaned, re-mortared and then re-set by Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 masons Justin Shear and Devin Spears. They're employed by Ram Construction.



ERECTED ALONG THE west side of the former Michigan Central Train Station in Detroit, the carriage house provided a drop-off and pick-up spot for rail passengers. Like the rest of the station, the structure fell into ruins, but is now the final major part of the complete rehabilitation of the property by Ford Motor Co. Christman-Brinker has led the entire project, while contractors and tradespeople from Midwest Steel, Ram Construction and Eugenio Painting are at work on the carriage house.

Photo credits: Marty Mulcahy

## Senate GOP urges state, Army Corps to stop feet-dragging on Line 5 permits

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

LANSING – It took only four months for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to approve permits that it controls at the site where construction of the \$5.8 billion Blue Oval SK Battery Park in Kentucky is taking place.

But five years after then-Gov.

Rick Snyder and the Michigan Legislature agreed on the formation of a governing "Mackinac Straits Corridor Authority" as the first major step to build the Line 5 petroleum and utility tunnel between Mackinaw City and St. Ignace, the tunnel project remains without the necessary permits to proceed.

On Oct. 18, state Sen. Ed McBroom (R-Waucedah Twp.) and all 18 members of the Senate Republican caucus sent a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer urging them to expedite the state and federal permitting processes.

"The unreasonable delay (Continued on Page 2)

Now, finally, 112 years after the tragedy and its aftermath, there's a permanent memorial to the victims, and to the role their deaths played in U.S. history.

The memorial was dedicated Oct. 11. In the three predominant languages of those immigrant workers – Yiddish, Italian and English – it tells the story not (Continued on Page 4)

## Old rules return to fortify D-B Act, and enhance wages

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Talk about build back better: it will be a major boost to the pocketbooks of thousands of construction workers, both union and non-union. And to put it mildly, it is galling to the nonunion contracting community.

We refer to the Davis-Bacon Act. No, the 1931 law assuring prevailing wages for construction workers on federally funded projects has never gone away. What has changed, for the first time in four decades, is the worker-friendly way in which it will be interpreted.

The U.S. Department of Labor on Oct. 23 announced the implementation of a final rule that modernizes Davis-Bacon Act's prevailing wage rules "to reflect the needs of construction workers on federally funded projects better." The modernized prevailing wage rules are expected to lead to higher construction industry wages, especially in areas where prevailing wage rates have been

"Companies who exploit their workers, or who don't pay workers fairly, should never have a competitive advantage"

–Acting U.S. Secretary of Labor Julie Su

outdated.

In August, the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors' Vice President of Regulatory, Labor and State Affairs Ben Brubeck called the pending rule "yet another Biden administration handout to organized labor on the backs of taxpayers, small businesses and the free market."

The ABC predicted the new rule would "devastate small construction contractors working on federal contracts."

It's the most comprehensive update to construction wage rates in 40 years for federally funded projects. Implementation of the "Updating the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts Regulation" by the (Continued on Page 4)

## Here comes hydrogen: Feds plan up to \$1B for 'H2Hub' in state

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

Solar. Wind. Hydro. Batteries. And now, hydrogen.

The national movement toward clean energy took another big step forward with the Biden Administration's Department of Energy announcement on Oct. 13 of the planned expenditure of \$7 billion to launch seven Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs (H2Hubs) across the nation. And Michigan is getting a big slice of that pie.

That same day, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced that a Michigan-backed clean hydrogen hub project, the Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen (MachH2) has been awarded up to \$1 billion by the U.S. Department of Energy to develop regional supply chains for the production, distribution, and use of hydrogen in trucks and heavy-duty vehicles.

"Manufacturing is a fundamental part of the Midwest region's identity and economic prosperity. Today's announcement will allow us to stay true to this heritage while advancing innovation to remain globally competitive in the ongoing transition to clean energy," said Whitmer.

The Michigan Infrastructure Office is working with MachH2 to build a hydrogen "Truck Stop of the Future" in the Detroit area. This advanced mobility project will serve Gordie Howe International Bridge traffic and potentially establish Michigan

as an ideal location for building and testing hydrogen-powered heavy-duty vehicles. The truck stop could represent emissions reductions of up to 8,250 tons of CO2 per year.

Additionally, according to the governor's office, MachH2 will oversee the construction of a hydrogen production facility at the American Center for Mobility in Ypsilanti and the expansion of a hydrogen production and refueling center on-site at the Flint Mass Transportation Authority. (Continued on Page 5)

## Triangle fire site finally gets marker; tragedy launched labor, safety reforms

NEW YORK (PAI) – "Thud! Dead. Thud! Dead."

That's how one onlooker later remembered the tragedy of New York's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire of 1911, just off what is now Washington Square Park in lower Manhattan. It was the thud and death of the 146 immigrant women and girls, trapped in a sweatshop so far up the Asch Building that when fire broke out – and the owners had barred and locked the doors – that they had no choice but to jump out the windows. The fire escape, such as it was, didn't reach that high, either.

Now, finally, 112 years after the tragedy and its aftermath, there's a permanent memorial to the victims, and to the role their deaths played in U.S. history.

The memorial was dedicated Oct. 11. In the three predominant languages of those immigrant workers – Yiddish, Italian and English – it tells the story not (Continued on Page 4)

## External pressures start to weigh on U.S. construction

By Marty Mulcahy  
Editor

While the nation's building economy as a whole remains robust – and in particular, construction employment remains strong – there is an emerging sign of leveling off in U.S. building activity.

The Dodge Construction Network reported Oct. 18 that total construction starts fell 6 percent in September from the month before, although project starts were unchanged compared to the level of September 2022. But with

the construction industry being as sprawling and multi-faceted as it is, the numbers depend on what sector we're talking about.

"So, kind of a downer month for September, when you look at the data," said Richard Branch, chief economist for the Dodge Construction Network. "When we look back on the last 12 months of construction activity, we're essentially flat."

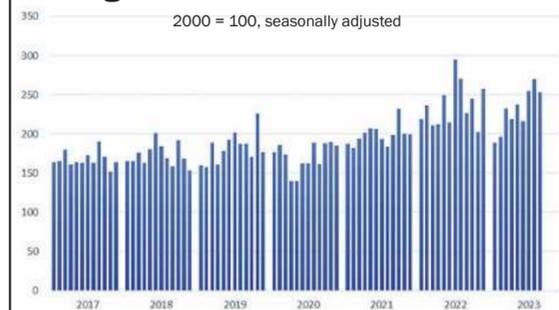
"It's really interesting to see this bifurcation in the market. Publicly funded projects like infrastructure and manufactur-

ing, education and health care are doing reasonably well. But it's that private side of the market, whether that's residential or whether that's the income types of property like office and warehouse, that are especially weak over the last 12 months."

Dodge said on a year-to-year basis, residential and nonresidential starts were down 17 percent and 7 percent, respectively. However, nonbuilding starts (usually infrastructure) were up 25 percent.

"As we think about where we (Continued on Page 2)

### Dodge Index for U.S. construction



## Viewpoints



### Modern-day robber barons

Ultra-wealthy elites...Political corruption...Vast inequality... These problems aren't new – in the late 1800s they dominated the country during America's first Gilded Age. We overcame these abuses back then, and we can do it again.

Mark Twain coined the moniker "The Gilded Age" in his 1873 novel to describe the era in American history characterized by corruption and inequality that was masked by a thin layer of prosperity for a select few.

The end of the 19th Century and start of the 20th marked a time of great invention – bustling railroads, telephones, motion pictures, electricity, automobiles – which changed American life forever. But it was also an era of giant monopolies – oil, railroad, steel, finance – run by a small group of men who had grown rich beyond anything America had ever seen.

They were known as "robber barons" because they ran competitors out of business, exploited workers, charged customers exorbitant prices, and lived like royalty as a result.

Money consumed politics. Robber barons and their lackeys donated bundles of cash to any lawmaker willing to do bidding on their behalf. And when lobbying wasn't enough, the powerful turned to bribery – resulting in some of the most infamous political scandals in American history.

The gap between the rich and poor in America reached astronomical levels. Large numbers of Americans lived in squalor.

Anti-immigrant sentiment raged, leading to the enactment of racist laws to restrict immigration. And voter suppression, largely aimed at Black men who had recently won the right to vote, was rampant.

The era was also marked by dangerous working conditions. Children often as young as 10, but sometimes younger, worked brutal hours in sweatshops. Workers trying to organize labor unions were attacked and killed.

It seemed as if American capitalism was out of control, and American democracy couldn't do anything about it because it was bought and paid for by the rich.

But Americans were fed up, and they demanded reform. Many took to the streets in protest.

Investigative journalists, often called "muckrakers" then, helped amplify their cries by exposing what was occurring throughout the country. And a new generation of political leaders rose to end the abuses.

Politicians like Teddy Roosevelt, who warned that, "a small class of enormously wealthy and economically powerful men, whose chief object is to hold and increase their power," could destroy American democracy.

After becoming president in 1901, Roosevelt used the Sherman Antitrust Act to break up dozens of powerful corporations, including the giant Northern Securities Company which had come to dominate railroad transportation through a series of mergers. Seeking to limit the vast fortunes that were creating a new American aristocracy, Congress enacted a progressive income tax through the 16th Amendment, as well as two wealth taxes.

The first wealth tax, in 1916, was the estate tax – a tax on the wealth someone accumulated during their lifetime, paid by the heirs who inherited it. The second tax on wealth, enacted in 1922, was a capital gains tax – a tax on the increased value of assets, paid when those assets were sold.

The reformers of the Gilded Age also stopped corporations from directly giving money to politicians or political candidates. And then Teddy Roosevelt's fifth cousin – you may have heard of him – continued the work through his New Deal programs – creating Social Security, unemployment insurance, a 40-hour work-week, and requiring that employers bargain in good faith with labor unions.

But following the death of FDR and the end of World War II, when America was building the largest middle class the world had ever seen – we seemed to forget about the abuses of the Gilded Age.

Now, more than a century later, America has entered a second Gilded Age. It is also a time of extraordinary invention. And a time when monopolies are taking over vast swathes of the economy, so we must renew antitrust enforcement to bust up powerful companies.

Now, another generation of robber barons is accumulating unprecedented money and power. So once again, we must tax these exorbitant fortunes.

Wealthy individuals and big corporations are once again paying off lawmakers, sending them billions to conduct their political campaigns, even giving luxurious gifts to Supreme Court justices. So we need to protect our democracy from Big Money, just as we did before.

Voter suppression runs rampant in the states as during the first Gilded Age, making it harder for people of color to participate in what's left of our democracy. So it's once again critical to defend and expand voting rights.

Working people are once again being exploited and abused, child labor is returning, unions are busted, the poor are again living in unhealthy conditions, homelessness is on the rise, and the gap between the ultra-rich and everyone else is nearly as large as in the first Gilded Age. So once again we need to protect the rights of workers to organize, invest in social safety nets, and revive guardrails to protect against the abuses of great wealth and power.

The question now is the same as it was at the start of the 20th Century: Will we fight for an economy and a democracy that works for all rather than the few?

We've done it before. We can – and must – do it again.

**Robert Reich**

Former U.S. Secretary of Labor  
Professor of Public Policy, University of California-Berkeley

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

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## External pressures weigh on construction

(Continued from Page 1)

go from here at the end of 2023 and into 2024, the challenges continue to mount for construction," Branch said. "We're in a high interest rate environment, interest rates will probably stay high until at least the summer of 2024, that's when we think the fed will cut rates."

Branch said a number of "externalities" are likely to affect the industry: tight credit standards, higher energy prices, enhanced geopolitical risks and domestic political risks (the U.S. House was frozen last month due to the lack of a speaker).

"So there are lots of challenges here that the sector has to work its way through," Branch said. "Overall we're expecting construction starts to be pretty flat in 2023. We don't expect a lot of positive momentum into the first quarter of 2024, either. But once we get into the summer of 2024, we think that's where we'll start to build on levels and we'll start to see some more organic growth develop in the construction sector."

For the men and women doing the building, the industry has seen scant let-up in job opportunities since the pandemic loosened its grip on the economy. Construction employment increased in 43 states (including Michigan) in September from a year earlier, the Associated General Contractors of America reported on Oct. 20.

However, from August to September, only 28 states gained construction jobs, a number that's down from recent months. Michigan was not one of them, losing only 100 jobs during that period. Michigan's construction employment was up 3.9 percent from September 2022 to September 2023. That represents a gain of 7,200 jobs – a 3.9 percent increase that ranks No. 12 among the states.

The industry "continues to add employees nearly everywhere on a year-over-year basis," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "But contractors are struggling to fill openings quickly, which means many states experience short-term dips in employment from month to month."

## Outlaws in Oklahoma City

By Jim Hightower

Oklahoma City Thunder owner Clayton Bennett is the kind of outlaw Woody Guthrie warned about – one who will "rob you with a fountain pen."

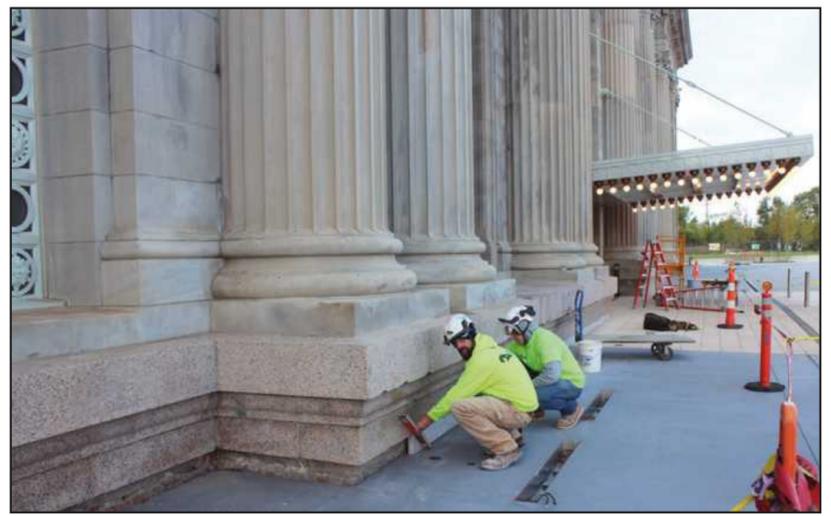
"I've seen lots of funny men," Oklahoma troubadour Woody Guthrie once sang about outlaws. "Some'll rob you with a six gun / Some with a fountain pen."

That could apply today to Clayton Bennett,

a multimillionaire Oklahoma City banker who's regularly wielded his fountain pen to loot public funds for his private gain. Bennett is a Hall of Infamy player in the elite club of big league owners of pro-basketball teams, specializing in picking taxpayers' pockets to finance his operations.

In 2006, he and a few high-rolling partners bought the Seattle SuperSonics team, promptly demanding that locals pony up \$500 million to build a new arena for them.

No, said Seattle. So Bennett & Gang scampered off to Oklahoma City with the team, renamed it the Thunder, and used their fountain pens to filch a \$100 million subsidy from taxpayers



### Masons rock granite repairs at train station

PERFORMING REPAIRS of the granite exterior near the front entrance of the Michigan Central Station project in Detroit are masons Jeff Curtis and Joseph Schulte of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2. They're employed by Ram Construction.

## GOP urges state, Army Corps to stop feet-dragging on Line 5 permits

(Continued from Page 1)

in the permitting process and construction of the Great Lakes Tunnel is a tremendous disservice to the people of Michigan and the entire region," said McBroom. "Stop stalling. The tunnel project was approved almost five years ago with bipartisan support to protect our Great Lakes and create thousands of good-paying, mainly union jobs in our state while also ensuring families continue to receive the propane they need to heat their homes and communities get the fuel needed to power our economy – yet we still have nothing to show for it due to government inaction."

Originally, construction on the five-mile tunnel was expected to begin in 2021 and be complete in 2024. But lawsuits, protests by environmentalists and permitting delays have limited the project to preliminary work, short of construction.

The new tunnel is proposed to be bored beneath the Straits of Mackinac, and encapsulate a new petroleum pipeline for owner Enbridge. The new pipeline would replace dual steel petroleum pipelines that sit on the bed of the Straits, which have been in service since the 1950s.

Most recently, the Army Corps indicated a permitting

decision is not expected until 2026. Additionally, the Michigan Public Service Commission has failed to take up the issue for months, even though Enbridge returned their requested information nearly six months ago.

Earlier estimates by Enbridge said the new Line 5 tunnel would cost them \$500 million to build, but that will certainly soar given material inflation that has gone on over the past three years.

The Army Corps said the permit review process is in the "data collection and review stage." An email from a corps spokeswoman to a local television station said the group is "following the procedures and guidance for preparing a National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). An EIS is warranted based on the Enbridge Line 5 Pipeline Tunnel project's potential to have significant impacts on the quality of the human environment," and their completion estimate "represents a reasonable timeline."

*"If you wish success in life, make perseverance your bosom friend, experience your wise counselor, caution your elder brother and hope your guardian genius."*

– Joseph Addison (1672 - 1719)

*"Before we set our hearts too much upon anything, let us examine how happy those are who already possess it."*

– Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

Countered McBroom: "We should be having a ribbon cutting by now, and instead we are not even going to consider breaking ground until 2026. Michigan residents deserve better. They deserve affordable and reliable energy. State and federal agencies need to get their act together and work on getting this critical infrastructure project underway."

### Just joking

Three people die: a doctor, a school teacher, and the head of a large insurance company.

When met at the pearly gates by St. Peter he asks the doctor, "what did you do on Earth?" The doctor replied, "I healed the sick, and if they could not pay I would do it for free."

St. Peter told the doctor, "You may go in."

St. Peter then asked the teacher what she did. She replied, "I taught special education for 35 years." St. Peter then told her "You may go in."

St. Peter asked the third man, "What did you do?" The man replied, "I was CEO of a large health insurance company."

To which St. Peter replied, "You may go in, but you can only stay three days."



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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: Fayette HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



FAYETTE HISTORIC STATE PARK and Harbor, on the shores of Big Bay De Noc, in northern Lake Michigan, today features a terrific set of intact buildings and structures from its charcoal-fed pig iron production days of 150 years ago. Now run by the state Department of Natural Resources, the site makes for a worthwhile trip with its beautiful natural setting facing the limestone bluffs at Snail Shell Harbor. Says the Mining History Association: "Today, it is one of the best-preserved historic 19th Century villages in the Midwest."

Photo credit: State of Michigan

Today, Fayette State Park is a quiet, bucolic spot situated on a picturesque harbor in Lake Michigan's Big Bay De Noc. It's a lovely, quiet place to visit, sited on the west side of the U.P.'s aptly named "Garden Peninsula."

But it wasn't always this way. Some 150 years ago, visitors would have seen a crowded harbor, a large workforce and a collection of grimy structures that created heat and fire, belched soot and smoke, and produced charcoal and "pig iron" to feed a growing economy in the lower Great Lakes. In the grand scheme of things, the industry didn't last long at Fayette. But in the ensuing decades after operations ceased, Mother Nature and the hand of conservators took over, today yielding an interesting historic tourist destination with a number of intact buildings and curious structures to visit.

"Fayette was once one of the Upper Peninsula's most productive iron-smelting operations," says the *The Historical Marker Database*. "Fayette grew up around two blast fur-

naces, a large dock, and several charcoal kilns, following the post-Civil War need for iron. Nearly 500 residents – many immigrating from Canada, the British Isles, and northern Europe – lived in and near the town that existed to make pig iron. During 24 years of operation, Fayette's blast furnaces produced a total of 229,288 tons of iron, using local hardwood forests for fuel and quarrying limestone from the bluffs to purify the iron ore."

Isolated at the time and even today, the site was among the first in the Upper Peninsula to commercially mine and process the region's vast mineral resources. It received its name from the town's founder, Fayette Brown, general manager of the Jackson Iron Co. in Cleveland, who strategically chose this site for an iron smelting operation in 1867. The company's iron ore mine was in Negaunee, about 100 miles north, and was connected by a rail line.

"Brown knew the site's proximity to the Upper Peninsula iron mines would lower Jackson Iron's production

costs, says Visit Escanaba. "Being on the harbor would make it easier to transport people, supplies and iron ore to and from the remote town. The harbor's ancient white limestone cliffs would be a nearby source of flux needed to purify the molten iron and for construction materials to build the town. Hundreds of acres of forests on the Garden Peninsula would provide wood for making charcoal to fuel the blast furnaces. Add the gorgeous scenery and Brown was confident if he built



THE GRIMEY FAYETTE bayfront in the 1870s, with wharves to facilitate shipping of pig iron throughout the Great Lakes.

Photo credit: Mining History Association

the company town here, workers would come."

Having found an ideal spot to set up his operation, Brown went about the task of building up a community. Eventually about 500 people lived in Fayette, including the wives and children of the workers. The town included a doctor, butcher, blacksmith, barber, doctor, and carpenter. There was even a two-story hotel – still standing – with a two-story outhouse. Stagecoaches brought residents to and from Garden, Manistique and Escanaba. Fayette had a post office, an opera house, a town hall, a company store, a school, a band, a horse-racing track, and a baseball team.

In addition to the hotel, the town had a central business district, as well as comfortable homes for skilled workers and rustic log cabins for less-skilled workers.

But the Jackson Iron Works was set up to make pig iron, a product so-called because it referred to the method of casting the iron into molds arranged in sand beds that were fed from a common "runner," or the sow. The arrangement resembled suckling pigs feeding from their mother.

According to the Iron Metallurgy Institute, pig iron is the product of smelting iron ore with a high-carbon fuel and such as coke, usually with limestone as a flux. The limestone promotes fluidity of the iron and removes objectionable impurities in the form of slag. The pig iron bars produced in Fayette were shipped to steel producers in lower Great Lakes places like Cleveland and Chicago and converted into railroad rails and steel.



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE this Medieval-looking structure was a kiln to make charcoal during the Industrial Revolution – but they used it at Fayette in the pig-iron making process from 1867-1891.

Photo credit: Historical Marker Database

Construction centered around iron making in Fayette yielded two blast furnaces, a large dock, a machine shop and several charcoal and lime kilns. "Soon Fayette became a roaring, sooty-sky town, bustling with gritty men, women and children," says *U.P. Travel*. "It was acclaimed as one of the best places to buy pig iron for the Great Lakes steel mills. Fayette helped build 19th-Century America."

Making pig iron – especially 150 years ago – was in no way environmentally friendly. Hardwood forests that surrounded the Fayette site were stripped of their trees for miles around. The gathered wood – when slowly heated in a kiln – changes into a material that burns longer and hotter than firewood: charcoal. "During the height of Michigan's iron boom, charcoal was the main fuel used to fire the blast furnaces to smelt iron," wrote Julie Crick in a paper for the Michigan State University Extension Service. She wrote that between 1870 and 1945, the Upper Peninsula's iron industry produced nearly 2 million tons of iron. "While coal was used to

heat the blast furnaces during the latter half of this era due to the shortage of hardwood trees, charcoal production had a tremendous effect on the forests in the Upper Peninsula. The charcoal industry cut over roughly 447 square miles forest, equal to 285,860 acres, by hand, over 75 years."

Over the two-plus decades of operations at Fayette, work-stopped and re-started during economic recessions, mechanical failures and fires.

"The largest of these fires was in 1883. Fayette was rebuilt, but never regained its former influence," says a publication of Northern Michigan University, *Remnants: Ghost Towns of the U.P.* "As the need for pig iron decreased in the 1880s Fayette's furnaces became idle.

Having used up the hardwood in the area, and finding the cost of coal from distant kilns to be too expensive, Fayette discontinued operations in 1891. By the early 1890s the machinery had been dismantled. With the close of Jackson Iron Co. came the close of many company-run businesses in Fayette which was the end of the prosperous harbor town."



A BLAST FURNACE at the Fayette site is a modern-day survivor.

Photo credit: National Museum of the Great Lakes

## CALL THE LAW OFFICES OF SERLING & ABRAMSON P.C. MESOTHELIOMA • LUNG CANCER

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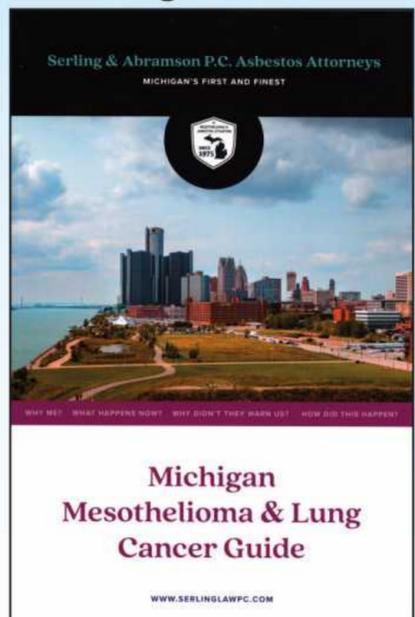
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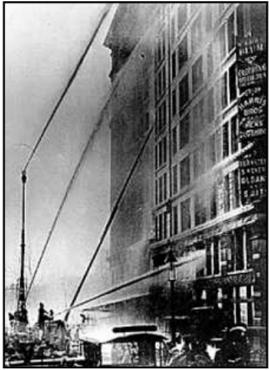
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**THE TRIANGLE Shirtwaist Fire in 1911.**  
Photo credit: University of North Carolina

## Triangle fire site finally gets marker; tragedy launched labor, safety reforms

(Continued from Page 1)  
just of those young women on that fateful Saturday, but of the progressive forces their fate set in motion. Those forces still drive much of labor law and building code laws today.

Among the horrified onlookers as the bodies crashed onto the sidewalk was a young social worker, part of the middle- and upper-class progressive movement. She saw the fate of those young immigrant women, trapped on the ninth floor of the factory in what is now the Brown Building, part of New York University. And Frances Perkins realized she had to do more.

After all, while the fire burned quickly, the ladder trucks of 1911 couldn't reach that high.

The way the laws were written in 1911, the factory owners got away scot-free from penalties. Never mind that they had locked the doors to "prevent theft." Never mind that the factory's safety features were "little more than pails of water," University of Michigan social work and history professor Karla Goldman recently wrote in her article about the memorial. Never mind the dust and cloth scraps and lint—all flammable—were all over the place.

"Locked doors, an inadequate fire escape and other fire code violations meant many workers could find no way out except the windows," added Goldman. So they jumped.

The memorial features the victims' names engraved on "a stainless steel ribbon extending in two parallel strands along the ground floor, displaying victims' names and survivors' testimony, written in their native languages," Goldman reports.

But the real memorial is the social reform movement—which eventually led Perkins to become the nation's first female Secretary of Labor and a key architect of the New Deal—and the labor organizing, especially among immigrant workers, that ensued from the fire and before those laws.

The funeral of just seven of the dead drew 400,000 people to lower Manhattan. Perkins started lobbying, hard, for a stronger fire code, penalties for violating it and protections for workers in the sweatshops of New York, including a shorter (54-hour) workweek.

Just months later, 20,000 female workers struck all the Manhattan sweatshops, reiterating those same demands. They also demanded higher wages and safety standards. Male union leaders largely ignored the safety issues, Goldman writes, so the working women formed their own union: Local 25 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

They agitated, marched and were arrested by anti-worker New York police, who finally stopped when middle-class and upper-class women joined the demonstrations.

"I would be a traitor to those poor burned bodies, if I were to come here to talk good fellowship. We have tried you good people of the public—and we have found you wanting," declared a leader of those strikers, Rose Schneiderman. "I know from experience it is up to the working class to save themselves."

Said the *Smithsonian Magazine*: "The horrific event helped spur safety reforms, such as sprinklers in high-rise buildings, and galvanized a movement for workers' rights."  
Perkins became a top state labor enforcement official under Gov. Al Smith, D-N.Y., before going on to be FDR's Labor Secretary—and implementing the solutions she crafted as part of the New Deal. Including the National Labor Relations Act, and the Fair Labor Standards Act. She later said and wrote the New Deal was born at the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire.



WE ASKED THE PAINTING CREW at the Michigan Central Station's carriage house project to pause for a photo before starting their shift. From (l-r) are Foreman Ruben Gavia, and journeymen Ron Cortez and Ruben Gavia Jr. The crew are sandblasting the iron work, then spray-painting it with a coat of "Sealskin Black." They have completed the portion at right. The crew is employed by Eugenio Painting.



### Michigan Painters District Council

#### Painters DC 1M

WARREN—Dear Members,  
**DC1M WEBSITE:** [www.iupatdc1michigan.org](http://www.iupatdc1michigan.org)  
**DC 1M UNION CARDS\***

Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:  
Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100  
Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888



**ROBERT GONZALEZ**

**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.

**FTI of the Great Lakes Upgrade Classes (First Aid/CPR/AED certification).** FTI of the Great Lakes will be offering First Aid/CPR/AED Class on Saturday, Nov. 11 at our Lansing Training Center and Saturday Dec. 2 at our Warren Training Center. The start time for both classes will 9am for both locations.

Members must contact Shawn O'Neill to register for the class by November 9<sup>th</sup> for the Lansing class, and November 30<sup>th</sup> for the Warren class.

Please contact Shawn O'Neill for additional information 586-552-4481 or email at [dot@iupatdc1m.org](mailto:dot@iupatdc1m.org).

**FTI of the Great Lakes CAS, C3 and C5 classes:**

FTI will be holding CAS, C3 and C5 classes in January 2024. The deadline to submit for CAS exams is November 17, 2023.

The deadline to register for C3 and C5 class is November 24, 2023.

CAS applications are available for download on the DC1M website under Members link, then Resource links.

**FTI of the Great Lakes is accepting applications for a part time Glazing Instructor**

The FTI is accepting applications for part time Glazing Instructor for the Lansing FTI Apprenticeship school.

Please send your applications to FTI Director Shawn Oneill at [dot@iupatdc1m.org](mailto:dot@iupatdc1m.org)

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

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

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888.

New job starts should be reported to the Union office, please do so

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.

*"Real strength is not just a condition of one's muscle, but a tenderness in one's spirit."*  
—McCallister Dodds

### Local 357



**Glaziers & Glassworkers**

#### Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN—Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, November 6, 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](http://iupatpension.org)

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

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

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

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

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-0666; 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**

*"By desiring little, a poor man makes himself rich."*  
—Democritus (460 BC - 370 BC)

#### District Council 1M

**Business Manager:** Robert Gonzalez

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

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

#### Local Union 312

**Business Rep:** Tim Schwerin  
**Meeting date:** 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

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

#### Local Union 514

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

**Place:** 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.  
**Web site:** [www.iupat-local514.org](http://www.iupat-local514.org).

#### Local Union 826

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

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

#### Local Union 845

**Business Rep –** 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.



Below are candidates endorsed by the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and its local affiliate councils for the Tuesday, Nov. 7, election. Some councils have yet to endorse. Feel free to vote early via an absentee ballot available at your clerk's office

And, as always, please take the time to research and to vote for candidates who support the health, safety and incomes of working people.

Following are candidates endorsed by the:  
**Greater Detroit Building Trades Council's Political Action Committee:**

#### Wayne County

**Allen Park City Council:** Gary Schlack

**Dearborn Heights City Council:** Mo Baydoun

**Flat Rock Mayor:** Jessee Cowell

**Livonia**

**Mayor:** Maureen Brosnan

**City Treasurer:** Susan Nash

**City Clerk:** Lori Miller

**City Council:** Carrie Budzinski, Robb Drzewicki,

Brandon McCollough

**Melvindale**

**Mayor:** Weeler Marsee (Plumbers 98 member)

**Westland City Council:** Michael McDermott, Melissa Sampey

#### Oakland County

**Farmington Hills Mayor:** Theresa Rich

**Ferndale Mayor:** Raylon Leaks-May

**Madison Heights**

**Mayor:** Roslyn Grafstein

**City Council:** Sean Fleming, Quinn Wright

**Novi**

**Mayor:** Aaron Martinez

**City Council:** Sujata Raman

**Rochester Hills Mayor:** Ariane Paviani

**Royal Oak**

**Mayor:** Michael Fournier

**Commissioner:** Rebecca Cheezum, Amanda Herzog, Monica Hunt

**Southfield City Council:** Michael Mandelbaum

#### Macomb County

**Mount Clemens City Council:** Spencer Calhoun

**Warren**

**City Clerk:** Mai Xiong

**Treasurer:** Lorie Barnwell

**City Council District 1:** Melody Magee

**City Council District 3:** Mindy Moore

**City Council District 4:** Garry Watts

**City Council, District 5:** Henry Newnan

**City Council At-Large:** Marie Adkins, Angela Rogensues

#### Genesee, Lapeer, Shiawassee Counties Building Trades Council

**Burton**

**Mayor:** Duane Haskins

**City Council:** Trevor Rodgers

#### Southeast Michigan Building Trades Council

**Monroe**

**City Council:** Mike Hayter

**Jackson**

**Mayor:** Daniel Mahoney

**City Council:** Connor Woods

#### Lansing Area Building Trades

**Ingham County**

**Prosecutor:** John Dawane

**Lansing**

**City Council:** Adam Hussain, Ryan Kost,

**City Council At Large:** Jody Washington, Tamera Carter, Trinidad Lopez Pehlivanoglu

**East Lansing**

**City Council:** Kerry E Singh, Noel Garcia, Mark Meadows

**Local 591**  
Sign, Pictorial & Display

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN—The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 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 re-ceipt 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:** When laid off or going back to work, call the office. 586-552-4474

# Old rules return to fortify D-B Act

(Continued from Page 1)

DOL follows the August 2023 publication of the final rule in the Federal Register.

"This updated rule will create pathways to the middle class for more families and help level the playing field for high-road employers because companies who exploit their workers, or who don't pay workers fairly, should never have a competitive advantage," said Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su.

The Labor Department said placing the final rules on the books will "strengthen and streamline the process for setting and enforcing wage rates on federally funded construction projects to make sure federal infrastructure investments are also investments in U.S. workers."

The employer attorney group Atkinson Andelson said the "Davis-Bacon final rules are a game-changer." Another employer attorney firm, Adams and Reese, said "prevailing wage will significantly increase. That increase means that the costs of

federally funded and federally assisted construction projects will rise substantially. In addition, this change will give local unions more power, as they will be able to set their collective bargaining agreement rate."

When the Davis-Bacon Act was adopted in 1931, it called for workers on federal construction projects to be paid locally prevailing wages, as well as fringe benefits. Its rules, then and now, are applicable to workers on federal construction projects costing more than \$2,000. It was also intended to discourage lowball contractors from winning bids on taxpayer-funded contracts by using underpaid, out-of-area workers.

This major change in the federal Davis Bacon rules centers on a return to the "30 Percent Rule," which was in place before the Reagan Administration weakened it in 1983. From 1931-1983, the DOL used a three-step process to determine the prevailing wage:

1. Pay the wage rate paid to a majority (more than 50 percent) of the workers in a jurisdiction.

2. If no such majority wage record exists, use the wage paid to the largest number of workers, as long as it was paid to at least 30 percent of the workers (30 Percent Rule).

3. If the 30 Percent Rule could not be met, then use the weighted average rate.

In 1983, the Reagan DOL removed the second step, effectively resulting in contractors overusing the weighted average rate—and permanently lowering worker wages. Today, the DOL has returned to the three-step process, and in many areas, the new rules will bring a windfall in higher pay for trades workers.

Importantly, the new rule also includes

- New efficiencies in updating prevailing wages—a longtime deficiency in many areas.

- Providing broader authority to adopt (usually higher) state or local wage determinations when certain criteria are met.

- Issuance of supplemental rates for key job classifications when no survey data exists.

- Updating the regulatory language to better reflect modern construction practices.

- Strengthening worker protections and enforcement, including debarment and anti-retaliation provisions.

The anti-union ABC's Brubeck said the DOL "is moving forward with dramatic changes to prevailing wage regulations, reversing much-needed reforms that were established nearly 40 years ago, and unlawfully increasing the regulatory burden on small businesses, new industries and public works projects."

A statement by North America's Building Trades Unions said the updates "will restore the Act's intended bipartisan purpose to protect the hard-earned wages of construction workers, and in doing so, shield them from exploitation. These efforts... mark the start of a new day for construction workers and their families."

In 2022, the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts applied to roughly \$217 billion in federal spending.



**Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47**

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

LANSING – The next Notified Union Meeting will be held on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at J.A.T.C. Training Center, 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. Please remember this is a Mandatory Meeting for All Apprentices. The purpose of this meeting is for the Nomination of Officers.

To ensure all Active Members and Retirees are receiving their Robo calls please make sure you have not blocked the following number: (804) 441-8365. There are several members who have the number blocked and therefore are not receiving the Robo Calls. These calls are only used for Important Notifications from the Local Union Business Manager and Funeral Notifications. If you are not receiving these calls, please contact the Local Union Office and we will double check to make sure we have the correct number in the system or if you may have blocked the number.

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

Local 47 Elections are coming up and Nominations will be held on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023. The following positions are up for Re-Election:

- Vice President- 3 Year Term**
- 2 Executive Board Positions- 2 Year Terms**
- 2 JATC Trustee Positions – 1 one Year Term and 2 Three Year Term**
- 1 Pension/Welfare Trustee Position- 3 Year Term**
- 1 Union Trustee Position- 3 Year Term**
- 1 Market Recovery Committee Position- 3 Year Term**
- Recording Secretary Position- 1 Year Term**
- Sergeant-At-Arms Position- 1 Year Term**

**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 Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-9275

**Toll Free: (800) 323-8079**  
**Phone: (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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC. **JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)**

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

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



**Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25**

**Heat & Frost Insulators 25 SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING -**

The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is SPECIAL CALLED for nominations.

Apprentice attendance is MANDATORY. **NOMINATIONS:** The following positions will be up for nomination at the Nov. 19, 2023 Membership Meeting: **President-1 position, 3 year term**

**Vice President-1 position, 3 year term**

**Financial Secretary-1 position, 3 year term**

**Executive Board-2 positions-2 year terms**

**Pension Fund Trustee-1 position-3 year term**

**Welfare Fund Trustee-1 position-3 year term**

**S.U.B. Fund Trustee-1 position-3 year term**

**J.A.T.C. Trustee-1 position-3 year term**

**Union Trustee-1 position-3 year term**

**Entertainment Committee-2 positions-1 year terms**

**Sgt-At-Arms-1 position-1 year term**

**Recording Secretary-1 position-3 year term**

Please be reminded, if a position is vacated by a member for any reason between now and nominations, nominations to fill the vacated position will be taken immediately and the open position will appear on the December election ballot.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The Annual Local 25 Christmas Party will be held Saturday, Dec. 16. The event will take place at Laurel Manor Banquet Center in Livonia. Invitations and R.S.V.P. cards are being mailed. Please be reminded, the only way to reserve your spot at the party is to return the R.S.V.P. card. No verbal R.S.V.P. will be taken.

**PER CAPITA:** Please be reminded, any member working 32 hours or less during a month must pay their own Per Capita of \$14 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. Please forward your payments monthly to Local 25, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033.

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

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGES:** All employment changes; hire, 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:** 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:** Per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within thirty (30) days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the 30 days will be

(Continued next column)

**BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON**

Real Estate Training Inc. 901 Tower Drive, Suite 120 Troy, MI 48068

[www.middletontraining.com](http://www.middletontraining.com) 248-885-8311

**Heat and Frost Insulators Local 25**

**The restored Michigan Central Station**

OPENED IN 1913, and empty since 1988, the imposing 18-story Michigan Central Train Station in Detroit has been magnificently restored by Ford Motor Co., the project management team of Christman Brinker, their subcontractors and building trades workers. One of the final projects in rehabilitating the building is taking place at the carriage house at the far right. It was a sheltered drop-off and pickup point for train passengers. It's new purpose has yet to be announced.



**Local 169 Boilermakers**

**Boilermakers Local 169**

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on Nov. 10, 2023, at 8PM at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall, 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI. 48101.

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.



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

Your local needs volunteers for an informational line in areas 1 & 2. All members including retirees are encouraged to participate. Please contact the union hall for details. You will be informed of the times and locations once details are finalized. Stand up for your work! Stand up for your local!

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

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

The Training Center will be closed beginning Nov. 14, 2023, and will reopen on Nov. 27, 2023.

**Local 25 cont'd**

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. 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.

**Retirees:** Retiree luncheons

**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 11am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant, 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend.

**Area 3 Retirees luncheon** is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be Nov. 15 at 11AM at Green Spot Pub. It's located at 808 N. Mission St., Mount 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 at Jacks Restaurant, 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI. Area 4 retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County Rd. 480.

Hoodies have arrived and are for sale at the hall. We now have ALL sizes, medium through XXXL. The cost is \$40. 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.com](http://www.boilermakerslocal169.com) 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.

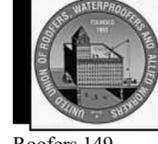
Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

*"Happiness makes up in height for what it lacks in length."*  
—Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)

*"It is a great ability to be able to conceal one's ability."*  
—Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

*"The world is not yet exhausted; let me see something tomorrow which I never saw before."*  
—Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

*"The function of science fiction is not always to predict the future but sometimes to prevent it."*  
—Frank Herbert (1920 - 1986)



**Local 149 Roofers & Waterprooferers**

**Roofers 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., Nov. 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Nov. 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

**Mid-Michigan.** The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for Jan. 9, 2024 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

**Condolences.** Condolences to Brother Scott Mahle and Brother Chett Mahle (and Family) on the passing of their Wife and Mother. Tammy Mahle was a proud 149 member for a number of years.

**2023 Commencement Ceremony & Retiree's Christmas and Holiday luncheon.** Mark your calendar, the annual luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 10. The luncheon will be held at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall from 10 am through 3:30pm. Local 58 is located at 1366 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48226. One block east of our Union Hall.

An invitation has been sent to the Brothers and Sisters regarding the 2023 Commencement Ceremony luncheon to those receiving their 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, and 65 years of service.

Retirees and those receiving their pins need to RSVP. Calling us will give our Hall a count of the food we will need for the catered lunch. Additionally, please let us know if your spouse or a date will be joining us.

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

To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall.

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

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

**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 Jan. 9, 2024, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420

**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 10/30/2023, 9:00p.m.

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

**Here comes hydrogen: Feds plan 'H2Hub'**

(Continued from Page 1)

No details were released on specific construction costs. The Flint Mass Transportation Authority is also working to grow its existing fleet of hydrogen-powered buses. Hydrogen is an ideal fuel for trucks and other heavy-duty vehicles as it provides long driving range and short refueling times, as well as reducing carbon emissions.

Investments in the development of a robust clean hydrogen market, supply chain and workforce have the potential to create up to 8,400 jobs in Michigan by 2035 and expand economic opportunities, the state said.

Release of these plans comes nearly two months after it was announced that the largest hydrogen storage manufacturing plant in North America is coming to Michigan. Plastic Omnium New Energies is expected to sponsor the makeover of an existing property in Grand Blanc Twp., which is expected to generate a total capital investment of \$171.2 million and create 175 jobs.

At a second, yet-to-be-determined location in Michigan, the company will establish what the MEDC calls "a state-of-the-art testing and validation lab to support key aspects of the product's safety systems."

Hydrogen, which produces power with zero emissions, has enormous potential as a fuel source. Automotive giants like Toyota and General Motors are heavily invested in hydrogen technologies for portable power. Fuel cell cars are powered by compressed hydrogen gas that feeds into an onboard fuel cell stack that doesn't burn the gas, but instead transforms the fuel's chemical energy into electrical energy. This electricity then powers a car's electric motors.



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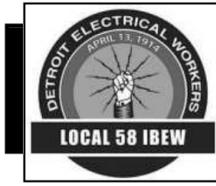
To each of our Members, Clients and Vendor partners impacted by COVID-19, our thoughts are with you. Rest assured knowing that BeneSys is working hard on your behalf while we navigate these difficult circumstances together.

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# IBEW LOCAL 58

**IBEW 58**  
**DETROIT – The next General Membership Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

**The Electrical Industry Training Center** is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at <http://www.detroitetc.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, 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 clip-art can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

**Local 58 Dues Department** – You can now pay dues for 2024. Dues increase in July. Please call the dues department to pay for the year. We are working on the APP/Website to be able to pay for next year and will send out a notification when that is available. \*When you are putting your information on the APP/Website – please use your dues receipt for your Name and Card Number. Put in your information as it appears on your dues receipt so that your information matches – ie., jr, sr, etc. Please this is important\*

It is YOUR responsibility to pay your dues on time – this could affect your retirement and/or death benefit. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. Thank you!

**Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund:** The next meeting will be Nov. 7 at 5:30pm.

**Members of the Community Service Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 5:30p.m. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8 a.m. to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information to volunteer or participate.

**Members of the Entertainment Committee:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 14 following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 p.m.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 20 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. We will be discussing our upcoming preparations for the Annual EWMC Education Conference in Atlanta this January and our donations to the Adopt-A-Child Christmas Program. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023 at 5 PM.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

**The Veterans Committee** – will now be meeting on the 3rd

Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023 starting at 5:30 pm.

**The Political Action Committee (PAC)** – If you have any questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting you can reach out to our registrars at [registrar@ibewlocal58.org](mailto: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** – The committee is participating in Period Drive again this year. Old Soul Vintage is hosting the event at The Loving Touch in Ferndale on Nov. 25. We are asking for a donation of feminine hygiene products. Please bring products that you are donating to our next women's committee meeting, the donations will go to the event from there. The collections from the drive will be distributed to local charities, including a donation to Wobbly Kitchen on behalf of our committee. If you would like to attend the event, there will be more information coming soon.

Congratulations to Cauldron of Cheer winner Liz Gorski! Thank you everyone for your purchase of raffle tickets, all proceeds go towards the ARC Scholarship. Our Sister Exchange Closet is also looking for donations! If you have any new or gently used work clothing, cold weather gear, boots, coats, or even tools, etc... please consider making a contribution. We do have some items available, if you or a sister you know is in need, please reach out. Our next meeting will take place on Nov. 16 at 5:30pm at the Hall and also on Zoom. If you have questions, contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087). Email at [58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org](mailto:58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org)

**Local 58 Motorcycle Group:** Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. 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](mailto:aanderanin@gmail.com) or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join us at our upcoming meetings to plan for next year's events and rides.

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

**IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association:** The next Board meeting is Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 10 a.m. in the Bill Rushford Room in the lower level of the union hall.

There will be no luncheon in November, due to the holiday. Planning in underway for our Annual Christmas Party, which is Wednesday, Dec. 6 at the local union hall. Once again, we will have our five donation baskets that support charities whose focus is on children and their families. Rumor has it, that Santa will be stopping by again this year. Please mark your calendar now, and plan to join us for a wonderful catered meal and reminiscing with old and new friends. This party is a great way to kick off the holiday season.

Doors open at 11 and lunch is served at 12:30. The cost is \$20 per person. For reservations, send your checks (payable to the Retirees Association) to IBEW #58, Attn: Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit 48232-0756. Questions about reservations, call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

**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 (Continued next column)



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

**Vote** in your local election on Nov. 7, 2023.

The next **Renew** meeting will be held on Nov. 6, at 5 p.m.

The next **Executive Board** meeting will be held on Nov. 20, at 5 p.m.

**Brotherhood night** is the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at CJ's from 3:30 to 5:30PM.

**Retiree Lunches** at the following locations:  
 Nov. 15, 2023, McGonigle's Irish Pub, 3512 East Main St. Kalamazoo. @11:00.

**Christmas Lunch:** Dec. 20, Martell's, 3501 Greenleaf Blvd, Kalamazoo. @11:30. Call the hall to RSVP!

Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage St., 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 sad to report Brother Dale Smith, a 23-year member, passed away on Oct. 23, 2023, at the age of 78. Brother Phil Frenthway, a 49-year member, passed away on Oct. 20-2023, at the age of 81. We also lost Brother Charles Edwards, a 29-year member, who passed away on July 20, 2023, at the age of 73. Brother Patrick Klocke, a 42-year member, memorial service will be on Dec. 2, from 12-3:00PM at the Union Hall.

The **Work Outlook** continues to be steady. We have several open calls. Hi-Tech, KEL all have crews working on the Pfizer site. Work at Zoetis has slowed down. Gurtz is still working on the MAPS Project and plans to be there until December. Flemington Instrumentation has work until December on the MAPS project. Gun Lake Casino Hotel and Water Dome look like a fall and winter project, the steel is starting to go up. Martell has work at Woods Lake Elementary. There are open calls in the hall.

**Veterans Committee** is being formed in Kalamazoo. Would you like to be on the Committee? Please let Morris know. This will be the first step in building a mentoring program.

**Toys for Tots** Campaign begins on Monday, October 30th. Toys or monetary donations are welcomed at the hall. We have extra boxes if you would like to take one to the job site. All donations need to be in the Hall by December 8, 2023.

**K - Wings** Hockey game on Jan. 26, against Fort Wayne Komets. The local website has a link to purchase the tickets.

**Three months** or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Mathew Bakos, Easton Lovell, Jonathan Kowalczyk, Russell McBride, Nic McKenna, Richard Peebles, and Justin So-wash.

**Life Events:** Marriage, Divorce, Birth of children, Adoption and Deaths all require documentation to be submitted to our benefits office. If you need help call the hall for guidance.

Wilson-McShane, our new benefits administrator, has the website: [michiganelectrical.org](http://michiganelectrical.org) up and running. Please log in and click on the "Member Portal" (on the left side of the screen) to (Continued next column)

## IBEW 58, con't

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.

**Members who have Passed Away:** Robert H. Hill, Apprentice Installer, Son to Technician I's Todd Hill & Kasey Hill; Robert Nellis Jr., Pension member, 41 year IBEW membership, Son of the late Pension member Robert Nellis; Derek Vanhoubt, Journeyman Inside Wireman. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



**IBEW Local 445**  
 BATTLE CREEK – Battle Creek Christmas Parade Local 445 is entering a float in the BC Christmas Parade. The parade is on November 18, 2023. If you are interested in helping in the float build, please contact the Hall for additional information.

**Delta Dental** Members should be receiving the new Delta Dental cards and information on the covered services. If you haven't received your cards, please contact the Hall.

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

**Christmas at the Hall** is scheduled for December 9, 2023, at 9:30am. You will be receiving an RSVP post card in the mail. Please make sure you RSVP by December 1. This is a hard deadline, and no one will be added after that date. Thank you in advance.

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

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

**Wilson-McShane** has replaced TICI for our benefit administration as of June 1, 2023. Please have a little patience as the transition has had some bumps that they are smoothing out. You can visit [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org) to create a new account under the *Member Portal* tab. You should have received new WEX cards that are white. Please dispose of the old blue cards as they will no longer work. The website to access your *Special Fund* is <https://ibewmichigan.lh1ondemand.com/Login.aspx>

**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](http://IBEW445.com). Respectfully Submitted, **Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary**

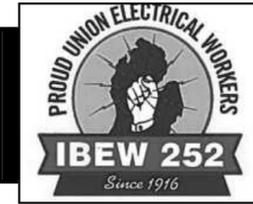
**IBEW 131, con't**  
 begin the steps to register your account. If you would like to call their phone number, it's 855-633-4584.

**RETIREMENT:** NEBF and IBEW PBF application takes at least 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. If you are nearing retirement, please call the hall and set up an appointment with Christine. You will need to submit copies of your social security card, birth certificate, marriage certificates and divorce decrees for you and your spouse(s) with your applications.

**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 the Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include instant access to EOB's, a virtual ID card on the phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and many other helpful tips related to your healthcare coverage. EOB's can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt requests.

**Training:** State Exam Prep class will be held from Tuesday, January 9, 2024, to February 27, 2024. The class will run from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. The class will be held at the Union Hall. Call the hall to put your name on the list.  
 Morris Applebey  
 Business Manager

"If you refuse to be made straight when you are green, you will not be made straight when you are dry."  
 –African Proverb



# IBEW LOCAL 252

**IBEW Local 252**  
 ANN ARBOR – 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.

**BICSI Installer Copper 2 (INSTC):** Mondays, November 6 thru February 19, 2024. Required text BICSI ITSIMM 8.0 (7.0 will work) \$240.00. Required BICSI INSTC 8.0 workbook \$115.00. Exam Fee (if interested) \$400.00. Worth 35 BICSI CECs for current BICSI credential holders.

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.

Thank you to the RENEW Committee for another successful Trunk or Treat!

The Business Office will be closed November 23rd and 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.

**Rockin' for the Hungry/ Mott Kids:** We are once again supporting charitable drives for Food Gatherers and Mott Children's Hospital. This is a great cause that IBEW members, NECA, and electrical contractors have been supporting for many years. Please help if you are able. We will be accepting donations at the Union Hall until November 30, 2023. Please make donations by cash or check payable to Food Gatherers or Mott Kids. Local 252 will be featured on Ann Arbor's 107.1 F.M. on Friday, December 1st for our day of sponsorship.

**TRUSTEE NEEDED:** We would like to thank Bill White for his years of service on the Board of Trustees. Bill stepped down due to obligations at the training center. If you're interested in filling the open labor trustee seat or looking for more information please contact President Mike Cox at (734)424-0978.

**LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OPENING:** If you're interested in filling the open labor management committee seat or looking for more information please contact President Mike Cox at (734)424-0978.

**Annual Holiday Party:** Please join us on December 9, 2023 at the union hall for our annual holiday party. The Local will provide entertainment, dinner and refreshments. A donation by cash or check may be made the night of to the IBEW L.U. 252 Entertainment Committee. The party will begin with hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. A DJ will provide music for your listening and dancing pleasure following dinner.

**2024 Union 4 Life Gun Calendar:** Purchase your 2024 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2024 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2024! Beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2024, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great Christmas gifts for the hunters/gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2024. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at [www.union4lifecharity.com](http://www.union4lifecharity.com).

**Retirees' 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.

**Retirees' Breakfast:** The Retirees' 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. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit [UnionPlus.org/ATT](http://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.**

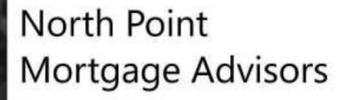
**CREDIT CARDS:** The Local is now accepting credit cards to pay union dues. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover. There is a fee of 3.5% to use your card.

**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 9/2023, 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 fourth quarter dues (October through December) are due now. **Payments for fourth quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, December 29, 2023.**

**Future Dues Increases:**  
**Effective July 1, 2024:** A Members will pay \$134.25 per quarter.  
**Effective January 1, 2025:** A Members will pay \$140.25 per quarter.  
**Effective July 1, 2025:** A Members will pay \$143.25 per quarter.

"I am opposed to millionaires, but it would be dangerous to offer me the position." – Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)





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### IBEW Local 692

**BAY CITY – Union Meeting.** The November monthly membership meeting will be held at 6 P.M. on **Monday, November 6, 2023.**

**Executive Board Meeting.** The November Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, Nov. 20, 2023.**

**Message from the Business Manager.** Contract negotiations will begin in the spring of 2024. Please contact me or your President, Brian Walker with items you would like addressed in these negotiations. Involvement from our membership is paramount to these negotiations. We are also looking for a couple replacements to our Labor Management Committee at this time. Please let us know if you are interested.

**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.

-J. Ranck Electric – continuing work at SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility. Ranck Electric is finishing work on their Solar Site in Gladwin County.

-Master Electric has begun underground on the new Isabella County Jail.

-Countyline has secured Airport Work. Countyline has a Michigan Sugar De-Sugarization Project and also a project at the Mt. Pleasant Water Treatment facility. Look for job calls from Countyline.

-Clements Electric Independence Bridge work continues along with Bay Carbon Project just kicking off.

-Conti Electric has many projects inside I -Park (DOW) and also Cabot Chemical. Conti has also secured the Mio Dam modernization project. Conti is continuing work out at the D.E. Karn Power Plant. Conti Electric has also secured a couple small projects inside Michigan Sugar along with a nice Fire Alarm Project on site at M.S.

-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.** As more members become eligible for retirement, we must continue to train and recruit the next generation of qualified electrical workers. 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. Our JATC can be contacted by calling 989.686.4890.

As always, 692 Organizers continue to visit jobsites within our jurisdiction to speak with unrepresented 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.

Regular school visits and renewed partnerships with area ISD programs will continue though the fall and winter in an effort to recruit apprenticeship applicants and increase overall interest in the skilled trades. Area public school administrators have reached out directly for assistance in creating curriculum and pathways to pre-apprenticeship for their students. It seems after many years of neglecting the skilled trades in lieu of college our education system has embraced the benefits of promoting a career in the skilled trades.

Local 692 recently held a new member class where we had 19 Brothers and Sisters attend along with a few spouses. All new members receive a "crash course" the night they are sworn in but it's not enough. Over the course of the evening, they were taught the history, roots, and structure of the IBEW. We took a deeper dive into the benefits our members receive (retirements, death benefits). We also had open discussions on how to be better union tradesmen (general rules of the road, following your CBA). Thank you to the brothers and Sisters that attended this event.

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. Saginaw, Lansing, Detroit, Ann Arbor, and West Michigan all have recently seen open calls. Local 692 expects more calls at various projects through fall into winter. IBEW 557 expects solar calls with an additional need for unindentured helpers. Please contact Local 557 for more information on helper opportunities if you know anyone who may be interested.

Brian Klele 989.252.9225 [bklele@ibew692.com](mailto:bklele@ibew692.com)

Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131 [bbaranek@ibew692.com](mailto:bbaranek@ibew692.com)

**Union Dues.** PLEASE NOTE: The Delegates of the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention held in May 2022 approved a per capita increase of \$2 as well as a \$2 increase paid into the Pension Benefit Fund (PBF). Therefore, effective Jan. 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.**

**WEX Special Fund Accounts.** You may have been receiving emails recently asking for receipts for purchases made using your Wex fund account. Moving forward, please make sure to keep all receipts for any purchases made with your Wex special fund card. In order to keep in line with IRS regulations, our new third party administrator is following all rules and enforcing required receipts for purchases made.

If you are asked for a receipt you no longer have, please contact the provider to get a copy. Receipts can be mailed, faxed, uploaded via the Wex Special Fund website or uploaded using the app (MI IBEW Special Fund).

**Retirees Lunch.** The November retiree lunch is set for 1 PM on Thursday, Nov. 16 at Coonans, 1004 N. Johnson St., Bay City.

**Big Buck Contest.** Once again, the local will be having its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual big buck contest running from November 15<sup>th</sup> thru November 30<sup>th</sup>. The cost to enter is \$10 per member. 100% pay out plus an additional \$500 in prizes. Registration for the event ends Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 4 pm. For rules and registration information please contact the Union Hall or Brian Klele. Good luck to the game chasers this hunting season and be safe.

**RENEW.** It is the goal of the RENEW committee to increase younger members' involvement in their communities through their local union. If you are a 692 member in good standing, 35 years old or younger and would like to participate in RENEW, meetings are held once a month following general membership meetings.

**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 (T.I.C.) 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 – ASK FOR ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

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

NEBF/NEAP: 301.556.4300; IO Pension: 202.833.7000



## Local 275



## IBEW LOCAL 948

### IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Meetings

**Membership Meeting** - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be on Nov. 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

**Retiree Meetings** - Our next scheduled meeting will take place Nov. 7 at 9 AM.

**Party Committee** - The Party Committee has decided on Dec. 2 as the day for our local Christmas party. All members please RSVP as the event will be catered accordingly. Please contact Jenny at the hall for any questions.

**AFL Educational Meetings** - Attention all members. Before every monthly meeting at 5 PM, our hall will be hosting educational meetings presented by the AFL - CIO. These meetings aim to further educate our members on core regulations, acts, and laws that play a key role in our careers. For any questions or concerns please contact Jenny Wallace.

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

**Work Outlook** - Our work outlook is slow with a gradual increase in calls projected post-strike. The strike is currently impacting calls for GM Truck and Bus. Long term calls for service truck drivers have been made available. For further details on job information please ensure the hall has your email address for our job calls and re-signs.

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

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

**Cars 108 Partnership** - We would like to thank our friends at Cars 108 for the opportunity to be a part of Cars Cares for Kids rooftop sit event and we look forward to attending future events. Charities were raised for Whaley's Children's Center, Voices for Children, as well as The Hurley Children's Miracle Network.

**Event Turnout** - At our recent annual picnic there was a stunning show out from our local members and their families. We look forward to more family events in the near future.

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

**New Membership** - Welcome to our latest members; Kurtis Kuzniar and Nathan Schultz. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

**Retirees** - Congratulations to Timothy Kilbreath, Dale Selden, and Steven Teel on your pension applications. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

*"Each success only buys an admission ticket to a more difficult problem."*

-Henry Kissinger (1923 - )

*"A brand for a company is like a reputation for a person. You earn reputation by trying to do hard things well."*

-Jeff Bezos (1964 - )

*"Don't reserve your best behavior for special occasions. You can't have two sets of manners, two social codes - one for those you admire and want to impress, another for those whom you consider unimportant. You must be the same to all people."*

-Lillian Eichler Watson

### IBEW 275

**COOPERSVILLE –** Work in the jurisdiction is very busy. We've had open calls for the LG battery plant for some time and there are other sporadic calls hitting the recorder for other projects.

If you are traveling, please consider coming home to man your local. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call.

Regular membership meetings are every third Tuesday of the month at 6pm at the Union Hall in Coopersville. Back by popular demand, we will be grilling food after the meetings.

We have new hooded sweat-shirts both pullovers and zip ups and various other new swag for sale at the Union Hall Offices.

As many of you already know, Bryce Butler has been hired by the JATC as a full-time instructor for the apprenticeship. If you happen to run into Bryce when you're at the Hall please congratulate him on the new position!

At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Matthew Buikema, Michael Demond, Gregory Holmes, Ken Robinson, Nolan Thompson, and Timothy Wenk.



## IBEW Local 498

"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

### IBEW Local 498

**TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings. Regular E Board.** The next meeting is set for Monday, Nov. 13, 2023 @ 5:30pm.

**Regular Meeting** – The next membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Nov. 13, 2023. Remember the chili cook off for this meeting.

**\*Meeting Date Change for December\*** - The Regular meeting is rescheduled for Dec. 8, 2023. This is to coordinate with the kids Santa Party on the 9<sup>th</sup> and to allow the traveling brothers and sisters to make it for the meeting. Beverages and steaks will be provided for the regular meeting night and as usual a favorite dish to pass is all that is asked for the party. Hope to see you there.

**Christmas Party Volunteers** – We are looking for some volunteers to help out with the kids Christmas party. We need someone to shop for gifts. Please call the hall and talk to Dave or Dylan about what you can do to help out to make this as enjoyable as possible for everyone.

**Office Closings** – Nov 23, Thanksgiving Closed

Dec 22, Closed at noon

Dec 25, Christmas Day Closed

Dec 29, Closed at noon

Jan 1, New Years Day Closed

**Death Notices** – Retired Brother Micky Pfeiffer passed away unexpectedly on Oct 26, 2023. He was a 39-year member, a previous part-time instructor for the JATC, Foreman, Supervisor and Estimator for our contractors in the local until his retirement in 2022. He will be missed by all who knew him. Our condolences go out to all his friends and family. His funeral will be on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023.

**Negotiations** – Negotiations are coming up this winter. It would be appreciated if you could bring any good ideas to the next regular meetings.

**Congratulations** – to Matt Ockert on his retirement. He has served on many volunteer positions in his 34 years of membership in the local. He recently served on the JATC committee, was a previous part time JATC instructor, also previously served on the Negotiating Committee, Entertainment Committee, Organizing Committee, Executive Board and Exam Board.

**Solidarity Picnic** - We are planning a chili cook off for the Nov. 13 meeting. So please bring your entry to have a chance at prizes donated by Dylan O'Dwyer. If you have questions, please call Dylan at 231-649-9157.

**Work Outlook** – Work looks pretty good for this winter. Martel Electric has picked up several projects in the Manistee area. Master Electric continues picking up work and so does Swan Electric for oilfield work.

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Local Union 498** – Our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is one year away. The Chapter for the Local was signed on Sept. 8, 1949. We will need to have a discussion at our next regular meeting about what we want to do to celebrate this milestone in our local's history. So, please make an effort to be at the meeting for your input. One idea is to have a dinner and celebration at the maritime academy. There is a good venue for food with the culinary school there and the building was wired by CC Power with Brother Gary Davis as the Foreman. Please attend the next meeting to help with planning and implementation.

**Resale Items** – We still have some Local 498 Challenge Coins left at the hall for your purchase. They are \$10 each. We also have Local 498 t-shirt, and Beanie Hats for resale.



## IBEW LOCAL 557

### IBEW Local 557

**SAGINAW – Union News**- Hello sisters and brothers! LARA will be sending out licensing renewal notices soon. Keep an eye out for those. Don't forget to renew that before the end of the year or you could face late fees. You will NOT NEED A CODE UPDATE CLASS this year. It is expected, however, that next year a code update will be necessary. Please keep a look out for that information also in the coming year.

**Importance mi amigo's**— during the transition from TIC to Wilson-McShane, an error was discovered in regard with the WEX card program. This error has to do with submitting receipts. Your WEX card, used for the special fund, can be linked to an app on your phone. It is Highly Advised ya'll use that app to make your card experience easier. Submitting those receipts can be accomplished on the app.

It is advised that every time you receive a new receipt that you upload it instantly to your app and it will then be in the WEX system. This is required by the IRS. The error was an oversight from our past administrator. They should have been requiring these all along. Certain expenses may be coded correctly and not need the substantiation, but as a fail safe, it is advised to still upload the receipts as soon as you get them. If you have any questions-just give the hall a call.

**IMPORTANT- Wilson-McShane switch over for benefits administration is still continuing.** Visit [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org) to create your new member portal profile. If you'd rather call, their phone number is **855-633-4584**. So far, members who've contacted WMC have had positive experiences. New cards for members special funds have been sent out. Hang tight if you're having issues. Patience is still needed through this process.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS** - Our next meeting is November 7th at 5:30pm. At the Hall. December 5th will be the local's celebration of Christmas with a catered meal from retired member Dave Rumpel. We hope to see all the members there for this event!

The following members are to receive milestone awards for their years of service at the December meeting: John Clemens, Larry Gries, Perry Link, John Shook, John Tinney, Charlie Gricar, Ed Lysogorski, Mike Marsden, Dave Kushion, George Losee, Mike Lynch, Larry Old-eck, Bob Emeott, and Floyd McMall. If you are one of these members, please try and make it out to receive your recognition.

**MICHIGAN INITIATIVE- Please contact Brother Gus Voisine for any organizing issues you see or have.** If our members have any questions or see sketchy people in our jurisdiction, they can reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046.

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS** - Normal Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm. Come in and say hi to Renee!

**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.

**WORK OUT-LOOK** - Business is steady with that cold solar work. More calls for that expected in the coming weeks. (Have fun boys and girls) Both projects are in Gratiot County for MJ Electric and J Rank Electric. NewKirk has a solar project of their own at Nexteer that they'll need some more hands for. Weinstein Electric from Local 948 has secured work at the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in good ol' Frankenmuth. Future work at HSC is still looking positive. Bid will be coming up for more school work in the near future.

**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.bcbsm.com](http://www.bcbsm.com). Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

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

**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 (855)633-4584. Website is: [www.michiganelectrical.org](http://www.michiganelectrical.org)  
**In Solidarity,**  
**B. R. DePottey**

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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 Nov. 28, 2023 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. \*MEETING DATE CHANGES\* Decembers meeting has been changed to Dec. 19, & February's meeting has been changed to Feb. 20, 2024.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Nov. 21, 2023 at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI. \*MEETING DATE CHANGES\* December's meeting has been changed to Dec. 18, 2023 & February's meeting has been changed to Feb. 13, 2024.

**TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS: OFFICIAL NOTICE:** At the December 2023 meeting, nominations will be taken for the position of Fund Trustees. Elections will be held in January of 2024. You will vote on 4 positions: Health and Welfare, Pension and Annuity, Sub Fund and JATC. Trustees will serve a 3-year term from January 2024 through January 2027. Your dues must be current if you would like to be nominated.

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

**RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE:** The schedule is as follows: Dec. 18. 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

**CONDOLENCES:** Our condolences go out to the family of Michael J. Robins. Michael was a 51-year member and passed away on Oct. 25, 2023 at the age of 74. Michael was the father to Connie Johnson, Tim Robins & Jessica Zarna who are all current members of Local 80. He will be greatly missed.

**THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE:** John Perry, John Wreggelsworth, Joseph Haynes, Matt Deluca, James LoPiccolo, Clifford Wilkerson, Richard Missler, Jeff Tebbe, Edmund Ajlouny, Max Delonis, William Opalewski, Brad Darnell, John Morrow, Ron Goodnough, Sheri Long & Cody Wescott.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**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 fourteen (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 (7) days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

**OUT-OF-WORK LIST:** You must be on the out-of-work list to collect S.U.B. benefits or SASMI. Members must re-register bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and Sept. 1 through Sept.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.

**Training Center News. Part-Time Instructor Opportunities.** The Joint Apprenticeship Committee is accepting applications for a part-time instructor to teach the Introduction to HVAC Installation  
(Continued next column)



TIM MULLIGAN



## 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, Dec. 14, 2023, at 6 p.m.

- \*Zone 1 December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 2 December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 3 December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)
- \*Zone 3 December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
- \*Zone 4 December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- \*Zone 5 December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at [www.sheetmetal7.org](http://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.labelitscanitreport.com](http://www.labelitscanitreport.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.** Zone 1 area continues to remain busy and looks to stay this way into the New Year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

**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 is steady and looks good thru the first of the year. Dues are always due prior to the first of every month. Please contact me with your address and phone number changes so we can keep them up to date. If your employment status changes please contact me. With the firearms deer season fast approaching, good luck to all those hunters and be safe out in the woods.

– In Solidarity, Mike Adams

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Saginaw) – Work remains busy in all of Local 7. Just a reminder to make sure you schedule your physical. If you move or change your phone number please make sure you contact the Lansing office to let them know of the change. Please make sure you are paying your union dues on time. Don't forget our zone 3 Christmas meeting will be at the Freeland hall on December 6, hope to see everyone there. Retiree meeting is December 12th at the Ponderosa on Wilder Rd in Bay City at 12:00. Good luck to all the hunter this fall and be safe.

– Thank you, Joe Dotson

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Traverse City). Our next meeting will be on December 7 at 6pm at the Mill Pond Event Center. Work is slowing down in our area, contact me if you get laid off as there is plenty of work in other zones. Please check your dues and make sure they are paid up. If there is anyone needing any assistance on H & W with the physical requirement, please contact me. Support the UAW workers that may be still on strike, work safe, and good luck in the woods next week. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

**ZONE 4 Info:** The Local 7 Zone 4 is experiencing a period of great success and prosperity. With full employment, promising winter prospects, exciting upgrade classes, and the much-awaited deer season approaching, there is plenty to celebrate and be cautious about. Our union's strong relationships with contractors and the consistent demand for skilled sheet metal workers ensure that members can continue to thrive even during the colder months. By providing opportunities for seasonal work and ensuring job security, the union helps its members to weather any economic challenges that may arise. Additionally, the union's dedication to its members has been recognized with a significant government grant of \$30,000. **In Solidarity Brother Scott Brotherton**

**ZONE 5 Info:** Work in the U.P. is still busy and looks to stay that way going into winter. There are many big projects planned for next year too, so if you don't have Mine Safety and want to get signed up for the next class let me know. Good luck to all the hunters out there in the upcoming hunting season. The Zone 5 Christmas Party will be Friday, Dec. 8, at 6 pm at the hall in Gwinn. **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**  
class. Ideal candidates should have strong knowledge and experience with hanging duct in various applications, have a strong interest in helping Local 80 members improve their skills and be available to teach a 12-week night class in the Fall and Winter terms at the Training Center.

Interested Local 80 members can submit their resume to the "Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee" by email at [info@smw80jac.org](mailto: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 292 Sheet Metal Workers

### Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

**TROY – MEETING NOTICE:** The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Member meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com) for the location and date.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on November 28, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall

**ANNUITY EDUCATION:** You are invited to attend an educational seminar given by representatives of Morgan Stanley on Nov. 8, 2023, @ 5 p.m., at Knights of Columbus in Clawson. This will be prior to the regular membership meeting. Representatives will be available to answer questions regarding our annuity accounts, investment advice, and long or short-term retirement goals. Appointments can also be made for personal consultations at this time.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Plans are underway – the party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 11 am – 4 pm (Dinner being served from 12 (noon) – 2 pm). Again, we will be raffling off a \$600.00 Gift Card to Bavarian Inn Lodge and Waterpark. Tickets are available from your steward and the union hall!! The festivities will be held at the Knights of Columbus, 870 Main Street in Clawson. The cutoff date for reservations for you and your family is **NO LATER THAN NOV. 17. NO EXCEPTIONS FOR ANY MEMBERS WHO CANNOT CALL IN BY THE REQUIRED DATE.** Please contact the Union Hall at (248) 589-2502 and let us know if you and your child/children plan to attend the Christmas Party. All children ages 15 and under, whose parent or guardian is a member of Local 292 are invited. Please contact the hall as soon as possible to ensure that this event is a great time for all who attend!

**SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.** Applications are being accepted. Eligibility requires that an applicant be an active member, a covered employee, or a dependent spouse or child under the age of 25 of a member or covered employee. The applicant must also be a full-time student or be accepted to be a full-time student at an accredited college or university. Obtain an "Application Request Form" by visiting <https://smart-union.org/why-join-smart/scholarships/sheet-metal-scholarship-programs/> click on the "Sheet Metal Scholarships" tab to download the form or call 202-662-0858 to request the application form by mail.

**RETURN TO WORK BY NORMAL OR EARLY RETIREES:** Consistent with the actions of the Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, the Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 292 Pension Fund ("Fund") have decided to provide a limited waiver of the Fund's suspension of benefit rule from **March 22, 2023 through Dec. 31, 2024** only, without limitation and without incurring a suspension of benefits then in pay status. This means that, during this period, if you are working as a *sheet metal worker for an Employer that contributes to the Fund*, you will receive your monthly pension benefits from the Fund no matter how many hours you work in any one month. **This waiver is based on the current demand for sheet metal workers and is not anticipated to be continued indefinitely.** Call Paul for more information or if interested.

**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.

**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](http://www.mustonline.org) or access it through the "links" tab at [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com). Remember that your **Username** is your full S.S. number and your **Password** is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

**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](http://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.

**RETIREES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The retirees' luncheon will be held Dec. 7 (the last meeting for 2023) at: Tavern on the Main @ 12:30 p.m. 235 S Main, Clawson MI 48017. (248) 588-1696. It is 3 blocks south of 14 Mile on the east side of the street.

Please contact the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

Please join us for lunch, great conversations and storytelling. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old! Contact the union hall via our website [www.sheetmetal292.com](http://www.sheetmetal292.com), click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

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

**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 is 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.**

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

**THE 4 PLUS MEMBER PROGRAM:** The "4-plus" member program is for any Local 292 member who has achieved four (or more) welding certifications. These certifications can be in any welding process. Members who qualify will receive a shirt (one shirt for every four certifications) with the 4 Plus logo, hard hat stickers, and bragging rights. If you would like to be a "4-plus" member contact your Local 292 Training Center at: 313-623-9390 (Dave) or Quintin 248.495.6764.

**Attention all Welders!** We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on November 4, 11, and 18. These classes would be for members ready to obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or need to practice welding.

**Note:** Anyone who signs up for a class, must pay a \$40.00 registration fee that will be refunded on the completion of the class. These deposits are **NON-Refundable** if you do not show up for the classes. You can drop off the deposit between the hours of 7:00 and 3:00 at the Apprentice School.

Call the Apprentice School at 248-589-3237, Dave's cell 313-623-9390 or Quintin's cell 248-495-6764 to reserve a spot. Remember we must have the deposit before you will be scheduled in the class.



PAUL GUALDONI



## Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT- ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED, our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS ON MONDAY November 27, 2023, at 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI. Our next Executive Board meeting will be held on the same night as the membership meeting. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email.

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

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

**Just a reminder to all members that the Local Constitution and Bylaws have been updated to reflect the new late fees for delinquent dues. The insert with the changes are at the Hall along with new hardhat stickers.**

If you would like to sign up for Safety alerts, text (855) 957-1801 and sign up to receive Safety alerts via text and email. The IUEC is aware that our signatory employers are becoming subject to a variety of state laws mandating that some percentage of fleet vehicles must be electric-only vehicles. Additionally, we are aware as well that certain customers are mandating the use of electrical vehicles on their properties.

We want to be clear that to the extent that compliance with such policies requires the cooperation of our membership in terms of allowing for the installation of charging facilities at their homes or incurring bills for additional electricity use, that these matters require bargaining with the IUEC and not direct dealing with companies with their employees. The IUEC is available to bargain over such items at your convenience and intends to do so in a reasonable fashion designed to both facilitate compliance with these mandates while also assuring that any policies adopted are in the best interests of our membership. The IUEC signed an MOA with Schindler. I sent it in an email to the membership.

**Reminder that Veteran's Day is Saturday November 11, 2023, take the time to thank a Vet for their sacrifices.** We observe Veteran's Day on Friday, November 10, 2023. To all Veterans, thank you, welcome home and thank you for our freedom.

The picnic assessment will be \$53.00 per member and will be assessed with fourth quarter dues.

All active members shall be assessed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) on December 1, 2023. This funding will allow the fund to increase the IUEC Death Benefit amount, continue to invest in a responsible manner and allow for timely payment to beneficiaries. Local Unions shall be responsible for collecting the IUEC Death Benefit assessment and transmitting it to the IUEC on or before January 15, 2024. This will be assessed with fourth quarter dues.

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 January 1, 2024.

**I highly recommend that if you fall in this category and haven't done so, take the course and keep up on it.** We have grandfathered mechanics that have completed this course more so than mechanics that are required to complete this course.

**You have 3 months to complete this course, or you will not receive your pay raise on January 1, 2024 and you will not get back pay if you complete this after January 1, 2024.**

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or non-work related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office and inform the hall. The same when you go back to work, call the fund office, (Continued next columns)



## Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2  
NOVEMBER 2023 CHAPTER MEETINGS  
METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, Nov. 07, 2023 is CANCELLED due to Election Day.

ANNARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, Nov. 07, 2023 is CANCELLED due to Election Day.



PAUL  
DUNFORD

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, Nov. 01, 2023 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

HOUGHTON CHAPTER: Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023 is CANCELLED.  
KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, Nov. 09, 2023 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, Nov. 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, Nov. 20, 2023 CANCELLED.

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Thursday, Nov. 09, 2023 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Road West, Traverse City, MI 49685

**DEATHS REPORTED:** Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother John Marhofer** (Bricklayer, PCC, Cement and Stone Mason) who passed away on October 19, 2023. Brother Marhofer had been a member for 21 years.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Looking for volunteers for a mission trip to help build a home in Mexico with Jason Akins, Jan. 11-15, 2024. Please contact the Warren office if interested.

**\*\*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: Text **2MI** to **50607**

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

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

**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. 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 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 Membership Assistance Monday - Friday 8 am - 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

**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](mailto: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](http://bacbenefits.org))



## Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Cement Masons 514  
DETROIT - The next membership meeting is Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00 pm. There will also, be an executive board meeting the same day at 5:30 pm. Please make every effort to come enjoy fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

*"If unions can be broken in the public sector, this will further tilt the political playing field on behalf of corporate interests and their Republican allies. This will also silence one of the few remaining vehicles that advocate on behalf of ordinary people in this country."* -Ken Bernstein

**The Christmas party will be at Burton Manor in Livonia on Dec. 16, 2023. Must be in good standing to attend. Be on the lookout for the RSVP form. Membership gold cards-Congratulations!**

**November 2023:**  
Lorenzo M. Valadez-Jimenez-25 Years

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.Mustsafe.com](http://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](http://bcbsm.com/register) and select register now.

**Beneficiary Reminder:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all your OPCMIA Local 514, American Income Life, American 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](http://www.micementplasterertraining.com) to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions". You will be able to put in your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please feel free to contact Larry with any questions you might have.

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

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

**Please refer to 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 Busi-**

ness Manager Henry Williams at (313) 215-5063.

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

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

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

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

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

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

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

Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identity), and your ID number (this is either 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 beneficiary can be made at the Local.** If you have questions concerning your pension benefits,

**Road Builders** can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502.

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

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

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

*"The game of life is the game of boomerangs. Our thoughts, deeds and words return to us sooner or later, with astounding accuracy."*

-Florence Shinn

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

*"We don't see things as they are, we see things as we are."*  
-Anais Nin (1903 - 1977)

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Elevator Constructors Local 36, continued

and let them know you are back to work, and inform Ken or me. 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.

We would like to congratulate all the members who have recently passed their Mechanic's exam!

**Attention All Apprentices,** Kenny and I would like to thank all of you for keeping up on your OJTs, schooling, and commitment to your future. You should have received your pay raise as of the pay period following September 1, 2023. If you didn't receive your raise, please contact the hall. Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be

filled out COMPLETELY by the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!**

**Attention All Temporary Mechanics,** your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement MUST be signed by the end of each month at the Union meeting. If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall 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!

*"Men acquire a particular quality by constantly acting a particular way... you become just by performing just actions, temperate by performing temperate actions, brave by performing brave actions."*

-Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)

*"Your parents, they give you your life, but then they try to give you their life."*

-Chuck Palahniuk (1962 - ),

*"What some call health, if purchased by perpetual anxiety about diet, isn't much better than tedious disease."*

-George Dennison Prentice



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

UA Local 357  
KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, Nov. 14** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

**PARTY INFORMATION:** There will be a Christmas Party at the Hall on **Saturday Dec. 9, 2023**. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres start at 5:30 pm with dinner at 6:00. You **MUST RSVP** no later than **Dec. 1, 2023**, by calling or emailing Lori at (269) 679-3708 /lhaffield@ualocal357.com. You can also go online to Eventbrite.com and search for Local 357. Note: There is a limit on the number of attendees allowed so please RSVP early.

**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:** Retiree lunch meetings will now be **BREAKFAST** on the 1st Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at Long Island Cafe, at 5222 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone no. for the location is (269) 218-0003.

**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 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).

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Taylor Weldy, and family, on the birth of a son, Noah.

**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to the family of Justin Arney on the recent passing of his father.

Condolences to the family of retired brother, Scott Crook, on his recent passing.



**Local 370**  
Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters  
and HVAC Service

UA Local 370  
FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, at 7:00. Saturday Dec. 9, Local 370 will host our annual Service Award banquet and Holiday celebration.** Location will be at our Hall and Training Center at 2151 W. Thompson Rd. Fenton MI. Cocktail hour will begin at 5:00pm. The service award ceremony will begin at 6:00pm with dinner following. Please call Karla at the Hall to reserve your seat for a night of dinner, dancing and celebrating members years of service and the Christmas Holiday.

**Upcoming Night Class Schedule:**  
**Welding:** Oct. 23 thru Nov. 22. Every Monday and Wednesday at 4:30  
**Weld Test Saturday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am**  
**First Aid & CPR** March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30pm  
Sept. 18 @ 4:30  
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, November 14, 2023, at 4:00pm  
FMR Committee – Tuesday November 14, 2023, at 4:00pm  
PAC committee – Tuesday November 14, 2023, at 5:00pm  
Executive Board – Tuesday November 14, 2023, at 5:00pm  
Building Committee – Tuesday November 14, 2023, at 6:00pm  
Finance Committee – Tuesday November 14, 2023, at 6:15pm  
JATC Committee – TBD

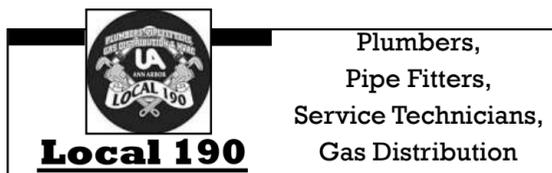
**ALL GM Worksites and others require MUST Safety and Drug Testing:** MUST safety modules are only valid for 4 years. Call the hall to sign up for the MUSTSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are 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 am – 11:30 am and 1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.  
**Attendance award** drawing for membership meeting information. Member's present must have dues paid to date to claim award. The monthly award is \$150.  
**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 questions, please contact Local 370 JATC.

**Mobile App.** Our mobile app is 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.

**Our web site is up and running.** Check it out, ualocal370.org. We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1.00 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions. Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to

(Continued next column)



Plumbers,  
Pipe Fitters,  
Service Technicians,  
Gas Distribution

UA Local 190  
ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: The Nov. 13 meeting will be a "Special Called" meeting to discuss Daytime Apprenticeship School, the meeting will start at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** This year, UA Local 190 will provide 160 turkey dinners to families in need around Washtenaw Co. We need volunteers for putting together these meals and distribution to the families. There are two volunteer dates. First date is Saturday, Nov. 11 at 9 a.m. at the UA Local 190 Union Hall, we will assemble individual dinner packages. Second date is Saturday, Nov. 18 at 9:30 a.m. will be distribution day (Karen will let you know location to report at 9:30 a.m.), we will be handing out the Thanksgiving Meal boxes to the families. We need 18 volunteers for each day, please contact Karen at 734-424-0962 ext. 210 to sign up. Let's all make this a great event!

**UNION HALL CLOSED FOR AN UP COMING HOLIDAY:** For the Thanksgiving holiday the office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23, and Friday, Nov. 24. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

For the Christmas holiday the office will be closing at Noon on Friday, Dec. 22 and will be closed all day, Monday, Dec. 25. Merry Christmas to all of you and your family members.

For the News Year's Eve holiday, the office will be closing at Noon on Friday, Dec. 29 and will be closed all day, Monday, Jan. 1. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

**CHILDREN'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY:** This wonderful event will take place on Saturday, Dec. 2. The party will be held at the Washtenaw Community College (Morris J. Lawrence Building) from 1-5 P.M. All RSVP's should be mailed to the Local 190, 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. **The committee must receive your notification if you are planning on attending, no later than Nov. 24.** We are in need of volunteers, please contact Melissa Wood at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 200. Your help is truly appreciated.

**REQUALIFICATION WELDING TEST FOR Consumers Energy and Semco Energy:** The following dates there will be a requalification weld test for Consumers Energy and Semco Energy at Local 190's Training Center at 8040 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor MI.  
Monday, Dec. 4 through Friday, Dec. 8  
Monday, Dec. 11 through Friday, Dec. 15  
Monday, Dec. 18 through Friday, Dec. 22  
This will be limited to six (6) welders per day.

Please be aware there is a policy change with Consumers Energy and Semco. Welders must not exceed two calendar years between performing initial qualification requirements for all qualifications held. Please contact Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432 to schedule your test date, first come first serve!

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

**MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN:** If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades. Please contact Kristyn at our Training Center to get information on a UA 21 Weld Certification. 734-426-3700 Ext. #1 for Kristyn

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

**A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: each month on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.** Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1-3:30 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. Please give Kristyn a call with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MIOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. **Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!**

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

**Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2024 Schedule - Mondays - April 1, July 15, and Sept. 30.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

**First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2023 Schedule - Monday, Nov 6.** Class will start at 5 pm. Please register through the website: ua190.org **2024 Schedule - Mondays - April 15, July 22, and Oct. 7.** Each class will start at 5 pm.

**Welding Lab:** Open welding lab schedule is **Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays** from 4:30pm-9 pm, **Saturdays** 7am to 3:30pm. The welding lab will be closed for Union Meetings and Holidays. Welding tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors and the training coordinator.

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2024 Schedule:** First course starts on **Jan 9**. The second course starts **Sept 10**. Courses run on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or 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 17, 2023**. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5:00 pm. Each course is limited to 8. **2024 Schedule:** First course starts **Feb 13**. The second course starts **Oct 17**. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

**Med Gas Installer and Brazer 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. **2024 Schedule:** First course starts **March 12**. The second course starts **Aug 20**. Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses or register through the website: ua190.org

**Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs):** This is a two-day course. **2024 Schedule:** First course starts **April 16**. Second course starts **Sept 24**. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24

(Continued next column)

**Local 370, continued**  
our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights. Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test contact business agent, Zack Desrochers for application and testing dates. Local 370 ball caps and winter fleece caps are available at the union offices. Ball caps \$10 and fleece caps \$5. Pocket Tee shirts are available for \$10 each. Hooded sweat shirts and long sleeve pocket tee shirts are available. The sweat shirts are \$30; long sleeve tee shirts are \$15. Golf polo and golf wind shirts are available for \$25.



**SPRINKLER FITTERS**  
**704**  
**DETROIT**

UA Local 704  
DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday Nov. 8, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

**Training Classes:** A fire pump testing classes are being scheduled at the Local 704 Training Center, Call Jeff Gray to reserve your spot. ASSE 15000, ITM classes are being scheduled for after the first of the year, this is a forty hour class. Contact the training center for more information.

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 (2) 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.

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**

participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or 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 Fall. 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 are scheduled in 2024 for the following dates: **Monday, March 18**, refresher starts at 5 p.m. and then on **Monday, March 25**, test starts at 5 p.m. Please register through the website: ua190.org

**CONDOLENCES:** Our member Andy Benyo passed away Oct. 11, 2023. Andy initiated Jan. 28, 1999 and retired May 1, 2010. To all family members and friends may the love of those around you provide peace. Our heartfelt condolences go out to all family members and friends.

Our member James Grishaber passed away Oct. 13, 2023. James initiated Nov. 4, 2002 and retired Oct. 1, 2020. To all family members and friends wishing you peace to bring comfort and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.

Our member lifetime member James Craft passed away on Oct. 17, 2023. James initiated Oct. 10, 1966, retired June 1, 1995, and became a lifetime member Oct. 1, 2016. Our heartfelt condolences to all family members and friends, may our condolences bring you all peace during this painful time.

**RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US:** Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Dec. 7, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.



**UPPER PENINSULA MI**  
**LOCAL 111**  
**PLUMBERS, PIPEFITTERS & HVAC**  
**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service**  
**Local 111**

UA Local 111  
UPPER PENINSULA – MARQUETTE: The next Union Meeting will be in **Escanaba December 14, 2023 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Congratulations:** Ross Reimester completed all requirements to meet Journeyman status as of October 2023. WELL DONE!

Anyone interested in 1-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.

*"Nothing is impossible. Some things are just less likely than others."*

–Jonathan Winters (1925-2013)

*"We can learn nothing except by going from the known to the unknown."*

–Claude Bernard (1813 - 1878)

*"A life of pleasure makes even the strongest mind frivolous at last."*

–Edward Bulwer-Lytton (1803 - 1873)

*"A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both."*

–Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890 - 1969), Inaugural Address, January 20, 1953



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**Local 174**  
Plumbers, Pipe Fitters  
& Service Trades

UA Local 174

**COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023 at 7:00pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 6:55pm.

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

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

**Condolences:** It is with deep sadness that we report our brother Michael Overla passed away on 10/16/23. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

**Office Closed:** The office will be closed Nov. 23 & 24, 2023 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

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

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

**Organizing Update:** Recently we've had a few organizers in our area helping with different organizing duties. With the increased workload, every lead on any worker is so important! A small talk with the non-union worker could change their life for the better!

*"We're all doing the same work but we're NOT all getting the same wages and benefits." We all know non-union workers; they deserve more! Give them my number and let's get them on the right track!!!! The message is clear, you deserve better wages, benefits and representation which is why you need a UNION! Work safe, Johnny Ortiz (616) 307-8551*

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

**Contract Ratification:** At the special called meeting in July 2022 the members voted to accept the bargaining committee's recommendation and ratify the three-year collective bargaining agreement. The agreement is as follows: 1st year \$2.75/ 2nd year \$2.23 /3rd year \$2.22 and \$7.20 over 3 years. 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.

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

Health Insurance Contact Info: Active and NON Medicare Retirees

Aetna: (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, contact Ryan Bennett at rbennett@ua174.org. Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

**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, you are no longer eligible to attend Local Union events such as meetings, picnics, awards banquets, and Christmas parties.

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

**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 who will get in trouble. Please contact Ryan Bennett if you see another local's contractor or member 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 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location

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

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

**Training News:**  
**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, November 9, 2023, and Thursday, December 14, 2023.

**WCP:** The next weld test event will be Saturday, November 11, 2023, @ 8:00 am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, November 9, 2023, from 5:00p - 9:00p. Please call/text and sign up if you plan to test.

**MED GAS RECERTIFICATION:** Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, October 30, 2023 @ 5p-9p. The class dates are as follows: Oct 30, Nov 1, 6, 8 and 9 (Exam).

**MED GAS INSTALLER:** Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, November 13, 2023 @ 5p - 9p. The class dates are as follows: Nov 13, 15, 20, 27, 29, Dec 4, 6, 7, 11, 13 and 14 (Exam).

**HVAC/Low GWP Refrigerant Safety: Flammable and Mildly Flammable Refrigerants (A2L):**

As the HVAC 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, Office Manager ext.11, Therese Simmons ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Schumaker ext. 30.



**Local 85**  
Plumbers &  
Steam Fitters

UA Local 85

**SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting** will be on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Rd. starting at 7 PM and it will serve as our Christmas Party.

A Special Order of Business was conducted on Nov. 1, 2023, for the purpose of Nominations. Ballots will be prepared on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023, starting at 5:00 PM. The ballots will be available for viewing on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon, when they will be taken to the Post Office. All ballots must be received no later than Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, to the Post Office Box. No hand-delivered ballots will be accepted. The ballots will be counted on Monday, Dec. 18, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

The next Zone 2 Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Grayling Eagles, 602 Huron St., Grayling, MI 49738.

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

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

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

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

**Social Media:** Like us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, @UALocal85. Facebook has our Members Only page for updates at UA Local 85 Members Group.

**JATC News:**  
**GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!**

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

**Where to submit documents:** Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: [SUB@ualocal85.org](mailto:SUB@ualocal85.org)  
**SUB Application for Benefits:** Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at the Hall.

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

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

**NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:**

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

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

**Website Address:** Please visit [www.ualocal85.org](http://www.ualocal85.org).

**Insurance:** When you are working out of another Local's jurisdiction it may take up to 90 days for your Insurance and (Continued next column)



UA Local 671

**MONROE – The next Regular Union meeting** is scheduled for December 7, 2023. There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on December 7, 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.

**Local 671 App:** Our Mobile app is back up and running after a large update required by the Apple App Store. The new username will be your last name and book number @ ibusiness-tech.com, (ex. smith1234567@ibusiness-tech.com) and the password is your book number. Contact Vinnie if you have any issues logging in.

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

**Save the Date (Kid's Christmas Party):** The Kid's Christmas Party will be held on December 16, 2023. All Members will receive a letter in the mail. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Open Weld Shop Nights:** The open weld shop nights are now **Wednesday and Thursday nights** from 6pm-10pm now that school is back in session.

**There will be no open welding on Union Meeting or UA weld test nights.** A booth will need to be reserved 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 which will be held on **11/30/2023 at 5 p.m.**

**Michigan Plumbing Exam Prep Class: We will 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.**

**Wachs Machining Class:** We will also be conducting an introductory Wachs Pipe Machining Class in December. Contact Justin for details.

**In Closing:** It is a favorite time of year for many of our members. As we take to the woods for the Michigan Deer Hunting Season, always bring your safety habits from work with you. We hope you have a safe and prosperous 2023 season!

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

Vinnie Fenech: email: [vinnie@ualocal671.com](mailto:vinnie@ualocal671.com)

Carly Neely: Insurance Line (734) 241-6180 email: [carly@ualocal671.com](mailto:carly@ualocal671.com) Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692

**Local 85, con't**

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 be held on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023, at 12 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office at 3535 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48603. This luncheon will serve as our Christmas party. RSVP will be required. Please call the office at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8510 to reserve your spot no later than Nov. 17, 2023.

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



**Local 333**  
Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 333

**LANSING – The November meeting** scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023 has been cancelled.

The meeting for December will be December 20, 2023 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd. Lansing MI. It will start at 6:30 pm with a Holiday dinner for members followed by a short meeting.

**Attention:** Per Section 130 of the UA Constitution monthly dues will go from \$28.00 per month to \$31.00 per month effective January 1, 2024 for Journeymen with no change for retirees.

**Holiday Open House:** Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 333 Annual Holiday Open House will be Friday, November 24, 2023, 5pm – 9pm at Firekeepers Hotel and Casino, 11177 E. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49014. Invitations have been mailed and members can contact one of the three halls to make their reservations by November 10, 2023. Rooms will also be available at a special rate. Details regarding the reservation process included with the invitations.

**FALL SCHEDULE – WELD CLASSES**

**LANSING**

Advanced – September 5, 2023 – Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 – 8:30  
Beginning – September 6, 2023 – Monday and Wednesday 4:30 – 8:30

**JACKSON**

Advanced – September 5, 2023 – Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 – 8:30  
Beginning – September 6, 2023 – Monday and Wednesday 4:30 – 8:30

**BATTLE CREEK**

Welding – September 7, 2023 – Monday and Thursday 4:30 – 8:30  
If interested please sign up at [www.ualocal333.org](http://www.ualocal333.org) – UA # and email address needed when signing up. Questions please call the Training Center 517-323-0333.

**PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the UA, as of January 2019 all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired, please contact Diana at (517) 323-0333. 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 re-sponsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.

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

Retirees' Breakfast in Jackson: Retirees will meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson MI. PLEASE NOTE: The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center.

*"Any man whose errors take ten years to correct is quite a man."*  
–J. Robert Oppenheimer (1904-1967), speaking of Albert Einstein

*"That is the greatest fallacy, the wisdom of old men. They do not grow wise. They grow careful."*  
–Ernest Hemingway (1899 - 1961)

*"Know the true value of time; snatch, seize, and enjoy every moment of it. No idleness; no laziness; no procrastination; never put off till tomorrow what you can do today."*  
–Lord Chesterfield (1694 - 1773)

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

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16. Paid Distribution (Sum of 16a and 16b)	4030	4030	4030
17. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 17a and 17b)	0	0	0
18. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0	0
19. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 16a, 17a, 18, and 19)	4030	4030	4030
d. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 17a, 18, 19, and 20)	0	0	0
e. Total Distribution (Sum of 16c and 16d)	4030	4030	4030
f. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 16c and 16d)	4030	4030	4030
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h. Total (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
i. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
j. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
k. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
l. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
m. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
n. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
o. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
p. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
q. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
r. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
s. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
t. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
u. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
v. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
w. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
x. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
y. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030
z. Paid and Unpaid Distribution (Sum of 14e and 14g)	4030	4030	4030

15. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)

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17. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 17a and 17b)

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34. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)

# Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,  
Refrigeration &  
Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636

DETROIT – The next Union Meeting will be a **Special Called Meeting** for the reading of the Annual Financial Report. It will take place on Nov. 21, 2023 at 7pm at **St. George Romanian Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield MI 48075.**

Representatives from Ulliance Life Advisor will hold an informational discussion on our new assistance program prior to the meeting on Nov. 21, 2023, at 6:15pm. Ulliance will have confidential no cost assistance for you & immediate family members concerning personal challenges including: Family, marital, alcohol, drugs, emotional, legal, financial, elder/child care etc. with crisis intervention 24/7. You may connect with a Life Advisor by phone 800-448-8326 or LifeAdvisor.com.

**Special Nominations Meeting** for the offices of Business Manager, Financial Secretary-Treasurer Assistant Business Manager, two (2) Business Agents, one (1) Executive Board Member, one (1) Financial Trustee, one (1) Examining Board Member, and two (2) Michigan Pipe Trades Delegates, will be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023 at 7 pm** at St. George Romanian Cultural Center (See address above).

Nominations may be made in person at the Nominations Meeting including self-nominations or in writing. Written nominations should include the address, phone number and UA Card number of the nominee and must specify the office for which the nomination is made and should be signed by the nominee. Written Nominations must be received by President Bill Helwig by email – bhelwig@pipefitters636.org and please cc Kim Kavanaugh email – kkaavanaugh@pipefitters636.org at Local 636 no later than 4:30pm December 1, 2023.

A **Candidates Meeting** will be held following the nominations meeting. It is very important that candidates make every effort to attend this meeting. The rules for candidates running for election will be discussed.

The **Special Election** will be held **Monday, January 8, 2024** at St. George Cultural Center (See address above). Polls will open at 11am and close at 7pm with a meeting immediately after for the reading of the results. All members must be in good standing for 1 year to vote and 2 years to run for any open position. Members should be prepared to present a membership card; drivers license or other form of identification at the polls.

A **Runoff Election** will be held **Tuesday, January 16, 2024 from 3-7pm** in the event of a tie vote for any office, before the Regular Union Meeting, 7pm at St. Georges Romanian Cultural Center (See address above).

**Office Hours** have changed back to 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday. The Office will be closed Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving, Monday, December 25 for Christmas and Monday, January 1, 2024 for the New Year.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. **The next meeting will be held November 16, 2023.**

The **December 19, 2023** Awards Banquet celebrating the years of service of our members will be at **Burton Manor Banquet & Event Center 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150** at 7pm. Please join us to celebrate your Brothers/Sisters of Local 636.

**NMA updates.** For those members working under an NMA, the following procedure applies as to the requirements when an Owner/Client's in-plant employees are on strike. The Owner/Client must provide NMA contractors and their crafts with a designated neutral gate that provides safe ingress and egress both to and from plant property should there be the potential of picket lines being established by the in-plant employees. Furthermore, when properly provided and designated, it shall be the

responsibility of the Owner/Client to maintain the integrity of the neutral gate and if necessary, seek and obtain injunctive relief from any secondary or illegal picketing.

The NMA contractors and their crafts shall instruct their employees (members) to use only the neutral gate to ingress and egress their work sites.

It is further required and understood that NMA signatory employers and Union crafts will only continue to perform their normal work and will not perform or be assigned work that would otherwise be performed by in-plant employees.

For any further questions, please contact your Business Agents or Business Manager.

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

**Our deepest condolences** go out to the members, families and friends of the following, who have passed from our ranks: Retired Lifetime Member Thomas Osebold passed on Oct. 11, 2023 and Retired Lifetime Member Donald Komraus passed Oct. 22, 2023. May they Rest in Peace.

**Congratulations** to Paul Sholly and his wife Jenna on the Birth of their son Noah and Grandfather Dave Sholly, and Jack & Alyssa Muirhead on the birth of their daughter Emma, and Molly & Jacob Brown on the birth of their daughter Josie.

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

**February 2023** – Alexander Hall

**May 2023** – Daniel Steenbergh; Phillip Turkiela

**August 2023** – Michael Dykes; Grady Corder; Kevin McAndrew; Jerome Welsing

**September 2023** – William Baldrige

**October 2023** – Michael Kress

**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. -NEW-** SUB checks for Local 636 will be printed and mailed from BeneSys.

Participants should continue to send all applications and weekly proof to the SUB Fund office for review and processing by emailing subpay@pipefitters636.org.

The SUB Fund office will no longer be able to cut checks for walk-ins, only process SUB request.

The SUB Fund office will have all payments entered in the SUB System by 10am on Wednesday.

After 10am every Wednesday, BeneSys will generate the checks in the SUB System and have them printed and mailed from Troy production.

Once direct deposit begins, members choosing direct deposit will have the payments deposited into their accounts on Fridays. That is the reason for processing being done on Wednesdays.

**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.

**Financial Advisor Jason May** with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has a **new contact number 248-540-2091** 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 you Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NUMBER for the VRU is **877-410-9984**. Plan (Continued next column)



# Plumbers Local 98

UA Local 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.

We wish to thank all of our Veterans with a safe and happy holiday November 11<sup>th</sup>, enjoy your day as you all deserve it.

It's an honor to announce one of our own Jessie Cowell, has stepped up and is running for Mayor of Flat Rock. Please tell your friends and family that a Union Man and a Veteran of the USMC, is a great bet over there. If you can help Jesse catch him in off work hours on his cell, 734-674-4867 or email him at [Leatherneck.0351@yahoo.com](mailto:Leatherneck.0351@yahoo.com). Do not forget to vote in the upcoming local elections that will be your future reps.

UAW strike and pickets, things are changing every day as the strike wears on, please contact your area Business Agent with any questions that may arise.

**Meetings & Union Hall.** The Union Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> 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, Nov. 8 from 12 pm – 2 pm. At Local 98!

**The Christmas wrapping party** for 98 members, children and families is Monday December the 4<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

**The Kids Christmas party** is Tuesday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 5pm to 8 pm. All events are at our Union Hall.

## Local 636, con't

provider number is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution website is [www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys](http://www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys).

**Considering Retirement?** Any member may meet at the office during business hours with Jake Regits, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, to begin the process. Jake can be reached at ext. 5, to schedule an appointment so that he can get all of your paperwork in order, or if you prefer, contact our Members Phone Line 248-641-4936 at BeneSys for your retirement paperwork.

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

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

**WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE CERTIFICATION PAYMENTS.**

**Training Center News.** Regular night welding running through the Fall/Winter will be Monday and Thursday night from 4pm till 8pm

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8 Starting Mondays Nov. 6th: at 5PM

Basic Water quality program, and Ammonia safety 2. Starting Wed. Nov. 8th at 5 PM:

CSD-2, and Chillers-2 Starting Thursday Nov.9th at 5 PM:

Boilers-2, new Trimble 2 layout class.

Thursday nights with Jason, Controls class.

Starting Nov.6th, Monday, and Thursday Nights at 5PM

Basic Trade math and Tube Bending.

Running Saturdays Oct. through April: Orbital/cleanroom, and HDPE Fusion class, RMD/GMAW, Downhill

**Turkey Night** is December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Also, we will be swearing in a new class of apprentices. Come and enjoy the Holidays with your Brother's and Sisters.

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

**Expelled members: There are no expelled members at this time.**

**SUB Apps/Out of Work List.** SUB 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. Her name is Brooke, the Local 98 Health Insurance Specialist. Brooke 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 Brooke. If Brooke is on the other line, please leave her a message and she 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 before retirement.

**In Memoriam: Our sympathies to family and friends of Brother Brian Olmsted initiated 12/08/1966, a 56 year member; Brother Chester Tomblin initiated 12/14/1967, a 55 year member.**

**Adopt-A-Highway Project:** BA Gary Glaser would like to thank the 98 brothers and sisters that came out and helped with our Adopt-A-Highway project. We were fortunate enough to have the best weather we've had in a long time. We came together and picked up 82 bags of trash and multiple items too large to bag on I-94. It's always a great get together and an excellent way for us to give back to our community.

Thanks again to all the volunteers for sharing your Saturday off work with us for a good cause! Ashton Minish, Ryan Mason, Tom Hamann, Mike Economeas, Mike Kalso, Leona Wisniewski, Vivienne Wisniewski, Henry Wisniewski, Victor Wisniewski, Joe Wisniewski, Mark Wisniewski, Gregory Glaser and Rufus Hamilton.

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**

*"I know of only one bird - the parrot - that talks; and it can't fly very high."*

–Wilbur Wright (1867 - 1912), declining to make a speech in 1908

*"The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them."*

–Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)



**DRILLING A HOLE** in a limestone block that will be re-set and re-mortared into the carriage house project at the Michigan Central Station in Detroit is Arthur Booker of Laborers Local 1191. He's employed by Ram Construction.



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

**DETROIT – Regular Membership Updates:** Please check out our website at [www.laborerslocal1191.org](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org) and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your 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:** Are held on the first Friday of every month at 7 pm at the Local Union, 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays). **The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Nov. 3, 2023. December's General Membership meeting will be held on Dec. 1, 2023. Members who attend the meeting will be served the Annual Christmas Dinner!**

**Monthly Retiree Council Meetings:** Are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11 am at the Local Union. **The next meeting will be held on Jan. 26. February's meeting will be held Feb. 23.**

**Union Dues For 2024:** 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](http://www.laborerslocal1191.org)!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

**Important Notice Regarding Dues Payments:** According to the Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member will be suspended by the International Union without notice. **To better serve our membership, the Local accepts in-person Cash, Credit and Debit payments.**

**Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union.** Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you. **FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!**

**Roll Call: All members on the out-of-work list must re-register every quarter within the first (1<sup>st</sup>) five (5) days of the following months: March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. \*Example:** If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't re-register by June 5<sup>th</sup> your name will be removed from the list.

**Drug Test Renewal: Members are reminded to keep your Yearly Drug Test current and also your 18 safety modules.** You can schedule an appointment to take your modules at our training schools located in Perry, Wayne, St. Joseph, or Iron Mountain by calling (517) 625-4919 or by visiting the training school website at [www.mltai.org](http://www.mltai.org) to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and Apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at <https://lms.mltai.org>. Types of training you can take include, but are not limited to: OSHA 30, Asbestos Awareness, Silica Awareness, Infectious Disease Awareness, Respirator Awareness, Hazard Communication, Blood-borne Pathogens Awareness, and Lead Awareness. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. **By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well.** If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at [www.mustsafe.com](http://www.mustsafe.com) to see how many modules you have.

**Death Certificates:** Please always submit to the Local Union a copy of a Death Certificate for deceased active or retired members. **FYI: The death certificate is required for any designated beneficiary to receive available benefits.**

**IMPORTANT UNION BENEFIT CONTACT INFORMATION: Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension)** \* Telephone: (877) 645-2267 \* Fax: (517) 689-6016

\*Website: [www.michiganlaborers.org](http://www.michiganlaborers.org)

\*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension)

\*Telephone: (248) 641-4942

\*Fax: (248) 813-9898

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare)

\*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

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# Re-built carriage house a final piece of train station's rebirth

(Continued from Page 1)

"A lot of the steel was just falling apart, and we're fabricating much of the replacement on site," said Midwest Steel Foreman Rob Younk. "But we knew we could save a lot of it." He said the site team and engineers used calipers and ultrasound to check for thickness and soundness of the original steel to determine if it should be replaced. Much of the exposed column steel above the basement was actually still in good shape, Younk said.

Latticed steel has rarely been used as a structural support in modern construction since I-beams came into widespread use in the 1920s. Although, the lattice design is still appreciated for its decorative look and high strength-to-weight ratio. Most commonly seen on bridges, lattice members were often assembled with rivets, and that's the case on the carriage house.

Iron workers on the project salvaged thousands of original rivets from steel pieces that needed replacing, and welded those original rivets back on to most of the new pieces "to maintain the authentic, original look," Younk said. They did this by drilling a hole into the new iron piece, and welding the rivet onto the front side through the hole to give the appearance that it was actually riveted.

In areas that could not be easily seen, they used modern rivet look-alike "LeJeune Bolts" to fasten the steel pieces.

Working on the carriage house are Iron Workers Local 25 members from Midwest Steel, Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 masons employed by Ram Construction and Eugenio Painting painters from District Council 1M. They are replacing the old structure with a decorative showcase that will put a wrap on an unlikely historic rehabilitation of the train station. Their work is expected to be complete at the end of the year.

When Ford Motor Co. purchased the depot and former Detroit Public Schools Book Depository next door, the automaker announced plans to renovate the properties into a center for mobility innovation called Michigan Central, in a nod to the past. Anchored by the former train station, Ford said it intends to "reshape the future of global mobility, working with other partners and connecting to a broader network of city and regional assets and innovation." The former depository reopened in April 2023 and is now home to Newlab at Michigan Central and its more than 50 start-up companies.

The last Amtrak train left the MCS in 1988. The building sat empty for decades, its ornate interior open to the elements and urban scavengers. It took months to dry out the flooded basement. Set back from Michigan Avenue on the west side of downtown, the empty, towering structure became the poster child for Detroit's collection of abandoned buildings.

But originally, the MCS was a stately symbol of grandeur for the Michigan Central Railroad, a subsidiary of the New York Central RR. Railroads were at the top of their game in 1910 when plans for the MCS began to be implemented. Motor vehicles were just starting to become transportation competitors – and it's telling that the train station's architects perhaps had a blind spot in choosing to create a "carriage house" to serve horse-drawn passengers rather than a structure to serve drivers of Model T's and the like. The structure was later used for taxis.

Inside, building trades workers have mostly left the building, having renovated the grand interior spaces of the MCS and the tower floors. Build-out work remains to be done on some tower floors. Ford did not allow photography inside the train station in anticipation of the big reveal next year. The new spaces will include not only offices, but "community and event spaces, public art, ongoing programming, activations, restaurants and retailers," according to Ford.

"We're currently down to about 30 tradespeople, from a peak of about 500 in 2022," said Gary Marshall, project manager of Michigan Central Station for Ford Land. "There have been a good group of people who have worked here, we're fortunate to have found really skilled people to do this work."

The new use for the renovated carriage house has yet to be announced.

Iron worker Ryan Baez, pausing from cutting angle iron for the carriage house project, said he grew up in the nearby Southwest Detroit neighborhood. "I drove past the train station many times, and seeing it transformed into what we have now is great. It's just a treasure, it's been so rewarding to help bring it back to life."

Younk said he intends to make the train station's carriage house project his last before retirement. He is working on the project with his daughter, third-year iron worker apprentice Tiffany. "It has been fabulous working on this, a thoroughly enjoyable way to finish up my 30-year career as an iron worker," Younk said. "This place is an icon."



**AMONG THE LEADERS** of the crew undertaking the renovation of the carriage house at Michigan Central Station in Detroit are (l-r) Midwest Steel Foreman Rob Younk, Supt. Paul Peterson, Iron Workers Local 25 BA Doug Washburn, and Midwest Steel Senior Project Manager Al Moyski and Assistant Project Manager Shana Smith.



**REPLACING AND RE-BUILDING** a section of lattice truss at the Michigan Central Station's carriage house project are Alejandro Alvarez and Nixon Cruz of Iron Workers Local 25. They're employed by Midwest Steel.



## Local 25 Iron Workers

### Iron Workers 25

**NOVI-Steward meeting(s):** There will be NO Flint Steward meeting in November. The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, Nov. 27, at 6 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, Nov. 30, at 6 pm. All are welcome!

**The November Union Meeting will be Monday Nov. 27, 2023** at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be in person and zoom. All Union Halls will be open. Communications Alerts & E-mails; sign up via our website ([www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)). We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**.

**Thanksgiving Holiday: all Union Halls will be closed Thursday, Nov. 23, 2023 and Friday, Nov. 24.**

**December vacation check schedule:** The last day to call to have your December vacation check pulled for in-person pick-up is Tuesday, Nov. 28 at Noon. Pulled checks will be available at the Novi Hall Thursday Nov. 30, by 2 pm. All other checks will be mailed to you by the end of business day on Tuesday, Nov. 28. **All members that receive ACH deposits, your vacation check will be transferred on Friday, Dec. 1, 2023.** All Vacation checks will be dated Saturday Dec. 2, 2023.

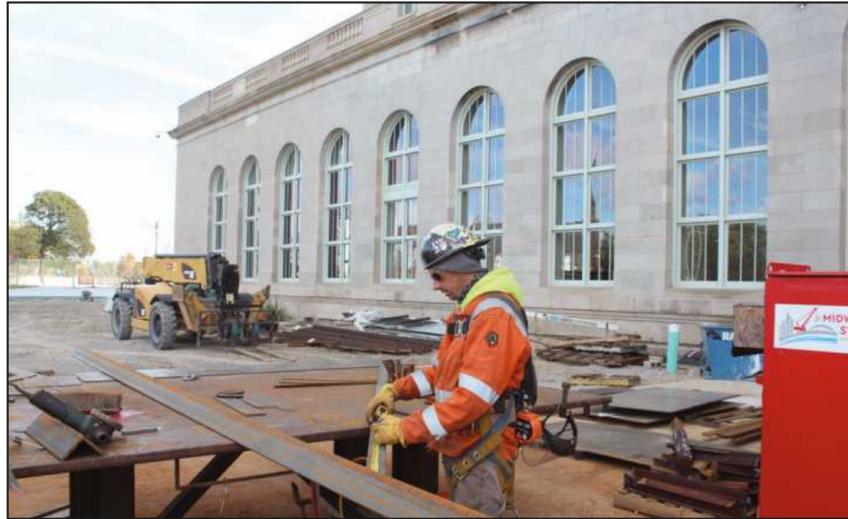
**The Iron Workers Annual Children's Christmas Party is SATURDAY DEC. 9** at the Novi Union Hall. **Doors open at 9:30 am.** We have a new Magic show starting at 11:30 - PLEASE arrive BEFORE the show starts. In addition to the show, the kids will enjoy face-painting & crafts; pictures, hot dogs, pop & chips, cotton candy, popcorn, raffles, and of course Santa Claus. **We will have gifts for kids to age 10 and our party will end around 1 pm.**

**The IRONWORKER Magazine changes:** The magazine published by the International will now be issued every other month (6 times per year). Effective this year the Directory issues moves to December. To subscribe to the digital edition of the Ironworker or the monthly newsletter, please use the following link: <https://www.ironworkers.org/s/ironworker-digital-sign-up>

**Local 25 Retirees are able to work without suspension of their pension benefits effective Aug 1, 2023** with the following criteria: Must be retired a minimum of 2 months, must complete the Memorandum of Understanding with approval by Trustee Aguirre or Trustee Randick. Must be a full dues paying member and if you are currently on lifetime status you will need to transition back to full dues paying for 1 year along with 1-year paid dues.

Those who are former L-340 Retirees are able to work without suspension of their benefits as their plan allows. The retiree is encouraged to pass on their knowledge to apprentices and other bargaining unit employees of the Employer; Contact any Business Agent who can assist you further with the details.

**Career Opportunity:** Iron Workers Local 25 is now hiring



**CUTTING ANGLE IRON** at the carriage house at Michigan Central Station is Iron Workers Local 25 member Philip King. He's employed by Midwest Steel.

a full-time instructor for Wixom/Hudsonville locations. Please contact the Wixom Training Center @ (248) 960-2130 to drop off your resume and take the ACT Talent Assessment test. Accepting resumes until 11/22/23. The complete job description is on our website: [www.ironworkers25.org](http://www.ironworkers25.org)

**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 the [ironworkers25.org](http://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**

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

**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).**

**Check your HRA Balance:** [my.wexhealthcard.com](http://my.wexhealthcard.com)

**Check your online benefit information:** [ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/](http://ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/)

**The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club:** The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on **NEW DATE:** Wednesday Nov. 8, 2023 at 8:30 am. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023 at 10:00 am in Novi. The All are welcome.

**The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast** will meet Tuesday Nov. 7, 2023 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI, 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in January (TBD); at the Bay City American Legion Post 18, 700 Adams St., Bay City MI 48708.

**The Downriver Chapter:** The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be in January (TBD); at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. All are welcome.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan: [www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/](http://www.bcbsm.com/behavioral-mental-health/) Resources on the home page including In-Person Crisis Care options in many locations throughout the state.

BCBS Michigan 877-627-1041, Blue Care Network 800-482-5982 for Substance-use-disorder.

**Another resource for help: FindTreatment.gov** where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-HELP (4357).

**Dial 988 (National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) For help 24/7 in a Time of Crisis.** Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available – its free & confidential. **Suicide Prevention Resources on IMPACT:** <http://www.impact-net.org/safety/suicide-prevention-resources>. US Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis.

A live, trained Crisis Counselor or 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.

**OpiRescue smartphone APP** to help Michigan residents prevent and reduce opioid overdoses. It is free to use and anonymous. The APP provides information and a 5-step process for how to respond to an opioid overdose event. The guidelines developed by the US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

*This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Oct 30, 2023 12:00 pm E.S.T.)-*

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## Outdoors

# 2023 deer season preview



By Chad Stewart  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

The 2023 Michigan archery deer hunting season is underway, and firearm season is right around the corner. As hundreds of thousands of deer hunters prepare to head to the state's fields and forests in pursuit of whitetails, here's a look at what they can expect to find in each region.

**Upper Peninsula.** The winter of 2022-2023 was again severe, with several impactful snowfalls late in the winter, raising fears about a significant mortality event across much of the Upper Peninsula. While there was some adult and fawn mortality reported in select areas, major die-offs from the hard winter were again avoided.

Deer numbers remain low in many locations, especially along the Lake Superior shoreline and in the western counties and even some locations in the eastern U.P., which will again temper expectations of overall harvest in the U.P.

The southern portions of the U.P., including parts of Menominee, Delta and even Dickinson counties, seem to have consistent deer numbers, and another good year is anticipated for those areas. But, to be clear, there will be places in the U.P. where deer densities remain low, and hunting efforts in some of these locations will prove extremely challenging.

Where oaks are present, acorn production looks good for this year, and bowhunters may find added success in emphasizing these areas early in the season. The big news in the Upper Peninsula this year is that the Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance Zone, surrounding the lone detection of a deer with CWD, was lifted. After testing nearly 2,100 deer since 2018, we identified no other CWD-positive animals.

This led the DNR to recommend, and the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to approve, the removal of this zone.

Of course, hunters who still want to get their deer head tested



THE MICHIGAN Department of Natural Resources encourages deer hunters, especially in the Lower Peninsula, to consider harvesting a doe and taking a pass on younger bucks to help manage the deer herd.

can do so. The best way to understand your testing options is to visit Michigan.gov/CWD to see what options are available in the area you are hunting. Hunters in the previously defined CWD Surveillance Zone can resume baiting, which had been prohibited since the establishment of the zone.

Also returning will be the "hunter's choice" deer regulations. This allows any legal buck (one with one antler 3 inches or longer) to be harvested on a single deer license, but hunters purchasing a deer combo license must hunt under an antler point restriction, using the regular tag to take a buck with at least three points per side and the restricted tag to take a buck with at least four points per side. The entire area of the former CWD Surveillance Zone will have these regulations, consistent with the surrounding units, which should simplify the regulations.

To learn more about which deer you can harvest in the area you hunt using each deer tag, see information about U.P. antler point restrictions in the 2023 Michigan Hunting Regulations Summary.

**Northern Lower Peninsula.** The winter appeared to be mild across much of the northern Lower Peninsula, and the deer herd didn't appear to have any negative impacts coming into the spring. This has been a common trend in recent years, with typically minimal, if any, winter loss reported across the region.

Hard mast seems to be plentiful and widely distributed. It's shaping up to be a good, and potentially great, year for both red oak and white oak acorns. Preseason scouting can definitely pay off in identifying these areas of abundance ahead of time. It's important to note that some areas have been affected by spongy moth in recent years, and those areas still might be on the lower end of mast production.

Deer numbers can vary depending on where you are in the region, but numbers are plentiful in many locations. With time in the field, most hunters should have opportunities to be successful this year. Antler growth seems to be good across the region compared to previous years, so while

there are some great bucks to be had, if one doesn't present itself while you are hunting, consider harvesting a doe and passing on younger bucks to try to help manage the deer herd. Your choices will pay off in the future.

If you're able, don't hesitate to take advantage of the venison donation program through Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger. It's a great program that allows you to donate the meat from your deer at a registered processor to be distributed to those in need.

No regulatory changes for the northern Lower Peninsula this year, so what you experienced last year should hold true for this coming year as well. It's worth noting that we still require online harvest reporting, so make sure to record your harvest within 72 hours of tagging your deer to help us with data collection and deer harvest tracking.

One big change hunters will notice this year will be to the online reporting map. Last year, hunters were asked to identify a location where the deer was harvested. After feedback from this

past season, we shifted this map to the township level, giving hunters greater confidence in reporting their harvest knowing that the specific location of the deer will no longer be collected. To record your deer harvest, visit Michigan.gov/DNRHarvestReport or download the Michigan DNR Hunt Fish mobile app, where you can purchase licenses, track your lottery points and record your harvest all in one location.

For 2023, testing will be focused on the northwestern Lower Peninsula and in a few counties in other areas where additional information is still needed. The counties for CWD testing in 2023 include Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Hillsdale, Isabella, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Osceola and Wexford. In these counties there will be drop boxes, staffed submission sites, and partner processors and taxidermists to assist with collection efforts.

**Southern Lower Peninsula.** Deer remain abundant throughout much of the region. The winter of 2022 was relatively mild and once again didn't negatively affect deer in this region. In fact, the southern Lower Peninsula's deer herd is one that rarely experiences any overwinter mortality due to the abundance of summer food and the relatively mild winters.

The summer of 2023 started with droughtlike conditions throughout much of May and June. The slow growing at the start of the planting season may translate into a later crop harvest, which typically reduces hunter success due to the availability of more standing cover for deer. This is always something worth monitoring as we approach harvest season.

The concern of epizootic hemorrhagic disease, which is often associated with droughtlike conditions, has been a discussion in deer circles for most of the summer. At the time of writing this report, EHD has only been identified in Washtenaw County, and with the peak time period coming to a close with the onset of colder temperatures, it appears we will not have a significant outbreak this year.

One change many in the southern Lower Peninsula will notice is the return of antler point restrictions on the second tag of the deer combo license.

Data from last year's online

harvest reporting showed that the percentage of bucks killed with four points per side didn't differ between southern Lower Peninsula counties with the four-point restriction on the second tag (68.1 percent of bucks harvested had a rack with four points per side) and those counties without the four-point restriction on the second tag (69.4 percent of bucks harvested had a rack with four points per side).

Essentially, we discovered that we had two regulations doing the same thing, so in the interest of simplicity, we placed the four-point restriction back on the second tag in 19 counties (Barry, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Ingham, Ionia, Isabella, Jackson, Kent, Lenawee, Mecosta, Midland, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Ottawa and Shiawassee).

Deer combo license buyers who hunt throughout the region will have an unrestricted first tag, with their second tag dedicated toward a buck with four points per side. Of course, hunters can still harvest an antlerless deer on either of these tags during the archery, firearm or muzzleloader seasons.

To learn more about which deer you can harvest in the area you hunt using each deer tag, see information about Lower Peninsula antler point restrictions in the 2023 Michigan Hunting Regulations Summary.

Chronic wasting disease is still present in parts of the Lower Peninsula, particularly Gratiot, Isabella, Jackson, Kent and Montcalm counties. It also has been identified previously in Clinton, Eaton, Hillsdale, Ingham and, recently, Midland counties. If this is a concern to you and your family and you reside in one of these counties, the DNR has made self-service CWD testing kits available.

These kits can be picked up at locations identified at Michigan.gov/CWD, under "Get my deer tested," and will help teach hunters how to extract lymph nodes from deer, with all costs for shipping and testing covered by the DNR. It's a great new program that we introduced last year and hope to expand in the future.

Learn more about deer and deer hunting in Michigan at Michigan.gov/Deer.

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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