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

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SHORT CUTS

This is Tradesman's final edition in 2023

This will be *The Building Tradesman's* final edition in 2023. Our next edition will be mailed the week of Jan. 8, 2024.

Construction heads toward a good year

U.S. construction approached the end of the year in good condition, having built a solid base throughout the year.

"The construction industry, much like the broader economy, carried a surprising amount of momentum through the end of the third quarter," said Marcum Commercial Construction Index analysts on Dec. 6. "Construction spending is outpacing inflation on an annual basis. Material price escalation has moderated. Contractors continue to hire. Even residential construction remains in decent shape despite the paralyzing effects of high interest rates on home buying."

And the word from the Associated General Contractors was also net-positive. "It is apparent that the construction market overall remains healthy," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "But a rotation is occurring among nonresidential segments as manufacturing construction expands while commercial construction slumps and highway and street spending stagnates. On the residential side, single-family construction is picking up, while multifamily is descending from record highs."

The AGC said U.S. construction spending, not adjusted for inflation, totaled \$2.027 trillion at a seasonally adjusted annual rate in October. That figure is 0.6 percent above the September rate, and up 8.8 percent compared to the spending level a year ago.

Marcum said there are "several headwinds facing the construction industry. Elevated borrowing costs and tight credit conditions have severely diminished demand for certain types of construction, and worker shortages, long an issue for contractors, are driving up the cost of labor, exacerbating the effects of material price escalation that occurred in 2021 and 2022."

Construction employment Marcum said, remains strong, with the industry adding jobs for the seventh straight month in October. The non-residential sector lead the way, with a 6 percent rise in employment over 12 months through October 2023.

With more than \$1 trillion being spent by the Biden Administration on infrastructure, the AGC noted a September to October decline of 0.4 percent in highway spending. "Many state and local officials are having ongoing challenges in following the administration's complex Buy America rules," the AGC said. "The Biden administration seems to be suffering from a bit of policy schizophrenia; it talks a lot about wanting to build infrastructure while it keeps working to tie those projects up in red tape," said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association's CEO.

Quotable

"Welcome, Christmas, bring your cheer. Cheer to all Whos far and near. Christmas Day is in our grasp so long as we have hands to clasp. Christmas Day will always be, just as long as we have we. Welcome, Christmas. While we stand. Heart to heart... and hand in hand."

— Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss), *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*, (1966)



2023 Holiday Edition

We take this opportunity to thank our advertisers and subscribing unions for their patronage – and wish them, our local union members and their families an enjoyable holiday season and a happy, safe and healthy 2024.



Wow... injury/illness rate plunges in construction

By Nick Fox
Laborers Health and Safety Fund of North America

Every year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) releases its annual report on workplace injury and illness data. This year, the major headline being reported is that from 2021 to 2022, the number of injuries and illnesses in private sector U.S. workplaces spiked 7.5 percent to 2.8 million incidents.

However, what isn't being

discussed enough is that for the third year in a row, injuries and illnesses in the construction industry decreased significantly. After dropping 13 percent in 2021 to 174,000, the number of injuries and illnesses in construction declined another 17 percent in 2022 to 144,480.

These are major strides for an industry that's often perceived as a dangerous place to make a living. And it's not just the total number of injuries and illnesses

that's dropped in construction – it's the injury rate, too.

Construction gets safer as many industries grow more dangerous. The overall injury and illness rate for private U.S. workplaces now sits at 2.7 per 100 workers. In construction, that number is 2.4. That means U.S. workers are more likely to experience a recordable injury or illness in a non-construction workplace.

These results aren't a blip on the radar, either. The recordable

rate for construction has now been below the average rate for all industries for three years in a row. It went from 2.8 in 2019 to 2.5 in 2020 and held steady in 2021 before dropping again, to 2.4, in 2022.

The data shows that many other industries that have long been considered "blue collar" have a much higher reported injury and illness rate than construction.

(Continued on Page 5)

Clean energy bills signed by governor will transform power production in Michigan

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

LANSING – "Ambitious." "Bold." "Extreme."

Headline writers in Michigan and across the country used those terms and others to describe the action taken by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on Nov. 28, who signed landmark legislation that pushes the state on a fast-track path to the use of cleaner energy by 2040.

But the package of bills – with a timeline that makes Michigan one of the few states with such an ambitious schedule to move away from carbon-based fuels – also raises questions about power availability, reliability, and cost. Importantly, the legislation also enshrines some pro-union language into construction of green energy projects, as the package of laws requires the use of prevailing wage and the hiring of workers who have been trained by Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship programs.

"Michigan's clean energy future is bright," said Whitmer at the signing ceremony for the Clean Energy and Climate Action Package. "Today's bills will lower household utility costs by an average of \$145 a year, create 160,000 good-paying jobs, and bring nearly \$8 billion of federal tax dollars home to Michigan for clean energy projects. I am proud that these bills make Michigan the best state in the Midwest for climate action and the strongest state in the nation when it comes to labor standards for clean energy production."

"Together, we are fighting for our air, land, and water, improving public health and protecting our precious natural resources for future generations. We are building the future in Michigan."

The shuttering of decades-old coal-burning power plants by the state's two major utilities – Consumers Energy and DTE Energy – has been ongoing for the past several years. And the broad spectrum of building trades crafts have been steadily losing work opportunities from those plant closures.

But the clean energy work has offered new employment opportunities, with solar power installations and wind generators

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Owner poised to resurrect Palisades nuclear plant in SW Michigan

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

ST. JOSEPH – Holtec International, the owner of the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant, announced on Dec. 4 the planned construction of two new reactors at the site. The small modular reactors will each generate 300 megawatts of energy, nearly doubling the output of the plant when it comes back online in the next two years.

The announcement of the plan to place more clean energy on the grid (and nuclear is considered clean energy) comes only weeks after Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed the Clean Energy and Climate Action Package. According to *World Nuclear News*, the Palisades plant, located about 10 miles north of here, would become the first successfully re-started nuclear power plant in the U.S.

"Buoyed by the State of Michigan's commitment to expand in-state carbon-free generation as well as by the broad-based federal, state, and community support for repowering the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant, we

(Continued on Page 5)

MPSC OKs Line 5 tunnel, but they aren't the last word on building it

LANSING – The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) on Dec. 1 approved Enbridge's plan to build a tunnel to encase their Line 5 oil and natural gas pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac.

The MPSC's 2-0 decision is the final step in gaining state approval for the five-mile-long tunnel, which would be encased in bedrock under the Straits between St. Ignace and Mackinaw City. An ongoing permitting process from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, plus a potential lawsuit against this ruling, means this isn't the final word on building the tunnel.

MPSC Chairman Dan Scripps said the tunnel project is the safest option among multiple alternatives to move petroleum and natural gas through the state and region. Line 5 starts in Wisconsin and terminates in Sarnia, Ontario. The current Line 5 set-up

(Continued on Page 5)

Hell- Oh Canada! Gordie Howe Bridge approaches mid-river meet-and-greet



THE CONSTRUCTION of the Gordie Howe International Bridge over the Detroit River between Detroit, at right, and Windsor, Ontario, currently offers a rare opportunity to see work on a new, major span between the U.S. and Canada – or actually all of North America. The last time there was such an opportunity was the completion of the second Blue Water Bridge between Port Huron and Sarnia, Ontario, in 1997.

By Marty Mulcahy
Editor

It's beginning to look a lot like a major international bridge crossing.

Both Canadian and American trades workers have been hard at work for the past five years in spots below, at, and well above the level of the Detroit River, building the Gordie Howe International Bridge. And now workers toiling at the leading edge of what's now the most prominent

portion of the project – the road decks from both sides – are within hailing distance of each other over the water.

"Starting from the towers in Windsor and Detroit, the bridge deck is built outward toward the center of the river, one segment at a time using a crane on the deck, eventually meeting in the middle," says the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority. "Construction materials and equipment are transported over the back span to

the construction zone, eliminating the need for equipment to operate from the water."

The 1.5-mile crossing will be the longest cable-stayed bridge in North America, and 10th longest in the world, with a main span of .53 mile. Supporting the span now and upon its completion next year will be 216 metal-stranded stay cables, 108 on each side, which are attached to the tops of each tower and then anchored into 35 concrete ground-level boxes on

each side of the river.

The six-lane bridge deck and road deck will have a total of 106 segments. Each floor beam weighs 55,000 lbs. and each edge girder for the road and bridge decks weighs 99,000 lbs. Each concrete precast panel for the road and bridge decks weighs between 35,000 lbs. to 55,000 lbs.

Supporting all that weight are the aforementioned attached cables, which are connected to

(Continued on Page 2)

Viewpoints



Endless labor law barriers

Last month, the United Auto Workers announced an unprecedented organizing effort at 13 non-union auto manufacturing operations in the United States. This attempts to build on the union's success in winning favorable contracts with the Big Three automakers (Ford, GM, and Stellantis), which has already led to wage increases at non-union plants.

Winning in facilities, particularly in the South, where the UAW has failed multiple times in the past would be a triumphant vindication of the aggressiveness of new union president Shawn Fain and his leadership team. It would signal a true resurgence for the labor movement, with 150,000 workers potentially at stake. And organizing is already under way.

But as the UAW is surely aware, there's a big difference between earning a new contract at an established union company and starting from scratch. The latter bumps up against significant barriers inherent in U.S. labor law, where even when the system works, the wheels of justice turn too late to make meaningful change in the workplace.

In fact, there's a perfect example of this left over from one of the last major UAW organizing efforts at a non-union automaker. Richard Ortiz, who was a production associate at Tesla's plant in Fremont, Calif., was fired for protected union activity in October 2017. Every administrative body that has looked at the case, including the most conservative court of appeals in the nation, has ruled in Ortiz's favor. Yet he still doesn't have his job, more than six years later.

The case shows how a persistent, aggressive employer that doesn't want a union can frustrate collective bargaining by flagrantly violating labor law, and trusting that resulting minuscule penalties and especially the glacial slowness of the legal system will let them win in the end. "It's standard operating procedure to delay as long as possible," said Nelson Lichtenstein, labor expert and professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara. "It doesn't matter if they win or lose."

Ortiz, along with his fellow organizers, faced retaliation for handing out union flyers to colleagues and wearing UAW T-shirts to work. He was demoted from his position on the assembly line, "coercively interrogated" on three occasions by managers, and eventually fired along with hundreds of other workers in October 2017.

Ortiz and the UAW alleged that the mass firing, which Tesla claimed was based on performance, was an unfair labor practice intended to replace vocal pro-union workers with temps, and filed a claim with the National Labor Relations Board. Tesla never made the negative reviews that were supposed to be the basis for the firings available.

At that point in 2017, Donald Trump's pro-corporate NLRB had little interest in acting precipitously on the case. It languished for three and a half years. Finally, in March 2021, the board ruled that Ortiz was illegally fired and had to be able to return to work. As part of the ruling, Musk was also supposed to delete a tweet insinuating that workers would lose stock options if they voted in a union.

Of course, the "penalty" for this violation is paltry: The worker gets back pay, less whatever wages he earned in the meantime while not working for the company that engaged in the illegal firing. While the NLRB today is trying to add additional compensation, like housing or transportation costs, that reflect the real loss of a job, in reality it costs a company next to nothing to fire union organizers.

Moreover, the NLRB ruling didn't end Ortiz's ordeal. Tesla appealed, not to the Ninth Circuit Court in California where Ortiz worked, but the Fifth Circuit, which includes Texas. The Fifth Circuit, of course, is notoriously conservative and subsequently anti-union. Tesla has appealed other NLRB rulings to the Fifth Circuit as well, in one case successfully, as the court ruled the company's uniform policy, which bars union insignias, is lawful. But even this very conservative court ruled in Ortiz's favor. In March of this year, a three-judge panel ruled that the nominal reason for firing Ortiz was protected union activity not related to his job performance, and that the firing was motivated by animus.

Tesla petitioned to have the Fifth Circuit rehear the case en banc, with all of its judges present. That was agreed to by the court in July, and an en banc hearing has not yet been scheduled. So as we hit December 2023, Ortiz remains out of his job from which Tesla fired him, by all accounts illegally, in October 2017.

"It's a problem with the framework that we do this work in," said Larry Cohen, former president of the Communications Workers of America. "He's won at every step and he's not back."

The lack of speed to rectify illegal union busting, and the way in which corporations can just drag out cases to gain the benefits of blocking union momentum while avoiding the (meager) consequences, presents a structural hurdle, particularly to organizing new workplaces. Because the NLRB is aware that most of their rulings will be appealed, they spend a lot of time trying to make them bulletproof for appellate courts. That caution eats up more time and is beneficial to management.

"When you have the head of the company who is the founder, the proprietary capitalist," Lichtenstein said, citing Musk, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, and former Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, "they see a union challenge as a personal affront." The law helps them fight those affronts, and this means the biggest organizing effort from a union in decades faces a huge uphill battle.

The high-profile, successful actions by the UAW in the Big Three strikes gave them a lot of goodwill among autoworkers and the public. But the law really is on the side of the companies. That will come into play during organizing, then later if a union election has to be held, and even after that amid the often-interminable bargaining for a first contract. And these barriers are of course critical to the fight to ensure that electric-vehicle jobs are good jobs.

If large parts of the sector are not unionized, that could depress wages and work conditions for everyone. "While Musk and his colleagues are rushing to the EV future, they're trying to drag us back to a robber-baron past," Ortiz wrote in 2021, "where bosses call the shots and workers are treated as costs to be minimized. They fired me because I tried to improve the lives of my coworkers and myself," he told *More Perfect Union*. "We were there to make (Musk) famous. It's all about him. What are we? Disposable."

David Dayer
The American Prospect

Gordie Howe Bridge approaches mid-river

(Continued from Page 1)

the second-tallest structures in the state and the region – the massive 722-foot-tall towers on either side of the river.

Since construction began on Oct. 5, 2018, on both sides of the river, about 10,000 people have worked more than 10 million hours of work on the project.

The bridge authority said the construction method for the bridge is called an "unbalanced cantilever system" It said the term cantilever in construction typically refers to a balanced approach with the same level of construction occurring on each side of the tower. However, the Gordie Howe International Bridge's construction is "unbalanced," with the back span of the road deck constructed first, supported by temporary falsework bents, before construction progressed on the main span over the Detroit River.

The bridge authority's latest update on Dec. 5 said "after construction of the bridge deck over the Detroit River started in December 2022, 2023 was a year of significant and stunning progress. Half of the bridge deck is now complete as crews continue to install steel girders and floor beams and place concrete precast panels. Also known as the main span, the bridge deck will be 138 feet above water near the towers with a 5 percent incline reaching 150 feet in the middle of the river."

Corporations: Pay no attention to our sleazy price gouging!

By Jim Hightower

According to an old saying, "You can't squeeze blood from a turnip." True. But that raises this question:



Who would even try squeezing blood from a turnip? Well, metaphorically speaking, if "blood"

means profit, and "turnips" are customers, airlines are eager to apply the squeeze. As are banks, credit card outfits, cable TV and Internet hucksters, car rental companies, concert promoters... and can anyone decipher their insurance policies!?

I'm not talking about fair profit, but junk fees, hidden charges, undisclosed add-ons, and other "gotchas" that brand-name giants sneak into the fine print of their price tags. It's pure corporate larceny, adding up to a stunning level of unearned profit for the perpetrators – airlines picked our pockets for nearly \$7 billion last year in baggage fees alone; credit card dealers plucked \$14 billion from us in punitive late fees; and the overall corporate haul from this secretive squeeze on consumers now tops \$64 billion a year!

Shouldn't companies have to tell you – in plain language – what they're actually charging you... and for what?

"Yes!" says Joe Biden, who's pressuring the gougers to come clean. "Hoo-ray!" exult consumers who're tired of being played for suckers.

Of course, as another saying notes, "Where there's a will, there's a thousand won'ts." So a flock of corporate lobbyists are now swarming the Capitol crying: "Save junk fees!" Their arguments are hilariously absurd: They assert that price disclosure will "confuse consumers;" that government should not "interfere" in the free market; that it's "technically infeasible" to tell consumers the real price – and a group who actually quibbled, "What exactly is a fee?"

On average, the bridge authority says, up to 35 people are working on the decks every day. They access the decks by walking up 200 flights of stairs or by using the temporary elevator on the north side of each tower.

Substantial work was completed on the road deck before bridge deck work began on the Canadian and U.S. sides.

There's also substantial work going on in southwest Detroit behind the bridge, where the U.S.

Port of Entry is being developed on a 167-acre site that will be one of the largest border facilities in North America. There will be 13 structures that will be located at the U.S. Point of Entry. The bridge will link to I-75.



THE SIX-LANE APPROACH RAMP to the Gordie Howe Bridge is shown under construction near West Jefferson in Detroit. Unlike the current set-up with the nearby Ambassador Bridge, traffic from the new span will be able to flow directly onto the I-75 freeway in Detroit.

A dad living in the Midwest calls his adult son on the West Coast the day before Christmas Eve and says, "I hate to ruin your holidays, but I have to tell you: your mother and I are divorcing."

"Dad, what are you talking about?" the son gasps.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the father says. "We're sick of each other and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister and give her the news."

The son calls his sister, who lives on the East Coast, and she explodes on the phone, "like hell they're getting divorced! No way! Why?!" "I'm going to get to the bottom of this!"

She calls her dad and screams, "No way you two should divorce! Don't do a

Just joking

single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. We're coming home, do you hear me?" And she and hangs up.

The dad man hangs up his phone, smiles, and turns to his wife, who

who just walked into the room and heard yelling on the other end of the line. "What was that all about?" she asked.

"It's all settled sweetie!" the dad said. "I convinced the kids to come home for Christmas - and guess what? For once they're paying their own way!"

"If you can't be the greatest of all time, strive to be better than most."

– Brian Kresmery, Roofers Local 149, (1957-)

"He who labors diligently need never despair; for all things are accomplished by diligence and labor."

– Menander (342 BC - 292 BC)

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BUILDING MICHIGAN: Big Red HISTORY IN THE MAKING

By Marty Mulcahy



ONE OF MICHIGAN'S iconic structures is the Holland Harbor Lighthouse – or “Big Red.” The lamp atop the house-like lighthouse is a beacon visible to mariners 13 miles into Lake Michigan. None of the keepers made it their home, all of them lived ashore while tending to the Holland light. The building’s stark red color against a snowy backdrop or one of Lake Michigan’s often spectacular sunsets makes it a favorite target of photographers.

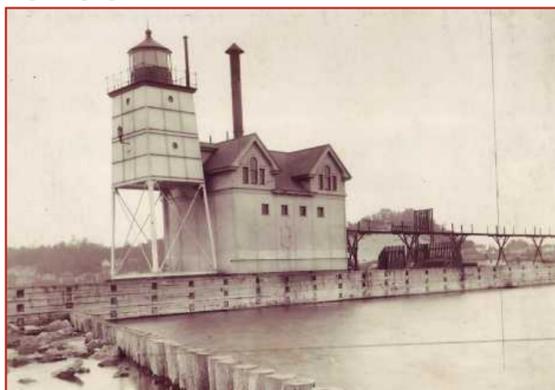
Photo credit: City of Holland

It’s a claim that’s impossible to quantify, thus tough to argue with. But ultimately, when you peer out at “Big Red” on a warm summer evening or even a frigid winter’s day – it is completely understandable.

We refer to the local Chamber of Commerce-driven claim that the Holland Harbor Lighthouse is “Michigan’s most photographed lighthouse.” Maybe it is, maybe it isn’t. But if you’ve been to Holland State Park on the Lake Michigan shore, chances are good you yourself have taken out your phone and irresistibly snapped a few shots of the Holland Harbor Lighthouse, adding to the local lore.

“Don’t miss Michigan’s most photographed lighthouse, and Holland favorite, ‘Big Red,’” says the Holland Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. “For a great view of Big Red, visit Holland State Park, and walk along the boardwalk to the north pier (wheelchair accessible). You can also view Big Red from Mt. Pisgah, where the dune staircase takes you 157 feet above sea level.”

The current set-up of the Holland lighthouse dates to 1936, when the U.S. Coast Guard merged a 1907 fog signal building with a roof-mounted light tower, creating the house-



THE HOLLAND RANGE Light in 1913. The structures were reconfigured to their present set-up in 1936, and then re-painted red in the 1950s.

Photo credit: U.S. Coast Guard

like structure that continues to act as a beacon today.

While some of Michigan’s lighthouses have become legendary for some combination of the engineering that went into building them, or for their longevity, or perhaps for a tall, classic cylindrical masonry exterior – the Holland Harbor light essentially owes a fair amount of its picturesque fame to its paint job.

“The Holland Harbor Lighthouse, affectionately known as Big Red, reigns as the most photographed lighthouse in Michigan. But what many folks don’t know is that Big

Red wasn’t always red,” says a 2021 article in Michigan’s *Waterfront Lifestyle Magazine*. “The lighthouse used to be yellow and purple. In 1956, the U.S. Coast Guard sandblasted the tower and painted it bright red, satisfying a requirement that all navigational aids on the right side of a harbor entrance must be red,” says John Gronberg, president of the Holland Harbor Lighthouse Historical Commission and a member of the Michigan Lighthouse Alliance. “Thus began Holland’s love affair with their famous Big Red icon.”

Like most Michigan light-

houses, the current Holland Harbor Lighthouse had its share of inadequate predecessors. The Michigan Historic Site marker explains that when seeking a location for himself and his Dutch emigrant followers in 1847, the Rev. A.C. Van Raalte settled in the area and was intrigued by the potential of using Black Lake (now Lake Macatawa) as a harbor connecting into Lake Michigan. The group saw a harbor as critical to economic development.

But first a channel needed be dug, and the Dutch settlers did the work themselves, with the first steamboat passing through and making port in 1859.

The first lighthouse built at this location was a small, square wooden structure erected in 1872, after Congress appropriated \$4,000 to the project. In 1880 the Lighthouse Service installed a new light atop a metal pole in a protective cage. The oil lantern was lowered by pulleys for service. In 1886, the federal government established the growing harbor’s first lifesaving station. By 1899 the channel had been relocated and harbor work completed. By 1900 it was a very busy harbor, with the passage of 1,095 schooners, steamers and barges that year moving past the light into Lake Michigan.

“At the turn of the century, a steel tower was built for the light and in 1907 the present structure was erected,” says the Michigan Historic Site marker. “Named the Holland Harbor South Pierhead Lighthouse, it has a gabled roof that reflects the Dutch influence in the area.”

“The steel tower was an obvious improvement from the wooden structure,” says a history provided by the City of Holland. “Not only could it better withstand severe weather, it could be spotted by incoming vessels as far away as 13 miles. When fog lay on the lake, as it so often did, a light signal was useless. It was obvious that a fog signal ... must be incorporated.

“In 1907, a steam-operated fog signal was installed. Two coal fed Marine boilers produced steam to sound the locomotive whistle used as a fog signal. The 1907 building was built as a fog signal building only. It had no light (the light

stood adjacent to it as a separate structure until 1936 when the Coast Guard consolidated the two structures by putting a light tower on top of the fog signal).”

The wooden upper level of the current lighthouse, said the City of Holland, “is Queen Anne Victorian in style. The steeply sloped roof gables and Palladian window motif that are still intact evidence this. The original roofing material was probably cedar shakes.”

“Between the years of 1908 and 1912, three different keepers shared time tending the light, showing how demanding maintaining the signal constantly was on a person,” said *Michigan Lighthouse Series – Holland’s Big Red*. “Not only did the lighthouse keeper maintain the light and signal, they also stood watch. As the steam powered foghorn required 45 minutes to become operational, the watch was generally broken down into six-hour shifts.”

In 1934, the lighthouse and its lamp were wired for electricity, and electric air compressors for the fog horn were installed. The entire operation became automated and no staff were required to operate it. The electrification marked the end of the era of lighthouse keepers there that had spanned 68 years.

The U.S. Coast Guard said when it announced plans to abandon the lighthouse in 1970,

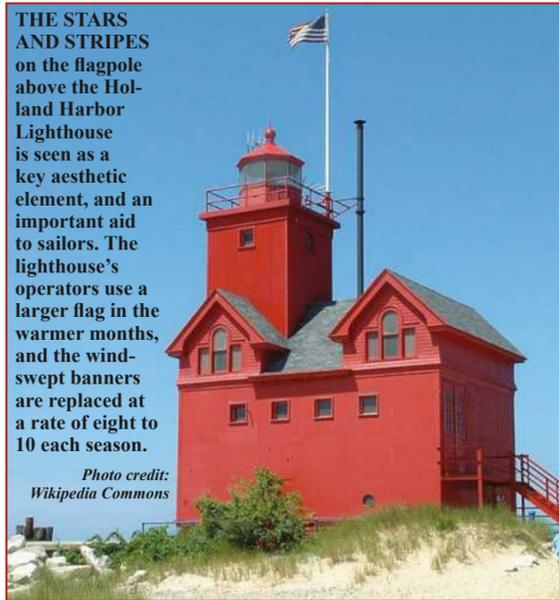
“citizens of Holland signed petitions and wrote letters to save their beloved landmark. This effort prompted the following reply by J. Natwig, Chief of Staff of the Ninth Coast Guard District: “Based upon numerous letters from the citizens of Holland, Michigan, we have recognized the South Pierhead Light Structure to be an aesthetic landmark. Plans for the improvement of the aids to navigation system at Holland have been revised to provide for the continued maintenance of this structure by the U.S. Coast Guard. I trust this information relieves any doubts you may have had for the future of the South Pierhead Light.”

By 2005, the lighthouse was deemed excess by the U.S. Coast Guard, and its control was transferred to the National Parks Service and then to the Holland Harbor Lighthouse Historical Commission. Unlike a number of lighthouses in the state, Holland’s remains closed to the public, and Big Red is best viewed from the nearby state park.

“In 2012, people were complaining that Big Red was looking more like Big Pink,” says *Lighthouse Friends*. A 2009 paint job faded faster than expected. A local company and paint supplier then stepped up to fund a new coat of red on the structure, and it’s repainted every decade.

THE STARS AND STRIPES on the flagpole above the Holland Harbor Lighthouse is seen as a key aesthetic element, and an important aid to sailors. The lighthouse’s operators use a larger flag in the warmer months, and the wind-swept banners are replaced at a rate of eight to 10 each season.

Photo credit: Wikipedia Commons



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THE PALISADES Nuclear Power Plant on the shores of Lake Michigan is set to add two new reactors, as well as a re-start of their existing reactor. The plant first began commercial operation in 1971.

Owner poised to resurrect Palisades nuclear plant

(Continued from Page 1)

have started the program to build our first two SMR-300 reactor units at the Palisades site," said a statement by Holtec. "The existing Palisades plant refurbished with an array of enhancements is on track to be restarted by the end of 2025 and is designed to provide decades of safe and reliable service. The addition of two Holtec small modular reactors (SMRs) near the existing 800-megawatt (MW) plant will nearly double the Michigan site's total carbon-free generation capacity."

The Palisades plant was shut down by Entergy in May 2022 after 50 years in service. The reactor was de-fueled that June, and its sale to Holtec was completed later that same month with de-commissioning envisioned for completion in 2041. Holtec subsequently announced plans to re-power the unit and in October of this year, and submitted a filing with federal regulators to formally begin the process of seeking re-authorization of power operations at the plant.

The target commissioning date for the first Small Modular Reactor-300 plant is mid-2030, subject to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) regulatory reviews and oversight.

"Siting the first two SMR-300 units at Palisades eliminates the delays associated with erecting the plant at an undeveloped property and confers the many benefits of synergy that accrue from the presence of a co-located operating plant – including shared infrastructure and operational expertise, enhancements to grid stability, and resource optimization," said Holtec's CEO, Dr. Kris Singh. "By building at our own site with our own credit and our own at-risk funds, we hope to deliver the dual-unit SMR-300 plant within schedule and budget – an outcome that has eluded our industry for a long time. We thank our federal, state, and community partners for their critical support, which have made the Palisades re-start and our pioneering SMR-300 construction in Michigan feasible."

Earlier this year the State of Michigan budgeted \$150 million in 2024 to aid the plant's transition from decommissioning to operations. "The investment to restart Palisades, which I proudly voted for, is paying even greater dividends," said State Rep. Joey Andrews (D-St. Joseph). "Not only will the initial restart mean the preservation of hundreds of high-paying jobs, constructing and employing two new reactors will put more of our friends and neighbors to work and help us reach our 2040 new clean energy goals. Today is a great day for Southwest Michigan."

Clean energy bills signed by governor will transform power production in Michigan

(Continued from Page 1)

a boon to several trades. Solar, wind, hydro and nuclear are among the green energies now being given the green light by the state, but there is still a place for natural gas-fired plants, with one caveat. The new package of laws mandates the use of "carbon capture" technology at gas-fired plants. The capture technology is still expensive and evolving, but installing and maintaining the technology at the state's power plants is sure to be a major, future employer for building trades workers.

"Michigan's clean energy future will be built by hardworking union men and women," said Mike Barnwell, president of the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights. "Gov. Whitmer and leaders in the Michigan Legislature are setting an example for the rest of the country on how to face climate change head on while creating tens of thousands of good-paying clean energy jobs that pay fair wages and offer great benefits. Our state put the world on wheels, assembled the arsenal of democracy, and built the American middle class. All that progress has been made possible by unions and now, with the strongest clean energy labor standards in the country, we will build the future of clean energy right here in Michigan. Let's get it done."

Only Connecticut, New York, Minnesota and Oregon share Michigan's accelerated carbon-free power production plan by 2040 timeline. And the national media paid close attention: the CBS News called the legislation an "overarching package of bills." PBS and Fox News called the reforms "sweeping changes." The Associated Press called them "ambitious clean energy mandates."

And putting Michigan into that fast-tracked realm has its share of detractors, including the entire slate of Republican lawmakers in the state House and Senate who voted against the legislation.

"If wind and solar are so inexpensive, why are they subsidized by the government? I mean, come on, nobody believes that," said state Rep. Andrew Beeler (R-Port Huron), to a local radio station. "Nobody believes that wind and solar powering our grid is going to be less expensive. If it were, why wouldn't we be doing it already?"

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce also has its doubts. "Gov. Whitmer signed seven bills into law that will drastically change the way the state develops and regulates its energy portfolio," said a statement from the Chamber. "At her bill signing event, rhetoric... focused on benefits to businesses and savings to ratepayers, yet energy experts disagree. In actuality, three of the bills (Senate Bills 271, 273 and 502) would hamstring the ability for electric providers to maintain the grid affordably and reliably."

"Through its leadership of the Great Lakes Growth Coalition, the Michigan Chamber voiced strong concerns that the bills will lead to the premature retiring of existing power generation systems, that will then need to be paid for by industrial and commercial customers. Additionally, GLG partners fear these costs will then be passed on to hard-working Michigan families."

On the other hand, some green groups bemoaned the inclusion of natural gas plants in the state's energy portfolio, even though the energy source creates about one-third of the state's energy supply.

The 2023 "Clean Energy Jobs Report" by the E2 group said that clean energy businesses in Michigan added more than 5,400 workers in 2022 and now employ 123,983 Michiganders. Michigan now leads in the number of clean energy workers, the group said.

Polling shows support for the clean energy standard: a survey by Evergreen Action and Data for Progress found that 65 percent of voters supported legislation to transition the state to 100 percent clean energy.

"The bills signed by the governor today set robust clean-energy standards, and position Michigan to become a leader in responsibly fostering the critical shift away from fossil fuels, to a sustainable, clean-energy future," said State Sen. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing), lead sponsor of SBs 273 and 519 in the bill package.

Wow... injury/illness rate plunges in construction

(Continued from Page 1)

This same trend appears in the days away from work (DAFW) rate, a metric that combines recordable incidents with the resulting number of missed work hours. In 2022, construction's DAFW rate was 1.0, which was lower than the average (1.2) and lower than manufacturing, retail, transportation/warehousing and health care/social work.

However, these numbers need to be assessed alongside two major caveats. First, this new BLS data only reflects recordable injuries and illnesses, and it's well-known that many incidents go unreported. Under-reporting remains a big problem for several reasons, including a workers' compensation system that's often slow and difficult to navigate, a lack of paid sick time in many industries and workers feeling pressured or intimidated about speaking up. For example, it's estimated the 23 percent of the construction workforce is made up of undocumented workers; it's easy to see how an unscrupulous employer could take advantage of that to discourage injury reporting.

Next, these numbers don't include deaths on the job, only nonfatal incidents. While we're still waiting for this year's release of Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) data, construction has historically had one of the higher fatality rates among all industries. In 2021, construction had the highest number of deaths and the third-highest rate among all industries.

Using safety to recruit and retain workers. In today's tight labor market, many companies are competing for the same group of available workers. Whether it's a warehouse job, a manufacturing job or a construction job, workers have more choices than ever before. And they should be armed with accurate information about the safety and health risks of those industries so they can make the best decision for themselves and their families.

For decades, construction has been regarded as a dangerous job. And it can be extremely dangerous when work isn't performed with the proper safety and health programs, protocols and procedures in place. It appears the industry as a whole is making significant, year-over-year strides when it comes to injuries and illnesses.

Laborers International Union of North America District Councils, local unions and other LIUNA affiliates can help change this decades-old perception by spreading the message that the industry is changing for the better and can improve even further. We should share that message with young people entering the workforce for the first time and with more experienced workers who may be considering a career change as construction work booms. Along the way, the Laborers Health and Safety Fund of North America will continue working with LIUNA signatory contractors to make jobsites safer and reduce the number of serious injuries and fatalities in the industry.

When workers, families and communities start to view construction work as just as safe – or safer – than many other jobs, we can attract and retain even more workers to this industry. And once they're here, it's easy to tout the strong union wages, excellent benefits and powerful voice that being a LIUNA member brings to workers and their families.

MPSC OKs Line 5 tunnel, but they aren't the last word on building it

(Continued from Page 1)

dates to the 1950s, and utilizes twin steel pipelines lying atop the Straits lakebed – making them vulnerable to a strike by a ship's anchor. "We need to get those pipelines off the bottomlands and out of the Great Lakes," Scripps said.

However, work can't proceed on the project without federal permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which isn't expected to make a decision until early 2026. Canadian energy giant Enbridge, which is seeking to build the tunnel, called the Army Corps' process "inexplicably lethargic."

"Ultimately, the MPSC agreed with its staff's conclusions that Line 5 transports critically needed energy for Michigan and the region and placing the Line 5 pipeline in the Great Lakes Tunnel better protects the Great Lakes," Enbridge said in a statement.

Pointing to the potential ecological devastation of a pipeline leak, the Whitmer Administration and Attorney General Dana Nessel have not been supportive of the tunnel project, estimated to cost \$500 million. The project would also become a major employer for the building trades in an area of Michigan that rarely sees such major construction.

"The tunnel project was approved by the Legislature five years ago with bipartisan support to protect our Great Lakes – while also creating thousands of good-paying, mainly union jobs," said Upper Peninsula Republican state Sen. Ed McBroom (R-38th District). "In addition to creating jobs and protecting our water, the tunnel will ensure families in the Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan continue to have access to affordable propane to heat their homes, and the even larger bulk of other products that support tens of thousands of jobs across the state and region are secured."

The project has been discussed for the good part of a decade, and construction was originally scheduled to begin in 2021, with the tunnel expected to be operational by 2024. Lawsuits and permitting agencies have slowed the process.

"In taking revenge, a man is but even with his enemy; but in passing it over, he is superior."
–Sir Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)

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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 maintain 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.

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Happy Holidays
Wishing you peace and goodwill this holiday season and a prosperous new year.

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Tom Drost, Recording Secretary

Eric McPherson, Business Agent
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David Germain
Chris Peltier, Warden
Shaun Allen, Conductor



**Plumbers,
Pipe Fitters,
Service Technicians,
Gas Distribution**

Local 190

UA Local 190
ANNARBOR – A MONTHLY UNION MEETING will be held on Monday, Jan. 8 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

UNION HALL CLOSED FOR AN UP COMING 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.

A BIG THANK YOU – CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE: This year our annual children's Christmas party was a big success! We thank the following members who are part of the Christmas committee, for putting this wonderful event together, a very special thank you to Janie Anderson, Brian Keating, Randall Whitaker, Melissa Wood, Doug and Tammy Mayher, Pat Duffy, Ralph Booth, Nathaniel Knapp and Les Pullins III for organizing this party. We also thank all of the volunteers who helped out this year wrapping the gifts and helping out the day of this party, we could not have done it without the help of all of our fantastic volunteers!!

APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITY: Applications will be available for the Plumber/Pipe-fitter Apprenticeship Programs for Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC. There are two options to apply. Applicants may apply online, starting Jan. 2, 2024 <https://www.ua190.org/apprentice-application.aspx>, the link will be in the upper right of this page and on the UA 190 home web page. The second option is, you can apply, in person, at the Training Center, during normal business hours which are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.. Training Center address is 8040 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor MI 48103. Training Center phone no. 734-426-3700. Applications will be accepted Tuesday, Jan. 2 and close on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024.

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, December 11th through Friday, December 15th
Monday, December 18th through Friday, December 22nd
This will be limited to six welders per day.

Also 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 DOWN HILL WELDING TRAINING & 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 4th and 5th 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 for the fusing class, please contact Business Agent Pat Duffy at (734) 368-4423, Business Agent Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at (734) 369-1432.

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

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

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

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK – IMPORTANT REMINDER: All members who get laid off or report back to work *please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. Please report the last day in which you worked. When calling to report back to work please let Karen know the contractor and the date you reported back to work.* PLEASE NOTE: All Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: **NEW BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD APP FOR YOUR SMART DEVICE:** You can download the free Blue Cross Blue Shield APP on your smart device. This will allow you to see a copy of your BCBS card, review your claims, explanation benefits and much more. **Download: BCBSM**

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: Each month on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. until 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 will be closed from Dec. 23 to Jan. 1 for the Holidays. The training center will reopen on Jan. 2 and 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, MD-HHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines.

Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!

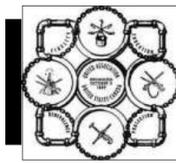
Please submit all certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date.

Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): Please register through the website: ua190.org 2024 Schedule - Mondays – April 1, July 15, and Sept. 30. Each class will start at 5 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 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-9pm, closing Dec. 14, 2023. The welding lab will reopen Jan. 4 and will be scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays at 4:30pm. to 9pm. and 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 (Continued next column)



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

UA Local 357
KALAMAZOO – UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on **Tuesday, Jan. 9** at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: We would like to give a special Thank You the Griffioen's who did an **OUTSTANDING** Job with this year's Christmas Party. It was well-attended and a lot of fun for all the members that could attend. We will be looking forward to next year's event.

OPEN ENROLLMENT: If you missed a life event in 2023 ... such as the birth of a child or a marriage ... now is the time to add them to the Health Insurance Plan. Please contact Lori Hatfield, Benefit Liaison, at 269-679-3708 or email lhathfield@ualocal357.com to get the form required along with further instructions. Note that activation will be as of January 1st, 2024, if all required documents are returned by December 31st, 2023.

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

Local 190, con't

course starts on **Jan 9**. The second course starts **Sept 10**. Courses run on Tues. 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). **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 Update (8hrs): This is a two-day course. **2024 Schedule:** First course starts **April 16, 2024**, Second course starts **Sept 24, 2024**. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next class or register through the website: ua190.org

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 **Spring 2024**. 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 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

RETIREMENT GRATIFICATIONS: Congratulations to Scott Morris. Scott initiated June 10, 1987, retired Nov. 1. May you enjoy as much relaxation as you did hard work throughout your career. Wishing you the best.

RETIREE MEETINGS – PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Jan. 4 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries, and a warm cup of coffee.

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

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 first Monday of every month. Breakfast will commence at 9 am at Long Island Cafe located at 5222 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number 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 (Continued next column)



**Plumbers, Pipe Fitters
& HVAC Service Local 111**

UA Local 111
UPPER PENINSULA – Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays will be on the Officers and Staff of Local 111!

You still have time to pick up a Hoodies, T-Shirts, hats, knife or flashlight - in stock now at either hall. These make great Christmas gifts!

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 Rosalee 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.

Local 357 con't

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, work-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 Kyle Wiswell on his recent marriage to Aubrey. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to the family of Nicholas Eberstein on the recent passing of his mother.

Condolences to the family of Philip Stickels on the recent passing of his son.

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.

"When the character of a man is not clear to you, look at his friends."
–Japanese Proverb

At this holiday season SMACNA Detroit celebrates with Local Union 80 as we carry on the tradition of quality from generation to generation.

Partners in Detroit
SMACNA Detroit Contractors and Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 work together through our jointly managed funds to capture growth, ensure productivity and maintain fund longevity.

Joint Trust Fund Management Trustees

Central Coordinating Committee
Nick Colone, *HM White*
Todd Hill, *Ventcon*
David Karl, *Mechanical Sheet Metal*
Dawn Norris-Senopole, *Forced Air Systems*

Insurance Fund
David Karl, *Mechanical Sheet Metal*
Rick Mead, *RW Mead & Sons*
Dawn Norris-Senopole, *Forced Air Systems*
Ian Switalski, *Limbach*

Pension - Annuity Fund
Nick Colone, *HM White*
Matthew Cramer, *Dee Cramer*
Todd Hill, *Ventcon*
Phil McShane, *McShane Mechanical*

Supplemental Unemployment Benefit Fund
Geoffrey Kimmel, *EW Ensroth*
Dawn Norris-Senopole, *Forced Air Systems*
Randy Pagel, *Bumler Mechanical*
Ian Switalski, *Limbach*

Joint Apprentice and Training Committee
Nick Colone, *HM White*
Todd Hill, *Ventcon*
Phil McShane, *McShane Mechanical*
Glenn Parvin, *CASS Sheet Metal*

SMACNA Detroit Staff
Mark Saba, *Executive Director*
Charlene Zezawa, *Administrator*
Haley Dreer, *Administrative Assistant*

We wish you a safe and peaceful Holiday Season



UA Local 85
SAGINAW – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, we wish all of you and your families a safe and prosperous holiday.

The next **Union Meeting** will be on **Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023**, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Road starting at 7:00 PM and will serve as our Christmas Party.

Local Union Election: All ballots have been mailed and 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.

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
jpomerville@ualocal85.org

Jamie Badour, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8515
jbador@ualocal85.org

Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514
tdanielak@ualocal85.org

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

Bobby Anderson, Organizer (989) 799-5261 x 8512
rjanderson@ualocal85.org

Kristin Tuthill, Office Professional (989) 799-5261 x 8511
ktuthill@ualocal85.org

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

The **new website** is up and running. Please check out www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members to access members only information. Login information is username: first initial with full last name. Password is 00 with your UA Card No. If you have 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.

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 Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org

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

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

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

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS: Address & Phone Update: Please call the Union Hall to update any address or phone no. changes at (989) 799-5261.

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

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



UA Local 370
FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday Jan. 9, 2023, at 7:00.**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!
Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

Weld Test Saturday, November 18th at 7:00am
First Aid & CPR March 6th @ 4:30pm
September 18th @ 4:30

HVAC Apprenticeship Class New apprenticeship class begins in January.

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, January 9, 2023, at 4:00pm
FMR Committee – Tuesday January 9, 2023, at 4:00pm
PAC committee – Tuesday January 9, 2023, at 5:00pm
Executive Board – Tuesday January 9, 2023, at 5:00pm
Building Committee – Tuesday January 9, 2023, at 6:00pm
Finance Committee – Tuesday January 9, 2023, at 6:15pm
JATC Committee – TBD

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

Local 370 office hours 7:30am – 4:30pm.
Sub/Sick checks will be processed 8:00am – 11:30 am and 1:30pm – 4:15pm daily.

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. 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, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.

Mobile App. Our mobile app. is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search **UA Local 370**. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.

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

We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1.00 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

Plumbing, Mechanical and Residential Code Books are now available at the hall. Books are \$75 each.

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

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test contact business agent, Zack (Continued next column)



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704
DETROIT – The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 10, 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 class is being scheduled at the Local 704 Training Center, Call Jeff Gray to reserve your spot. ASSE 15000, ITM classes are scheduled for after the first of the year, this is a 40-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 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.

On behalf of the Officers of Local 704, we wish everyone has a safe and happy holiday season.

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 370, con't
Desrochers for application and testing dates.

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



UA Local 333
LANSING – The December meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911. It will start at 6:30pm with the Holiday dinner for members followed by a short meeting.

The January meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2023, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911, at 7:30pm.

Welding	Where	When	Class size	Time
10 Weeks				
1/8/24 - 3/13/24	Lansing: Beginners	Mondays and Wednesdays	13	4:30-8:30 PM
1/9/24 - 3/14/24	Lansing: Advanced	Tuesday and Thursdays	13	4:30-8:30 PM
1/8/24 - 3/14/24	Battle Creek	Mondays and Wednesdays	13	4:30-8:30 PM
1/8/24 - 3/13/24	Jackson: Beginners	Mondays and Wednesdays	9	4:30-8:30 PM
1/9/24 - 3/14/24	Jackson: Advanced	Tuesday and Thursdays	9	4:30-8:30 PM
2/5/24 - 3/14/24	Lansing: MIG	Mondays and Wednesdays	4	4:30-8:30 PM
To Be Determined		Lansing Orbital Class 60 hrs.	4	To Be Determined
First Aid and CPR	Jeremy Graza			
Jan. 9th	Lansing T.C.	Tuesday		5:00-9:00 pm

333-28 September A & B CPR
Advance Pipefitting Jeff Thom
January 29th Lansing T.C. Monday & Wed., 24 hrs. 12 5:00-8:30 PM

Med-Gas Certification Tim Hicks
January 8th Lansing T.C. Monday & Wed. 40 hours 10 5:00 - 8:30 PM

Intro to Navisworks Erik Kosloski
January 28th Lansing T.C. Monday & Wed., 24 hours 6 5:00-8:00 PM

* PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE WEBSITE UA333.org, OR IF YOU NEED HELP CALL THE LANSING TRAINING CENTER 517.323.0333*

Local 333 Battle Creek Retiree's Breakfasts are held the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Café, 2587 Capital Avenue, Battle Creek, MI. 9am. Please spread the word.

Retiree's Breakfast in Jackson: Retirees will meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10 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.

Sincere condolences to Wayne Rolfe and his family on the loss of his mother, Shirley Rolfe who passed away at the age of 85 years old. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this sorrowful time.

Deepest sympathy to Timothy Higelmiere on the loss of his mother, who passed away Nov. 17, 2023. We are so very sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Our thoughts and prayers go to David Wade on the loss of his mother who recently passed away. We are so sorry for your loss.

"Go, and never darken my towels again."
—Groucho Marx (1890 - 1977)

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 Journeyman with no changes for retirees.

PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL CERTIFICATIONS: Per the UA, as of January 2019 all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if

they have expired, please contact Diana at (517) 323-0333. Even though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it is the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.

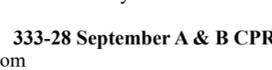
NOTE: Members needing assistance with the Journeyman Plumbing Code test prep please contact Tim Hicks at the Training Center.

Get well wishes to all our members who have had a recent surgery or illness. We wish you a very speedy recovery.

To you and your loved ones: Season's Greeting Merry Christmas & A Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Milwaukee, WI – Neenah, WI – Marquette, MI
414-476-9370 WWW.IWL8.ORG

SEASON'S GREETINGS
From
IRON WORKERS LOCAL 8



Milwaukee, WI – Neenah, WI – Marquette, MI
414-476-9370 WWW.IWL8.ORG



WISHING YOU A PEACEFUL HOLIDAY SEASON AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

WPCP & P

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Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,
Refrigeration &
Air Conditioning Service

UA Local 636
DETROIT – **Special Nominations Meeting – Here are the nominees**

Business Manager (1 to be elected): Larry Krisniski

Financial Secretary-Treasurer (1 to be elected): Jake Regits

Business Agent (2 to be elected): (1) Jeff Selph; (2) Mark Puz Jr.; (3) Jeff Lewis; (4) Dan Gurley; (5) Mike Pierce

Executive Board (1 to be elected): (1) John Verran; (2) Mike Ferrante II; (3) Brandon Spaulding; (4) Kim Pigeon; (5) Ed Hyvonen

Financial Committee (1 to be elected): (1) Malcome Harris; (2) Michael N. Sylvester; (3) Bill Fast

Examining Board (1 to be elected): (1) Jason Blouin

Michigan Pipe Trades Delegates (2 to be elected): Frank Grammatico, Jeff Rimer, Lou Hadley, Ed Hyvonen, John Verran, Mike Ferrante II, Mike Pierce, Mark Puz Jr., Brandon Spaulding, (10) Malcome Harris

The **Special Election** will be held **Monday, Jan. 8, 2024 at St. George Cultural Center 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. (at the Lodge) Southfield, MI 48075.** 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, Jan. 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).

Before our next regular meeting, **Tuesday Jan. 16, 2024**, Workman's Compensation Attorney Marshall Lasser will speak at 6:30 pm and answer any questions you have.

Office Hours have changed back to **8:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday.** The Office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25 for Christmas and Monday, Jan. 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 3rd Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. **The next meeting will be held January 18, 2024**

Message from Frank Grammatico Treasurer Retirees Association; First of all, I'd like to thank the Executive Board for their kind donation this past Thanksgiving Lunch. It was a big hit and the members enjoyed it very much.

Secondly, I want also to thank Local 636, The MCA, and the anonymous donor who contributed towards the Widows Basket Fund. Their generosity allowed us to fill 30 baskets and gift cards to our unfortunate widows. We have not passed out baskets since 2018, and the widows will be delighted to see volunteer retirees appear at their doorstep on Dec. 18. My thanks to the volunteers and my wife Lori for carrying on the tradition again. Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

The **Dec. 19 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.

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: Lifetime Member Don Munson Dec.

9, 2023, Lifetime Member James E. Campbell Nov. 22, 2023; Lifetime Member Curtis Wilson Nov. 21, 2023; Lifetime Member Peter Keller Nov. 25, 2023; 27-year member and twin brother of Dennis, Douglas McVettie Nov. 25, 2023; Lifetime Member Alvin Clark Dec. 4, 2023. May they Rest in Peace.

Get Well Wishes to Bradley Auten, Charles Baker, Barbara Brown, Patrick Cullen, Michael Ferrante II, David Fox, Jamie Klimowicz, Joseph Petrocella, Andrew Sarniak, Mark Surowiec, Tom Wills, John Zemmer, Rob Stevelink.

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!

Arthur Abbey III, Ronald Adkins, Steven Bragg, Brad Fassler, Michael Fontana, Bruce Johnson, Jeanette Peters, Curis Ruppel, Dwayne Muchenhirn, Robert Schroeder.

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

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.

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

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 your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The NEW NUMBER for the VRU is **877-410-9984**. Plan provider number is 7526. You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's Website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution website is www.yourplanaccess.com/benesys.

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? (Continued next column)



Local 174

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

UA Local 174
COOPERSVILLE – MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024 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, Jan. 4**, at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Condolences: It is with sadness that our brothers Jerry M. Green (12/2/23) and Glen Mason (12/9/23) have passed away. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Office Closed: The office will be closed Dec. 25, 2023 for Christmas Day and Jan. 1, 2024 for New Years Day.

Congratulations: Local 174 would like to congratulate

Local 636, con't

rent? Check your report card at mustsafe.org and if it is time for renewal call the Training Center 248-585-0636 and they will register you. Be "ready" when the calls come in. Safety modules and drug tests are paid for by the Contractors Association. **WHEN YOU STAY CURRENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE CERTIFICATION PAYMENTS.**

Training Center News.

Regular night welding running through the Winter will be Monday and Thursday nights from 4pm till 8pm

Certified Brazing class Monday and Thursday Night 4 till 8 Starting Mondays Jan 8th at 5 PM: Ammonia safety 1.

Starting Wed. Jan. 10th at 5 PM:

CSD-1, and Chillers-tear down Starting Thursday Jan 11th at 5 PM:

Hydronics-1, Revit 1 and Trimble 1.

Monday and Thursday nights with Jason from 5 till 8:

Controls 2 and Fuel gas piping for residential.

Running Saturdays Dec. through April:

Orbital/cleanroom, and HDPE Fusion class, RMD/GMAW, Downhill

All classes are \$50 per 5 weeks. Call Kim at the Training Center to sign up.

Christopher Phillips as the new Training Coordinator!

Labor Rings the Bell Update: Thank you Al Fowler, Jason Finch, Bob Derby, David Derby, Nicole Hines, Amelia Lewis, Ed Bouchard, and Alex Keeney for volunteering for Labor Rings the Bell. Thanks to your efforts we raised \$1,577.82 for the Salvation Army and WON THE TRAVELING RED KETTLE TROPHY.

Organizing Update: I've been receiving phone calls and texts about non-union workers, THANK YOU! Whether they're your friends or you're just working alongside of them, they deserve what you and I get "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! Please continue to give them my number and let's get them on the right track! It has never been a more perfect time to organize with the workload that is here, but it is definitely a team effort! 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**

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.

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 com-

BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING MIDDLETON Real Estate Training Inc. 901 Tower Drive, Suite 120 Troy, MI 48098 www.middletontraining.com 248-885-8311

mittee for their work on negotiations and to the members of Local #174 for continuing to prove their value day in and day out.

New Aetna Cards: Soon Aetna will be issuing new I.D. cards to all members who are enrolled in active member coverage (not Medicare retirees). The only difference between the old card and the new card is the 800 number on the card. All other information will be the same.

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 EAP: (888) 238-6232 Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108

Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616) 345-0788

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

nett@ua174.org. Please try to remember who you spoke with; this will help the company fix the problem.

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 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 (Continued on Page 9)

North Point Mortgage Advisors

Nicole Jenner
Loan Officer
NMLS# 2236230
Licensed in Michigan
(586) 362-4689

IBEW LOCAL UNION 557
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

Please take time to unplug, relax and enjoy the holiday season!

Season's greetings from the officers and staff at:

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 557 Saginaw, Michigan

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

SHEET METAL | AIR | RAIL | TRANSPORTATION

SMART

Sheet Metal Workers Local Union #7

Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer Samuel J. Fuller

Business Representatives

Zone 1—Eric Farrington Vance Saunders

Zone 2—Mike Adams

Zone 3—Joe Dotson John Amalfitano

Zone 4—Scott Brotherton

Zone 5—Brandon Langenfeld

Organizers

John Coleman
Mike Salas
Nick Bradley

President
Chris McFarland

Vice President
Adam Shipley

Recording Secretary
Gregg Johnson

Trustees
Mike Carpenter
Kevin Pegley
Ron Moore

Executive Board

Zone 1—Jesse Cox
Dirk Kosloski

Zone 2—Tate Brown

Zone 3—Jeff Keeler
Rich Charbonneau

Zone 4—Steve Bator

Zone 5—Dave Janofski

Office Staff
Lisa Ingraham
Sarah Pettit
Michelle Henry



Plumbers Local 98



UA Local 98
DETROIT – **Membership of Plumbers Local 98**

The officers and staff at Local 98 hope you and your family have a wonderful upcoming Holiday season and the New Year finds you all safe and healthy.

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

Meetings & Union Hall. The next Union meeting is Jan. 11 at 7:00pm at the Union Hall.

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

Retiree Meetings. The next is Wednesday, Jan. 10 from 12pm – 2pm at Local 98!

Christmas Wrapping Party for 98 I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped wrap or helped out during the parties and events this year. You are very appreciated. Jon DeRoo, Wade Kovach, Gary Glaser, Rufus Hamilton, Dan Nixon, Domanic Fanto, Charlie Berthet, Mark Wisniewski, Joe Wisniewski, Dave Schroeder, Ethan Merolla, Johna Fit, John Linardakis, Santa Dan Nixon, Paul Smith, Dan Willingham, Steve Blair Apprentice Elves Erin Garavaglia & Madeline Rose. Our office rockets Cindy Rivington & Christine DenDoven. I know I missed some family members and people but I did not find a sign-in sheet.

UA Local 174

(Continued from Page 8)
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 - 3rd Wednesday of the month / 5:00pm / Contact Nathan for location

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

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

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, January 11, 2024, and Thursday, February 8, 2024.

WCP: The next weld test event will be Saturday, January 13, 2024, @ 8:00 am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, January 11, 2024, from 5:00p – 9:00p. Please call/text and sign up if you plan to test.

ASSE BACKFLOW REPAIRER: Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, January 8, 2024 @ 5p – 9p. The class will run Mondays and Wednesdays for 3 weeks. Testing on Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

CSD-1: Class is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. Class dates will be 1/9, 1/10 and 1/11 at 5:00pm.

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

If you have a certification that has expired in the last few months and have questions regarding recertification, please contact the Training Office. Many certifications have extended grace periods on expiration dates. Please contact Chris Phillips or Nicole Schumaker if you have questions. Call the Training Office @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris) / Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30 Or via text Chris (906)322-1592 / Nicole (231)206-4213.

My apologies and I thank you all again.

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

Expelled members: There are none 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 whether 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 she is on the other line, please leave her a message and she will get back to you.

New Benefit. We will have a new benefit for the working members of Local 98 and their families. We are proud to announce we have secured a 2-year agreement with Delta Dental starting March 1, 2024. There is zero cost to the fund at this time. Please watch the insurance mailings for the annual benefit information for 2024. We still will offer the DENCAP (Golden) Dental plan for the retired members who wish to purchase this plan.

Please select option #4 for Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo 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 Harold Ruedisueli initiated 01/13/1966, a 57 year member.

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

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

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435 Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers98tc.org

Everyone from the Training Center wishes you all happy holidays and very happy NewYear!

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, Dec. 29, 2023. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions. The State of Michigan Plumbing Division will be instituting the 2021 Michigan Plumbing Code beginning in March of 2024. When there is more information available, we will share it with you.

CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2024. All classes are register and pre-pay by credit card, check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class. The 2024 upgrade classes are listed below. Please keep an eye out for the class you need or find interesting!

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

CLASS LIST 2024.
ASSE Backflow Tester Certification: Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$100

8 hour recert class Jan. 23

& 24 Deadline is Dec. 29, 2024

8 hour recert class April 16 & 17 Deadline is March 15

8 hour recert class July 23 & 24 Deadline is June 21

8 hour recert class Oct. 22 & 23 Deadline is Sept. 20

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):

Spring: March 4 – May 13
Deadline is February 9 -\$200

Fall: Sept. 9 – November 18
Deadline is August 23-\$200

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

Spring: March 5 – April 9,
Deadline is February 9 -\$100

Fall: September 10 - October 15,
Deadline is August 23 -\$100

ICRA and Water Quality: * Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30**

Spring: March 6 - May 15.
Deadline is February 9 -\$200

Fall: Sept. 11 to November 20,
Deadline is August 23 -\$200

CAD/BIM

Spring: March 4 – May 13
Deadline is February 9 -\$100

Fall: September 9 – November 18
Deadline is Aug. 23-\$100

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour):

Spring: March 6 - May 15.
Deadline is February 9 -\$200

Fall: Sept. 11 to November 20,
Deadline is August 23 -\$200

Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber

Spring: March 6 - May 15.
Deadline is February 9 -\$100

Fall: Sept. 11 to November 20,
Deadline is August 23 -\$100

Hydronic Heating and Cooling

Spring: March 6 - May 15.
Deadline is February 9 -\$100

Fall: Sept. 11 to November 20,
Deadline is August 23 -\$100

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

****2023 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month.** If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next **Welding and Brazing sessions** will be Jan. 6. ****You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test.** Please note: All members must be **dressed appropriately** to be in the shop area.

2023 Course Hour reimbursement forms are available at the Training Center. You **must have** 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2023 to be eligible for the \$100 reimbursement.

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

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

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

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

If the person you are trying to reach at the Training Center is unavailable, please leave a message to ensure we can return your call.



Local 671 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 671
MONROE – After a vote at the November meeting, the **December Union Meeting is now scheduled for December 21, 2023.** There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on December 21, 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 @ ibusinesstech.com, (ex. smith1234567@ibusinesstech.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.

Children's Christmas Party: The Local 671 Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 16, 2023. 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 scheduled UA weld test which will be held on **12/28/2023.**

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 be conducting an introductory Wachs Pipe Machining Class. Contact Justin for details.

In Closing: I would like to wish everyone a blessed and Happy Holidays.

Mike Jewell: email: mike@ualocal671.com

Vinnie Fenech: email: vinnie@ualocal671.com

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692

"We can learn much from wise words, little from wise cracks, and less from wise guys".

–William Arthur Ward (1921-1994)



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

From the officers and members of IBEW Local 445

President - **Jake Westfall**

Vice President - **Derick Boyette**

Recording Secretary - **Wanda Secret**

Treasurer - **Sam McFadden**

Business Manager/FS - **Lance Dougherty**

Executive Board
Shane Burkhardt
Kevin Hagelgans
Bill Johnson
Keith Knight
Don Zelichowski
Scott Wagner



Merry Christmas from UA Local #174



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING - The SEMI-ANNUAL UNION MEETING



PAUL DUNFORD JANUARY 2023 MEETINGS

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, January 02, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, January 02, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, January 03, 2024 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, January 08, 2024 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, January 15, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER: Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Road West, Traverse City, MI 49685

DECEMBER 2023 MEETINGS
HOUGHTON: Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, December 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 119 S. Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, December 26, 2023 is CANCELLED.

UNION DUES UPDATE Effective **January 01, 2024**, the dues discount will be changing. It will now be pay 9 months, get 3 free.

DEATHS REPORTED: Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Allen Bratcher** (PCC, Bricklayer & Cement Mason) who passed away on December 02, 2023. Brother Bratcher had been a member for 9 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Sylvester Krajniak** (Tile Setter) who passed away on July 01, 2023. Brother Krajniak had been a member for 37 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Lonnie McKissic** (Bricklayer) who passed away on November 03, 2023. Brother McKissic had been a member for 33 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Ralph Miller** (Bricklayer & Cement Mason) who passed away on September 13, 2023. Brother Miller had been a member for 58 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Antonio Serratos** (Cement Mason) who passed away on October 22, 2023. Brother Serratos had been a member for 33 years.

****IMPORTANT NOTICE**** Future union information and negotiation surveys will now be sent via text message. You must be signed up to receive

"It's delightful to have ambitions. I'm so glad I have such a lot. And there never seems to be any end to them—that's the best of it. Just as soon as you attain to one ambition you see another one glittering higher up still. It does make life so interesting."

—L. M. Montgomery (1874-1942)

"Take time to deliberate, but when the time for action has arrived, stop thinking and go in."

—Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)

"There is hardly any personal defect which an agreeable manner might not gradually reconcile one to."

—Jane Austen (1775-1817)

these messages. You can sign up via the following:
Text **2MI** to **50607**

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

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

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.

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 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 - (248) 813-9800
 Michigan BAC Vacation Fund - (248) 828-6000
 Cement Pension & Vacation Funds - (248) 645-6550
 CALL-A-DOC - (800) 835-2362

International Pension/Annuity Fund - (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org)



Local 514 Cement Masons & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 514

DETROIT - The next membership meeting is Tuesday January 16, 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 fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

Merry Christmas! And best wishes for 2024 Membership gold cards- Congratulations!

December 2023:
 Ambrosio Chapa-25 Years
 Shawn Hurst-25 Years
 Frank Deming-30 Years
 Jaime Cazares-40 Years
JUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustsafe.com to see how many modules you have. Your username is your full social security number and your password is the first four of your social security number.

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

Beneficiary Reminder: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all your OPCMIA Local 514, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

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

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

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

Attention all Apprentices, now you will need to go to the website: www.micementplasterertraining.com to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions". You will be able to put in your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please

feel free to contact Larry with any questions you might have.

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

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

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!

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

Access and make changes to your account two easy ways:

Go online: Principal.com
If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started.

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

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

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

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

The first time you log in, you'll need to choose where we send you verification codes (text message, voice call, or authenti-

cation app) and how often you want to use them.

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

As always, if you have any questions or need help on any matter relating to the Fund, you can contact the Fund Office for assistance at (248) 645-6550 or 30700 Telegraph Rd., Ste 2400 Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4524 The Fund Office's business hours are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Plasterers and Cement Masons: It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the

Local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local.

Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local. If you have questions concerning your pension benefits,

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.

BEST WISHES
for a Merry Christmas

FILLED WITH
JOY
and a prosperous
NEW YEAR

FROM THE STAFF AT
Grand Blanc Printing

9449 HOLLY ROAD - GRAND BLANC, MI 48439
810-694-1155

IBEW LOCAL 665

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE OFFICERS AND STAFF AT IBEW LOCAL 665 LANSING, MICHIGAN



**Michigan Painters
District Council**

PDC 1M
WARREN – Dear Members,
DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupat-dc1michigan.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:



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

PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP. Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its' all new APP.

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

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

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

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR UNION!

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

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

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



**Glaziers &
Glassworkers
Local 357**

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357
WARREN – Happy holidays to all Local 357 members, and our families. May it be a happy, and healthy holiday season.

The January Union meeting is canceled due to falling on New Year's Day.

Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 5, 2024 at 6pm. Please make every effort to attend.

We had terrific attendance at the Local 357 holiday party last week, with 123 brothers, and sisters that attended. Thanks to all that came out.

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

The IUPAT has a new app that you can download. It's called IUPAT Mobile Member Portal. You can find this in the app store, and it is a free app. Once you download this app, you will need your union member id to log in. You can find your member id printed on your quarterly union card. Once you log into this app it's a helpful tool to track your hours worked, and it 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 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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

-Business Rep- Don Stepp

**District Council 1M
Business Manager:** Robert Gonzalez

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

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

Local Union 312

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

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

Local Union 514

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

Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

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

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

Local Union 1052

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

Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

Local Union 1803

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

Place: 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352

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

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

Local Union 2353

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

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

Local Union 2353

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

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

Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591
WARREN –The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 2, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

"Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier."
– Colin Powell (1937 - 2021)

"Statistics: The only science that enables different experts using the same figures to draw different conclusions."
– Evan Esar (1899 - 1995),

"You create your opportunities by asking for them."
– Patty Hansen

"You have succeeded in life when all you really want is only what you really need."
– Vernon Howard

"I feel like a fugitive from the law of averages."
– William H. Mauldin (1921 - 2003)



**Local 36
Elevator
Constructors**

Elevator Constructors Local 36
DETROIT – ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED, our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOR DECEMBER IS CANCELLED DUE TO THE HOLIDAY, THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE JANUARY 22, 2024, AT 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI. Our next Executive Board meetings will be held on December 23, 2023, and January 15, 2024. 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.

With the holiday season coming up, there are a lot of distractions, don't let these distractions cause you to take your eye off the ball, work safe and look out for the members around you so we can all enjoy our time with our families during this holiday season.

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

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. When you go back to work, call the fund office, and let them know you are back to work, and inform the hall.

2024 Wage rates, Zone pay, death assessment, and dues sheets were sent out last week, you should receive nine sheets of paper, if you have any questions call the hall.

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 Dec. 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.

Just want to remind all members that the rule of thumb was to have a savings of six months in case of a strike/lockout. Nowadays you never know what is going to happen, you could get hurt on the job, family emergency, unforeseen circumstances or get laid off. It is important to be able to have financial stability while you are off.

If you think there are contract violations or safety violations on the job you are on, call the hall, we will come out to the jobs and get the violations corrected.

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. As you are aware, individuals with a Mechanic Exam Pass Date on or after Jul 9, 2022, through December 31, 2022, must take a Mechanic Required (MR) Continuing Education course in 2023 to receive their scheduled pay raises January 1, 2024. **I highly recommend 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 1 month 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.**

"He harms himself who does harm to another, and the evil plan is most harmful to the planner."
– Hesiod (~800 BC)

"Everything that is really great and inspiring is created by the individual who can labor in freedom."
– Albert Einstein (1879 - 1955)

"Put up with it and you will get more of it."
– Lynne Deal

Any individuals that passed their Mechanic Exam in 2023 have till December 31, 2024, to take this course to get their raise in 2025. Any questions call the hall.

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 that 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. **Class orientation will be the week of January 15, 2024, classes will resume the following week.** Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COMPLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. **There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!**

Attention All Temporary Mechanics, your Temporary Mechanics 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 wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and extend well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

Be safe and stay healthy!

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Merry CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**From Elevator Constructors
Local 36**

Michael R. Waker, BM/FS
Russ O'Donnell, President
Dave Kuras Jr., Vice President
Brian Breznai, Treasurer
Ken Bazner, BA/RS

Executive Board
Rob Akers
Dave Boyd
Jeff Patti
Jon Bujan
Mark Austin

Trustees
Erik Copeland
Paul DiPiazza
Dan Kuras Jr.

Warden
Matt Combs

To all our members and friends in the Building Trades. May your hearts be full of the peace and joy of this festive season.

Merry Christmas & Best Wishes to all our members and friends for a holiday season filled with warmth.

**Plumbers and Pipefitters
Local 671**

Mike Jewell
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Vinnie Fenech
Business Representative

Carly Neely
Office Manager

Justin McManaway
President/Training Coordinator

Nathan Schneider
Vice President

Jarrod Klumb
Recording Secretary

Kyle Jewell
Inside Guard

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Jed Bunge
Kirk LaVoy
Bill Thornton
Ken Urbaniak



Local 25
Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat & Frost Insulators 25

SOUTHFIELD – SPECIAL CALLED UNION MEETING - The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This meeting is **SPECIAL CALLED** for elections. Apprentice attendance is **MANDATORY**.



CURT
McGLONE

ELECTIONS: Elections will take place Thursday, December 14, 2023. The polls will be opened 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The following members are running for the following positions:

- President-1** position, 3 year term: David Chudzinski, Jr.
- Vice-President-1** position, 3 year term: Connie Vincent
- Financial Secretary-1** position, 3 year term: BJ Claxton
- Executive Board- 2** positions-2 year terms: Marty Allen, Micah Vincent, Mark Grzelak
- Pension Fund Trustee-1** position-3 year term: Mark Grzelak, Connie Vincent
- Welfare Fund Trustee-1** position-3 year term: Micah Vincent
- S.U.B. Fund Trustee-1** position-3 year term: Connie Vincent
- J.A.T.C. Trustee-1** position-3 year term: Connie Vincent, Lou Wasick
- Union Trustee-1** position-3 year term: Bob Wright
- Entertainment Committee-2** positions-1 year terms: David Chudzinski, Jr, BJ Claxton
- Sgt-At-Arms-1** position-1 year term: Bob Wright, Mark Grzelak
- Recording Secretary-1** position-remaining 1 year term: Micah Vincent

PANCAKES WITH SANTA: The Union hosted Pancakes with Santa at the Union Hall on December 9, 2023. There were a lot of smiling, happy faces with forever memories made. Special thank you to Ania and David Chudzinski, Jr., Pamela Chudzinski and Tiffany Caudill for making it a memorable event.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued next column)



Local 47
Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – *The next Notified Union Meeting will be held on Friday, January 12, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at J.A.T.C. Training Center Located at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48906. **Please remember this is a Mandatory Meeting for All Apprentices**. The purpose of this meeting is for the Installation of New 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 would like to Congratulate all the new Officers!

- Vice President** - Paul McKeeby
- Executive Board** - Joshua Scalici and Alfredo Gutierrez
- Pension/Welfare Trustee** - Walter Wilson
- JATC Trustee** - Joshua Scalici and Tyler Kohnke
- Recording Secretary** - MaryJo Hidalgo
- Sergeant-At-Arms** - Albert Hidalgo
- Union Trustee** - MaryJo Hidalgo
- Market Recovery Committee** - Mitchell Carpenter

All the Officers would like to wish all of Local 47's Members and your Families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked.

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

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds
6525 Centurion Drive
Lansing, MI 48917-9275
Toll Free: (800) 323-8079
Telephone: (517) 321-7502
Fax: (517) 321-7508

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

To all active members, if you have not sent in your Coor- (Continued next column)

Local 25 cont'd

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.

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



Local 149
Roofers and Waterproofers

Roofers Local 149

DETROIT – Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.

Happy Holidays! Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year, from the Officers and Members of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers Local 149. May 2024 be a great, safe, and prosperous year for you and your family.

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Jan. 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Jan. 2, 2024 at 7:00 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. It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of the following Brother. Brother William Betts, he was 71 years old and a 51-year member. Brother Betts passed on 12/1/2023. Rest in Peace Brother.

Monthly Dues Increase. January 1, 2024 your monthly dues will be increased by \$1.75 per month, totaling \$27.00 per month (was \$25.25); totaling \$324.00 per year (was \$303.00). This increase will be for our members who pay superannuated dues, totaling \$14.75 per month (was \$13.00); totaling \$177.00 per year (was \$156.00).

Thank You! Thank You to our generous Sponsors for our 2022 Commencement Ceremony and Retiree's Christmas and Holiday luncheon. Lutz

Local 47 cont'd

dination of Benefits Form, your Spousal Form, or your Birth Certificates for your Children, no one will be covered on our insurance until these items are sent to TIC. Please call TIC immediately at (800) 323-8079 and get the above-mentioned forms into the fund ASAP and you will be reinstated retroactively

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

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

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

JATC Coordinator Phil Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

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

Good and Welfare: We hope everyone stay in good health!

"To me, old age is always 15 years older than I am."

—Bernard M. Baruch (1870 - 1965),

"Humanity has advanced, when it has advanced, not because it has been sober, responsible, and cautious, but because it has been playful, rebellious, and immature."

—Tom Robbins (1936 -)

Roofing, Schreiber Roofing, RAM Construction Services, Royal Roofing, Christen Detroit, Schena Roofing, LaDuke Roofing, SMRCA, BeneSys, Wrubel, Wesley, & Co. CPA's, The Brice Group, Humana, O'Sullivan Associates Actuaries, Detroit Roofers & Waterproofers Training Center, Members and Officers of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers, and Allied Workers, Local No. 149.

Retiree's Association. The Retiree's Association would like to thank everyone who could attend this year's Christmas and Holiday luncheon party. A special thank you to the Members for paying their yearly Retiree's Association Dues.

Retiree's Association dues are \$40.00 per year (Spouses of deceased members need not pay yearly dues).

If you are a retired 149 member and are interested in joining the Roofers & Waterproofers LU 149 Retiree's Association, please contact Business Manager Brian Gregg at 313-961-6093.

Thank you to the members who have paid their Union Dues a year in advance.

By paying your Union Dues a year in advance, you are saving our union money. To pass these savings along to our members, we will be giving a "I paid my Dues" t-shirt to anyone who's dues are paid up to 12/31/2024 and beyond. In order to be eligible, members must pay their 2024 dues in full by January 31, 2024. To receive your 2024 "I paid my Dues" t-shirt, please contact the Union Hall (313.961.6093 ext. 0).

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 or-

der 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 at 12/11/2023, 2:00p.m.

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



Season's Greetings

From the Officers & Members of the Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

Curt McGlone
Business Manager

David Chudzinski Jr.
President

Constance Vincent
Vice President

B.J. Claxton
Financial Secretary



Our entire membership wishes you and your family a Happy Holiday and Prosperous New Year!






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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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Des Moines, IA	Portland, OR	Washington, DC
Hagerstown, MD	Riverport, MO	West Covina, CA
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Royal Oak, MI. 48067

Patrick Devlin MUST Labor Co-Chair
Michigan Building & Construction Trades Council

Donna Pardonnet MUST Management Co-Chair
ACT-Michigan



Local 25 Iron Workers

Iron Workers Local 25

NOVI—Christmas Holiday Union Hall Closings: all Union Halls will be closed Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th and for the New Year. All Union Halls will be closed Monday, January 1, 2024 and Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024.

We wish all our union members and their families a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Steward meeting(s): The Grand Rapids Christmas meeting will be Monday, December 18th at 5:00 pm at the Hudsonville Training Center (3020 Corporate Dr.) The Flint Christmas meeting will be Wednesday, December 20th at 4:00 pm. The Saginaw Christmas Steward meeting will be Thursday, December 28th at 4:00 pm. All are welcome!

No December Union Meeting due to the Holidays.

Communications Alerts & E-mails; sign up via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS. **December vacation checks: Refer any issue(s) with vacation checks, to Dennis Aguirre.**

BYLAW(S) Proposals will be due in the Novi Union Hall ON OR BEFORE 4:00 pm January 29, 2024. This meeting will be the first (1st) Reading of any proposed by law(s). If you plan to mail in a proposal, please make sure it arrives several days earlier than Monday 1/29/2024. We've noticed mail has been slow in Michigan, so please be aware!

February's Union meeting will be Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7:00 pm. This union meeting will be the second (2nd) Reading of any proposed by law(s). The third (3rd) Reading will be during March's Union meeting Monday, March 25, 2024, with the Vote date TBD.

The 2024 Dennis O'Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available. All COMPLETED applications must be turned in by March 15, 2024. Call the Novi Union Hall 248-344-9494 to get one mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters

of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible.

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.

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 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. **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.

Check your HRA Balance: my.wexhealthcard.com

Check you online benefit information: ourbenefitoffice.com/iw25/benefits/

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 experi-

encing a divorce or a new spouse **MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-April 30).**

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 10:00 am in Novi. The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on **WEDNESDAY JANUARY 3, 2024 at 8:30 am.** All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be in January 18, 2024; 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 19, 2024 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. All are welcome.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan: 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/sui->

icide-prevention-resources. US Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. The volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.

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).

In Memory: JIW Scott Thompson #1266413 passed away on November 29, 2023 at the age 53 & survived by his wife

Tracie and many friends in the ironworking industry. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Thomas Nichols #875900 passed away December 4, 2023 at the age of 71. He was a 51-year member and was preceded in death by his brothers JIW Lorne Nichols #710682 and JIW Paul Nichols; their father JIW Fred Nichols #406709, grandfather JIW Vernon Nichols & and cousin Charlie Dodson #893129. Tom is survived by his brother Tim Nichols #807550, nephews Philip Nichols #1127558 and Patrick Nichols #1207544; and his cousin Ben Dodson #1224963.

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

This information is as of the Submission Time for this Article (Dec 11, 2023, 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

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The Conversation That Adults of All Ages Need To Have – But Most Often Don't

Certainly, every scenario can't be known or addressed ahead of time, but discussing things in advance and having documents in place offers a roadmap that'll make for fewer bumps in the road.

Let the Law Help

Huge amounts of stress can come into play when illness reaches a critical stage. Having documents in place that designate a person to make decisions and offer guidance on what should or shouldn't be done, can relieve some of that stress.

Engaging the services of a legal professional is advisable for creating some of these documents, but state agencies and reputable organizations often offer forms and other advice online to get documents done at little or no expense.

Here are some documents experts say can help ease confusion and stress when illness incapacitates someone from making their own decisions.

• Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare ("Patient Advocate"). This designation ONLY relates to medical care decisions and designates a person to act as your medical advocate and make medical care decisions if you are unable to do so.

If possible, choose someone who is geographically close by and has time and energy to devote to what can become a consuming task.

In Michigan, Advance Directives forms are available at: <https://mihin.org/advance-care-planning-resources/>. AARP has an online resource to obtain similar forms in

every state.

• Living Will. This spells out a person's wishes for care, including whether to be put on life support; treatments you do or don't want; spiritual care; and any specific comfort routines that are particular to you. You can also include your wishes regarding funeral and memorial services.

You'll want to discuss the contents of this document with the person you designate as your Patient Advocate. A Living Will is not legally binding in some states, but rather a guide that helps medical professionals and a Patient Advocate understand what type of care is desired.

• Durable Power of Attorney. Unlike the Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare, this type of designation allows you to name someone to handle your legal and financial affairs should you become unable to do so. You can limit this to apply only to certain types of transactions and also specify whether you want a doctor to certify you are incapacitated in order for the Power of Attorney to be activated.

Certainly, every scenario can't be known or addressed ahead of time, but discussing things in advance and having these documents in place offers a roadmap that'll make for fewer bumps in the road.

AEPIC is a labor-management purchasing coalition with a proven track record of delivering the best price, service and expertise for benefits. For more info about our programs and health and wellness information, visit our website: www.aepic.us or on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn.

Who's in Charge?

Difficult emotions may surface when thinking about things such as whether you would choose or reject feeding tubes, or have a "Do Not Resuscitate" order on file, but soldier on. The more you talk about it and prepare advance directives, the more you'll feel in charge about what might lie ahead.

Bringing up this topic with an elderly parent can be especially difficult because they may feel like they're losing control over their lives. Try framing the discussion to emphasize they're in charge, and you need them to speak up so you can follow their wishes.

Ask open-ended questions that invite them to take the lead, such as "Where do you want to live if you need more help?" or "What's your priority in medical care – easing pain or aggressively fighting the disease?" Set a respectful tone that shows you want them to make the decisions.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

May the warmth of this Holiday Season be with all of you throughout the New Year!

Greg Herman
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Robert Williams
Business Agent

Glaine Stewart
President

Jeff Gray
Vice President

Joe Troutt
Recording Secretary

Kevin Ryal, Alex Wilson, Tim Bieber, Francisco Rodriguez
Executive Board

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704



Local 169 Boilermakers

ALLEN PARK – Our next membership meeting will take place on **Jan. 12, 2024**, at 8PM at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall, at 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI. 48101

Current Union dues for 2023 and 2024 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**

In an effort to assist our active members, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has waived any increase in dues for the upcoming 2024 year. Dues for the 2024 year will remain at \$55.85. OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – www.boilermakerslocal169.com for more information.

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

Save the date! Our annual Dinner Dance is currently scheduled for Feb. 10, 2024 at the Atheneum Hotel and ballroom in Detroit. Rooms are available at a discounted rate of \$204.00 and can be reserved by using the promotional code, **Boilermakers Local 169**. Valet parking is also 50% off at a cost of \$20. Please send a check for \$50 to the Union Hall to reserve your attendance at this great event. Dinner and drinks will be provided, and your check will be returned upon arrival. This protocol is used to provide an accurate head count to ensure adequate accommodations at the dinner dance. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a special night with your significant other and your union members. Single members are welcome as well. Let's make this the biggest dinner dance yet.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons

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

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

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The next lunch will be Dec. 20 at 11AM at Beaverton Tavern. It's located at 102 W. Brown Street, Beaverton, MI. 48612. All area boilermakers and retirees are welcome to attend.

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

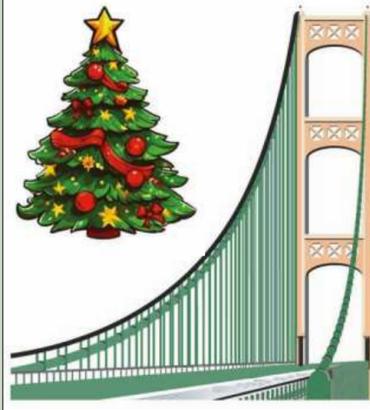
Hoodies have arrived and are for sale at the hall. We now have ALL sizes, medium through XXXL. The cost is \$40. Payments can be made with cash, check, or credit. If you live outside of the area and would like to order one, please call the hall. Additional shipping charges will be added. Baseball caps 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 or on our Facebook page.

We will be holding a MSHA Refresher at the hall on January 4, 2024. You still have time to register for the class. Please contact the hall to add your name to the class list.

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 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.



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Holiday Greetings!

We extend our best wishes for a merry Christmas and happy New Year to our friends and associates among the Michigan Building Trades unions!

Patrick J. Devlin
Secretary-Treasurer

Steve Claywell
President

Business Representatives

Adrian Bonds, Travis Brady, James Callahan, Deshon Leek, Ryan Stern

Office Staff

Kelly Dolan, Josie Joseph

Building Tradesman Newspaper

Marty Mulcahy, Joe Hoshaw

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The Building Tradesman

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Patrick Devlin
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Steve Claywell
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Visit our website: www.michiganbuildingtrades.org



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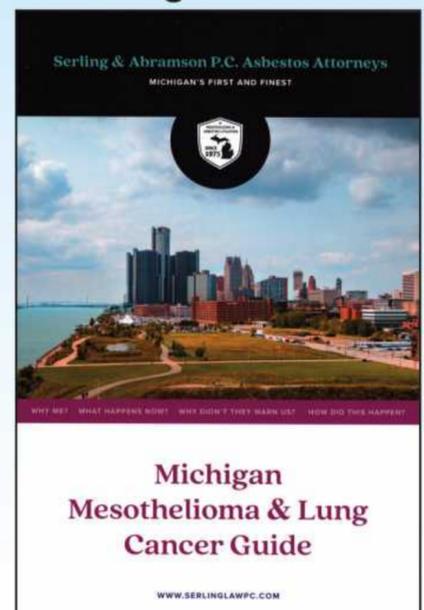
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Happy Holidays

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Rob Moses

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THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Second Section Front Page



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, February 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

- *Zone 1 January 11th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 2 January 16th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 3 January 10th at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)
- *Zone 3 March 21st at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)
- *Zone 4 January 9th at 6:00 p.m.
- *Zone 5 February 1st at 6:00 p.m.



SAM FULLER

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

SMART Union Labels: Make the union label work for you! The new and modernized SMART Labels are an essential part to wage equalization, which means more money and work for you. Make sure that you are scanning labels in order to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at www.labeliscanireport.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 remains steady and looks good into the winter. Reminder dues are always due prior to the first of every month and please keep me updated on address or phone number changes. If your employment status changes please contact me. Thank you to the members that came out to the Christmas party. It was a great time. I would like to take this time to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas, to you and your family, please have a safe holiday. **In Solidarity, Mike Adams**

(Continued on Page 18)



Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, **January 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm** Member meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Knights of Columbus in Clawson. Check out the calendar tab at www.sheetmetal292.com for the location and date.

The E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held **not** be held in December. The meeting schedule will resume in January.



PAUL GUALDONI

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 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.

SMART 292 APP: Our new Local 292 App is now live. It is available to all dues-paying members. Download is available through your App Store. Search **SMART Local 292.** There will be a short waiting period for the verification process.

SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. Applications are being accepted for the Sheet Metal Scholarship program. 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 December 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 (Continued on Page 18)



Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

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

WE WISH ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON!

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for December 19, 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, 2023 & Februarys meeting has been changed to Feb. 20, 2023.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 18, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI. ***MEETING DATE CHANGES*** Februarys meeting has been changed to Feb. 13, 2024.

TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS: OFFICIAL NOTICE: At the Dec. 19, 2023 meeting, nominations will be taken for the position of Fund Trustees. Elections will be held at the union meeting on Jan. 23, 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 2023 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: Dec. 18. **Arrangements have been made to have an audiologist make a presentation on hearing aids at our next meeting. If you are not a member of the Retirees Association & would like to attend, you can join the Retirees Association at this meeting. Annual dues to join are \$10. The meeting will start at 12:20 pm at the union hall.**

The **2024 retiree meeting schedule** is as follows: Feb. 19, April 15, June 17, Aug. 19, Oct. 21 (holiday party) and Dec. 16. 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 repre- (Continued on Page 18)

Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292

Detroit, Michigan

The Officers of Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292 would like to wish you and your family happiness, peace, and prosperity this Christmas and in the coming New Year.

Paul Gualdoni *Antonio Silvestri*

Business Manager

Business Agent / President

Robert Wenzell
Marketing Representative

Jason Csurgo
Vice President

Chuck Garry
Recording Secretary

David A. Pistotti
E-Board

Austin Olson
Warden and Conductor

Leon Weathers
E-Board

Denny Lau
Union Trustee

Frank Lewandowski
E-Board

Aaron McKeenan
Union Trustee

Lloyd McMillon
E-Board

Quintin Turner
Union Trustee

Anthony Smiley
E-Board





Local 7 Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 17)

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. **Happy holidays, Joe Dotson**

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City). It was a nice turnout at the Christmas party, thanks to everyone that made it happen. We would also like to welcome the employees of Reliable Mechanical to the Union. 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 up to date. If there is anyone needing any assistance on H & W with the physical requirement, call me or BeneSys. There has been some interest in restarting the retirees breakfast, please contact me if anyone is interested. Christmas time can be very rewarding or very stressful, if you know a brother or sister that could use a hand please call. **In Solidarity, John Amalfitano**

ZONE 4 Info: I would like to thank everyone who attended the Christmas party this year, it was a great success, with plenty of camaraderie and Holiday spirit among our members. The upcoming winter upgrade classes offer an excellent opportunity for members to upgrade their skills and stay ahead in the industry. Local 7 Zone 4 is proud to say we are still at full employment. As the New Year approaches the union remains steadfast in its mission to support and empower its workforce ensuring a prosperous future for all. **Your 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. I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas! **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, 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 292 Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 17)

of premium hearing aid benefits. This benefit is available to active eligible participants, dependents, and Pre-Medicare retirees. To get started, contact TruHearing at 1-833-898-1255 for an appointment.

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

DUES: Membership dues are required to be **paid in advance of the month for which they are due.** The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are **60 days late.** To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by **4 p.m. on the last business day of the month.** Payments received after **4 p.m.** on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you **WILL** go suspended. **All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheet-metal292.com).**

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

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

RETIRES NOTICE: Thanks to all the retirees who came out to the meetings in 2023. It's always nice getting together and staying connected. We will post the 2024 retiree meeting schedule as soon as it becomes available. Stay safe and be well. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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

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

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

We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on December 16, January, 6, 13 & 20.

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.



Local 80 Sheet Metal Workers

(Continued from Page 17)

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

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Dennis Kijewski, Ronald Wagner, Gregory Chervinsky, Ralph MacFarland, James Peters, Keith McVette, Richard Manzo, Charles Mack, Adam Ozark, Jacob Knapp, Jack MacFarland, Gary Reichhold, Nathan Bourcier, Terry Fischer, William Ozark, Willard Sarrach, Dennis Marentette, Gary Norrow, Dale Pokorny, Charles Haughton, Richard Abrams, Joseph Guinn, Benjamin Shepherd, Carl McRorie, Steven Czebatol, Attilio Lucci, Jeffrey Haywood, Albert Peruski, Jason Franks, Daniel Niksa, Palmer Bentsen, Mark Billings, Richard Beres, John Sajewski, Ronald Raspbury, George Gurney, Brian Boc, Richard Ashby, Michael Hayter, Camren Jorgensen, Thomas Urbaniak, Carl Martuscelli, Larry Robinson Jr., Tim Cole, Michael Livingston, Harold Ingalls, Tyler Robinson, Matthew Kelly, John Foley, Josh Taulbee, Jeremiah Wilburn, Adam Smith, Michael Frasson, Jeff Roth, Anthony Iapalucci, Michael Hix, Ralph Consiglio, Anthony Dennis, Brandon Struck, Talk Huffman, Jason Constantine, Donald Jones, Ronan LaRoy, Roger DuMars, Jason Grunenwald, James Smith, David Fields, Brian Fields, Chris Ratzel, Altre Johnson, William Lamkin, John Heggie, Kevin Muraszewski, Edward Ballach, Frank Burns, Kyle Biron & Julius DiFranco.

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

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.

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

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

Training Center News, Entrance Exam Information. The Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Apprenticeship Entrance Exam is scheduled for Jan. 24, 2024. The deadline to apply is Monday, Jan. 22. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver's license and applicants must be 18 years old by Oct. 1, 2023. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center at (586) 979-5190.

Upgrading Classes. Upgrading Classes for the Winter 2024 term begin the week of January 15. To view the most up-to-date schedule, go to https://www.smw80jac.org/Upgrading_Class_Schedule. To enroll in a class, call the training center at 586-979-5190.

Wishing our Brothers & Sisters a very safe & happy holiday season.



Justin M. Pomerville
 Business Manager / Financial Secretary
 UA Local 85 Plumbers, Steamfitters & HVACR

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS
LOCAL UNION 252



Ryan Husse - Business Manager/
Financial Secretary

Mike Cox - President

Douglas Sanders - Vice President

Lisa Grove - Recording Secretary

Stacie Butler - Treasurer

David Bianco - Business Representative

Rick Plisko - Business Representative

Mike Cox - Business Representative

James Johnson Jr. - Business Representative

Erik Kane - Organizer

Executive Board

Dan Beck, Jeff Burdick, Jake Church, Geoffrey Morning,
Rick Plisko and Travis Stachlewitz

Examining Board

Dennis Locks, Chris Parks and Jason Shuster

Offices:

7920 Jackson Road, Suite A, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, (734) 424-0978

3101 Allied Drive, Jackson, MI 49202, (517) 783-2533



IBEW Local 131

Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

IBEW Local 131
KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on January 8, at 6 p.m.

The next **Renew** meeting will be held on January 8, at 5 p.m.

The next **Executive Board** meeting will be held on December 18, at 5 p.m.

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

Office Closings: December 22, closed at noon. December 25 Christmas Day closed, and January 1, New Years Day Closed

Veterans Committee all members are welcomed (active or retired) January 11, at 5:00PM

Recap: 2023 has been a very busy year. We have had plenty of work in the local. We have had full employment for most of the year. It looks like next year will be another steady employment year. For several months we have had open calls.

We have organized 25 new members. Ryan is doing a great job. Every time he shows up on the job site, they ask him to leave. Several new contractors have started in the local including Fuller Electric LLC, Waypoint Electrical Services, Sandstone Building & Energy Solutions, and Brian Jones Electrical Service LLC. Ryan is currently working on contacting every licensed journeyman in our jurisdiction, and yes, he is very productive.

Jon has been working on several projects this year including classes for new members, political education for our members, and a Tools and Trade Expo that is planned for next April. Jon is also handling the day-to-day issues with contractors and members. Jon is doing a great job keeping me out of trouble.

Christine is still the bedrock of the office. She helps old members retire, new members sign up and everyone else who needs to make a change. Christine is my resource for many questions that come up. Christine is doing a great job, as all of you know.

President Leroy is doing a wonderful job, leading the local. He has given me sage advice and information to help me make good decisions. The Executive Board, led by Vice -President Randy Williams, have been exemplary. They guide the local between Union meetings and check the financial status. They do a good job I am very grateful.

Treasurer Scott Benson has taken over the position from our long time Treasurer Randy Hornaber. Scott has done a great job figuring out his new accounting position.

The local's annual picnic was a lot of fun, we had a great turnout. The BBQ and bounce-land seemed to create a lot of smiles. Improvements to the building have been continuing. If you see an improvement that is needed let me know. Looking forward to installing a new sign next year.

We should congratulate the following members who in 2023 celebrate the following milestones for 65 years' service; Richard Redford and Raymond Stone, 55 years of service; Larry Smith, Joseph R Beall, Joseph Bennett, Robert Cook, Paul Stewart, and David Stratton. It seems like they were telling me what to do yesterday.

Let's remember those members who we lost this year Doyle Northrup (57), William Doornhaag (53), Donald Owsiany (43),

Roger Clark (34), Brian Geipel (29), Mark Sears (23), David Nyman (52), Brian Ellis (9), Dale Smith (23), Charles Edwards (29), Patrick Klocke (42), Philip Frenthway (49), and Donald Geipel (57). All these men made the IBEW a better Union, and a better local. We will miss them all.

Thank you to the membership for all your support. Thank you to President Leroy for his wise counsel. Thank you to Christine, Jon, and Ryan, who have made my job easier. Thank you to my wife, Karen, for all your support.

Retiree Lunches at the following Locations:

December 20, 2023, 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 Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 @ 10 a.m.

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

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.

Wilson-McShane has been sending emails addressing your special fund accounts. Receipts are required when using the special fund card (WEX Account). Wilson-McShane is asking for receipts. You must produce them, or the IRS requires that you pay taxes on the payouts. The Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) explanation of benefits could be used. Please call the hall or Wilson-McShane for help.

Three Months or more behind in counter dues payments are the following suspended members: Jacob Baughman, Joshua Chopp, Joshua Cook, Russell McBride, Tomas Montoya, Robert Patterson, Richard Peebles, Justin Sowash, Herbert Sykes, Jason Tiefenthal, and Gerald Yerden.

K - Wings Hockey game on January 26, 202, against Fort Wayne Komets. The local website has a link to purchase the tickets.

Morris Applebey
 Business Manager

"No man is justified in doing evil on the ground of expediency."
 -Theodore Roosevelt (1858 - 1919)



IBEW Local 948

IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Meetings

Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be on January 8th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings - Our next scheduled Retiree Meeting will be taking place January 2nd, 2024 at 9:00 AM and will take place concurrently.

Party Committee - All members of the party committee would like to thank the membership for the enormous turnout for this year's Christmas party. We greatly appreciate the feedback and look forward to our next event.

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. Steady calls have been available for GM centers. 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.

Banana 101.5 Sponsorship - We would like to thank our friends at Banana 101.5 for the sponsorship.

Event Turnout - The Christmas party's turnout was exceptional. Thank you to all members and family in attendance.

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; David Chase and Jarrod May. 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.

"Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not."
 -Thomas Henry Huxley(1825-1895)

"Dwelling on the negative simply contributes to its power."
 -Shirley MacLaine (1934 -)

"It is easier to forgive an enemy than to forgive a friend."
 -William Blake (1757 - 1827)

"I have noticed that the people who are late are often so much jollier than the people who have to wait for them."
 -E. V. Lucas (1868-1938)

"Her virtue was that she said what she thought, her vice that what she thought didn't amount to much."
 -Peter Ustinov (1921 - 2004)



IBEW Local 275

IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE – Work in the jurisdiction is very busy. We've had open calls for some time and have more coming. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call you may be interested in as other contractors have been looking for manpower too.

We have begun the renovations to the north wing of the building and the work should be finishing up soon. We already have a couple of interested parties in renting the space so it will not be vacant for long.

Please join us for December's membership meeting to be held at the union hall Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. We will have our annual Christmas dinner immediately following the meeting.

Please note, Dec. 29 will be the last day to redeem any accumulated volunteer reward points you have earned. Points do not roll over to the following year.

On behalf of the staff here at Local 275, I like to thank all our members, travelers, contractors and investment professionals for another prosperous year. Our finances are up for the year and we're anticipating an even better 2024.

We wish you all a happy holiday season and please be safe! At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Shaun Frantz, Sean Holst, Mark Holzinger II, Trevor Kreft, Logan Moreen, Brad Rempalski, Ken Robinson, Timothy Wenk and Andrew Wohlfert. Please make every effort to become current with your dues as soon as you can.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

IBEW LOCAL 131
 FROM MEMBERS, OFFICERS, AND STAFF

Seasons Greetings

from

Randall J. Whitaker
 Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Dave Forbes Business Representative	Patrick Duffy Business Representative
Roy Musgrove Business Representative	Trevor Hughes Organizer
Dan Jagosz President	Dave Richardson Vice President
Colin Krasny Training Director	Ralph Booth OQ Evaluator

Executive Board

Kyle Butler	Colin Krasny
Stephen Cook	Doug Mayher Jr.

Office Professionals

Bernadette Maus	Karen Spearin
Kristyn Goebel	Melissa Wood

2024 LOGBOOKS ARE HERE

HARD COPY & MOBILE APP VERSIONS

Aiello Law Group has just released our 2024 Construction Worker's Daily Logbook in both a print and digital version! We have provided logbooks to Michigan's building trades for over 30 years.

The traditional paper version can be picked up in our office, your union hall, the Building Trades office at 1640 Porter in Detroit, or can be mailed directly to you by giving us a call at (313) 964-4900. The digital version can be found in the App Store for Apple or Google Play for Android. Simply search for "Aiello Daily Logbook."

Available on the **App Store** and **Google Play**



Iron Workers Local Union No. 25 wishes you...
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

*May your Blessings be plenty
and your Worries be few.*



Michael Randick, Business Manager / FST
Dennis Aguirre II, President
Jimmy Horvath, Vice President/BA
Jeff Hamric, Recording Secretary

Business Agents:

- Douglas Craig Washburn
- Rich Stricklin
- Mark Ellul
- Ben Dodson
- Wayne Coffell
- Mike Christensen
- Tim Brennan

Executive Board:

- Rich Witzke
- Scott Patterson
- Joe Patterson
- Joe Fontaine
- Eric Aguirre

IRONWORKERS



Union Trustees:

- Don Litterini
- Chad Cox
- Paul Becigneul

Examining Board:

- Doug Shaffer
- Todd Foreman
- Paul Becigneul

Conductor:

- Danny Fogg



BOILERMAKERS LOCAL 169

SERVING MICHIGAN
WITH PRIDE SINCE 1895

ROBERT D. HUTSELL
Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer

MIKE CARD
President

DON FAJARDO
Vice-President

ANTHONY HERRERA
Recording Secretary

SCOTT IVEY
Chairman of the Trustees

JAY HOWARD
Trustee

JAMIE RATLIFF
Trustee

MICHAEL A. DODSON
Inspector

1755 Fairlane Drive
Allen Park, MI 48101
(313)584-8520
www.boilermakerslocal169.com

Wishing working families everywhere a
Merry Christmas &
Prosperous New Year!





Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers
Local 2 of Michigan

**Wish All of You a Safe
and Happy Holiday Season!**

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

Paul Dunford - President
Brett Gierak - Secretary Treasurer
James Brylowski - Vice Chairperson

Field Representatives

Nacho Amoles
James Budd
Chris Fillmore
Shaun Gajewski
Trevor Grace
Sean Griffin
Greg Lobodzinski
Chad Morrison
Daryl Nichols
Aaron Pistor
Adam Saari
Tony Scavone

OFFICE STAFF

Colleen Dunn
Melissa McClelland
Jill Sturdevant

TRAINING STAFF

Howard Hipes - Statewide Director
Eric Rice - Lansing Instructor
Nate Nestor - Detroit Instructor
Dave Palo - Detroit Instructor
Tamma Dennis - Lansing Administrative Assistant

SKILL • PRIDE • UNIFIED

“Like” us on Facebook
Bricklayers Local 2
Website: www.bricklayers.org
Offices in Warren and Lansing



IBEW Local 445

IBEW Local 445
BATTLE CREEK – IBEW Local 445 would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Battle Creek Christmas Parade: Local 445 would like to thank everyone that participated in the building of the float. Also, thank you to all that came to hand out candy and ride on the float. It was a good time had by all!

Delta Dental – Active 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. You can also visit deltadentalmi.com and set up an account to see your dental card as well as your EOB's.

Retiree Dental You will be receiving a dental selection form in the mail in November 2023 for dental coverage that will begin Jan. 1, 2024. If you haven't received your selection form by Dec. 10, you can contact the Hall for additional information.

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

Personal information Please keep your address, phone no. 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.

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 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>. There is an app you can download from your app store **MI IBEW Special Fund**.

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 - The Local web address is IBEW445.com.
*Respectfully Submitted,
 Wanda Secrest, Recording Sec.*



IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – The Business Office wishes all of our members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The Business Office will be closing at noon on Friday, Dec. 22 and close on Dec. 25 in observance of Christmas. The Business Office will be closing at noon on Friday, Dec. 29 and close on Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's Day.

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 2024:**

INSTRUMENTATION PART B: Tuesdays, Jan. 16-March 12th, 2024.

There will be a code update required in 2024 for 2025 license. We will offer classes as the state has adopted the 2023 code. Dates to be announced soon.

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.

TRUSTEE NEEDED: We 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.

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 Jan. 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. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only

IBEW LOCAL 252

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.

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: Will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8 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 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. Visit UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.

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

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

CONDOLENCES: The Local sends our sincere condolences to Jim Carpenter for the loss of

his wife Patricia on Oct. 31, 2023. The Local sends our sincere condolences to Jonathan Warren and his wife the loss of their child.

GET WELL: The Local sends get well wishes to Jeremy Clore. The Local sends get well wishes to Jeff Smaga.

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, Dec. 29.**

Future Dues Increases:
Effective July 1, 2024: A Members will pay \$134.25 per quarter.

Effective Jan. 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$140.25 per quarter.

Effective July 1, 2025: A Members will pay \$143.25 per quarter.

The Officers and Members of Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons Local 514

Business Manager Financial Secretary Henry Williams	Business Agents Parrish Hill Juan Hernandez Lance Ryan Mike Stanfield Keino Walker
President Juan Hernandez	Executive Board Juan Hernandez Lance Ryan/VP Joe Roehler Jr. Mike Stanfield/Recording Secretary Chris Richardson Henry Williams BM/FS Parrish Hill
Vice President Lance Ryan	
Office Manager Amber Best	

wish you
Merry Christmas
Feliz Navidad

BEST WISHES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!



From the Officers, Members and Staff of Plumbers & Pipe Fitters Local 370 Flint, Michigan

Wishing you a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Business Manager: Robert Gulbranson Jr
 Business Agent: Brian Wilder*

From:
PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS • HVAC-R LOCAL 357 KALAMAZOO, MI

PROUDLY SERVING SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS!
 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI
 Phone: (269) 679-2570 • Fax: (269) 679-2571



IBEW Local 557

IBEW 557 SAGINAW – MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR—Local 557 would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Please enjoy the holidays with friends and family. The advantages our members have through the benefits of collectively bargained Union contracts are truly something to be thankful for.

The hard work put in by the IBEW gives our membership the ability to enjoy these holidays.

2024 is shaping up to be another strong year for the IBEW and Local 557 as well. There has never been a better time to be part of Organized Labor. Thank you to all those that have fought for our job conditions over the years. God Bless Organized Labor and God Bless the IBEW.

Union News- LARA has sent out licensing renewal notices. 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.

Important information regarding your special fund cards: If you have outstanding receipts to turn in, your deadline to get these in is the end of the year. If you do not, you will receive a 10-99 for the funds that are left unsubstantiated. Your WEX card, used for the special fund, can be linked to an app on your phone. It is highly advised to utilize the 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.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS- Our next meeting is Jan. 2 at 5:30pm at the Hall. The turnout for the December Christmas meeting was great to see. A wonderful time was had by all. Special thanks to retired member Dave Rumpel for once again providing a great catered meal for the members in attendance.

ORGANIZING- Please contact Brother Gus Voisine for any organizing issues. If our members have any questions please reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046.

UNION HALL OPERATIONS- Normal Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm. Upcoming holidays include Christmas on Monday, Dec. 25 and New Year's on Monday, Jan. 1. The Union Hall will also be CLOSED both of those days in observance of the holidays.

BOOK SIGNING- If you are a Local 557 member and receive a lay-off, please come to the hall and sign Book 1 in-person. Many Locals throughout the State of Michigan will continue to accept fax/email initial book signings. If you are interested in this reciprocated benefit and would like to be on some out-of-town Books, please call the hall to arrange this.

WORKOUTLOOK- Work is steady with an emphasis on Solar projects. More calls for that expected in the coming weeks. If you are targeting these jobs, they should be available for Book 1 and Book 2 members. Members of other Locals can sign Book 2 by making contact with their Hall for a simple email to be sent on your behalf, if in good standing. Both projects are in Gratiot County for MJ Electric and J. Ranck Electric. NewKirk has a solar project of their own at Nexteer that will need more manpower as well. Weinstein Electric from local 948 has secured work at the new Bavarian Inn Waterpark in Frankenmuth. Future work at HSC is looking good. Bids will be coming up for more schoolwork in the near future as well as SVSU.

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 help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle.

BLUE CROSS APP- Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for "BCBSM" on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include: instant access to 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.

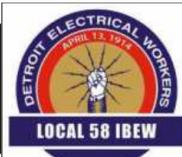
WEX APP- You will need to download the new WEX app for your phone. Search for "MI IBEW Special Fund" in the Google or Apple store. After doing this step, it will work the same as the old app, only more efficiently.

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. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee for the service. You can pay for these purchases over the phone, if you wish.

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

-In Solidarity, Evan Allardye, Business Manager



IBEW LOCAL 58



DETROIT—The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

Electrical Industry Training Center is offering Continuing Education classes. Please check them out at <http://www.detroit-etc.org/continuing-education/>. We will start to cancel classes if they don't meet the minimum enrollment requirements, or more hopefully we will order books for those of you who've signed up. Members on the Storm Book must secure their training through the Continuing Education Program offered by the school. If you need assistance in registering for a class, please call the Training Center at 586-751-6600.

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) offers 24/7 call, text and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. Please Call, Text, Chat! IBEW Local 58 Cares! Call 988!

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"). \$100.00 Donation per Brick.

NOTE: No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, extension 3015.

Local 58 Dues Department - DUES OFFICE CLOSED—Dec. 15 at noon, Dec. 22 and 25, and Dec. 29 at noon. If paying on the APP/Website—last day to pay will be Dec. 26 by 1 pm. You can pay dues for 2024 on the APP/Website. Dues increase in July and if you want to pay by check for the year, they will be \$552.00 without PAC and \$568.00 with PAC. *When you are putting your information on the APP/Website

—please use your dues receipt for your Name and Card No. Put in your information as it appears on your dues receipt so that your information matches (except for middle initial) — i.e., jr, sr, etc. **Please, this is important***

Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF): The next DEWBF meeting will be Jan. 2, 2024, at 5:30pm. Our next event will be the Ken Fitzhenry Super Bowl event, Sunday, Feb. 11. Super Bowl raffle tickets coming soon! All prizes from the Super Bowl event are provided by ABC Warehouse in Canton. For a discounted price call Ryan Heinrich at (734) 981-7780. All Tradesmen and families are welcome to receive this Building Trade discount.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 9, 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, Jan. 9 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, Dec. 18, at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. 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. Thank you to everyone who helped out with our annual coat drive to help keep kids warm in our community. Thank you to everyone who participated with us in the NEYIC Adopt-A-Child Christmas Program. You guys certainly set a high standard for us to follow in the future. We will be discussing our upcoming preparations for the Annual EWMC Leadership Conference in Atlanta this January. 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, Jan. 23 at 5:00 PM.

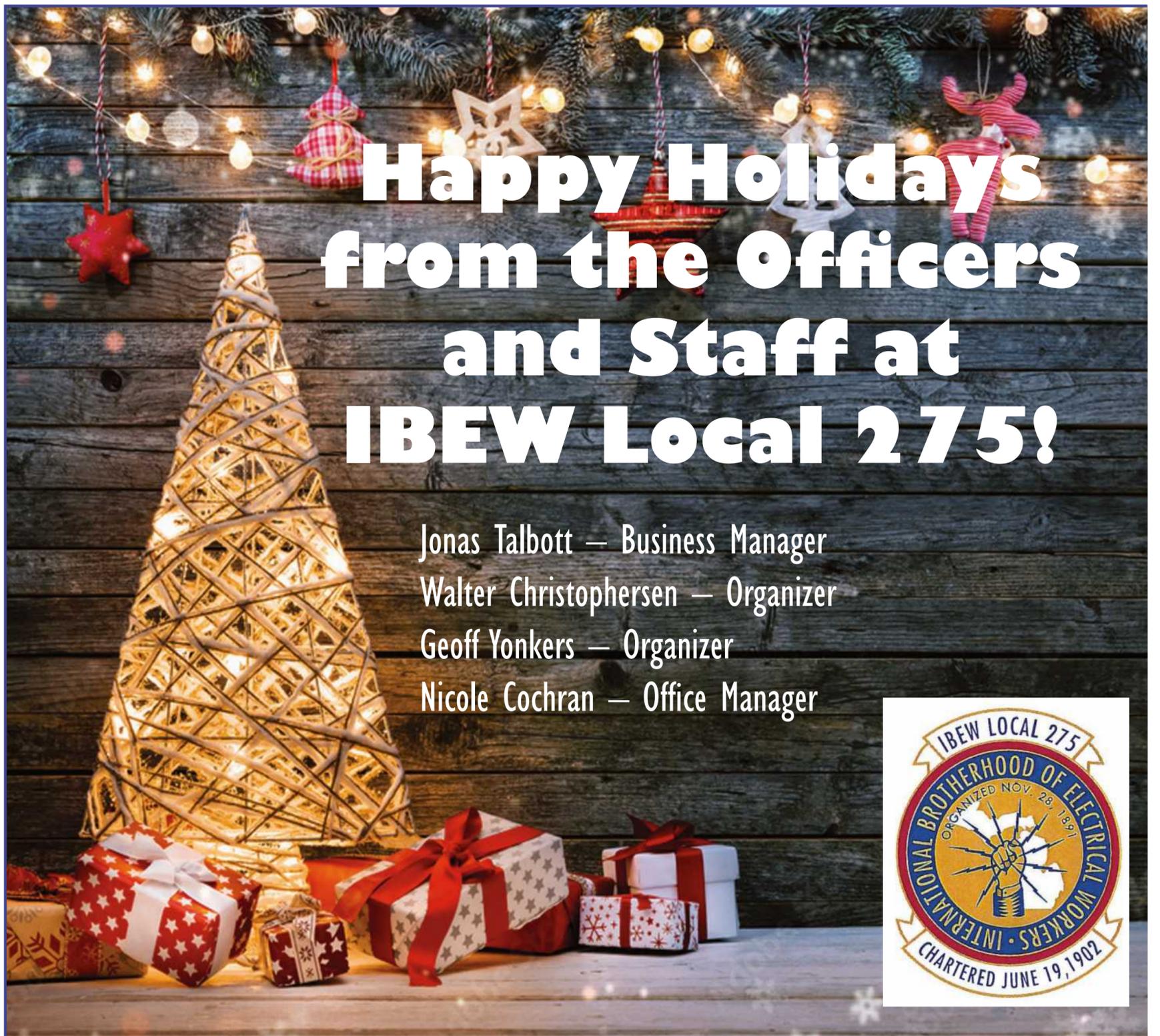
The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 8 at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee - will now be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 20 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. 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 does not have a meeting in December, so let's get together and brunch! Mark the calendars for Dec. 16, 11 am at Bobcat Bonnies, 1800 Michigan Ave, Detroit MI 48216. Please mark yourself going ASAP so we can get a reservation set. Respond on Facebook, or call / text Angie at 586-291-8014. We will also do a gift exchange, white elephant style. If you would like to participate, please bring a gift ranging from \$25-\$30, during brunch we will draw numbers and exchange! Feel free to bring someone, just please let Angie know that they are attending

Our Sister Exchange Closet
(Continued on Page 26)





District Council 1M Michigan

*Wishing our Union Brothers and Sisters
Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year!*

ROBERT GONZALEZ
BUSINESS MANAGER/SECRETARY-TREASURER

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

ROCKY ACKERMAN
FRED FREDERICKSON
JOSH OVALLE
TIM SCHWERIN

ED BRACAMONTES
CHRIS MARCHIONE
TONY PARKER
DON STEPP

JAKE FLUTY
SCOTT MIKULEN
DAVE SAARISTO
JEREMY HAVILAND

OFFICE STAFF

JAMIE PANKRANTZ

KATIE COOPER

SHANNON SATKOWIAK

PAINTERS, DRYWALL FINISHERS,
GLAZIERS, GLASSWORKERS,
SIGN / PICTORIAL & DISPLAY
AND SPECIALIZED SERVICES



IBEW Local 498

"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, Jan 8, 2024 @ 5:30pm.

Regular Meeting – The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday, Jan 8, 2024.

Office Closings – Dec 22, 2023 Closed at noon
Dec 25, 2023 Christmas Day Closed

Dec 29, 2023 Closed at noon
Jan 1, 2024 New Years Day Closed

First Aid/CPR – Class is scheduled for Jan 31, 2024 @ 5PM. Call the hall or JATC to reserve your spot.

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

Electrical License Renewal – Notices have been sent out by the State of Michigan. Please don't forget. So far, the 2020 code has not been adopted and rumor has it the state is looking at skipping the 2020 and going to 2023. Stay tuned for more updates.

Habitat Update – There

will be lots of projects this winter for habitat. The community on Bugai Road in Cedar Michigan is underway and the Maple City homes are being drywalled now. So please consider helping when the projects become available.

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

75th Anniversary of Local Union 498 – Our 75th 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 have Local 498 t-shirt, and Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home

signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing. After the 1st of the year we will have new challenge coins commemorating 75 years.

Retiree breakfast- Several of the retirees meet at Sparky's Diner off of South Airport Road every Monday morning at 9am. So if you are retired or not and want to join in the conversations

and possibly some old wives tales or other embellished stories, show up at Sparky's.

Scholarship – Past charter member Brother Bob Dost has a scholarship 'Robert Paul Dost Scholarship Endowment' for High School seniors in the 5-county area around Traverse City. To access it go to www.gtrcf.org/scholarships/. Local

498 Union members' children get preference to the endowment. A huge thank you in Memory of Bob Dost for his generosity and being a great union member.

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

(Continued on Page 27)

IBEW Local 58

(Continued from Page 24)

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 Jan. 25, 5:30pm at the Hall and also on Zoom. If you have questions, please contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

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 or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join us at our upcoming meetings to plan for next year's events and rides.

IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association: The next Board meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 10 at 10 a.m. in the Bill Rushford Room in the lower level of the union hall. The next Luncheon is Wednesday, Jan. 24 at Gazebo Banquet Center, 31104 Mound Rd, Warren, MI. Doors open at 11 am and lunch is served at 12:30 pm. It is essential that our Group give accurate information to our luncheon venues and caterers about attendance. Please send checks (\$20 per person, payable to The Retirees Association) to: IBEW #58, Attention Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit MI 48232-0756. For reservation questions call Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

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.

Electrical Workers Credit Union – Our website is <http://WWW.EWCU.NET> (313) 963-6060. In the market for a loan? Check out our low rates! New auto as low as 5.75%. Give us a call today to find out how to apply or go online at <http://www.ewcu.net>. Who's your Beneficiary? Here are some tips to help make sure your account is up to date with us. Review your beneficiaries periodically, especially if a life change occurs. Be sure the wording is correct, especially if you name more than one beneficiary. Give us a call and we can check who you have listed.

State of Michigan Escheat Law: The law states that any deposit account with no activity for 3 years must be turned over to the State. What can you do? Contact us today to find out your account status. Conduct a transaction by either deposit or withdraw (any amount). Close account.

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

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: William Fiondella Jr., Daniel Fitzgerald, Mark Keller, Paul Krause, Craig Odren, David Peitz, and Angelo Taormina III.

Members that have passed away: Sime Bajilo, Pension member, 56 year IBEW membership; Kenneth Byrd, Pension member, 53 year IBEW membership, Father to JIW Todd Byrd; Matthew Czerkis, Pension member, 28 year IBEW membership, Son to Pension member John Czerkis, Grandson to the late Pension member Casimir Czerkis; Paul Hudson, Pension member, 67 year IBEW membership; Lawrence Immethun, Pension member, 56 year IBEW membership; Ward Monterosso, Pension member, 45 year IBEW membership, Brother to Pension member's Brent, Craig, & Kim Monterosso, Uncle to JIW Micheal Monterosso; Robert Pope, Pension member, 65 year IBEW membership; and Taylor D. Smith, Journeyman Inside Wireman. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

Officers and Members
of
**Heat and Frost Insulators
and Allied Workers
Local 47
AFL-CIO**
Green Professionals for over 100 years



419 S. Washington Square Ste. 301
Lansing, MI 48933
Tel: (517) 708-0665
E-Mail:
insulatorslocal47@hotmail.com

Walter Wilson President	Patrick Welch Business Manager
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**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!!!**

BRICKLAYERS
WANTED

\$37.20 HR \$2,000 SIGN ON BONUS
PLUS HEALTH & PENSION

BRICKLAYERS.ORG

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 members:

\$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Journeyman Bricklayers!

BAC Local 2- Michigan is offering up to a \$2,000 Signing Bonus for Skilled Journeyman Bricklayers and Masonry Restoration Workers who join now and who stay working for our contractors!

Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$37.20 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and 2 Pensions. Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry Restoration Workers.

For more information go to: bricklayers.org

Season's Greetings

from




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Print ★ Mail ★ Apparel ★ Signs ★ Banners

100% Union Made ★ Specializing in Made In America!



Holiday Greetings
and Best Wishes for
a Happy New Year!

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Cynthia Billings-Dunn

Jessica Rowley

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248.331.6533
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IBEW 692

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The January monthly membership meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 8, 2024.

Executive Board Meeting. The December Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6 p.m. P.M. on Monday, Dec. 18, 2023.

Message from the Business Manager. You have my sincere wishes Brothers and Sisters for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from my family to yours! It is my hope the New Year brings you and your family all unbound prosperity.

Some of you may have received notices in the mail asking for receipt documentation for purchases made using your WEX fund account. There are a number of member claims that require a receipt to substantiate the expense. 170 members have at least 1 receipt that needs to be submitted. If proper documentation isn't received by the end of the year, the claims will be considered taxable income and a 1099 will be issued. 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. An Explanation of Benefits (EOB) will also suffice. Receipts can be mailed, faxed, uploaded via the Wex Special Fund website or uploaded using the app (MI IBEW Special Fund). Please contact the hall if assistance is needed with this process.

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.

-Master Electric has begun Elec-

trical installations on the new Isabella County Jail. Calls for this project have been on the recorder. -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, and also work out to the Bay City State Park.

-Conti Electric has many projects inside I -Park (DOW). Conti Electric has also secured a couple small projects inside Michigan Sugar along with a nice Fire Alarm Project on site at M.S. -Many, many solar projects are on their way. I can see up to 400 Mw for 2024

-Escon has secured a nice project at Mersen USA in Bay City's south end. Much more work is to come out at Mersen with projects bidding as you read this article.

-The State has approved its final permit for the Great Lakes Tunnell. The last permit needed for this project to occur is in the hands of the Army Corp of Engineers. It is unknown at this time how long this process will take.

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 through 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.

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 have all recently experienced open calls. Flint and Local 692 expect more calls at various projects through fall into winter.

Brian Klele 989.252.9225
bklele@ibew692.com
Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131
bbaranek@ibew692.com

Union Dues. PLEASE NOTE: Effective Jan. 1, 2024,

dues will remain \$45.20 per month through June 2024. Effective July 1, 2024, dues will increase to \$46.20 per month. This \$1 per capita increase was approved by the delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May of 2022.

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

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

2024 Dues
(January 2024 thru June 2024): \$45.20 Monthly
2024 Dues (July 2024 thru Dec. 2024): \$46.20 Monthly

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

Retirees Lunch. The December retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 PM on Thursday, December 21st at The Creek Grill, located at 1259 S. Poseyville Road in Midland.

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.

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
NEBF/NEAP: 301.556.4300
IO Pension: 202.833.7000



IBEW 665

LANSING – WORK OUTLOOK: Local 665 has OPEN CALLS and will need help from our travelling brothers and sisters. Call the hall for the most up to date information. 665 will be experiencing unfilled calls for all of 2024.

EVITP TRAINING PROGRAM: Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program. If you are interested in helping our local secure more work in the Lansing area it is critical we sign up for this training. This program is looking to be required by the federal government to work on any large-scale electric vehicle charger stations. The program is online on your blended learning platform. Please email Dale@lejatec.org or contact the apprenticeship office with questions or how to sign up.

HARASSMENT TRAINING: Harassment training has been adopted as part of our new contract. It is required for all our members to complete it. Please reach out to the JATC to sign up for it. You can email Dale@lejatec.org to receive instructions on how to complete it.

APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS: We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program. To apply, go to www.lejatec.org and navigate to the application page on the website.

Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

FIRST AID/CPR: If you require First Aid/CPR. Contact the JATC for the next available date to sign up.

DRUG TEST / MUST MODS: If you are planning on working any NMA or GM jobs this year, please make sure you are current on your MUST mods/ OSHA 30 and your MUST drug test. Contact the hall if you need your annual drug test or your 18 must mods.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Our general membership meeting is on the third Monday of each month and starts at 6:30 pm at the Hall.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS: The Executive Board meets the second and third Monday of each month starting at 5:00 p.m.

DUES AND DEATH BENEFITS: Quarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #345. Please look at your dues to ensure that you are current.

BENEFICIARIES: If you have recently gotten married, divorced, had children, etc., please make sure you update your beneficiaries. Forms are available at the hall.

IN REMEMBRANCE: In remembrance of local 665 members who have passed away. May their memory be eternal.

Mark McCrackin 10/02/23, Howard Shooltz 08/14/23, Gerald Loughlin 08/19/23, Walter Keith Sr. 07/12/23, Joseph Fussman 06/16/23, Eric Odle 05/15/23, Christopher Brown 04/12/23, Richard Farrington 03/12/2023, Donald Reidsma 02/22/23, Lee Benjamin 01/26/23, Garth Smith 6/21/2022, Thomas Jones 1/02/2023.

IBEW 498, continued

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

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

Website: www.michiganelectrical.org

MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-855-633-4584

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

3001 Metro Drive Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55425

NEBF 1-301-556-4300

NEAP 1-301-556-4300

IO Pension 1-202-833-7000

DUES RATES

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

July 1, 2024 – Dues increase to \$155.10/Quarter.

ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

**BRICKLAYERS BOILERMAKERS ELECTRICIANS INSULATORS PIPE FITTERS
PLUMBERS SHEET METAL WORKERS**

- ◆ Mesothelioma
- ◆ Lung Cancer
- ◆ Asbestosis
- ◆ Pulmonary Fibrosis
- ◆ Throat Cancer
- ◆ Colon Cancer

As pioneers in asbestos litigation, GPW has filed asbestos lawsuits since 1984, defending the rights of hardworking men and women throughout Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as MESOTHELIOMA, LUNG CANCER, ABESTOSIS, PULMONARY FIBROSIS, THROAT CANCER, and COLON CANCER.

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

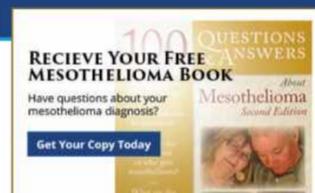
\$1.8 MILLION VERDICT

GPW obtained a **\$1.8 million** verdict in a Lung Cancer claim, the **largest Asbestos Verdict in the history of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.**

For more than 30 years, GPW has helped thousands of Michigan workers. We have represented mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestos disease victims, obtaining over \$1 billion in compensation for our clients.

CONTACT GPW TODAY TO RECEIVE YOUR FREE COPY OF 100 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT MESOTHELIOMA!

For nearly 20 years GPW has offered this FREE resource and guide to mesothelioma victims. Call 800-799-2234 or visit www.gpwlaw-mi.com to request a FREE copy today!



Contact us today:

800-799-2234

www.gpwlaw-mi.com

Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. You may be entitled to claim money damages from the responsible members of the asbestos industry. Call for a FREE consultation.

WISHING ALL TRADES AND
THEIR FAMILIES A
**SAFE & HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON**

FROM THE OFFICERS & MEMBERS OF

IBEW LOCAL 58

Paul VanOss
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Kimberly L'Heureux
President

Justin Steenbergh
Vice President

Felicia Wiseman
Treasurer

Jeannette Bradshaw
Recording Secretary

Executive Board

Kevin Mack, Chairman
Jeanette Caldwell
Chris Reschke
Jeff Long
Kevin Mackey

Business Representatives

Andre Crook
Bill Green
Bryan Stowe
Byron Osbern
Chuck McDonald
Jeff Patricca

Nick Chapital, Assistant Business Manager
Jim Peltier, Assistant Business Manager
Tim Scott, Office Manager

Jim Mackey
Ken Rosinski
Kurt Boardman
LaMarr Jones
Ric Preuss
Tom Diederichs

Examining Board

Beau Burton - Paul Stefani - Russ Rader - Angela Panicucci-Scott Glaza