

SHORT **CUTS**

January jobless rate unchanged at 3.7%

WASHINGTON (PAI) -The U.S. unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.7 percent in January, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Feb. 2. Joblessness has now been 4 percent or below for more than two years.

Some 6.124 million people were unemployed in January, while 6.268 million were jobless the month before. There were 5.719 million jobless (3.4 percent) in January 2023, which matched the lowest unemployment rate since 1969.

The BLS reported that average hourly earnings rose slightly for all groups of workers from December to January, but average weekly earnings declined in 10 out of BLS's 14 four sectors of jobs.

Average weekly earnings for all private sector jobs rose to \$993.61 in January from \$962.54 in January 2023.

Construction companies added 11,000 jobs in January, to 8.137 million. That's compared to January 2023, when construction firms employed 7.921 million workers.

"With the strong January job growth and the upward revisions to the December data, there is no longer any basis" for concerns about job growth being limited to a few sectors, said Dean Baker of the Center for Economic and Policy Research.

OSHA nears **OK** for union walk-alongs

The Biden Administration has begun its final review of a new OSHA regulation allowing union representatives to accompany government officials



USING A "Total Station" prescision scanner to set the locations for duct hangers on the floor below is Colby Hemgesberg of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7. Employed by Dee Cramer, he's working on the YMCA portion of the Harrison Street Commons project in an area that will have a basketball court and running track.

Flint to get YMCA, added apartments, busier downtown

By Marty Mulcahy Editor

revival is inching forward, and it will be moved ahead a bit more with a new \$41 million project that will provide much-needed new housing - and a place to help city residents to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Uptown Reinvestment Corp. is undertaking construction of the "Harrison Street Commons" project, which revitalizes a long-vacant site into a four-story, 115,000-square-foot mixed-use building. The two-part structure will contain 50 apartments, 7,500 square feet of office space, a physical rehabilitation facility, and a full-service YMCA.

We are honored to be partners in the Harrison Street Commons. Providing 50 high-quality, mixed-income housing units in the heart of Flint is part of the transformational change we strive for in our work," said Uptown Development Coordinator Moses Timlin. "Through this development, we envision a more vibrant and resilient downtown with increased walkability, density, occupancy, and diversity of building uses

Being erected on the site of a former parking lot at Harrison and Third streets, the project joins FLINT - The city's quest for a downtown a five-level apartment building that earlier this month was a maze of lumber studs and wooden

(Continued on Page 2)



Hello again, state prevailing wage. Nice to have you back...

By Marty Mulcahy Editor LANSING – The Michigan

Prevailing Wage Act is back. On Feb. 13, it became for-

mally reinstated and returned to its traditional role - protecting the incomes of Michigan's construction workers, helping shield taxpayers from shoddy work and shielding legitimate contractors from shady contractors who win bids by underpaying workers.

Prevailing wage was reinstated legislatively last March by a majority vote of Democrat lawmakers in Lansing, who took control of both the House and Senate for the first time in four decades. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's signature on the prevailing wage reinstatement law came a few weeks later, but it was adopted without "immediate effect" which meant that a number of months had to pass before Feb. 13 became the red-letter day on the calendar.

"Today, we are coming together to restore workers' rights, protect Michiganders on the job, and grow Michigan's middle class," Whitmer said at the signing ceremony last March. She also signed legislation repealing right-to-work in the state. "Michigan workers are the most

Wage law resurrected Feb. 13 after GOP terminated it

talented and hard-working in the world and deserve to be treated with dignity and respect."

Michigan became only the second state in history to reinstate a statewide prevailing wage law. The Michigan Prevailing Wage Act of 1965 was overturned in 2018 by the Republican majority in the state Legislature. The GOP vote to repeal came after the Associated Builders and Contractors -Michigan spent millions of dollars on lobbying, and on a pair of petition drives intended to repeal the prevailing wage law.

Their second petition drive garnered enough signatures, and the subsequent vote by GOP lawmakers repealed the 33-yearold wage law. But all that effort only won the ABC's nonunion contractors a few years respite from having to bid on state contracts without a standardized prevailing wage floor for paying workers.

(Continued on Page 3)

...And don't let the door hit you, right-to-work

By Robert Reich the first state in 60 years to repeal

Last year, Michigan became Michigan Dems' repeal of state

during workplace inspections.

More specifically, the rule would allow nonunion workers to authorize a union to help inspect their workplace, on the basis that the "skills, knowledge, or experience" of the union could make inspections more effective.

For example, union representatives may have more experience monitoring their workplaces for safety hazards, and as third-party inspectors, they may be less afraid to point out violations than the nonunion employees themselves.

Meanwhile, business groups worry that the inspections will open the door to union drives at nonunion workplaces.

No cream or sugar from anti-union Starbucks

Starbucks has violated federal labor law yet again, according to an administrative law judge's decision released this month.

The judge ruled that the company illegally fired two union supporters at an Illinois store after they initiated a union drive and spoke to their coworkers about joining Starbucks Workers United.

These violations are part of a pattern: since SWU began organizing at Starbucks, the company has been found to violate the law in 98 percent of its hearings before the National Labor Relations Board.

In September, one ALJ noted Starbucks' "demonstrated proclivity for violating the (National Labor Relations) Act," citing 31 prior cases as grounds for imposing a "broad and extraordinary" cease-anddesist order against the company.

–John Fry, On Labor

Quotable

"How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world. –William Shakespeare, (1564-1616), The Merchant of Venice

Earlier this month there were about 50

tradespeople on the project, which is being managed by Lurvey Construction. The project began APPLYING PVC CEMENT to a three-inch last June and is expected to be complete in the drain pipe in a third floor apartment at the first quarter of 2025. "We're doing great, there's a really good group of professional tradespeople Jesse Nickels. The Plumbers and Pipe Fitters here," said Lurvey Project Supt. Chad Jones.



Harrison Street Commons project in Flint is Local 370 member is employed by Goyette.



RUNNING NO. 12 WIRE in a fourth floor apartment at the Harrison Street Commons project in Flint is Marcos McDonald of IBEW Local 948. He's employed by Roth Electric.

Appeal upholds Whitmer's effort to enact limited prevailing wage requirement

SAFETY HELMETS

By Marty Mulcahy Editor LANSING - There was a double shot of good news this month regarding prevailing wage in Michigan.

Not only was the state's Prevailing Wage Act formally reinstated on Feb. 13, a state Court of Appeals on Feb. 1 upheld the

validity of a related wage directive issued by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. In that October 2021 directive, made 18 months prior to the state Legislature fully reinstating prevailing wage, Whitmer ordered the state Department of

its right-to-work law. The repeal officially goes into effect today (Feb. 13)

So-called "right-to-work" laws are all about weakening unions rather than giving workers more rights. Don't be fooled by the name.

In a number of states a battle is being waged over so-called right-to-work laws. Which should really be called "right to work is wrong" laws, because they're so bad for workers.

Right to work sounds harmless, but it's not. Consider these facts.

The average worker in states with right to work laws makes 12.2 percent less annually than workers in states without right to work laws, when all other factors are removed. People in right to work states are less likely to have health insurance, and pay more out of pocket for insurance.

Right to work states have higher poverty, higher infant mortality, less investment in education, and higher workplace fatalities.

contracts let by the DTMB.

A 3-0 opinion handed down by the appellate court agreed with the Whitmer Administration, that the DTMB "is permitted by its discretionary power established" in state statute to require the payment of prevailing wages on their state construction contracts (Continued on Page 2)

RTW law becomes official

Viewpoint

So why do right-to-work laws hurt workers in all these ways? Because these laws destroy unions. That's their purpose.

Here's how.

Under the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, when a majority of workers votes for a union in their workplace, they're entitled to have a union. And that union bargains with management for higher wages and better working conditions. The union has bargaining clout because all union workers at that company are union members, that's what (Continued on Page 4)

Cut red tape, unleash U.S. infrastructure money, urge contractors

Four national trade associations on Feb. 15 petitioned the White House to make improvements to speed its implementation of "made in America" requirements for construction products and materials related to the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act.

They noted their contractormembers have encountered significant difficulty in navigating the White House Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) "opaque and unbalanced implementation," risking delays and cost increases for related housing, transportation, and water infrastructure projects.

Adopted in 2021, the Act is the largest national infrastructure law adopted in history, and a signature triumph of the Biden Administration benefiting the building trades. The law includes the "Build America, Buy America

(Continued on Page 4)



By Marty Mulcahy Editor

How long, hard hats?

How much longer will the familiar hard hat with the mostly unchanged, decades-old design, continue to be the go-to piece of equipment to protect the noggins of American tradesworkers?

It's hard to say, except at the Boldt Co. There, the Appleton, Wis.based construction services firm this month announced that it will be among the first contractors to require "everyone on its sites" to wear safety helmets, which have next-generation safety and versatility features The 100 percent safety helmet mandate becomes effective July 1. Boldt has offices in Detroit and Wixom, and the company has worked extensively in the Upper Peninsula,

"Our employees are our most valuable assets, and their safety is non-negotiable," said Scott Frazer, vice president of Corporate Safety at Boldt. "By making helmets the new norm, we're ensuring that every (Continued on Page 3)

wage policy to state construction Strap yourself in: Boldt mandates safety helmets

Technology, Management and Budget to apply a prevailing-



Big day for workers' rights

LANSING- More than a dozen workers' rights laws passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor last year went into effect Feb. 13. Among them are the repeal of Michigan's 2012 ban on union security clauses, otherwise known as "right to work," the first repeal of its kind in the nation in almost 60 years. The bills taking effect are part of a broad agenda to expand and protect workers' rights, something Michigan voters overwhelmingly favor.

"This moment has been decades in the making," said Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber. "By standing up and taking their power back, at the ballot box and in the workplace, workers have made it clear Michigan is and always will be the beating heart of the modern American labor movement. The work to get here after decades of attacks on wages and collective bargaining rights was grueling, but Feb. 13, the beginning of a new workers' rights agenda, where people come before profits, takes effect. I couldn't be more proud.'

Among the laws that took effect on Feb. 13:

•The repeal of Michigan's 2012 ban on union security clauses, otherwise known as "right to work"

•The restoration of prevailing wage

•The expansion of the Working Families Tax Credit

The repeal of former Governor Rick Snyder's tax on retiree

pensions

•The creation of a new Community and Worker Economic Transition Office

•The restoration of subjects of collective bargaining rights for public school employees

•The restoration of Detroit Public School teachers wage bargaining rights, for teachers hired after 2019.

•The elimination of penalties on public employees when their contracts expire.

•The restoration of teachers unions right to bargain over privatization of school support staff

•The ability for teachers unions to bargain over teacher evaluation terms

•The restoration of organizing rights for graduate student research assistants

"This is a big day for workers across our state," said state Sen. Darrin Camilleri (D-Trenton). "In a matter of months, our Democratic majority has been able to get more done for Michigan's working men and women than we've seen in the past decade. As the son and grandson of union auto workers, I was particularly proud to sponsor and fight for Senate Bill 34, which expands collective bargaining power and allows workers to more freely and effectively negotiate for the pay, benefits, and working conditions they need and deserve."

"Workers showed up at the ballot box and have elected a Democratic trifecta that is standing up for them," said state Rep. and Michigan Legislative Labor Caucus Chair Regina Weiss (D-Oak Park). "From repealing anti-labor legislation such as so-called 'right to work,' to restoring collective bargaining rights for teachers and school employees, House and Senate Dems have delivered on our promise to put working families first.'

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

How to contact us -By mail: Building Tradesman Editor 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216 e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

"Anyone who has gumption knows what it is, and anyone who hasn't can never know what it is. So there is no need of defining it." -L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

Appeal upholds Whitmer's effort to enact limited prevailing wage requirement

(Continued from Page 1) exceeding \$50,000. The appeals ruling is only effective for a short time. And Whitmer's prevailing wage directive was also limited in scope, as it did not include locally initiated construction contracts that use state money - such as lucrative school building projects.

In 2021, a related statement from the National Federation of Independent Business in Michigan said the governor was "blatant in her abuse of power." The Associated Building and Contractors- Michigan brought the case first to the state Court of Claims, where it lost, and to the Court of Appeals, where it lost again this month.

Both the state DTMB and intervenor Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council argued that the case became moot after the state Legislature enacted a new prevailing wage law in March 2023, but the appeals court judges thought otherwise.

"If we were to agree with ABC and reverse the Court of Claims grant of summary disposition, that judgment will still have a practical legal effect on the existing controversy through March 2024," Murray wrote with concurrence from Judges Michael J. Riordan and Michael J. Kelly. "This appeal is not moot."

But it's approaching mootness.

The conservative Mackinac Center for Public Policy served as legal counsel in the case for the ABC. Senior attorney Derk Wilcox said the plaintiffs are "not planning an appeal because this issue is likely moot, as Michigan lawmakers have re-instituted the state's prevailing wage law."

"If the wind will not serve, take to the oars.' -Latin Proverb

"We are so vain that we even care for the opinion of those we don't care for.

-Marie Ebner von Eschenbach

"Fanaticism consists in redoubling your effort when you have forgotten vour aim." -George Santayana (1863 -

1952)



GOING UP at Harrison and Third Streets in Flint: the Harrison Street Commons project, which combines a YMCA with 50 apartments.

Flint to get YMCA, added apartments, busier downtown

(Continued from Page 1)

floors, with a YMCA that's currently much more open. But in the coming months it will be filled in with a competitive lap pool, a family splash pad, a basketball court, exercise studios, running/walking track, locker rooms, community space, and after-school rooms.

Uptown, a longtime developer in the city, said it looks for the project to bring additional foot traffic and economic activity to the area, and perhaps as a catalyst for future development. The project is also expected to create or retain 51 full-time jobs. "Housing, entertainment

and recreation are all critically important parts of a vibrant neighborhood. We are thrilled to see and support our partners in Flint as they work so intentionally to create a thriving, attractive and equitable downtown community," said Eric Hanna. president and CEO of Michigan Community Capital, a nonprofit investor in the project.

The YMCA of Greater Flint said its first facility was opened in 1913. The current downtown YMCA, about a five-minute walk from the Harrison Street Commons project, was dedicated in 1962.

"With only 30-40 percent of the facility currently utilized, it has reached a point of functional obsolescence," the YMCA said.

Jones said setting foundations for the Harrison Street Commons project at the former parking lot offered few obstacles, as happens sometimes on downtown properties in older communities. "So far, nothing really challenging has come up," he said. "There's a good mix of materials we're using, so that makes the building a fun challenge. In the end Uptown is going to get a quality, top of the line, state-of-the-art building with no shortcuts.'

Now food for kids is political

By Jim Hightower

This plot line could have come from one of Charles Dickens' novels about upper-class depravity: "Miserly governors refuse to provide gruel for povertystricken ragamuffins."

Unfortunately, this is not a novel, but modernday reality taking place in 15 states, where rightwing officeholders have

federal program to provide food this summer for millions of children mired in poverty.

ideologues. Seeking to punish poverty, they piously demonize public aid - even for hungry children! This program hardly lavishes luxury dining on anyone, offering only \$40 per child in gro-

ceries. Not for one meal or even a week, but \$40 a month – about \$1.30 a day. Feast on that!

Yet the politicians in such deeply impoverished states as Mississippi and Louisiana have arrogantly shunned this minimal assistance their people so desperately need. So have the mingy governors of Florida and Texas, large states where millions of children need this food.

Note that these elitist governors are personally wealthy, yet they have no ethical qualms about taxpayers picking up the tab for their pricey meals.

Then there's the pathetic duplicity of Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds. She rejected the grocery benefit for her state's children, asserting that it "does nothing to promote nutrition" and could contribute to childhood obesity.

Well gosh, governor, providing food has actually proven to be nutritionally beneficial for children. On the other hand, she's

right that denying food to children definitely can cause them to lose weight! Thanks, Kim.

All told, 8 million hungry kids will go out without food because of these governors.

Turning down food assistance for poor children is shockingly callous, just plain mean, and politically stupid-even for right-wing puritanical ideologues. The good news is that 35 states, five U.S. territories, and four Native American tribes have welcomed the summer program. Learn more at FeedingAmerica.org.

"When we are unable to find tranquility within ourselves, it is useless to seek it elsewhere."

-Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)

'A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies."

-Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900) "He that climbs the tall tree has won right to the fruit."

-Sir Walter Scott (1771 -





"I have always felt that a politician is to be judged by the animosities he excites among his opponents.'

- Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)

"What we call 'Progress' is the exchange of one nuisance for another nuisance.'

-Havelock Ellis (1859 -1939)

"A tough lesson in life that one has to learn is that not everybody wishes you well."

-Dan Rather (1931 -)

"Chance is always powerful. Let your hook be always cast; in the pool where you least expect it, there will be a fish.' – Ovid (43 BC - 17 AD)



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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."





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THE INFANTRY BARRACKS at "new" Fort Brady in Sault Ste. Marie. Completed in 1903 and shown here in 1908, one of the two buildings was destroyed by fire in the 1960s. The other remains standing, and along with 14 other buildings has been incorporated into the campus of Lake Superior State University. The first Fort Brady was erected in 1822 as a bulwark against a British incursion, the second was constructed beginning in the 1890s to protect the Soo Locks. Photo credit: U.S. Library of Congress

Long before our state officially became a state in 1837, Michigan's proximity to the Great Lakes made it a key geographic place on early maps of North America's "Northwest **Territories.**"

Native Americans, of course, roamed the two peninsulas for centuries before the French, British, Spanish and American flags, at one time or another, flew over Michigan communities and settlements. When European settlers began arriving, the Michigan Territory's swampy interior initially didn't hold many charms for European settlers, but our state's strategic location, easy water transportation and mineral wealth - not to mention traded goods like beaver pelts – irresistibly drew the attention of military strategists.

Thus came the construction of forts - military installations built to protect the interests of whatever nation was controlling the region. Michigan's oldest fort, Michilimackinac in Mackinaw City, was built by the French in 1715. More than 100 years later, Fort **Brady in Sault Ste. Marie was** constructed by Americans.

"The original Fort Brady, established by Colonel Hugh Brady in 1822, established United States authority over the northern Great Lakes region," says the state's Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. "It was abandoned in 1892 and the New Fort Brady was completed in 1893. The New Fort Brady site is now on the campus of Lake Superior



THIS VIEW OF FORT BRADY features a line of row houses that were built in the 1890s to house Army officers and families. Today these structures are student housing and Lake Superior Photo credit: State University offices. Lake Superior State University

welcome the Americans.

"The American government decided to establish a garrison along all lake side shores and end British dominance in trading," says Lake Superior State University's History of Fort Brady. "In order to build in the Sault the government had to first receive consent from the Chippewa, since all their land had been returned to them with the treaty with Indian tribes in 1815." The tribe reluctantly ceded the land to the Americans. "In the summer of 1822 a battalion of the Second United States Regiment arrived from Sackett's Harbor (New York) under the command of then-**Colonel Hugh Brady. The fort** was then constructed under **Colonel Brady's direction.**"

The Soo's first fort was along the St. Mary's river across the river from Canada, and consisted of a rectangular stockade – a traditional fort design with posts and picket stakes pounded into the ground - with blockhouses at the southwest and northeast corners. Picket-walls were 12 feet tall and set four feet in the ground.

wage laws benefit union contractors – while labor unions and their allies say the rules simply even the playing field for contractors bidding on taxpayer-funded work. With prevailing wage,

> contractors have a baseline for paying workers based on wage levels that "prevail" locally, thus out-of-area contractors can't win bids simply by bringing in a lower-paid workforce.

(Continued from Page 1)

"Job security in the 21st

Century includes protecting

workers' rights when they speak

up in solidarity for better wages

and better working conditions,"

state Rep. Regina Weiss (D-Oak

Park), chair of the Labor Caucus

and the House Appropriations

Subcommittee on School Aid and

Education. "Organized labor built

the middle class, and working

Michiganders are stronger today

because of it. We've worked hard

to put people first and to put more

money than ever back into the

pockets of working Michigan-

ders. We're continuing the long-

standing Democratic tradition of

Contractors and their allied have

traditionally argued that prevail-

ing wage laws artificially inflate

construction costs to taxpayers,

although that is refuted by numer-

ous academic studies. The ABC

has also argued that prevailing

The Associated Builders and

standing up for workers."

wage. Nice to have you back Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed into law S.B. 34 and H.B. 4007, which respectively repeal the state's right-to-work protections and reinstate prevailing wage requirements for public construction projects," the national ABC said in a statement following the signing. "The actions reward labor unions' substantial financial and political contributions to Michigan Democrats' unified state governmental control and garnered significant opposition from ABC of Michigan, the wider business community and Republican lawmakers."

Hello again, state prevailing

The ABC added: "A 2017 study by Michigan's Mackinac Center for Public Policy found state prevailing wage requirements would transfer about \$230 million annually from Michigan taxpayers to unionized workers and confirmed extensive existing findings that such requirements increase construction costs by 15 percent. Union officials applauded Democrats' fast action to artificially bolster work availability via public coffers for the 14 percent of Michigan's workforce that is unionized. H.B. 4007 includes a variety of devices to enhance nonunion contractors' exposure to compliance burdens and associated liability, including a \$5,000 penalty per violation."

One of the more recent academic studies on prevailing "On March 24, Michigan wage, released in January 2023

by the University of Illinois Labor and Economic Research Department, looked at six states, including Michigan, where prevailing wage had been repealed. The study found "no evidence that the repeals reduced public construction costs or benefited taxpayers."

The Whitmer Administration paired the reinstatement of prevailing wage with procedures to update sorely outdated construction worker wage data that prevails in various geographic regions. That is sure to raise wages - much of the old data on worker wages was decades old.

"We've made incredible progress for working people since Democratic pro-worker majorities took the gavel in Lansing. From repealing anti-worker 'right-to-work' laws for the first time in nearly 60 years, to protecting paychecks by reinstating prevailing wage, to restoring collective bargaining rights for our teachers and school staff, Democrats are delivering on their promise to make Michigan a workers' rights state. Last year's accomplishments were historic, but we still have work to do. I look forward to the year ahead, working with our legislative leaders to continue delivering the agenda the working people of this state deserve," said Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber this month.

Strap yourself in: Boldt Co. mandates safety helmets

(Continued from Page 1) worker has the best protection possible. Our goal is to make helmets the undisputed choice for construction crews."

It's generally accepted that the first modern hard hats were used during construction of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco in the 1930s. While the construction industry has long adhered to the now-familiar design, the traditional protective headgear's design doesn't always account for frontal, rear, or side impact protection.

Workers struck in one of these areas are more at risk for concussions or serious traumatic brain injuries that affect both long-term physical and mental health. Boldt said it has taken a "protective stance to safeguard employees across all crafts, including those that require versatile accessories (e.g., grinding, torching, welding, excavating), which moved the company to explore options for safety helmet designs.' Boldt first decided to move away from traditional hard hats in 2021. The company said it extensively researched different helmet and accessory manufacturers and styles, and field-tested each option to ensure optimal safety and functionality. Boldt selected Milwaukee Tool's Milwaukee BOLT Safety Helmet along with PPE manufacturer Jackson Safety's Hard Hat Interchange System (HHIS) for helmet accessories (including welding attachments, full face shields, ear muffs, lamp clips, ear plug hooks, wind, rain, cold weather and sun protection, replacement padding, brims, etc.). Unlike traditional hard hats, Boldt said the new helmet includes high-density foam to better absorb impact to all areas of the head, an integrated chinstrap to secure it to the wearer's head, comfortable padded suspension with adjustable swinging ratchet, an antimicrobial sweat band and liner, air vents to combat heat stress, accessory slots to integrate additional PPE and accessories to adapt to different work scopes. In addition, the helmet offers a five-year service life from the date it is put into service and an extended shelf life of 10 years, two times longer than many traditional hard hats. "Getting feedback from Boldt's employees helped us develop the Jackson Safety HHIS system that not only works for them but can also be used throughout the industry," said Mark Nelson, Jackson Safety. "I'd highly encourage other companies to implement proactive programs like Boldt has that have an immediate positive safety impact on their employees."



State University and has 14 of the original fort buildings repurposed and in use."

The placement of a fort was first dictated by military, political and geographical factors, then the presence of natural resources (trees for a fort's walls and structures), labor and some basic engineering knowhow. Early forts were relatively rare in Michigan: they were constructed in Detroit, Drummond Island, the Mackinac region, Niles, Port Huron, Sault Ste. Marie and St. Joseph.

"Americans were slow to move into Michigan, even after the lands had come under American control," says Michigan State University's Project Geo. "The British continued the fur trade on U.S. lands, encouraged Native nations to resist U.S. expansion, and repossessed some western forts. These acts contributed to the War of 1812, and the formation of a resistance movement by the Shawnee leader Tecumseh. Only with the end of the war (in 1815) did the U.S. secure its claim to the area."

The British surrendered Fort Mackinac in 1815, but their influence in the region continued as they moved their garrison about 30 miles east to Drummond Island. The local Chippewa band preferred to continue to trade with the British, and saw no reason to

"It is a small gap to Canada, which is why it was important to station a fort right next to British-occupied lands," says The Abridged History of Fort Brady, published by Michigan Technological University. "It was not that impressive of a fort, but it was enough to enforce an American presence in the Upper Peninsula near a pseudo enemy at the time. Due to the fact that there wasn't that much conflict in this fort, it really boosted the area around it. It may have not been a reinforced fort with brick and mortar walls, but it contained a grove and a cemetery. It earned Hugh Brady a promotion to Brigadier General. He left his fort around 1822 along with most of the soldiers to head to Fort Snelling in Minnesota."

"For more than 20 years," says History of Fort Brady, "the old fort was operational, Fort Brady was very important in the life of Sault Ste. Marie, occupying 26.14 acres extending 550 feet along the bank of the river and running parallel to Portage Street. The fort had a large garden, a cemetery, and a grove of large trees. The main operations upland. Thus the New Fort Brady was moved to heights on nearby Ashumn Hill, with construction beginning in 1892 and lasting through the turn of the century.

entrance was located on Portage

Street, where a sentry with a rifle

American War in 1846 the volun-

teers from Michigan at the fort

headed south to war. Soldiers

returned in 1849, but left eight

years later to quell a domestic

uprising, and the Army left the

fort unoccupied. That was a con-

cern for locals, who then, as now,

considered the Soo Locks a vital

transportation conduit prone

to sabotage, especially with the

burgeoning copper industry be-

coming a major economic engine

Brady in 1866, with a mission

to protect the locks, and the

fort buildings were rebuilt

and remodeled. But in 1886, a

planned widening of the locks

canal meant there wouldn't be

space for the old fort, so plans

were begun to move the fort's

The Army returned to Fort

for the region.

At the start of the Mexican-

would pace back and forth."

The New Fort Brady consisted of 64 buildings on 73 acres surrounded by 12-foothigh fencing. An Officer's Row constructed in the 1890s housed the garrison's officers and commanding officers. (The commandant's quarters is now the residence of the president of Lake Superior State University).

Other officer's row houses have been turned into student residences. One of two Infantry Barracks is still standing, housing the College of Business and Economics. The Post Headquarters houses LSSU's **Department of Education.**

No hostile shots were ever taken at either the new or old Fort Brady. But during World War II, the facility teemed with 15,000 troops. "There they learned how to be effective soldiers in harsher colder climates. Around 1944 is when New Fort Brady became what a lot of the older forts became: 'surplus,'" says The Abridged History of Fort Brady.

The Army moved out and it became eligible to be donated, bought, and preserved as a surplus fort. In 1966, Fort Brady became the site of the Lake Superior State College; then Lake Superior State University.



THE FIRST FORT BRADY, depicted in a woodcut image made in 1857. The fort protected Sault Ste. Marie from invaders who never came, until a new fort was erected nearby on higher ground in 1893. Image credit: Wikipedia Commons

Said Andrew Olson, a Boldt

SAFETY HELMETS will be required of everyone on Boldt Co. jobsites by July 1. Hi-visibility clothing and safety glasses became mandated seemingly overnight about a decade ago on the nation's jobsites – time will tell if safety helmet requirements will become just as inevitable. Credit: Graham Images

foreman and an Iron Workers Local 8 journeyman: "I appreciate the team working hard to find solutions for everyone in the field. The Boldt safety team worked to find the best fit for hot work accessories with the resources that were available to them because there weren't a lot of options when we made the switch. I know getting everyone on the same page from hard hats to helmets was not easy, and anytime I called with a question or problem, they got on it right away."

Boldt, an *Engineering News* Record Top 400 construction services firm, said it recognizes the cost implications of the transition, with helmets costing more than double the cost of traditional hard hats. However, the company emphasizes that the investment is "a small price to pay for the long-term well-being of its workforce."

Safety helmets have been around for at least the past decade, and seem to be more prevalent on jobs out west, said Boldt Safety Operations Manager Kristin Clements. "But we've been seeing the helmets slowly implemented around here. We're not the first contractor to mandate safety helmets, but we didn't want to wait around and have some sort of unfortunate incident with a traumatic head injury happen before we put this policy into place."

Just joking

An orthodox rabbi who's been leading a congregation for many years doesn't



mind his Kosher diet, but he has always been tempted to eat pork. So he devises a plan during a vacation to Hawaii where

he makes plans to attend a luau.

He checks into his hotel, then immediately gets himself a table for dinner at a beachfront restaurant across the street with a luau scheduled that night.

As he's eagerly waiting for dinner to be served, he hears his name called. He looks up to see 10 of his loyal congregants approaching. What bad luck - they'd chosen the same time to take a group tour to Hawaii.

Just at that moment, the waiter comes out with a huge silver tray, and gets ready to carve a whole roasted pig with an apple in its mouth.

The rabbi sheepishly looks up at his congregants and says, "What kind of place is this? You order an apple and look how it's served!"

Cut red tape, unleash U.S. infrastructure money, urge contractors

(Continued from Page 1) Act," which expands longstanding domestic preference requirements for construction projects that incorporate federal dollars.

"Our coalition fully supports the Act's laudable core purpose of strengthening domestic manufacturing," the trade groups said in their letter. "Unfortunately, OMB's focus on managing virtually every aspect of the Build America, Buy America Act requirements is not practical and causes confusion and delay with federal agencies that fund construction projects." Slow implementation of the infrastructure money has been an ongoing complaint - although, the U.S. construction industry has been fairly busy without it.

The complaining groups include the American Public Transportation Association; the American Road & Transportation Builders Association; the Associated General Contractors of America; and the National Association of Home Builders.

In particular, the groups note continued uncertainty surrounding the waiver process. The Buy America provisions allow for these exceptions if domestically made products are unavailable or significantly more costly. However, under executive order, OMB must review the hundreds of waiver requests made to federal agencies each year. While OMB has a 15-day target for these reviews, the process "often proves to be lengthy and unpredictable" the groups said, "as the politics of these waivers can lead to bureaucratic inertia."

As an example, the group said the Illinois Department of Transportation submitted a waiver on May 21, 2021, that was not posted for public comment until more than two years later, on Aug. 28, 2023. "Such uncertainty with the waiver process threatens project delays, cost increases, and even project cancellations," the groups said.

The groups' filing calls for more timely waivers, given the record number of projects utilizing federal funding, short-term deficiencies in domestic manufacturing capabilities, increased materials costs and unpredictable



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday March 13, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

As a reminder, your dues payment is due the last day of the month.

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.

Congratulations to the following Retired Brothers who have reached their 50 Year status with the UA and Local 704: Larry Buckner, Alonzo Simmons, Robert Rutan, Dave Tenniswood and Bruce Carroll. Thank you for your years of service.

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.



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

UA Local 190

ANN ARBOR - UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, March 11 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

ATTENTION MI GAS DISTRIBUTION MEMBERS: A "Special Called Meeting" for the Michigan Gas Distribution Wage Allocation has been scheduled for: Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m. until Noon. This meeting will be held at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES DOWN HILL WELDING TRAINING & HELPER TRAINING: Will begin 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.

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

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN: If you are currently laid off and you would like to work building trades. Please contact Kristyn at out 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, 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.

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 of each month. Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9-12 p.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

MEDICARE: When you become eligible for Medicare, please contact Bernadette Maus at our Fringe Benefit office 1-888-390-7473. The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. Office hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8am. to 5 pm.; Friday 8am. to 3:30pm. We will be closed for lunch from noon to 1pm. Please call Kristyn with any questions regarding certifications and training schedules or visit us on UA190.org members only section under training to register for classes online. The Training Center will no longer accept cash payments, we will accept checks or credit card payments only. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County



UA Local 333

LANSING - The February meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024 at 7:30 pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd, Lansing MI 48911.

The March meeting will be Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 7:30 pm at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI 48911.

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

A Diversity Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024 at 5:30 pm at the Local 333 Hall, 5405 S. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd., Lansing MI.

Condolences to Local 333 member and retiree Norm Ulery and family on the loss of their wife and mother, Lois Ulery, who passed away recently. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this time of sadness.

WELD CLASSES LANSING: Beginning 1/08/24 - 3/13/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced - 1/09/24 - 3/14/24 - Tuesday and

Thursday 4:30 - 8:30 JACKSON: Beginning 1/08/24 - 3/13/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 - 8:30 Advanced - 1/09/24 - 3/14/24 - Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 - 8:30

BATTLE CREEK: Welding - 1/08/24 - 3/13/24 - Monday and Wednesday 4:30 8:30

ADVANCE PIPEFITTING - Jeff Thom, Instructor Lansing Training Center - Jan. 29, 2024 -Monday and Wednesday 5 - 8:30 Total hours to complete certification - 40 hours. Class limited to 12 members.

INTRO TO NAVIS-WORKS - Eric Kosloski, Instructor Lansing Training Center - Jan. 28, 2024 - Monday and Wednesday 5-8:00. Total hours to complete class - 24 hours. Class limited to 6 members.

FUNDAMENTALS OF GAS HEATING - Scott Richardson, Instructor Jackson Training Center - Feb. 8 - March 11, 2024 -Tuesday and Thursday 5-8. Class will be limited to 8 members.

MED-GAS CERTIFICA-TION - Anyone interested in taking a Med-Gas class please sign up on the Website - UA333.0rg. Please sign up on the Website - UA333.org. If you need assistance call the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL **CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the UA as of Jan. 1, 2019, all Braze and Weld certifications must be updated within 120 days of the their expiration date or you will lose vour certifications. Check the dates on your certifications and if they have expired call Diana at the Lansing Training Center 517-323-0333. Even though the Training Center sends everyone's continuities to be renewed, between changes of addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it is the member's responsibility to make sure their certifications are current. **NOTE:** Members needing assistance with the Journeyman Plumbing Code test prep please contact Tim Hicks at the Training Center. Battle Creek Retiree Breakfasts are held the fourth Thursday of every month at Lux Café, 2587 Capital Ave., Battle Creek, MI at 9 am. Please spread the word. Retirees' Breakfast in Jackson: They meet the third Tuesday of every month at 10 am at the Alpha Coney Island, 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson MI. PLEASE NOTE: The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson crossing Shopping Center.



KALAMAZOO - UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be the Finance Committee at 4:30 and the Executive Board at 5:30.

APPRENTICESHIP AP-PLICATIONS: The process has started for 2024. Applications must be picked up by the person who is applying and are available the entire month of February from 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The completed application along with various documents must be returned, by the person applying, no later than Thursday, Feb. 29 at 4:30 pm. Call the Union Hall if you have any questions.

GROWLERS BASEBALL NIGHT: Mark your calendars for Local 357's Union Outing -Kalamazoo Growlers Baseball Game on Saturday, June 8. More information will be coming in a few months.

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

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

MEDICAL CLAIMS IS-SUES: 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

lead times for key components.

The trade groups put forth recommendations to ensure an effective and "depoliticized" waiver process by allowing all such requests to be treated equally and transparently. "If a waiver is granted, it does not mean that a Democratic or Republican administration does not care about domestic manufacturing or American jobs; it means that they also care about American construction jobs and want to rebuild America's infrastructure," the groups note.

...And don't let the door hit you, right-to-work

(Continued from Page 1) union means.

Right to work takes away the rights of workers in a union to collect dues from everyone in the bargaining unit who benefits from the bargainers. This eventually takes away the resources the union needs to bargain for higher wages and put pressure on employers. When unions are able to get higher wages and better working conditions, this raises the bar for all workers.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the corporate-backed American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) are pushing these right-towork laws because they claim they care about workers. But who are they trying to fool? The Chamber of Commerce and ALEC don't care about workers, they represent corporations. The truth is their corporate sponsors don't want American workers to have the bargaining power they need to get higher wages, and better hours and working conditions.

The Chamber and ALEC say right to work states attract more businesses, but the truth is, they attract businesses that seek lower wages. Businesses that don't invest in their workers don't do research and development and don't add value, and therefore are the most likely to go abroad for even cheaper labor at the slightest provocation.

It's bad enough that American wages have been stuck in the mud for the past three decades, while corporate profits have soared, and top executive pay has gone to the stratosphere. And that almost all the economic gains have been going to the top one percent.

So-called right-to-work laws are part of this problem, and are making all of this even worse. The only way average Americans are going to get a fair share of the gains is if they have more bargaining power, as they did 50 years ago when one third of all workers in the private sector were unionized. Now, fewer than 7 percent are.

We have to increase, not reduce, the bargaining power of average people. So don't be fooled by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the American Legislative Exchange Council. They want to lower your wages, so big shareholders and top executives can rake in even more. Don't let them. Join the fight against so-called right-to-work laws, and let them know that right to work, is wrong.

(The writer is a former U.S. secretary of labor, and is a professor at the University of California-Berkeley).

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): Register through the website: ua190.org 2024 Schedule - Mondays – April 1, July 15, and Sept. 30. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): Register through the website: ua190.org 2024 Schedule - Mondays - April 15, July 22, and Oct. 7. Each class will start at 5 pm.

Welding Lab: Open welding lab schedule is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm-9 pm. The welding lab will 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 course starts on Jan 9. The second course starts Sept 10. Courses run on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot or register through the website: ua190.org

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE PRICE IN-CREASE, the retesting fee is \$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 40hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry.

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

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

CONDOLENCES: Our member Joseph Machen passed away Feb. 2. Joe was a former member of Local 498, he was initiated Oct. 15, 1979. He transferred to Local 190 Jan. 31, 2008 and retired Nov. 1. 2013. To all family members and friends wishing you peace to bring comfort and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.

RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to the following members on their retirement: Randall Schnabelrauch, Initiation date: Dec. 18, 1981; Retired: Jan. 1; Greg Zuker, Initiation date: June 15, 1998; Retired Jan. 1; Andrew Bronson, Initiation Date: Nov. 12, 1984; Retired: Feb. 1; and Darrell Miller, Initiation Date: Dec. 8, 2004; Retired: Feb. 1.

(Continued next column)

Local 190, con't

May you all enjoy good health, good luck and great success in your retirement. Wishing all of you tons of happiness in the vears ahead.

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

NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADES-MAN 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.

(269) 218-3533 or (833) 933-0036.

WEBSITE INFORMA-TION – FRINGES – TIC: Check out the website at www. ualocal357.com and the FACE-BOOK 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, UA Card # and create your own password. Once you have completed all the information – click on the LARGE REGISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password - and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when the hours are posted to your account. This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.

CHANGE OF STATUS: If you have a change of status, for example: married, divorced, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., 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)

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to the family of brother Jon Heckert on his recent passing.

Condolences to the family of Todd Froelich and Taylor Meyer on the recent passing of his mother and grandmother, respectively.





UA Local 85

SAGINAW-The next Union Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Road at 7:00 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 jbadour@ualocal85.org

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

Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330 <u>csteele@ualo-</u> cal85.org

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

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

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

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 ORGA-NIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

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

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



UA Local 636

DETROIT - Attention Softball Players; Anyone interested in playing softball please contact Jeff Selph at 269-598-6942.

Office Hours are 8:30 am -4:30 pm Monday - Friday.

REMINDER: Please open all correspondence with the Local and BeneSys and Insurance Providers that you receive in the mail.

CALLING ALL RETIR-**EES!** 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 March 21, 2024

The December 19, 2023 Awards Banquet, UPDATE; we will begin mailing certificates and pins this week, we have a lot to mail so please be patient.

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 Morris "Ric" Parr Dec. 20, 2023; Lifetime Member Robert Blackburn Jan. 30, 2024, 40 Year Member Kenneth Roots Jan. 20, 2024; Member Rick (James) Shumaker lost his daughter Natalie Marie Shumaker Jan. 15, 2024 to a long illness; Member Phillip D'Angelo Jan. 8, 2024 father of David D'Angelo and Brother of Dean D'Angelo; Member Kevin Poehlman sonin-law and Member Chris Lakes Father Robert H. Lake Jan. 2, 2024 May they Rest in Peace.

Get Well Wishes to; Charles Baker, Barbara Brown, Theresa Danko, David Fox, Alan Hiller, Jamie Klimowicz, Frank Kozlowski, Gary Stanley, Mark Surowiec, Fred Watson, Kirt Williamson, Tom Wills, David Jarzab, Brian Mierendorf, Paul Franjesh. 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!

PAY were mailed by BeneSys and can be found on our website and you can call the Local for one.

Service

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,

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 corrected website is www.yourplanaccess. net/benesys. Your initial login information is as follows: Username - Social Security number, without the dashes. Password - Full birth date, without the slashes, (mmddyyyy). You will be prompted to update your username and password after initial login. Upon login, the site will take you to the "My Dashboard" page. Here you will be able to review a snapshot of your account balance, investments, and recent transactional activity.

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.



PITCH PERFECT: Plumber Joe Ferguson of Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 370 levels a drain line at the Harrison Street Commons project in Flint. He's employed by Goyettte.



UA Local 370

FLINT - The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 12, 2024, at 7:00. This will be a refreshment meeting.

New website is up and running!! Ualocal370.org.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule:

Weld Test Saturday, March 9th at 7:00am. To sign up, call 810-720-5243 ext. 15 or email training@ualocal370.org. You will need to have your name, phone number, test type and UA card number when you sign up.

First Aid & CPR March 6th @ 4:30pm ; September 18th (a) 4:30

Backflow March 11th thru April 8th. Mondays and Thursdays @ 4:30

A2L Refrigerant Class March 4th, 7th, 11th, 14th, 18th &

21st 5:00-7:30 **HVACR STAR Mastery** Prep Sign up and we will schedule classes as needed.

Night Welding Session 2 February 12th thru March 6th. Mondays and Wednesdays @ 4:30 Enrollment opens January 22nd

Night Welding Session 3 March 18th thru April 10th. Mondays and Wednesdays @ 4:30 Enrollment opens Febru-

ary 26th All classes and test days can be signed up with the Training Center at 810-720-5243 ext 15

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

Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact Local 370 JATC.

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

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

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

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

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee.

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

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

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

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

"The best way to teach your kids about taxes is by eating 30% of their ice cream.

-Bill Murray (1950 -)

"Where all think alike, no one thinks very much." -Walter Lippmann (1889 -

"I thoroughly disapprove of duels. If a man should challenge me, I would take him kindly and forgivingly by the hand and lead him to a quiet place and kill him.' -Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

"Just because something doesn't do what you planned

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 MEM-BERS:

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

RETIREE LUNCHEON: The next retirees' luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 12:00 Noon at UA Local 85 Administration Office located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603. We ask if you are able, please bring a dish to pass. Fraternally, Justin M. Pomerville

Business Manager/Financial Secretarv Local Union 85

December; Mark Mears, Charles Chesser.

January; Daniel Sarna

Dues. NEW- 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- Direct Deposit is NOW AVAILABLE for SUBPAY.

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.

Direct Deposit is now available, 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 SUB-

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

Training Center News. **REMINDER:** Training

Center down to 15 Welding Booths for night welding through the month of February due to upgrades.

"Finance is the art of passing money from hand to hand until it finally disappears. –Robert W. Sarnoff

"A nation is a society united by delusions about its ancestry and by common hatred of its neighbors.'

-William Ralph Inge (1860 1954)

"Few things are impossible to diligence and skill. Great works are performed not by strength, but perseverance."

-Samuel Johnson (1709 -1784)

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of other's opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.

- Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011)

"Hell hath no fury like a bureaucrat scorned.

-Milton Friedman (1912 -2006)

"When you're through changing, you're through.' -Bruce Barton

or at training@ualocal370.org

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, March 12,2024 at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday March 12,2024 at 4:00pm

PAC committee – Tuesday March 12,2024 at 5:00pm Executive Board -Tuesday

March 12,2024, at 5:00pm Building Committee - Tues-

day March 12,2024 at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday March 12,2024 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 MUSTBSAFE.com website and complete all 18 safety modules. Members will not be eligible to work at any job site requiring them until all 18 modules are complete and are current on their drug test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call the hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form

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

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

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. Members present must have dues paid to date to claim award. 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.

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

it to do doesn't mean it's useless. -Thomas A. Edison (1847 -1931)

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

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

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 55 years combined experience repre-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com





Local 671 Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

UA Local 671

MONROE – The next regular scheduled **Union Meeting is scheduled for March 7th, 2024, at 7pm.** There will also be an Executive Board meeting at 5pm on March 7th, 2024. 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@ ibusiness-tech.com) and the password is your book number. Contact Vinnie if you have any issues logging in.

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

Health & Welfare: If you are an active member on Local 671 Health & Welfare fund you should be receiving new insurance cards in the mail. If you did not receive a new card or need additional cards for dependents, please contact the Union Hall.

To all active members of Local 671 Health & Welfare, please take note of the new plan changes effective January 1st, 2024. The changes were mailed to you. If you have any questions, you can contact Carly or Mike at Union Hall.

To all our Retirees on United Health Care, if you need an eye exam there is one free exam per year through United Health Care. If you have any questions, you can contact Labor First at 734-234-6496 or toll free at 833-237-3380.

Scholarship Opportunities: The Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 671 Scholarship Fund will be awarding scholarships again this year. If selected, one scholarship will be awarded to a qualified dependent, grandchild, or spouse of a Local 671 Member in good standing. The applicants must be a 2024 graduating senior or currently enrolled as a fullplication is April 5th, 2024. New Arrivals: Bryan Boucher and his wife Maranda had a baby boy, Bryce Allen, on Wednesday, February 7th! Con-

gratulations! Retiree Luncheon: We remind everyone that our retiree luncheons are held on the last Thursday of every month, except for August, due to the picnic, and November and December due to their proximity to the Holidays. These luncheons are a great time to see old friends, and maybe even meet some new ones. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

There will be no open welding on Union Meeting or UA weld test nights. A booth will need to be reserved by noon on the Monday prior to the practice night. If we have (3) or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first come, first served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

Per the UA Weld Quality System Manual, any member who does not currently hold a UA Welding certification must prove that they are ready to take a UA weld test prior to the UA Weld test date.

Contact Justin if you want to sign up for the next UA Weld Test which is tentatively scheduled for 03/01/2024.

Valve Technician Recertification Class: We will be holding another Valve Recertification Class on March 2nd. If you have not been contacted yet, please review your own certifications, and contact Justin to ensure that you are up to date!

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 on Monday, March 4th and Wednesday, March 6th. Contact Justin if you are interested in attending.

Apprenticeship Applications: UA Local Union 671 will accept apprentice applications for the Building Trade, HVAC/R and **Residential Plumber programs** from Monday, Feb. 5, 2024, through Friday March 1st, 2024. from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. ONLY. Applications must be picked up in person by the applicant and returned by Friday March 1st, 2024, at 4p.m. Picture I.D. will be required. (Must be 18 years of age by Sept. 1, 2024). The following items will be required when you return the application: photocopy of birth certificate or state issued I.D., high school diploma or G.E.D. Certificate, transcript of high school grades and a transcript of post high school education, if any. There will be a \$20.00 nonrefundable application fee due when the application is picked up. Payments of cash, money order or check made out to UA Local 671 JAC accepted. The application information can also be found on our website: https://www.unitedassociationlocal671.com/ In Closing: As most of you are aware, we are very busy here at the Union Hall. We continue to improve our training centers. We continue to organize and grow our membership. We are active in the community with donations, volunteering opportunities, and have also been developing new committees. These are just a few things we have been involved with to improve and grow our Local Union. There are many opportunities to help and volunteer your time. One such way is to get involved in local politics by going to a school board meeting or a township hall meeting. We are in an election year, and we will need people to volunteer to knock doors or make phone calls. A little bit of your time goes along way to help Local 671 continue to be successful. God Bless Local 671 and Union Labor! 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



Fitters & HVAC Service Local 111

UA Local 111

UPPER PENINSULA – The next Union Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 29 at 7:30 in Escanaba.

Local 111 will be accepting applications for the Plumber/Pipefitter Apprenticeship March 4-29th at all UP Michigan Works! Locations. If you know anyone interested, please let them know.

Welding Classes: Tuesday evening weld classes are ongoing at the Escanaba Training Center, classes run from 5 pm-9 pm on a week-to-week basis. We are also starting Saturday weld classes, 8 am-4:30 pm, once a month. Contact Training Coordinator John Antoncew to be added to the notification list. Your position in the class is not confirmed until you receive a reply.

Upcoming Saturday Weld Sessions: February 24th, March 23rd, and April 27th.

Upcoming Weld Tests: March 2nd and May 4th

Anyone interested in 1-day shutdowns, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba office.

MRA CARD. Please check your MRAAccount for transactions that are in need of substantiation or ineligible. You can access this info here:

https://edge.zenith-american. com/page.php?p=members/index.php&ac=login

The MRA link will take you directly to your MRA info and you will be able to see the ineligible transactions.

Please make sure what you are submitting is either an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or an Itemized billing with paid receipt, that includes: Provider Name Patient Name Date of Service Description of Service Total Patient Responsibility Please if you are having

Please if you are having trouble with something you have submitted you can call the Zenith American Solutions helpline at 1-866-823-4730 extension 1 (MRA) Or call the hall and Rose will be able to try and assist you-906-226-6511 ext. 4



GOYETTE Assistant Project Manager Melissa Hodge and project Foreman Jeremy Goodrich (Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 370) were on a walk-through at the Harrison Street Commons project in Flint when we asked them to pause for a photo on the roof.



UA Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – MEM-BERSHIP MEETING: The monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 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, March 7, 2024,** at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Wild Game Dinner: Save the date - the Wild Game Dinner is back! Join us on 3-28-2024 at Barclay Event Center, 2330 Barclay St., Muskegon MI 49441. We are in need of wild game donations. By donating, you'll have the chance to enter into specific raffles based on the pounds and type of game you contribute. Remember, the more you donate, the better your chances of winning. Additionally, if you volunteer at the dinner, you'll be entered into a separate raffle as well. We encourage you to donate or volunteer for this fantastic event. Expect delicious



Plumbers Local 98

DETROIT – *Membership of Plumbers Local 98.* The officers and staff at Local 98 hope you and your family are well.

Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits, the Training Center, and more can be found on our web site. Go to UALOCAL98.COM. MED GAS, MED GAS, MED GAS! Coming to a job near you!

I would like to thank everyone who stepped up and ran for office, it is important to run for these jobs below at Local 98. We had a great turn out and my hope is the same in the fall election and the new contract next year in June. "Your voice your vote"!

There was a special election held on February 15th 2024. Pending any disputes prior to the running of this paper, the following will be sworn in at the next Union Meeting on March 14th.

For Business Representative. winner Mark Wisniewski with 173 votes, Jimmy Cools 165, Dan Willingham 13, Mark Little 13,

President vote total winner Ryan Lyle with 218 votes, Jeff Pulford 127

Executive Board, winner Mandy Morrison with 190 votes, Ron Lindsay 157

Recording Secretary, winner Dawn Melancon 217 votes, Thomas Ray 121

Examining Board both are winners, Jeff Chene 180, Michael "Scott" Huber 197

Meetings & Union Hall. The next Union meeting is a special called meeting for purpose of swearing in new officers and the State of the Union address. March 14th 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 Retiree Meeting is Wednesday, March 13th from 12pm–2pm at Local 98!

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

Its that time of year to renew your Plumbing License or Apprentice License with the State. Don't be that person who lets it go. You worked way too hard to stand out from the other crafts to let it slip. **Dues. Happy to say there are no expelled members at this time.**

SUB Apps/Out of Work List. SUB You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App 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

time student at a college or a qualified post-secondary school. **Qualification Require-**

ments:

•Applicant must be the dependent, grandchild or spouse of a member in good standing of UA Local Union 671

• Have at least a 3.0 (B) grade point average

•Write an essay of 500 words or less on one of the following two topics:

'How Monroe Local 671 has benefitted my Family' or 'What Labor Union Means to Me'

•We are very proud of our previous winners, but please understand that we only award (1) scholarship per applicant.

The application deadline is May 3rd, 2024.

The Monroe/Lenawee County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council (CLC) will be awarding two \$1000 scholarships through the Bonnie Finzel-Doster Memorial Scholarship Program again this year. One each will be awarded to a qualified 2024 graduating senior at a Monroe or Lenawee County high school.

Qualifications Requirements:

Be a 2024 graduating senior at a Monroe or Lenawee County high school

Be the son or daughter of a member in good standing of a local union currently affiliated with the CLC

Have at least a 3.0 (B) grade point average

Write an essay of 500 words or less on one of the following two topics:

'How the Union has Benefitted my Family' or 'What *Labor Union* Means to Me'

The deadline for the ap-

"Knowledge is power." –Sir Francis Bacon (1561 -1626)

"Be to her virtues very kind. Be to her faults a little blind." –Matthew Prior (1664 -1721)

"Man has to suffer. When he has no real afflictions, he invents some."

–Jose Marti

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 Rose to have your information updated.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation."

-Henry Kissinger (1923 - 2023)

food and great prizes. If you're interested in attending, please reach out to Jason Finch. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Organizing Update: Traveling the roads on a daily basis; it's nice seeing our contractors having more of a presence. I speak to the unrepresented worker and explain what they get from being a member compared to what they don't get now, and they are listening! We are all organizers in some sense, speaking to unrepresented workers about our benefits and wages. It makes perfect sense to us to be union, but they are listening to what they are being told about dues, traveling, and getting laid off. Educate them! We are strength in numbers. Do you know who really hates unions? The non-union business owner!!

"We're all doing the same work, we're just not all getting the same wages and benefits!" 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 OF-FICE as soon as possible so we can keep our system up to date.

FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS)

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Fund, 5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098, (855) 407-5862

Health Insurance Contact Info:Active and NO Medicare Retirees

Aetna: (855) 8784101 EAP:(888) 238-6232 Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108 (Continued on Page 7) models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702.

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

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.

Worker Assistance Program. Work Life Strategies, LLC. Are available to members and their families to provide counseling services and when needed, a referral to other professionals. Call to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol, drug addiction, bankruptcy depression, marital issues and family counseling. All this is confidential and lead by or health professional C.J. Harrison, you can reach her on her cell @ 313-580-6887. If you cannot go to her office she can do phone conferences, don't wait ask for help when you feel issues are affecting your life.

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: There are no deceased members at this time.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers & Apprentices. 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. Or get online at The Training Center for more information on Apprenticeships.

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

TRAINING CENTER NEWS. Phone # 248-585-1435

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

The Apprenticeship Application process is currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 26th, 2024. 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. Books are available for preorder through the ICC. The Training Center will have a limited number available for sale. 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. (Continued on Page 7)



Local 36 Elevator Constructors

Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT - ALL MEM-BERS ARE INFORMED, our next regular MEMBERSHIP MEETING is Feb. 26 AT 5:30 pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit. 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.

February's meeting will be a special-called meeting as there was a motion made to have a picnic in 2024 at the January meeting. There will be a discussion and vote at this meeting.

Remember Feb. 27, 2024, is Michigan's Presidential Primary, get out and vote.

Michigan workplaces are NO LONGER governed by the Right-to-Work law, as the repeal took effect Tuesday February 13, 2024, and Prevailing wage was also restored on this date.

You should have received your End of Year report and W-2 sheet by now. If you haven't received this, contact the hall. A copy of your W-2 is due by March 31, 2024, but you can send them in or bring them in before that deadline.

We are looking at having a supplemental insurance company (Aflac) come into the April membership meeting to let members sign up for a policy if they choose, they need 25 members to sign up to get a group pricing. We are also looking to have a financial advisor come to the April meeting, more information will come in future articles.

We are going to be giving pins for service at the April Meeting, so if you are eligible for 15 years or more of service pin, please attend this meeting. It will be held at the Electricians Hall, more information will be in this paper as it gets closer.

I would like to encourage everyone to use Bill Pay through your bank to pay dues, it is a free service and can be set up for weekly, monthly, or quarterly. We have a few of our members that have already started this, and it seems to be working well. Please call the hall or contact your bank about how this works.

The International has set up

tor @ 410-312-1474.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Golf Outing, please contact Justin Smith @ (248)709-0341.

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

If you are going to be off with an injury (work related or nonwork related), surgery or illness for a prolonged length of time, call the fund office and inform the hall. When you are off and go back to work.

If you are off for a workrelated injury, there is a separate form you must fill out. Call the hall with any questions.

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 these issues 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. Once again, individuals with a Mechanic Exam Pass Date on or after Jul 9, 2022, must take a Mechanic Required (MR) Continuing Education course in 2024 to receive their scheduled pay raises January 1, 2025. I highly recommend you take the course and keep up on it every year! We had 3000 members take the CE in 2023, 1100 required and 1900 grandfathered. We would like to see all our grandfathered Mechanics take this course in 2024, you will be paid 8 hours at mechanic's rate. If you aren't registered or are having problems getting registered, call the hall and we will help you.

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.

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. Check your NEIEP emails frequently. OJT forms need to be filled out COM-PLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. There is NO excuse for these to be late!!!

Attention All Temporary Mechanics, your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement MUST be signed by the end of each month at the Union meeting. If you can't make the Union meeting (for good reasons) to sign your agreement, then come down to the hall the NEXT MORNING. If we continue to have problems (Continued next column)



Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK - Our next membership meeting will take place on March 8, 2024, at 8PM at the Boilermaker Local 169 Union Hall, Located 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 Con-



the phone. BOB In an effort to assist our HUTSELL active members, the Inter-

national 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.

Dinner Dance 2024. The dinner dance was Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, at the Atheneum Hotel in Detroit. Everyone had a great time and pictures will be posted on our website and Facebook as soon as they are available.

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Scholarship Committee announces the 2024 contest. All the eligibility requirements and procedure for applications can be found on our website www.boilermakerslocal169.com Do not hold off, as all applications are due back on March 1, 2024. The essay ques-

Local 36 cont'd

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

February 23, 2024 Local 169

tion is; What economic condi-

tions fueled the rise of labor unions in the late 19th and early

to mid-20th century? Compare

and contrast the economic

conditions from that period

in history with conditions that

workers face today. Include

topics such as wages, housing

costs, safety, child labor and

ermaker Apprenticeship Program

is currently accepting applica-

tions for the position of co-

coordinator. If you are interested

in applying, contact Business

Manager Bob Hutsell at the

on the first Wednesday of every

month at 11:00 am at the Brown

Derby Bar, 10661 West Jefferson,

cheons on the first Thursday of

every month at 11 am at Whit-

low's Forerunner Restaurant,

4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all

the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

The next lunch will be February

21, 2024, at 11AM at The Boule-

vard Lounge. It's located at 316

S. Saginaw Road, Midland, MI.

48640. All area boilermakers and

on the first Tuesday of the month

at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks

Restaurant 7898 S. Main St., 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

sizes at the Union Hall. The cost

is \$45. Payments can be made

with cash or check. 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 or on our

card is reimbursable from the

M.O.R.E. Fund. Contact the

Union Hall for reimbursement.

The cost of your T.W.I.C.

Any member needing the

Facebook page.

Hoodies have arrived in all

and County Rd. 480.

Area 4 Retirees' lunches are

retirees are welcome to attend.

areas are welcome to attend.

Retirees: Retiree luncheons

Area 1 Retiree luncheon is

Area 2 Retirees hold lun-

Area 3 Retirees luncheon is

Union Hall for details.

River Rouge, Mi.

The Great Lakes Area Boil-

others.



Roofers Local 149

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

General Membership Meeting. The general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues., Mar. 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., March 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for Apr. 9, 2024 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9 meeting, we will be taking proposals on administering the \$3 raise.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SITTING ON THE NEGO-**TIATIONS COMMITTEE?** The search for a collectivebargaining negotiating committee is coming. Nominations are being taken Tuesday, March 5, 2024. Are you a strong advocate for yourself and your fellow Detroit 149 members? Have you ever considered being a part of your Union's collective-bargaining negotiating committee?

For the collective-bargaining negotiating committee job description, please contact Business Manager Brian Gregg at 313.961.6093.

In order to stand for election, you need to be a Journeyworker in good standing and you must be nominated by another member in good standing at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, or in writing via a nomination acceptance letter addressed to the Recording Secretary Tom Jaranowski by Monday, March 4, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

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 saving 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

Local 169 cont'd should contact their branch of

service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticesnip 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.

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.

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 7

Local 149

Roofers &

Waterproofers

Detroit Training Center Information

The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows:

Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1- Monday, January 22, 2024 Apprentice 1 & Single Ply

2- Tuesday, January 23, 2024 BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1-

Wednesday January 24, 2024 BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2-

Thursday, January 25, 2024 Apprentice 7 & 8 Hands On

Safety & Health- Thursday, January 25, 2024

All classes begin at 6:30pm Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, vour worth, and our Brotherhood/ Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members. Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center.

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Training Center, 248-543-3847.

CLEARANCE CARDS. Are you scheduled to go out of town for work in another Local's territory? Clearance cards are needed when you are sent out of town to work. Get a clearance card from the Hall and call the Local in that area to avoid fines against you.

Outdoor Life. If you have any hunting and fishing pictures that you would like to see in the Journeyman Roofing & Waterproofing magazine, please contact the Union Hall at 313.961.6093 ext. 0, for additional information.

MID-MICHIGAN AREA - Clio Office. The Mid-Michigan informational meeting is scheduled for Jan. 9, 2024, at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420. At the April 9, 2024, meeting, we will be taking proposals on administering the \$3.00 raise.

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

The Veteran Assistance Program to help veterans navigate the VA benefits they deserve. The email is vap@iuec.org or contact Jason Gray, IUEC National Organizer @ 404-290-1012 or Ryan Donnell, EIWPF National Coordinacontact the Hall.

If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can get you on the email list. We would like to extend well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list.

event will be Saturday, March 9th

ASSE BACKFLOW:

ASSE Tester class has begun

already. Repair will follow, call

to be placed on class list for

repair. ASSE recertification avail-

able please call the Training

offered March 12th, 13th and 14th.

erant Safety: Flammable and

Mildly Flammable Refriger-

continues to move forward and

innovate, common refrigerants

that were once used are now be-

ing phased out and replaced with

Low GWP refrigerants(A2L).

Technicians will require addition-

al training in the safe handling

announced soon. The prerequisite

required to attend this class is

holding a current EPA608 certi-

that has expired in the last few

months and have questions re-

garding 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 Of-

fice @ (616)837-0222 x16 (Chris)

/Nicole @ (616)837-0222 x30 Or

via text Chris (906)322-1592 /

If you have a certification

CSD-1: CSD-1 class will be

HVAC/Low GWP Refrig-

As the HVACR industry

Center to be put in a class.

ants (A2L):

fication.

up if you plan to test.

Be safe and stay healthy!

services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall. Please call ahead to ensure availability. Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill

(Continued next column)

Plumbers Local 98

IISU.

The publication above is as 2/19/2024, 1:00p.m.

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

must be dressed appropriately to

bursement forms are available

at the Training Center. You must have 8 hours (approved

hours credited may vary from

actual hours attended) of verifi-

able approved classes/training

from Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2023

to be eligible for the \$100.00

2023 Course Hour reim-

be in the shop area.

reimbursement.



(Continued from Page 6) Please call Paul at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123

ASSE Backflow Tester Re-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

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

& 24 Deadline is June 21

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

ASSE Backflow Tester (Full 40 hour):

Deadline is February 9 - \$200 Fall: September 9 – Novem-

ber 18 Deadline is Aug. 23-\$200 ASSE Repairer: *** Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification

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

20, Deadline is August 23 -\$200

Spring: March 4 – May 13

Deadline is February 9 -\$100 Fall: September 9 – Novem-

40 hour):

Deadline is February 9 - \$200

Spring: March 6 - May 15.

20, Deadline is Aug. 23 -\$100 Hydronic Heating and

Cooling

Deadline is February 9 -\$100

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

OPEN WELDING – Open welding is available on Wednesday evenings. 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 March 2nd, 2024. **You must call to schedule your brazing OR welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. Please note: All members

OSHA Training - OSHA 10, available as an online class for \$59 at www.careersafeonline. com This OSHA 10 class is not affiliated with the UA or our Training Center. OSHA 10 and 30 Hour Training is also offered online through the MUST website.

Go to www.mustonline.org. **Be sure to take the Construction Safety courses; not the General Industry courses.

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

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

\$\$\$ Top Prices Paid \$\$\$ ALL TYPES of NONFERROUS and FERROUS SCRAP METAL ALUMINUM • BRASS • COPPER • STAINLESS STEEL EXOTIC ALLOYS
 CATALYTIC CONVERTERS **CARBIDE • HIGH SPEED STEEL • AUTO RADIATORS** CONTAINERIZED COMMERCIAL SERVICE RESIDENTIAL INDUSTRIAL PICKUPS MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 A.M.-5 P.M. AVAILABLE SATURDAY 8A.M.-NOON (248) 960-1200 MANN METALS CORP.

1011 DECKER ROAD • P.O. BOX 711 • WALLED LAKE 48390

Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

(Continued from Page 6) Medicare Retirees. Retiree First: (616) 345-0788

Current Health Insurance Premiums: Active Member/ Working Retiree \$1,110.33 Non-working Pre-Medicare Retiree \$791.10 Medicare Single \$123.63 Medicare Couple \$247.26 Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse \$497.13 Medicare Surviving Spouse \$126.67

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

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

Dispatch: We have split up the dispatch responsibilities between the Business Agent and the Assistant Business Manager positions. Each person will be on dispatch for 2 weeks. There is a dispatch email of: dispatch@ <u>ual74.org</u> which both offices have access to. The dispatch phone extension will switch between the two offices depending on who is on dispatch.

Jurisdiction: Remember to always call into the local you are traveling to. Do not rely on anyone else to call in for you. They will not get into trouble.

It is the member who is working in another local who has not checked-in who will get in trouble. Please contact Ryan Bennett if you see another local's contractor or member working in our jurisdiction.

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

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

Lakeshore -3^{rd} 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:

OPEN WELDING: Please call to sign up for open welding. Open welding will be held every Wednesday at 5pm. We run this class based on interest, please tell others about this offering.

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, March 14th, 2024, and Thursday, April 11th, 2024

WCP: The next weld test Nicole (231)206-4213.

2024, @ 8:00 am. The capability to register. demonstration will be on Thurs-CLASS LIST 2024 day, March 7th, 2024, from 5:00p -9:00p. Please call/text and sign

quarterly. \$100

8 hour recert class July 23

Spring: March 4 – May 13

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

Fall: September 10 - October and transportation of these refrigerants. Night training classes will be offered for A2L safety certifications and dates will be

Fall: Sept. 11 to November

CAD/BIM

ber 18 Deadline is Aug. 23-\$100 **Medical Gas Installer (Full**

Spring: March 6 - May 15.

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

Steam Fundamentals for

the Repair Plumber

Deadline is February 9 - \$100 Fall: September 11 to Nov.

Spring: March 6 - May 15.



Local 80 **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80

TIM

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2024 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. **MEETING DATE CHANGE** Aprils union meeting will be on April 16, 2024 at 5:30pm.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2024 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W.

12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield, MI.

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

RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2024 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: 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 p.m. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593. MULLIGAN

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

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

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

RETIREMENT CLASS: Saturday May 4 at 9am we will hold a FREE retirement education class with Graystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Please call the hall to rsvp 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome.

MARCH RE-REGISTRATION IS COMING! If you are laid off prior to March 1 you need to re-register to keep your spot on the out of work list. You may re-register at the hall, by email registerlocal80@ gmail.com or fax 248-557-0297. You CANNOT re-register over the phone. Please call the hall with any questions. Re-registration does not start until March 1.

CONDOLENCES: Retiree Bill Bauer passed away on Dec.25, 2023 after a short illness. Bill was 87 years old and had been a Local 80 member for over 60 years. Our condolences go out to his family.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Dale Schmidt, Dan Caverly, David Clay, Hayden Clay, Darwin Brotherton, Johnnie Phillips, Robert Hall, Hayden Harper, James Chmielewski & Kyle Pollari.

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

BENEFICIARY REMINDER: Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice on all of your Local 80 and inter-



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, April 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. *Zone 1 March 14th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 2 March 19th at 6:00 p.m.

*Zone 3 March 13th at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

*Zone 3 March 21st at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

*Zone 4 March 12th at 6:00 p.m. *Zone 5 April 5th at 6 p.m. (Moved from April 4)

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2024. 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. NEWS: Local No. 7 -Union Hoodies available through the Lansing office for \$70.00/each (While supplies last). Hoodies are Gray, Black or Navy with White logo. Payment via check, cash or credit card. Payment must be FULLER received before shipping.

SMART Union Labels: Make the union label work for you! The new and modernized SMART Labels are an essential part to wage equalization, which means more money and work for you. Make sure that you are scanning labels in order to equalize pay and eliminate the incentive to subcontract outside of your area. For more information visit the official website at www.labelitscanitreport. com 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 throughout the year. If you become unemployed, please update your status with Eric or Vance (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or Vance for any additional assistance. Any 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 am, Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202; 2nd Tuesday of each month, 1 pm, Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202; 2nd Wednesday of each month, noon, 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 spring. My office will be changing here in February, I will be moving to Coopersville, the address is: (140 North 64th Ave. Coopersville MI. 49404 Suite 5A). Please remember dues are always due prior to the first of the month and keep me informed of any phone or address changes. If you want to make plans for this summer the Local 7 Picnic is at Timber Ridge Resort in Traverse City, July 20th, it will be a great time. In Solidarity, Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the area remains steady and looks like it's going to be a busy year again. Please remember to get your physicals scheduled for this year as physicals will be a yearly thing we will have to do to keep our deductibles at a lower rate. Just make sure when scheduling there is a year in between. Please remember to contact me or the Lansing office if you change your address or phone number. Thank you. In Solidarity, Joe Dotson

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City). Our next meeting is on March 21st at the Mill Pond event center. Please be in attendance as we will be going over agenda on our next contract. Make sure your dues are paid for the month of April as you will not be able to vote on the contract without a current receipt that was paid in advance in March as per our Constitution. Work in our area has slowed down but should pick back up in May, there is work in other areas if you get laid off. The SASMI underemployment benefit eligibility is under 700 hours worked from July 1, 2023 to Dec. 31, 2023. Anyone eligible has been sent an application that has to be sent in by March. Also, you can go to www.ourbenefitoffice.com/smw7-3/benefits to register and get a wealth of information on your H&W and local pension status as with the NPF, go to www.smwnpf.org and register to see to your future benefit. – In Solidarity, John Amalfitano ZONE 4 Info: Work continues to hold strong for us with some good size jobs going in our area. Don't forget to look at our new calendar that was updated on Local 7 website. Remember to keep checking with Dan Bryant at the training center for upgrade classes. We only get stronger by continuing our education. - Your Brother, Scott Brotherton



Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

Sheet Metal Workers Local 292

TROY - MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 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.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the E-Board/Stewards meeting will be held on March 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. The regular meeting schedule will resume in March.



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

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

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

DUES: Membership dues are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4:00 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com). LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: The online store is no longer available. If you are interested in purchasing merchandise, please contact Paul or Tony.



SAM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SHORT WORK WEEK SUB PAY: If you work 16 hours or less in a week or have a short work week due to weather you may collect sub for that week but only if it is at the **beginning or the** end of a layoff. You may NOT collect if you are not laid off. You must complete a sub application at the hall, provide a pay stub for that week and the hall will submit it to the fund office. If you are not laid off and it is due to weather the company MUST provide written (Continued next column)

ZONE 5 Info: Work in the U.P. is starting to slow a bit but is looking to pick back up in a few weeks here. The Local 7 statewide picnic is going to be on July 20th at the Timber Ridge Resort in Traverse City. Also our next Zone 5 meeting has changed dates to Friday April 5th at 6pm in Gwinn. - In Solidarity, Brandon Langenfeld

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

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

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

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

CONTACT US: 4931 Contec Dr., 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 80 continued

documentation that it was weather related.

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: If you are experiencing problems in your family, marriage or relationships, stress or emotional difficulties, grief or loss issues or problems with alcohol and drug use please contact our assistance program. Ulliance is there to help you with your needs. They can also help you with legal issues, financial concerns, elder care referrals and child care resources. Contact them at 1-800-448-8326 or www.LifeAdvisor EAP.com. Make sure you mention Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 when calling and not the contractor you are working for.

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

SAVE THE DATES: Pre-Retirement Seminar – May 4; Golf Outing – July 13; Picnic – Aug. 3

ADDRESS UPDATES: If you move, please get in touch with the union hall to update your address.

RETIREES 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.

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

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

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

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

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

WEBSITE / FACEBOOK: Be sure to check our website – www. sheetmetal292.com; Facebook page - Sheet Metal Workers Local 292.

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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on March 2, 16 & 23. 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.



CONGRATULATIONS to first-year BAC Local 2 Brick Apprentice Lorenzo Gonzalez, center, who competed in the MCAA's Masonry Skills Challenge in Las Vegas on Jan. 24 and took first place in his division. With him are (l-r) Howard Hipes; International Masonry Institute statewide coordinator and BAC Local 2 President Paul Dunford.



BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING -MARCH 2024 CHAPTER MEETINGS

METRO DETROIT CHAPTER: Tuesday, March 05, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

ANNARBOR CHAPTER: Tuesday, March 05, 2024 is CANCELLED.

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, March 06, 2024 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

KALAMAZOO CHAP-TER: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM,



day, March 11, 2024 at PAUL 6:00 PM, DUNFORD 3321 Remy Drive, Lan-

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sing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAP-TER: Monday, March 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

SAGINAW CHAPTER: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM, 3912 Blair Town Hall Rd West, Traverse City, MI 49685



Bricklayers and Allied

Craftworkers

received by 12:00pm on Friday, March 22, 2024:

Applicant must be a legal dependent of a good standing ACTIVE member. The member must have their dues paid up to date. They may also be a dependent of a recently deceased, formally working member, who has passed away after January 1, 2022. A dependent will be defined, according to the guidelines of the health insurance funds summary plan description.

Applicant must be attending an institute of higher education: college or university. High school students are not eligible for this scholarship.

Applicant must be a fulltime student, enrolled in 12 or more credits, during the Winter 2024 Semester. A copy of the Class Schedule showing full time status must be submitted. **NOTE:** Classes listed on the Official Transcript will not be considered as a class schedule. A class schedule lists the number of credits, classes, dates, times, instructor and location where the class meets. Student's name, semester and the name of the college/university must be on the schedule.

Applicant must submit an Official Transcript, showing their grades from the Fall 2023 Semester. An Official Transcript comes directly from the registrar's office in a *sealed envelope*. Please allow ample time for the registrar's office to prepare and mail the official transcript; to be received at BAC Local 2 by March 22, 2024. If your institution participates with the National Student Clearinghouse Transcript service, transcripts may be sent to: colleen@bricklayers.org. Applicant must submit a typed information sheet which will include: Applicant's name, applicants address, applicant's email address and telephone number, college/university attending, course of study - major & minor and anticipated graduation date of applicant. They must also include the name of the member, members I.U. number, relationship to member, address and telephone number of member and members branch of trade.

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 CRAFTWORK-ERS. 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 TRAIN-ING 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

Local 514 **Cement Masons & Plasterers**

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT - The next membership meeting is Tuesday March 19, 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.

New Sweatshirts are in! Call your Business Agent to arrange for pickup.

Please contact the local at 248-548-0800 or you can email your updated information to:abest@opcmiami.org Please send your updated information in a timely manner. Membership gold cards-Congratulations!

MUST Safety Awareness Training: Please check the MUST website at www.Mustbsafe.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.

Attention all Apprentices, now you will need to go to the

Local 2 cont'd

2 on Facebook "Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 of Michigan."

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

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a satellite office in Flint, Michigan. We welcome Member and **Contractors in the Flint area to** handle their business transactions at: 2630 Grand Traverse, Flint, MI 48503.

Appointments may be made by contacting Business Agent Mike Stanfield at (517) 719-2316, or the Business Manager Henry Williams at (313) 215-5063.

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

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

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

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

Important Notice For Plasterers and Detroit Commercial **Cement Masons:** You are able to go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started.

Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone number (this is the quickest way to verify your identify), and your ID number (this is either 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 authentication app) and how often you want to use them.

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

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

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

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits,

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

Plasters and Commercial Cement Masons can call: (248)

*ALL CHAPTER OFFI-**CER NOMINATIONS WILL** TAKE PLACE MAY 2024* SPECIAL RECOGNI-

TION. Congratulations to 1st year Brick Apprentice Lorenzo Gonzalez! He competed in the MCAA's Masonry Skills Challenge in Las Vegas on January 24th and took 1st Place in his division! The competition was strong but Lorenzo's determination and skills developed at our training facility helped to place him at the top. We couldn't be prouder of our member! We look forward to seeing what your future holds!

UNION DUES UPDATE

Effective January 01, 2024, the dues discount has changed. It is now pay 9 months, get 3 free. To receive discount, you must be current on dues. Members will only be able to pay 2 years in advance.

DEATHS REPORTED. Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother** Leroy Dejonghe (Bricklayer & Stone Mason) who passed away on February 10, 2024. Brother Dejonghe had been a member for 55 years.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of Brother Antonio Desantis (Cement Mason) who passed away on February 06, 2024. Brother Desantis had been a member for 66 years

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of **Brother Leonardo Marchionda** (Tile Finisher) who passed away on January 24, 2024. Brother Marchionda had been a member for 36 years.

2024 – BAC LOCAL 2 SCHOLARSHIP. The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 Michigan is proud to announce the 2024 BAC Local 2 Scholarship. This scholarship is open to ALL dependents of good standing members, statewide, from all of the trades. In order to be eligible, the following information must be submitted to the BAC Local 2 WARREN office located at 21031 Ryan

All information must be submitted by 12:00pm on Friday, March 22, 2024 to the BAC Local 2 Warren office: 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091.

Incomplete or late applications will **not** be considered for this scholarship. We are not responsible for late, missing or lost documents. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all documents are received by 12:00pm on Friday, March 22, 2024.

The winners will be selected by the BAC Local 2 Management Committee and announced at the April 2024 Detroit Chapter Meeting.

****IMPORTANT NO-**TICE** Future union information and negotiation surveys will now be sent via text message. You must be signed up to receive 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.

(Continued next column)

website and register for future 2023 online training classes.

APPRENTICE WORK-SHEETS. 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 ASSIS-TANCE. 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 (Continued next column)

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 INFORMA-**TION. BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund - (248) 828-6000 CALL-A-DOC-(800) 835-2362 Cement Pension & Vacation Funds - (248) 645-6550 International Pension/Annuity Fund – (888) 880-8222 or (202) 638-1996 (bacbenefits.org) Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension - (248) 641-4954 Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) - (800) 531-2244 Michigan BAC Vacation Fund -(248) 828-6000

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:

If you are a first-time user,





MAINTAINING A TIDY SITE at the Harrison Street Commons project in Flint is John Teresko of Laborers Local 1075. He's employed by Lurvey Construction.

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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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645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357



IBEW 557

SAGINAW - UNION NEWS- Thanks to all who attended the February Union meeting and participated in contract discussions. The feedback and input from the members is invaluable and will be put to good use in the future negotiations meetings.

Also, thanks to those that attend the Local's first COMET class for the year. The Local will need to have 80% of the membership trained on this soon. All are encouraged to continue to educate yourself on matters important to the Local and the IBEW.

New member orientation was held on Feb. 12 with 26 new members in attendance. This class always teaches new members something valuable and is a great way to start off an IBEW membership. Staying active and participating in your Local is vitally important to strengthening your Union.

Poker night has been going on for the last 2 months. The next scheduled poker night is March 21 at 6pm. Please come by for a great time.

Local 557 vs Local 692 Battle on the Bay is Saturday, Feb. 24. Registration starts at 5am at Local 692 and fishing starts at 7am. Good luck to all the participants – especially on the Local 557 team!!

Contract negotiations meetings are ramping up. If you have a suggestion for the negotiations team, please contact someone and let them know your thoughts. With contract talks, Health Plan discussions are ongoing as well. It appears another increase will need to be made to the plan. This cost will be sorted out by the Health Plan Board of Trustees prior to the Local's wage allocation meeting which should be held in May, provided a contract is agreed upon by the Local and the contractors.

With a good amount of work coming up in the area, our Local will need some solid, well-trained Stewards. Steward training will commence on Wednesday, April 3. Please add this to your calendar in the coming months.

Sign-up for the 6th annual Special Vision Golf outing is currently going on. It will take place on Saturday, June 1 at Valley View Farm Golf Course.



IBEW 275

COOPERSVILLE - The work outlook continues to be very busy, with the potential of several large projects kicking off this Spring and Summer in addition to the work our contractors have already secured. We've had various open job calls for some time and plan to have more over the coming weeks and months. Call the recorder each night to avoid missing a call you may be interested in.

Contract negotiations are coming up soon and we are gathering member proposals to sift through in the lead up to the first meeting. If you would like to suggest proposals for negotiations, there is a form you can submit on our website, www. ibew275.org, under the Member Resources tab, click on "Wages Bylaws and Agreements." It is password protected. You can get the password by calling the Hall if you don't have it.

With the tremendous amount of work right now, the Local has been organizing new members of all levels to fill calls and grow the Local. If you've been to a Union meeting recently, you'd know we've been swearing in several new members monthly for the last several months. We can use all the help we can get, so if you know any electricians in your social circles and/or communities, please encourage them to reach out to one of our organizers, Walter or Geoff.

Kent Ionia Labor Central Labor Council has reserved a spot in the Grand Rapids St. Patrick's day parade. The parade will take place Saturday, March 16 and IBEW Local 275 will be participating in the walk as part of the council and ask for volunteers to join us. We will begin to line up at 9:30 and the route starts at 11, ending at Calder Plaza downtown. We ask that you wear IBEW Local 275 attire, and of course green!

The 2024 West Michigan United Labor Wild Game Dinner has been scheduled for Thursday, March 28! Please mark this date on your calendars if you plan to attend this year's event. There will be more information about the event coming out in the following weeks. Again, this year, WMUL is looking for wild game donations (fish, venison, etc.) from local union members. If you have any extra filets or meat in your freezers that can be donated, please contact Walter at the Union Hall.



SETTING AN ELECTRICAL BOX on the fourth floor of the Harrison Street Commons project in Flint is John Aguinaga of IBEW Local 948. He's employed by Roth Electric.

LOCAL 58 IBEW

IBEW 58

DETROIT - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. 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.detroiteitc.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. \$100 Donation per Brick. No symbols or clipart can be added to brick pavers. To purchase or for questions about the brick pavers please contact Stacy at the Union Hall 313-963-2130, ext. 3015. **Local 58 Dues Department** - Stay current on your dues! Look at your Dues Receipt, if your paid through date shows 12-31-2023 or earlier, you are not current and will have a reinstatement fee (4 months or more behind). It is Your responsibility to pay your dues on time, this could affect your retirement or death benefit. You can pay on the APP/Website, send a check, or call and pay over the phone. We ask that you keep the Local up to date with your address, email, and phone number. **Detroit Electrical Workers Benevolent Fund (DEWBF):** The next DEWBF meeting will be March 5 at 5:30pm. The Ken Fitzhenry Super Bowl Event was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who helped on making this a great event! Prize winners: Robert Moore - Grand Prize Recliner/75 TV; Cliff Capshaw - 65" TV; Bruce McFadden - 55" TV; Andrew Montoro - 43" TV; Michael Laird - 43" TV; Asbury - Projector; Barb Edwards - Projector; Herman Bruner - Projector; Shawn Nickles - Projector; Williams - Sound Bar; Jason Smith - Sound Bar; Norm Jaworski - Sound Bar; Williams - Sound Bar; Jack Sheehy - Speaker; Steve G. - Speaker; DeAndre Smith - Speaker; Kevin Crysler - Speaker; DeCondre Lee - Speaker. 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. John Mayernik Scholarship available to apprentices 2nd year and higher. Applicants eligible to win \$2000. Deadline to apply March 2. For more info contact Michael Bellhorn 586-612-5964. Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 12 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. a.m. and lunch is served at 12:30. Ouestions can be directed to Ray Send your reservations with your Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, checks (payable to the Retirees

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, March 12 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, March 18 at 6pm. This will be an inperson meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone no. and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement.

If you were a delegate to the Annual EWMC Leadership Conference in Atlanta celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the organization, please don't forget to fill out the conference survey. Now it's time to get to work here at home. We have a lot of events and projects on the horizon this year and we need all hands on deck. We have our annual DPSCD March Reading Month event coming up and we need all to sign up so that we can fill all of our spots. Please go online and fill out the volunteer waiver that was emailed to you and let us know that you have completed it. The district will expedite all of the requests that we submit to them for the Reading month event. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with our efforts.



IBEW Local 948

M 58 UNIO

Association) in the amount of \$25

per person, to IBEW #58, Attn

Retirees, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit

MI 48232-0756, questions call

Elaine Crawford at 313 408-5885.

at The Gazebo Banquet Center,

31104 Mound RD., Warren, on

Wednesday, March 27. The An-

nual Pin Party Luncheon is set

for Saturday, April 27 at the union

hall. Members who are receiving

pins this year, will receive an in-

vitation in the near future (please

rsvp in a timely manner), and

are our guests at this celebration.

Honorees are welcome to bring

guests, \$25 per person. Be sure to

put the Pin Party on your calendars.

Checks and reservations, send to

the aforementioned address at the

local union hall. More pin party

details will follow in this column

paid yours yet, send your checks

for \$8 per person, to the address at

the local. The ORAL HISTORY

PROJECT has started back up, if

you are interested in adding your

story to this collection, call the

local at 313 963-2130 to put your

name on the interview list. You

will be contacted by a member

of the committee for interview

dates and times. Come join us

for a luncheon, we always have

2024 DUES: If you haven't

and in our newsletter.

The March Luncheon will be

FLINT - Membership Meeting - Our next regularly scheduled membership meeting will be March 11th, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Retiree Meetings - Retirees will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month starting back up in April.

Party Committee - For interest in participation please contact President Phil Steele.

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 poststrike. 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.

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.

Kristen Rivet will be visiting our hall again to speak to our membership. For anyone



A 4-person team will cost \$280. This event helps 2 very special causes. Please consider participateing. More information can be obtained by contacting Kim at 989-860-5309 or Dave at 989-245-7226.

MEMBERSHIP MEET-INGS- Our next meeting is March 5 at 5:30pm at the Hall.

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 OPERA-TIONS- Normal Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm.

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

WORK OUTLOOK- Work is very solid for our Local in the month of February. Calls have steadily come in for a number of different projects and contractors. More are set to come as well. Solar work, work on key projects in the area, and upcoming HSC work will continue to keep our members and others busy in the future. 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. Future work at HSC is looking good. Some school work at High Schools and SVSU will be coming up soon.

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.

Please be on the lookout for more information about code updates. The JATC is in process of getting materials together and will be announcing dates soon. Please be aware these classes fill up quickly, so reserve your spot as soon as you can.

At the time of this writing the following members are three months or more behind on dues: Kevin Koon, Trevor Kreft, and Christopher Wagner. Please make every effort to get caught up with your dues as soon as you can.

IBEW 557, con't

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. EOB's 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.

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

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, March 26 at 5 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, March 11, 2024 at 5:30 PM.

The Veterans Committee - will now be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 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 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 Com**mittee**- Our next meeting will take place on March 28, 5:30pm at the Hall and also on Zoom. If you have questions, contact Committee Chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski (586-921-3087), Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

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.

IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association: Our next board meeting will be Wednesday, March 13 at 10 a.m. in the lower level of the a great time. Looking forward to seeing you there!!!

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings take place every Wednesday at the IBEW Local 58 Union Hall, (1358 Abbott St, Detroit, MI 48226), starting at 6 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.

IBEW Pension: Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: James B. Smothers.

Members that have Passed Away: Ronald Hubbs, pension member, 57 year IBEW membership; Sylvia Krauter, Widow to the late pension member Leonard Krauter, Mother to JIW Julie Zabawski; Gerald Quinn, pension member, 63 year IBEW membership; Tara Gluski, Daughter to pension member Paul Gluski, Granddaughter to the late pension member Bruno Gluski, Niece to pension members Hugh Gluski & Marty Arthur; Frank A. Landa, 44 year IBEW membership, Nephew to pension member Thomas F. Landa, Uncle to Journeyman Inside Wireman Jeffrey Landa and Joseph Landa; Jeffrey S. Erickson, Son to pension member Albert Erickson, 68 year IBEW membership, Brother to former IBEW Local 58 member Ronald Erickson; Ernestine Golston, Mother to pension member Albert Golston and Mother-in-Law to pension member Robert Rivers Sr.; Brian J. Booker, Son-In-Law to Journeyman Inside Wireman Melvin Gathers.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

interested the event will be held on February 26th, 5 PM to 8PM.

Special Thanks to Tim Sneller for speaking to the membership at our latest meeting. We will be supporting and looking forward to your candidacy in the 68th District Court.

Congratulations to Eric Crites on being hired as our latest Organizer. We look forward to having you as an agent of the hall.

Tiger's Party Bus - Attention membership, we are seeking interest in booking a party bus and potentially a sweet to a Tiger's game later this year. Plans will not be made unless sign ups are secured so please contact Jenny Wallace for any interest.

New Membership - Welcome to our latest members; Nick Fitzmaurice, Jarvis Love, and McKenna Harrison. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you in the field.

Retirees - Congratulations to Daren Slocum and Brian Mikulski on your pension applications. The membership would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing retirement.

Draping of the Charter -Our condolences to the families of Stan Puchez and Dan Schmidt. We are tremendously sorry for your losses and will continue to keep these Brothers in our hearts.

"Sit down before fact as a little child, be prepared to give up every preconceived notion... or you shall learn nothing.'

– Thomas H. Huxley (1825 - 1895)

"He had heard people speak contemptuously of money: he wondered if they had ever tried to do without it.'

-W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965)

"I have enough money to last me the rest of my life, unless I buy something.

-Jackie Mason (1928-2021)





KALAMZOO - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on March 4, at 6 p.m. The next **Renew** meeting will be held on March 4, at 5 p.m.

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

The Pension Education Meeting will be held on February 29, at Union Hall, at 6:00PM.

The Veterans Committee Meeting will be held on March 7, at Union Hall, at 5:00PM.

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

The Work Outlook continues to be steady. We have open calls for Moore, Champion Services, and Hi-Tech have crews working on the Pfizer, Zoetis and Palisades. Gurtz is still working on the MAPS Project and plans to be there until the end of March. Gun Lake Casino Hotel and Water Dome have several floors up, with more windows being installed all the time. Yes, there are a few warm spots. Palisades is waiting for final approval. They could be hiring this spring.

Politics are starting up and there are plenty of issues that have improved because the Democrats have had control. The Inflation Reduction Act is beginning to affect the economy. The IRA is a significant policy win for the IBEW with potential to create work opportunities for tens of thousands of IBEW members and expand IBEW membership in traditional power generation, renewable generation, construction, and manufacturing. The law's provisions lift American workers and create good-paying union jobs across the country.

NEBF is increasing for those who retire after January 1, 2025. The change will increase the benefit from \$32.00 to \$33.00 per service year credit. For those who are currently retired, a 13th check will be sent out in November of 2025. Go to our website for more information under the "Retirees" tab.

Retiree lunches at the following Locations:

March 20, Lunch at McGo-



IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – MARCH **MEMBERSHIP MEETING RESCHEDULED:** The regular March membership meeting will be rescheduled to March 20th due to IBEW 6th District membership development and government affairs conference.

BE SURE TO KEEP BEN-EFICIARY FORM UPDATED: A friendly reminder that beneficiary forms are available at the fund office AND at the hall for anyone who may need to update beneficiary information. If your information needs to be updated, it needs to be updated at BOTH. TRAINING CLASSES 2024: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM

Instrumentation Part B Tuesdays Jan. 16 thru March 12, 2024

Code Update session 4 Monday's and Thursday's April 22, 25, 29, & May 2, 2024

CPR/First Aid Tuesdays March 5, 12, June 4, 11, Sept. 3, 10, Dec. 3, 10, 2024

There will be a code update required in 2024 for 2025 license. We have 4 sessions this winter and spring and will have six more in the fall. Sessions are limited to 50 people each.

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.

TRAINING DIRECTOR OPENING: The AAEJATC is accepting applications for Training Director. If you are interested, please submit a letter of interest that addresses specifically how your experience and qualifications meet the duties and desired qualifications of the position, a current resume, and any transcripts, diplomas, or certifications to the AAEJATC, located at 13400 Luick Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118, or submit by email to Hope Salyer at hopes@aaejatc. org, by Feb. 29, 2024. All applications will be kept confidential.

2024 UNION 4 LIFE GUN CALENDAR: Purchase your 2024 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2024 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2024! Beginning 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, 2024. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35 and can be purchased from an apprentice, the training center, or online at www. union4lifecharity.com. PHEASANT 4 LIFE **HUNT:** There will be a field hunt on the morning of March 9, at Ringneck Ranch, 14904 Hanover Rd., in Hanover to benefit U of M Rogel Research Center. The hunt usually begins between 8-9 a.m. Cost is \$150 per person, with a deposit of \$50 due by Monday, Feb. 15. If a dog is needed it is \$100 per group. Payments can be made at the JATC, Union Hall, or by Venmo. Bird cleaning is \$3.50 per bird if desired. Food, beverages and snacks will be provided. BYOB. Contact Joe Jarecki for more information at (734) 770-5114 or joejarecki4@gmail.com. WINTER GATHERING: This year's winter gathering will be held on Monday, March 11th at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral, located at 4705 US Hwy 98 North, Lakeland, FL. EASTER EGG HUNT: Sunday, March 23rd at the hall. More details coming soon! **RETIREE'S CARD** GAME: The first Thursday of every month Local 252 and UA 190 retirees meet at the Union Hall for card games and donuts. The games start at 9 a.m. Please come join the fun. **RETIREE's BREAK-**FAST: The Retiree's Breakfast will take place the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 160 South Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. There is parking and entrances in both the front and rear of the restaurant. M.U.S.T DRUG TEST-ING: 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



IBEW Local 906

UPPER PENINSULA -Meetings- 7pm local times Marquette unit- First Tuesday

Iron Mountain unit – Second Tuesday

Escanaba unit – Second Wednesday

Brothers and Sisters,

Local 906 would like to congratulate the following apprentices for being accepted into membership. Ethan Phillips, Ryan Johnson, Logan Audette, George Zelinski, Christian Eng-Anderson, Thomas Aalto and

We would also like to con-Great job, gentlemen.

has met and adopted a benefit improvement of \$5 per year of service as well as an interest rate. All plan members will be receiving correspondence with further details from the UP Pension Plan office within a few weeks.

The Retirees continue to

Local 252, con't

current. Local 252 has a zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use.

not be transferred back.





Local 665

IBEW Local 665

LANSING - WORK OUT-LOOK: 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.

MEMBERSHIP IN-FORMATION: Local 665 has reached a milestone. We have just surpassed 700 members in the local. Of which 140 are apprentices. With all the new faces around please remember it is a Journeymen's job to teach first and empower the next generation to learn and grow.

EVITP TRAINING PRO-GRAM: 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@ lejatc.org or contact the apprenticeship office with questions or how to sign up.

HARASSMENT TRAIN-**ING:** 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@lejatc. org to receive instructions on how to complete it.

APPRENTICESHIP AP-PLICATIONS: We often get calls or emails on how and/or where to apply to Local 665's apprenticeship program.

To apply, go to www.lejatc. 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 **ODS:** 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.



IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK – First Aid/CPR – Check the expiration on your First Aid/CPR certification cards! There is a First Aid/ CPR refresher class scheduled for March 11 at the Hall after the Union Meeting. We will be having a class every March for members to get an updated First Aid/CPR certification card.

Reminder about Health Plan Advocate This is a reminder about the Michigan Electrical Health Plan Pharmacy Savings Program. Health Plan Advocates is working with the MEEHP to help the fund and the members to save money on costly prescriptions. If your prescription is over \$400.00, the HPA will check for copay savings cards to get members a \$0.00 payment for that prescription. If you receive correspondence from HPA, either via mail or email, you MUST respond to them to get enrolled. If you don't contact HPA, you could encounter a high deductible/co-pay when you fill that RX on your next refill.

Delta Dental-Active Members should have received 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.

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

2024 Personal information As we have entered into the new year, it is time to think about your personal information that we have on file at the Hall. 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. Beneficiary cards and forms are also available at the Hall if you need to update them.

Executive Board E-Board meets the fourth Monday of each month starting at 4:30 p.m. Wilson-McShane has replaced TICI for our benefit administration as of June 1, 2023. Please have a little patience as the transition has had some bumps that they are smoothing out. You can visit www.michiganelectrical.org to create a new account under the Member Portal tab. You should have received new Special Fund 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. \underline{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 - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is IBEW445.com. Make sure you check out the Resource Link page for important related websites.

pating in the Bay City St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 17 at 2PM. An email will be sent out with specific details as the date approaches. Please join us in celebrating this annual event,

IBEW

Local 692

ing. The March monthly mem-

bership meeting will be held at 6

P.M. on Monday, March 4, 2024.

The March Executive Board

Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M.

IBEW Local 692 will be partici-

all members are encouraged to

bring their families. Hot dogs and

projects in our jurisdiction that

may require additional manpower

GM Powertrain - Many more

-J. Ranck Electric – continuing

work at SK Siltron semi-conduc-

-Master Electric continues Elec-

trical installations on the new

Isabella County Jail. More calls

-Countyline has secured Air-

port 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

-Clements Electric Independence

Bridge work continues along

with Bay Carbon Project, and

also work out to the Bay City

-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 Michigan

-Conti Electric also expects to

assemble trailer city on their up-

coming solar project near Rogers

City April 1st. Conti expects the

average manpower on this project

to be around 50 peaking at 90.

Zone 1 scale will be paid on this

project along with \$ 50.00 dollars

a day incentive pay being offered

Countyline.

State Park.

Sugar.

for this project are expected.

tor chip manufacturing facility.

projects to come at Powertrain.

Work Report. Ongoing

-Nelson Electric (Currently)

refreshments will be provided.

on Monday, March 18, 2024.

BAY CITY - Union Meet-

Executive Board Meeting.

Message from the Business

St. Patrick's Day Parade.

IBEW 692

Manager.

include:

strom, Brent LaBonte, Bradey Jayger LaMarsh.

gratulate our new journeymen, Alex Jones, Bryce Viau, Eric Gummerus and Andrew Winslow.

The pension plan committee

Brother Tom Hogan has set up a \$500 scholarship at the JATC. The first recipient awarded was brother Mckinely Larson. Congratulations, Mr. Larson.

The RENEW Committee continues to meet the first Thursday of each month at 7:00. If you would like to participate please contact the hall or Dejian Dean.

meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:00 am at the Vierling Restaurant located at 119 South Front Street in Marquette.

ERTS: Please make sure that you are signed up in the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up in ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will

AFLAC INSURANCE:

nigle's Irish Pub, 3512 E. Main St. Kalamazoo. @11:00.

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

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

Sign up for a Code Update class. Classes are scheduled for March 9 and 10, on April 13 and 14, and on May 4 and 5. Call the hall or email mapplebey92@ gmail.com to reserve a spot. Classes are limited to 25. There will be classes in the fall.

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

NEBF 301-556-4300

IO Pension 202-833-7000 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: Paul Dillon, Ruben Dunbar, Richard Peebles, Travis Schuster, and Cody Stokan. Morris Applebey **Business Manager**

"Courage is fear that has said its prayers.' -Dorothy Bernard

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.

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

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

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

DUES PAYMENTS-Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows $12/20\overline{23}$, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$131.25 for first quarter 2023. "BA" members pay \$67.80 per quarter for 2023. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now. Payments for first quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, March 29, 2023.

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.

per Conti. -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. - Zone 2 also has another Solar project coming to the Lafarge

Cement Plant. This Project could also start very soon. - Another large-scale utility so-

lar project is expected to break ground in Isabella County this year. As soon as more details are known I will share them.

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 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 public school visits and partnerships with area ISD programs and will continue through the winter into spring in an effort to recruit apprenticeship applicants and increase overall interest in the skilled trades. A special focus was aimed towards the schools in our northern jurisdiction including Onaway, (Continued on Page 12)

GENERAL MEMBER-SHIP 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 BEN-EFITS: Ouarterly dues are due. We are on death benefit #346. 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.

Roger Carroll 12/13/23, Harry Baker 11/26/23, 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.

"Make the best use of what is in your power, and take the rest as it happens." -Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD) Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest **Recording Secretary**

"The reason why so few good books are written is that so few people who can write know anything.

-Walter Bagehot (1826 -1877)

"Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.' -Aldous Huxley (1894 - 1963)





Laborers Local 1191

(2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208)

DETROIT - Regular Membership Updates: Please check out our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org and the "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

Member Personal Information Updates: Be sure to keep the Local Union updated with any changes to your phone number, address, and/or email.

Monthly General Membership Meetings: General Membership meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208 (except for holidays).

Monthly Retiree Council Meetings: Retiree Council meetings are the last Friday of each month. The meetings are held at 11:00 am at the Local Union, located at 2161 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208. February's Retiree Council meeting will be held on the 23rd of February, 2024.

Union Dues For 2024: Regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for Active Members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00. Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191. org!!! To make online dues payments, click the "Pay Dues" tab in upper right-hand corner and follow the instructions.

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

Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly



Local 692

(Continued from Page 11) Cheboygan, Rogers, and Alpena. Select Bay Arenac ISD students have been working directly with Cheboygan, Rogers, and Alpena. Select Bay Arenac ISD students have been working directly with agents performing hands-on lab assignments at our apprenticeship school. More than a dozen additional school events have been scheduled in the next two months. If you know any young people interested in the electrical construction industry, please contact an agent to receive apprenticeship application and supplemental information. Our Apprenticeship accepts applications in-person year-round, every first and third Wednesday of the month.

For the third consecutive event, IBEW Local 692 earned the "Questy" award, voted by area high school students as the Most Engaging Exhibitor. It was a pleasure to work hands-on with the future leaders of the electrical construction industry at MiCareer-Quest Middle Michigan's annual event. We'll be looking forward to an opportunity to compete for a fourth Questy at 2024's event scheduled to take place on Friday, Oct. 11 at SVSU's Ryder Center. Thank you to all the students, organizers, volunteers, and fellow exhibitors who make this important event so special. A special shoutout is due to Training Director Steve Pahl, Instructor Casey Stoike and their 4th year apprenticeship class for all their help.

Agents attended a meeting with Jessica Looman, head of the US Dept. of Labor Wage and Hour Division, to discuss improvements to Davis-Bacon enforcement on federally funded construction projects. Agents also met with National Labor Relations Board lawyers for additional training.

Do not hesitate to contact agents if you are interested in up-to-date work reports or if you'd like to register on books. 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 winter and into spring.

Our website has been up-



Heat and Frost Insulators 47 LANSING-The next Regular Union Meeting will be held on Friday, March 8, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at J.A.T.C. Training Center, at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48906.

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.

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 No. (517) 321-7502

Fax No. (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-



Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD – MEM-BERSHIP MEETING: The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

BENEFIT: At the latest SUB Fund Meeting, the trustees voted to increase the SUB Fund Benefit amount effective, Jan. **CURT** 22, 2024. The

rate for mem-

medical disability check from

PER CAPITA: Please be your payments monthly to Local 25, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033.

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

EMPLOYMENT CHANG-ES: 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 48 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 LIMI TATION: Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 30 days of receipt of said State Unemployment check. Any request for a benefit payment past the 30 days will be denied per the Plan Document. NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. 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.



Painters DC 1M WARREN - Dear Members, **DC1M WEBSITE: www.** iupatdc1michigan.org

DC 1M UNION CARDS* Any questions regarding lost or damaged Union cards, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card

please contact

the DC1M of-

fice: (586)552-

4474 extension

Warren Of-

fices at:



100Freeland Office: (989) 695-ROBERT 6888 GONZALEZ PAINTERS

DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART

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

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

Search for "Painters and Allied Trades" download APP

Username: your member id# Password: painters

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

FTI of the Great Lakes upgrade classes

FTI Apprenticeship will be putting on Rigging and Signaling classes.

Rigging and Signaling class-Lansing March 9thand 16th. 9AM start time.

Rigging and Signaling class-Warren March 23rd and 30th. 9AM start time

Contact FTI Director Shawn Oneill to register

Email: dot@iupatdc1m.org or call at (517) 304-4425

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.



Michigan Painters District Council



District Council 1M Michigan

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 nonth at 6:30 p.m. Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.



McGLONE new weekly bers drawing a

the Fund Office will be \$350 per week. A member drawing an unemployment benefit from the State of Michigan will now receive \$300 per week.

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



to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you. FYI: Members who sign up for Vacation deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate!!!

New Projects: Members are urged to report the start of any/all new projects to the Local Union. Members working for a contractor who may be looking to hire additional laborers are urged to call the Union Hall and help a brother or sister get referred out to work. The next time, it may be your name on the list when that call comes in for work.

Referral List: Every member who is looking for work must call or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm to put their name on the Out-of-Work list. You must have an Out-of-Work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. FYI: It is the Member's responsibility to regularly notify the Local Union of any changes to his/her skillsets

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

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

dated and is now live. Please visit www.ibew692.net and let us know if you'd like us to add additional information or member options. Members can pay dues. check their position on the out-ofwork list, find links to health and pension plan portals and more. New stickers, pencils, pencil clips and 2024 planners are now available at the hall.

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 December 2024): \$46.20 Monthly To avoid a reinstatement fee, please remember to keep your dues current.

Retirees Lunch. The March retiree lunch is scheduled for 1:00 PM on Thursday, March 21st at Coonan's Irish Hub, located at 1004 N. Johnson St. in Bay City.

RENEW. On Saturday Feb. 24, RENEW committee will be hosting their 3rd annual Brotherhood on the Bay fishing tournament on the Saginaw Bay watershed. This year Local 557 Saginaw RENEW is also participating in the event. In addition to individual prizes for heaviest perch and heaviest walleye, a travelling trophy will be awarded to either 557 or 692 for the combined weight of the three heaviest walleyes from each local.

This event is open to all IBEW retirees and active members in good standing. \$20 entry fee the day of tournament, \$15 if you preregister by contacting (Continued next column)

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!

IBEW 692, con't

Cody at 989.600.4643. Each entry will receive a ticket for door prize raffles and a walleye dinner. You don't need to fish to receive a door prize ticket or dinner.

Registration is 5 AM to 7 AM, dinner is available starting at 5 PM, and fish are weighed from 5 PM to 7 PM at the hall. Please consider supporting RENEW and enjoying a delicious fish dinner with brother and sisters.

It is the goal of the RE-NEW committee to increase younger members' involvement in their communities through their local union. If you are (Continued next column)

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. REMIND-ER: 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.

Glaziers & Glassworkers Local 357

WARREN-Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday, March 4th, 2024 at 6pm. Please make every effort to attend.

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

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

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 591

WARREN - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 5, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

Members must be in good standing (dues up to date) with district council 1 app or 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 Bylaws

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

"The secret of being a bore is to tell everything." -Voltaire (1694 - 1778)

"Whatever you may be sure of, be sure of this-that you are dreadfully like other people.'

-James Russell Lowell (1819 - 1891)

"Worry is a misuse of imagination.'

–Dan Zadra

February 23, 2024 THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 13



Iron Workers 25

NOVI – February's Union meeting will be Monday, Feb. 26, at 7 pm. We will conduct the second reading of the proposed By-Law Proposal during this meeting. The meeting will be in person and zoom. All Union Halls will be open.

There will be NO Union meeting in March; however to accommodate Voting for the By-Law and June Wage Allocation we will conduct an April Union Meeting earlier in the month, as follows.

The April Union meeting will be Monday, April 8 at 7:00 pm and will be in person and zoom. We will conduct the third (3rd) reading of the proposed By-Law Proposal.

On Wednesday April 10, 2024 we will conduct Voting for the By-Law Proposal and the June Wage Allocation Vote. All Union Halls will be open from 12 pm (noon) until 7:00 pm.

Steward meeting(s): The Lansing Steward meeting will be Monday, Feb. 26 at 6 pm. The Saginaw Steward meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 29 at 6 pm. All are welcome!

Communications Alerts & E-mails; sign up via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS.** You can download our APP for android on google play or for iphone at the APP store just search "Iron Workers Local 25" Martinez web shop.

Congratulations to Haleigh Davis & Alex Boyd #1657103 on the birth of their baby daughter Scarlet Ann Marie Boyd born on Tuesday Feb. 13, 2024 and weighed 8# 3oz. We wish your family the best!

IMPORTANT: Dependent Eligibility Verification for Health Insurance Benefits coverage. PDA Verification Team from Livonia MI is conducting this audit. All members who have dependents (spouse and/ or children) on their health care must comply. If you missed the mailing somehow, watch your mail for a second mailing coming soon!! PLEASE RESPOND RIGHT AWAY WHEN YOU



RECEIVE YOUR LETTER AS THIS IS VERY TIME SEN-SITIVE AND CRITICAL TO YOUR CONTINUED COVER-AGE IN THE HEALTH INSUR-ANCE PLAN.

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.

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.*

The 2024 Mandatory Apprenticeship Meeting will be on Saturday, March 16, 2024 @ the Novi Union Hall from 10am-1pm; all Classes, all Apprentices must attend.

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 2024 Block Schedule, Roster and Raising Gang Training Schedule. If you have Facebook or Instagram, please give us a follow. 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 no. 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 OF-FICE: 800-572-8553 or 248-347-3100 and follow the prompts. Hours 7:30am to 4:30pm. The mailing address for member BEN-EFIT 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 experiencing a divorce or a new spouse MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next openenrollment period (April 1-April 30).

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Retirees' Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday March 5 at 8:30 am. The Retirees' meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday March 19 at 10 am in Novi. All are welcome.

Thoughts & prayers for Lifetime ironworker James Clement #485069 who was in the hospital. Get well wishes!

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday March 5 at 9 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, MI 49330. All are welcome.

The next quarterly meeting for the **Bay City Chapter** will be April 18, 2024; **NEW LO-CATION**: at the Iron Workers Local 25 Saginaw Union Hall, 11 Bridgeview S. Saginaw Mi 48604 at 1:00 pm. All are Welcome.

The **Downriver Chapter.** The next quarterly Retirees break-



LIFTING A PIECE OF angle iron at the Harrison Street Commons project in Flint is Sean Dusek of Iron Workers Local 25. He's employed by AMS Steel.

fast will be April 19 at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. All are welcome.

Local 25 Retirees' Club 2024 Scholarship is available. Eligibility Requirements: child or grandchild of a retired Local 25 member. Applicant must be in their Senior year of high school with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Retiree must have a minimum of five years continuous Local union membership and be a member of the Iron Workers' Local 25 Retiree' Club as of the prior year and must be current on their an*nual* club dues to be eligible and apply. Contact John Miller: text/ call (734) 812-8036. All requests must be made by March 12, 2024. Completed applications due by 5pm April 30, 2024.

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-usedisorder.

FindTreatment.gov where you can search by zip code/city. Or call SAMHSA 800-662-4357. MentalHealth.gov provides information & programs about mental health

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.

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

In Memory: Benjamin Pawlowski #955175 passed away Jan. 24, 2024 at the age of 70. He held membership 1975 - 2002. Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (Feb. 19, 2024 10:00 am E.S.T.).



GETTING SOME CLIPS to be welded at the Harrison Street Commons project in Flint are iron worker journeyman Tanya Curtis. Handing them to her are foreman Troy Breasbois. The Local 25 members are working for AMS Steel.

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Outdoors Lake St. Clair: best for bass



By Jan-Michael Hessenauer **Fisheries Research Biologist Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

Lake St. Clair, nestled between the St. Clair and Detroit rivers in southeast Michigan, is one of the premier smallmouth bass fisheries in the world.

As reported in "Status of the Fisheries in Michigan Waters of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair 2022," numbers from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Master Angler program - in which anglers can submit documentation of trophy-sized catches of more than 50 species - shore up the lake's reputation as a trophy smallmouth bass fishing hotspot.

"Statistics from the Master Angler program indicate that Lake St. Clair is the premier waterbody in the state for trophy smallmouth bass," the report stated. "With 46 entries in the Master Angler program in 2022, Lake St. Clair represented 29 percent of the total smallmouth bass entries statewide.

"The continued strong representation of Lake St. Clair and adjoining waters in the smallmouth bass statewide Master Angler program is likely a reflection of an abundance of trophy-size smallmouth bass in the lake, a high degree of angler effort targeting the species, and widespread practice of catch-and-release among smallmouth bass anglers."

The DNR Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station has been extensively monitoring the lake's smallmouth bass population for decades to ensure the health and sustainability of this outstanding fishery. Annual monitoring activities include trap netting, trawling and jaw tagging.

DNR researchers are now using new tools and developing new partnerships to better understand smallmouth bass movements and behaviors in the lake.

Lake St. Clair is a component of the connecting channel system draining the upper Great Lakes of

Asbestosis



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT of Natural Resources researcher Jan-Michael Hessenauer performs surgery on a smallmouth bass to insert acoustic transmitters. **MDNR** photo

Superior, Huron and Michigan amazing insights into the behavinto the lower Great Lakes of Erie and Ontario via the St. Clair River and Detroit River.

As a result, a huge volume of water moves through the system quickly. Nearly all of Lake St. Clair includes ideal smallmouth bass habitat, and its size and depth make the study of the species' behavior and movement a daunting Clair. task.

Acoustic telemetry represents a revolutionary technology for studying fish populations in the Great Lakes. This technology allows researchers to surgically implant tags in fish, which transmit an electronic signal that is unique to each fish. While not audible to human ears, this signal can be detected and stored by passive listening stations located throughout Lake St. Clair and the rest of the Great Lakes via the Great Lakes Acoustic Telemetry Observation System, also known as GLATOS.

This technology has provided

iors of lake sturgeon, walleye, muskellunge and other species in Lake St. Clair and beyond.

In July 2023, DNR researchers partnered with the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society to tag smallmouth bass at the Bassmaster Elite Series tournament held at Brandenburg Park on Lake St.

Using tags purchased through a conservation grant provided by the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame, 15 smallmouth bass that were captured and weighed in by professional anglers were acoustically tagged and given an external jaw tag.

Society tournament staffers allowed DNR researchers access to their BASSTrakk system, which records GPS coordinates for every fish coming into the weigh-in. This allowed the researchers to select fish caught from different locations within the system for tagging.

These tagged smallmouth

bass will provide information about how fish behave and respond to capture in competitive fishing events, especially in situations where fish are transported many miles from their original capture location.

"Previous Bass Fishing Hall of Fame Grants have gone to organizations doing fish habitat enhancements or tournament fish-care projects. This grant to the Michigan DNR is the first one provided to a state agency for a true research project," said Gene Gilliland, society conservation director and a board member of the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame.

Additionally, after answering questions in the short term about fish behavior after weigh-in at a competitive angling event, each tag's three-year life will ensure that the tagged fish will continue to provide valuable information to fisheries managers and anglers about how and when smallmouth bass use the different types of habitats available in Lake St. **PROFESSION-ALANGLER Marc Frazier** holds a smallmouth bass with a Michigan DNR tag.

Bass Anglers Sportsman Society photo

Clair long after the fish were tagged.

Fisheries research is "a large part of why many of our fisheries here in the U.S. are top-notch. It also provides an interesting look into the behavior and migration patterns of the fish we chase," professional angler Shaye Baker wrote in a blog post about the research project on the society's website.

The 15 fish tagged at the Bassmaster Elite Series tournament joined 46 other fish that the tags in 2021. These smallmouth bass, and thousands of others

tags since 2002, will continue providing valuable insight into the behavior of the species.

Data and summaries from this and other work can be found in the annual report that will be available on the Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station webpage in the coming months.

Anglers are reminded to report their capture of a tagged fish at Michigan.gov/TaggedFish.

Who knows? The next tagged DNR implanted with acoustic fish you catch on Lake St. Clair may also have been caught by a pro angler!

Fall fish stocking should yield more angler opportunities

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources last month announced the totals from its 2023 fall fish stocking efforts. The DNR stocked six different species - totaling 1,076,204 fish that weighed a total of 14.5 tons – at 103 locations throughout the state.

"It was another outstanding fall fish stocking season that will provide enhanced fishing opportunities throughout Michigan," said Ed Eisch, assistant chief of the DNR Fisheries Division. "When added to our successful spring and summer stocking efforts, that brings the total for 2023 to more than 10.4 million fish stocked in Michigan's waters."

Fall 2023 fish stocking consisted of six species: brook trout, coho salmon, lake trout, steelhead strain rainbow trout, walleye and muskellunge.

The number and type of fish stocked vary by hatchery, as each facility's ability to rear fish differs because of water supplies and temperature. In Michigan, there are six state and three cooperative hatcheries that work together to produce the species, strain and size of fish needed by fisheries managers. These fish must then be delivered at specific times and locations for stocking to ensure their success.

In general, fish are reared in Michigan's state fish hatcheries anywhere from one month to one and a half years before they are stocked.

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