

Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trades unions

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#### Jobless numbers come up short

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI) -The nation's economists were underwhelmed with the latest U.S. unemployment rate and job gains in April - much stronger numbers were expected.

The U.S. gained 266,000 jobs in April: it was not a normally bad number, but disappointing given that economists were expecting a million jobs to have been filled as vaccines are injected in arms and the nation's economy emerges from its COVID restraints. Meanwhile, the nation's unemployment rate inched up 0.1 percent to 6.1 percent in April.

"While the overall growth was far below expectations, leisure and hospitality gained 331,000 jobs (offsetting jobs lost elsewhere), a sign that increased demand has led to significant gains in employment in that sector," said Economic Policy Institute Senior Economist Elise Gould. "Likely in response to improving public health metrics and increased expectations of job opportunities, more and more workers are actively returning to the labor force in search of work."

COVID-19 cases are declining in the U.S., but the virus is not done casting a shadow over the nation's health, and the nation's economy. There are still 16.15 million Americans who are receiving state or federal jobless aid-amounting to 11.6 percent of all American workers And, the number of people in the workforce, including those who have work and the jobless who seek it, is 8.2 million below its peak in early 2020. There were flat numbers for construction. which maintained a 7.7 percent jobless rate in the industry in April. That still left 768,000 of construction workers unemployed. In April 2020, the absolute number was more than double that number, along with a 16.6 percent jobless rate in the building trades.



LOOKING UP from his installation of an atrium glass partition at the Beaumont Outpatient Campus-Lenox facility is Ken Watson of Glaziers and Glassworkers Local 357. He's employed by Edwards Glass.

# New option for health care set to open in Macomb County

#### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

LENOX TWP. – Construction of Beaumont Health's newest version of a comprehensive outpatient care facility is rapidly moving toward completion.

The Beaumont Outpatient Campus- Lenox facility brings to northeast Macomb County a new option for a full slate of health care services, in a threestory, 109,650-square-foot building erected near the intersection of I-94 and 26 Mile Rd.

General contractor Roncelli, Inc. is managing the project, which has been employing 80-85 tradespeople on

a daily basis, a number which is occupancy is expected to be isexpected to ramp up a bit as more sued June 9, with tenant occufinish trades move in to do their pation of the building taking work. A temporary certification of

(Continued on Page 15)



ERECTED NEXT TO a Meijer near I-94 and 26 Mile Road, the Beaumont Outpatient Campus-Lenox will create a convenient option for a higher level of health care to residents of northeast Macomb County. Roncelli is the project's construction manager.



# 'Right-to-work doesn't, in fact, work' **New RTW study** re-states the law's lack of benefits

#### (From the IBEW)

Long-shot efforts to roll back right-to-work laws in Michigan and Virginia aren't likely to level the playing field for working people this year, but a new study provides fresh ammunition for pro-union lawmakers in the fight for repeal.

The study, released earlier this year by the Illinois Economic Policy Institute and the Project for Middle Class Renewal at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, lays out how, on a number of metrics, states with right-to-work laws come up short. From lower wages to less community engagement, states with these deceptively-named laws are failing working families.

Researchers looked at data dating back to 2008 to determine the impact of right-to-work laws

on state economies and worker well-being. What they found paints a bleak picture. The 27 U.S. states that have enacted right-towork laws (Michigan's RTW law was adopted in 2012) saw slower economic growth, lower wages, higher consumer debt, worse health outcomes and lower levels of civic participation than states that do not have such laws.

"This new study shows what we've known all along, that right-to-work doesn't, in fact, work," said IBEW International President Lonnie R. Stephenson. "It doesn't help people and it doesn't help states. Instead, these laws prop up a corporate bottom line - usually at the expense of the workers that make their profits possible."

That's why labor-friendly (Continued on Page 4)

# Death on the Job report: some progress made, but struggle continues

By Mark Gruenberg **Press Associates Staff Writer** 

WASHINGTON (PAI) - In the five decades since the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) was established, there's been a lot of progress in cutting worker deaths and injuries on the job, but there's still a long way to go.

stark reminder that workplace safety protections are absolutely critical, and we still have a long way to go. As a country, we must renew our commitment to safe jobs for all workers and invest the resources to make that happen.'

The death rate has stalled since 2017. And the 3.5/100,000 rate still translates into having 275 workers die every day from hazardous working conditions, the report says. Those figures actually understate the case, Shuler told the Zoom press conference unveiling the report. "About 95,000 workers a year die from occupational illnesses," often contracted long before, she pointed out. And illness and death disproportionately hit workers of color, she added The law's weak penalties don't help. The maximum federal fine for death of a worker on the job is \$12,788, though some states have higher fines. The maximum jail time if a worker dies is six months. And combined state and federal OSHAs have fewer inspectors now, 1,798, than 30 years ago. "The problems are structural," Shuler said, adding corporate opposition has hamstrung new worker safety rules for vears "But we have some good news: We have a pro-worker president, a pro-worker vice president and a pro-worker majority in Congress," which gives workers a chance to improve the OSH Act (Continued on Page 4)

#### **Teamsters** primed to move on Amazon

Labor unions are not through with trying to organize Amazon

Just weeks after the Retail Workers union lost an organizing drive at an Amazon warehouse in Bessemer, Ala. by a wide margin, Teamsters President James Hoffa told the Off the Record television program earlier this month that the union is ready to start a campaign to organize Amazon truck drivers. Hoffa said: "We just had a Zoom call yesterday with all our leaders in the country. We're about ready to launch."

Hoffa added: "Amazon is very tough company. They've got a lot of money and they know how to fight dirty. So, we're ready for the fight. That's our next goal," he said.

Noting that Amazon 'flooded a thousand new people into the bargaining unit" which affected the vote in Alabama, Hoffa said the Teamsters and other unions plan to organize workers in different segments of the company. "The idea is to hit them all at once and basically spread them out so they can't concentrate like they did in Alabama," Hoffa said.

#### **Quotable**

"The people I distrust most are those who want to improve our lives but have only one course of action.

-Frank Herbert (1920 1986)

HEFTINGA DUCT ELBOW SECTION across second-floor shell space at the Beaumont-Lenox Township facility are (I-r) foreman Chris Ratzel and Kody Gaffney of Sheet Metal Workers Local 80. They're employed by Limbach.

I hat's a big conclusion from the data in the AFL-CIO's 30th annual Death On The Job report, released May 4, a week after OSHA's 50th anniversary.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act, strongly pushed by organized labor and particularly crafted by the late Tony Mazzocchi of the old Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers, has helped cut deaths on the job from nine per 100,000 workers 30 years ago to 3.5 per100,000 in 2019, the latest available data, included in the report, shows.

"This year, we commemorate 50 years of OSHA and the lives saved by ensuring workers are protected on the job," said AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler. "COVID-19 has been a

**Employers:** Want workers? It's time to pay a living wage

try appears to be primed for a

strong year, but some secondary

factors may throw a wet blanket

mentum Index for U.S. Construc-

tion bore some glad tidings – on

The most recent Dodge Mo-

on any explosion in growth.

The U.S. construction indus- May 7 the index posted a strong buildings. 8.6 percent gain in April. Issued by Dodge Data & Analytics, it's a monthly measure of the first report for nonresidential building projects in planning, which have been shown to lead construction spending for nonresidential

By Rebekah Entralgo

love our essential workers" to

"they're living off the govern-

ment dole" seemingly happened

media coverage has been filled

with stories of business owners

overnight.

The sudden shift from "we

Across the country, local

Dodge said April's gain was the fifth consecutive monthly in-

Ulterior factors restrain construction growth

crease in the momentum number, and similar to February and March, it was due to a large increase in institutional buildings entering the planning stage – up

Viewpoint

lamenting that they are unable to

fill positions as economies re-

open. "We are short-staffed.

Please be patient with the staff

who did show up. Nobody wants

to work anymore," reads a sign

mercial sector planning, however, dropped for the month by less than one percent. That fault line and others taking place in a COVID-affected economy – like worker shortages and historic (Continued on Page 4)

77 percent since January. Com-

through window in Texas, according to a viral internet video.

These viral anecdotes, in addition to a weaker than expected April jobs report, have raised concerns over a labor shortage in the United States and how to best address it. The Wall Street Journal reports a record

8.1 million job openings across the country.

But it's not that people don't want to work - it's that they don't want to work for so little.

Dan Price, the CEO of Gravity Payments who raised the starting wage at his company to (Continued on Page 15)

# outside a McDonalds drive-State Capitol Heritage Center pokes out of the ground

#### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

LANSING - The Michigan Capitol Building's interior and exterior have been extensively and exquisitely renovated and refurbished in recent years – a project managed by Christman Constructors with the expertise of building trades union workers and their contractors.

In an effort to help maintain the beautiful 1879 building's features, the Michigan State Capitol Commission voted at their February 2019 meeting to create a new the state's population would \$55 million Heritage Hall, a 54,000square-foot underground addition - under the northwest side of the Capitol's grounds.

The project, approved by the state Legislature, stems from a 1980s recommendation from preservation architect Richard Frank, who wrote the Capitol's first comprehensive Preservation Master Plan. "When Michigan's current Capitol opened in 1879, no one anticipated how government, citizen engagement, and

grow," the Capitol Commission said. "Today the Capitol welcomes (Continued on Page 2)

HERITAGE HALL, under construction on the west side of the Michigan Capitol Building in Lansing, will provide underground space for large meetings and tour group assemblies while reducing the pressure placed on the142year-old building. Credit: Michigan Capitol Commission



# Viewpoints

# Finally, workers a priority

The Teamsters and other unions for years have been urging lawmakers in Washington, D.C., to prioritize the needs of working people, given that the wealthy in this country have never done better. Finally, elected officials are responding.

More than a million hardworking Americans are set to benefit from a multiemployer pension fix enacted by Congress in March, and efforts to help U.S. workers haven't stopped there. President Joe Biden in recent weeks rolled out substantive proposals like the American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan that would bring good-paying jobs and work-home balance to many workers who have been struggling to support their families during the pandemic.

The American Jobs Plan offers a broad vision for putting the nation's economy on a 21st Century path toward better-paying jobs that lift up American workers, promoting job creation and worker protections. The Biden administration's commitment to modernizing the nation's aging infrastructure will produce quality opportunities that will revitalize the middle class.

No matter which side of the aisle lawmakers are on, infrastructure investment has long been a goal supported by Democrats and Republicans. While the U.S. is the wealthiest country in the world, it ranks a dismal 13th when it comes to the overall quality of infrastructure. After decades of disinvestment, the nation's transportation network is crumbling and something must be done.

But that's not all the legislation aims to reform. The White House's push for Congress to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize Act as a key piece of the American Jobs Plan is another sign that Biden is fulfilling his promise to reform labor law and empower millions of workers looking for a voice on the job.

It also focuses on innovation in a new economy that will create hundreds of thousands of quality jobs. American workers will build and make things in every part of this country, and they will be trained for well-paying, middle-class union jobs.

Meanwhile, the American Families Plan is a sweeping measure that lifts up hardworking Americans by expanding education opportunities, mandating paid leave, subsidizing child care and health care for low- and middle-income workers and providing tax relief to the middle class.

Nobody could argue that the pandemic has disproportionately strained working women, who often struggle to balance a job (or two) while caring for both younger and older generations. Many have simply left the workforce, but the American Families Plan will go a long way toward alleviating these issues.

Not only will workers be able to receive free workforce training like the Teamsters offer or earn a two-year degree at a community college, but their children will also be eligible for free pre-K schooling beginning at age 3. Childcare costs will be capped for many workers, and they will be eligible for up to 12 weeks of paid leave to care for themselves or ailing loved ones.

Lawmakers were elected to improve the lives of all of their constituents. It's time to drop the political games and do what's right for those just trying to earn an honest living, and not just those who have already seen good fortune in the past few years. Teamsters President James Hoffa

From the Detroit News Labor Voices, May 5, 2021

The Building Tradesman welcomes your letters to the editor. By mail: Building Tradesman Editor, 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216 or, e-mail: buildingtradesman@ameritech.net

# Heritage Center pokes out of the ground

(Continued from Page 1) 250,000 annual visitors who attend legislative sessions, take tours, and participate in everything from farmers markets to concerts, commemorations, advocacy days, and demonstrations."

Frank recommended the construction of the subterranean addition to relieve some of the human stress that's placed on the Capitol building.

Heritage Hall will include a 600-seat auditorium for larger functions, and an expanded and safer educational environment for the 115,000 Michigan school children who visit the Capitol each year. Tour groups will have expanded meeting and orientation spaces and new educational exhibits highlighting the history of the Michigan Capitol Build-

**STEEL ERECTION continues at** the Heritage Hall project at the Michigan Capitol Building. Among the Tri-Steel, Local 25 iron workers putting it up are D.J. Kalvo, Dave Nelson, Tom Gaines, Ryan Richardson, Doug Cramer and Zac Culimore.

Photo by Marc Crance

ing, a National Historic Land- project will save about \$1.5 milmark

The commission said incorporating the construction of Heritage Hall into the Capitol Restoration/ Infrastructure Upgrade

lion. The upgrade work at the Capitol Building, which began under Christman in 2017, implemented a host of improvements to the building, including a new

geothermal system, an all-new heating and cooling system, electrical upgrades, extensive masonry repairs, as well as waterproofing, plaster and decorative paint repair.







HERITAGE HALL will have several large skylights to brighten the underground space and offer views of the Capitol, as shown in the rendering above and the photo, above right.

Images via the Michigan Capitol Commission

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#### MICHIGAN The Building Tradesman ISSN-007-3717 BUILDING AND

is the Official Publication of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council Patrick Devlin Steve Claywell Secretary-Treasurer President Visit our website: www.michiganbuildingtrades.org

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#### THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 4

May 21, 2021



SPANNING THE KALAMAZOO RIVER about eight miles east of Saugatuck, the Richmond Swing Bridge, originally constructed in 1879, may be the oldest surviving highway swing bridge in the U.S. The bridge hasn't swung open to river traffic in nearly a century, but when it did, an 89-foot center span pivoted on the 20-foot diamter central cylindrical caisson, visible at left. Photo credit: Travel the Mitten

Swinging bridges that are still in use in Michigan and the rest of the United States are rare. Rarer still is any bridge that 's still in service, using structural iron that easily pre-dates more modern metal that would likelier be expected to enjoy such longevity.

Permit us to introduce you to one such example: the New **Richmond Swing Bridge in** Manlius Twp, in Allegan County, aka the 57th Street Bridge. Completed in 1879 over the Kalamazoo River, the bridge has quietly and dependably served generations of travelers – and the fact that it's still in service, at least for pedestrians, is absolutely remarkable.

"This nationally significant bridge is one of the top historic bridges in Michigan," says Historic Bridges. "Multi-span pony truss bridges are uncommon, and this four-span structure is the longest remaining pony truss in Michigan. Pin-connected Warren truss bridges like this bridge are very rare both in Michigan and nationwide.

"The 1879 construction date makes this one of the oldest truss bridges in Michigan. Additionally, pre-1880 metal bridges are extremely rare nationwide. Each surviving example should be considered to have a high level of historic significance due to their rarity and also the fact that bridges from this period show a lack of standardization and reveal the early de-



ONLY 12 FEET WIDE, the bridge is closed to vehicular traffic, but pedestrians can cross. center section of the bridge balanced on top. The arrangement allows a bridge operator to swing the span open, parallel to the river, to allow river traffic passage.

The National Register application said the bridge's 89-footlong center span sits atop a 20foot diameter caisson positioned in the Kalamazoo River below the span's midpoint.

"The steel-encased caisson has a rubble stone and concrete/ earth filling," the application says. "A vertical post serving as a pivot point rises from the center of the caisson, and beams extend outward from it to connect with a massive ring which rotated atop eight equally spaced rollers, which support large circle segment beams at each end of the swing span and facilitate turning the span. A system of gears operated by a bridge tender from a position atop the large midpoint caisson, allowed movement of the bridge with just a push. The gear-

Photo credit: Bridgehunter/C. Hanchey ter that, New Richmond probably had little need for a swing bridge," the application said.

According to the text on the Michigan historical marker at the site: "this 422-foot bridge is one of Michigan's longest pony truss highway bridges and among the oldest surviving swing bridges in the United States. The Milwaukee Bridge and Iron Co. fabricated the \$5,000 structure which has four primary and eight short approach spans, to serve traffic on 57th Street near New Richmond. Of the four primary Warren pony truss spans, three date from 1879 (including an 89-foot long swing span) and one from 1899."

According to Historic Bridges, the New Richmond span's "early date of construction is evident in the unusual design of the built-up members and chords on the bridge, which are unlike the standards found in most truss bridges of the 1880s and 1890s." And perhaps only metallurgists or some of our old-time iron workers might appreciate that the span is unusual in that it has corrugated, or ribbon lacing, and outriggers of star iron, a unique type of rolled structure iron that was common in the 1870s but not after. "It is constructed in the lightweight style similar to the 10 Mile Road Bridge (in the U.P.'s Chippewa County) a design of which few remaining examples exist," Historic Bridges said. "With an 1899 construction date, this pony truss replacement is also historically significant as an early example of a highway truss using riveted connections. It may be the earliest highway example in Michigan." The group added that "the last noteworthy repair of this bridge for highway traffic was in 1980. In 2005, this bridge was restored for pedestrian use only, representing an excellent success story for Michigan and historic bridges in general." Today the bridge is the centerpiece of New Richmond Bridge Park. The State of Michigan says the area features a boat launch and parking lot on the north side of the bridge, and a boardwalk and trail. It's also a popular fishing site.

# **New RTW study re-states** the law's lack of benefits

(Continued from Page 1)

politicians in Michigan (where Republicans control both chambers of the Legislature), and Virginia (where Democrats are in charge but face opposition from the conservative wing of their caucus), are pushing to repeal the RTW laws and return their states to what the study refers to as "free collective bargaining" status.

Right-to-work laws allow a worker to enjoy the benefits of a union, without paying dues, which inevitably erodes union strength.

"A growing number of leaders in both parties have recognized that 'right-to-work' laws fail to deliver any broad-based economic or social benefits," said study co-author Frank Manzo, director of policy of the Illinois Economic Policy Institute. "Indeed, the data shows that shrinking the voices of workers only serves to suppress growth and eliminate access to good, familysustaining jobs at a time when our nation is in dire need of both.'

Prospects for actual repeal this year are dim in both states, but legislation has been introduced, and supporters of repeal are pointing to many of the statistics cited in the Illinois EPI report.

According to the analysis, right-to-work states have 3 percent lower hourly wages on average, 5 percent less health insurance coverage and 8 percent less retirement security. For construction workers, the pay penalty rises to 11 percent. On average, union households earn between 10-20 percent more than nonunion households - an income premium that has been consistent since the 1930s.

Free collective-bargaining states also provide more investment in education and worker training, fewer on-the-job fatalities and faster-growing economies. Among the report's findings was that right-to-work states have 31 percent fewer registered



and beef up enforcement, Shuler said.

and 50 percent more on-the-job fatalities. Apprenticeships also grew faster in union-friendly states, providing more avenues to the middle class.

Right-to-work laws may also be hampering efforts to recover from the coronavirus. States with such laws effectively lower the bar in terms of providing livable wages and adequate health coverage, not to mention safe workplaces - all factors in a state's ability to combat the deadly virus that has claimed more than half a million U.S. lives.

"As we seek out ways to value and support the front-line workers who are keeping our communities going during these historically challenging times, there is ample evidence to suggest that right-to-work laws are having the opposite effect," said study co-author, PMCR Director and University of Illinois Professor Dr. Robert Bruno.

For those who claim that limiting collective bargaining is good for business, a state's rightto-work status didn't even crack the top 10 reasons that businesses cited as reasons to relocate. Such factors, the study authors noted, are primarily driven by other considerations like infrastructure accessibility, the availability of skilled labor and quality-of-life factors.

During a February virtual town hall, anti-union Gov. Jim Justice (R-West Virginia) put a finer point on the effectiveness of anti-union laws, admitting that right-to-work and a repeal of the state's prevailing wage have done nothing to boost his state's economy

"Well, the bottom line to the whole thing is just really simple. We went out and passed a rightto-work law, we got rid of prevailing wage, we built fields all over the place thinking that they will come. They didn't come, did they?" Justice said, referring to the promised employers and jobs

apprentices per 100,000 workers that would be lured to the state if lawmakers betrayed its working people.

West Virginia passed rightto-work in 2016. The law was challenged in court, but ultimately upheld by the state's Supreme Court. The state repealed its prevailing wage law the same year.

"When you starve unions, you starve the working class and it hurts us all," the IBEW's Stephenson said. "Whether it's wages that keep you from needing government assistance to make ends meet, or who gets elected - and who gets to vote for them – right-to-work laws have consistently been on the losing side where working families are concerned."

# Ulterior factors restrain growth

(Continued from Page 1)

price increases for materials continue to give analysts pause on declaring 2021 a likely boom year for U.S. construction.

"April's data highlights the nascent recovery underway in institutional building," Dodge said. "However, given the average length of time between planning and project start, this rise will likely not impact construction starts until late 2021 or early 2022.

While construction starts are one area of industry analysis, actual spending and hiring are of much more immediate interest. The latest figures from Bureau of Labor Statistics, released May 3, show that that nonresidential construction spending fell to a two-year low in March "as contractors struggled with slumping demand for most project types and growing shortages of materials, transport, and workers," said the Associated General Contractors.

That lack of growth, the AGC reported on May 7, led to U.S. construction employment being unchanged from March to April, "as nonresidential contractors and homebuilders alike struggled to obtain materials and

velopment of metal bridge construction in the country."

According to the application made to the National Register for *Historic Places* – upon which the bridge earned a listing: "The bridge's chief importance... is that it is one of the oldest – if not the oldest-surviving highway swing bridges in the United States."

Where it flows under the bridge about eight miles east of Saugatuck, the Kalamazoo River today is no longer the same conduit for commercial boats and barges from Lake Michigan as when the span was first erected. In fact, the bridge hasn't swung to let a boat through since about 1925, when railways and concrete roads permanently supplanted the waterway as a conduit for moving goods.

Throughout history, swing bridges were one of three major designs that allowed river craft to move past low-hanging spans. One is a drawbridge, with a single section or split dual sections of a road lifted to allow the movement of boat traffic. Another is the lift bridge, which has towers on either side of a riverbank, supporting a system that raises the entire roadway to allow boats to pass underneath.

Swing bridges, like the New Richmond span, utilize a central

ing remains in place, but the bridge was welded in the closed position in 1979."

The National Register application said the 1879 bridge was a replacement for two troublesome wooden bridges built in previous decades at the site, the second of which collapsed. Even with the failures of the first wooden bridges, there was significant local opposition to an iron bridge because of the higher costs involved. There was still a significant amount of timber used in the approach spans to reduce costs.

The 20-year-old bridge was already in need of repair by 1899, and the work, including the installation of some new iron, was preformed by the Saginaw Bridge Co. Other original timber structures underneath have been replaced over the years.

The National Register application said the bridge was constructed at a time when the lower stretch of the Kalamazoo River was considered navigable for light-draft commercial traffic. Shipping on the river declined after 1871 when the railroad was completed, but small steamers carrying passengers, freight and fruit, continued to operated between Saugatuck and New Richmond as late as 1916. "Af-



THE RICHMOND SWING BRIDGE in 1915. Historic Bridges noted that when the bridge was refurbished in 2005, it was dismantled "and the parts were repaired off-site before being returned to the site for reassembly. The bridge was restored in-kind and rivets were replaced with rivets, something that should be done automatically, however many states replace rivets with bolts, so this practice is worth mentioning." **Photo credit: Fennville Memories** 

Left unsaid: The 50-50 Senate gives anti-worker Republicans enough votes to filibuster the law labor is pushing, the Protect American Workers Act, to death.

The report itself reiterates that hope. "Fifty years after the passage of the nation's job safety laws," it says, "the toll of workplace injury, illness and death remains too high, and too many workers remain at serious risk. There is much more work to be done.'

Opposition also hamstrung even collecting accurate and upto-date job safety and health figures. Thus, both OSHA's and the federation's figures are a year or more behind. That means the agency understates the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

OSHA outbreaks were not counted by state, except for nursing homes, prisons and meatpackers and allied occupations. And the AFL-CIO gathered those.

Other report details included:

•The most dangerous states for workers were Alaska (14.1 deaths per 100,000 workers), Wyoming (12/100,000), North Dakota (9.7/100,000), Montana (7.8/100,000) and West Virginia (6.4/ 100,000).

Michigan ranked No. 22 among the states in the rate of workplace fatalities, 3.6/100,000 workers. Our state experienced 164 workplace fatalities in 2019.

•The nation's most dangerous occupations were agriculture, forestry, and fishing and hunting (23.1 deaths per 100,000 workers), mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (14.6/100,000), transportation and warehousing (13.9/100,000 workers), construction (9.7/100,000) and wholesale trade (4.9/100,000).

·Agriculture and related occupations annually lead all occupations in death rates, figures in prior reports show. This report notes death rates fell - in some cases drastically - in the other most dangerous job categories, but they've barely budged in agriculture and related occupations. The death rate there 30 years ago was 24/100,000 workers.

•While the report did not say so, more so-called "right to work" states – including three of the five worst – had higher death rates for workers. The bottom 10 included Wyoming (49th from the top), North Dakota (48<sup>th</sup>) and West Virginia (46<sup>th</sup>). Other RTW states, with 50th being worst: Louisiana (44), Kansas (43) and Mississippi (41).

OSHA doesn't cover the self-employed, meaning independent contractors, and their elevated fatality rate - 13.2 per 100,000 - shows it. In 2019, 1,098 such workers died on the job, one-fifth of all deaths. Wage and salary workers had a 2.9/ 100,000 death rate.

## Just joking

hiker on the side of the road.

been a serial killer."

The driver responded, "Oh, please! The chance of two serial killers being in the same car is astronomical!"

A jewel thief enters a

A man picks up a hitch- house mid-afternoon. He ties up the woman and at gunpoint orders the man to hand over all the jewelry and money

The man started sobbing and said, "You can take anything you want! You can even pistol whip me, but please untie the rope and free her!" Thief: "You must really

love your wife!" Man: "No, but she's going to be home any minute now!"

find enough workers.

Construction's lack of job growth last month helped bog down job growth in the overall U.S., which saw an anemic growth of only 266,000 jobs about a quarter of what analysts anticipated.

'Contractors are experiencing unprecedented intensity and range of cost increases, supplychain disruptions, and worker shortages that have kept firms from increasing their workforces," said Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist. "These challenges will make it difficult for contractors to rebound as the pandemic appears to wane."

U.S. construction employment in April totaled 7,452,000, matching the March total but amounting to 196,000 employees or 2.6 percent below the most recent, pre-COVID peak in February 2020. Still, the construction sector's unemployment rate fell from 16.6 percent in April 2020 to 7.7 percent last month.

But there's a major split between homebuilding and the nonresidential sector. Residential construction firms - contractors working on new housing, additions, and remodeling - gained only 3,000 employees from March to April but have added 46,000 workers or 1.6 percent over 14 months. The nonresidential sector - comprising union-heavy nonresidential building, specialty trades, and heavy and civil engineering contractors - shed 3,000 jobs in April and employed 242,000 fewer workers, or 5.2 percent less than in February 2020.

'The fact that employment has stalled - despite strong demand for new homes, remodeling of all types, and selected categories of nonresidential projectssuggests that contractors can't get either the materials or the workers they need," Simonson said. The economist noted that many firms report key materials are backlogged or rationed, while others report they are having a hard time getting former workers to return to work. He added these factors are contributing to rising costs for many contractors.

The hitchhiker says, "I'm surprised you picked me up. I could've



#### Local 80 **Sheet Metal Workers**

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 80** 

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

\*\*REMINDER\*\* Meetings are no longer held at the Plumbers Hall and are now held at Local 80's Union Hall.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2021 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. \*There will be a vote for Building Trades wage allocation at this meeting.\*

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 15, at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2nd Floor, Southfield

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

**RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE:** The June 21, 2021 meeting is CANCELLED. We will be going month to month



for 2021. Please keep an eye on the paper for an updated schedule. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593.

**PENSION CREDIT UPDATE: Starting** June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 the pension credit will be \$150

PICNIC: Unfortunately due to COVID this year's picnic is cancelled. We hope to be able to resume next year.

TIM

SUB CHANGES: As of May 1, 2021 the MULLIGAN sub fund has been raised to \$250 per credit for

building trades journeyman. Bereavement & Jury Duty is now \$500 but you must be off 2 days.

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.

SERVICE & RESIDENTIAL WAGE ALLOCATION: There will be a vote for service & residential wage allocation at the union hall on May 27. Service will be at 4:30 pm & residential will be at 5 pm.

GOLF OUTING: SOLD OUT !!! Tickets are now available for members only until May 17th! Please join us on July 17 at Cracklewood Golf Club in Macomb Twp. Tickets can be reserved at a cost of \$90 a ticket for members and \$125 a ticket for non-members. Your ticket will include coffee, donuts & danishes, a bloody mary bar, lunch at the turn, open bar up until 1 hour after golf, beer & pop available on the course and a wonderful steak dinner (subject to change due to covid restrictions & CDC guidelines). Please contact the hall with any questions you may have or to reserve your ticket!

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES AYEAR IN ADVANCE: David Yelencich II, Richard W. Donovan, Martin Freiman, Tim Willis, Timothy Koester, Joshua Bernheisel, Ray Osborne II and Timothy Durucher.

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

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

ADDRESS CHANGES: If you have a new address please make



#### Local 292 Sheet Metal Workers

#### **Sheet Metal Workers Local 292**

TROY-MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021.

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

The E-Board/Stewards meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

\*\*Per the CDC guidelines, masks must be worn and social distancing must be followed during all meetings.

HOLIDAY HOURS: In observance of Memorial Day, the Local 292 Union Hall will be closed Monday, May 31, 2021. Have a safe and happy weekend!

2021 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: At this time, Local 292 is planning to have our annual charity golf outing. The outing will be held at Fox Hills in Plymouth on Sunday, August 22, 2021.

Mark the date on your calendar. More details will

#### NEW PRESCRIPTION CHANGES: The

Board of Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local 292 Health Fund (the Fund) is introducing a new prescription drug benefits program effective January 1, 2021. The new program will be administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (replacing EnvisionRx). Since Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michi-

PAUL gan already administers our Simply Blue PPO Medi-GUALDONI cal Plan, your medical and prescription drugs will

be integrated and coordinated, which should make it easier for you and lead to better care. The new card will be used for both medical and prescription drug coverage.

You should have already received your new Blue Cross cards in the mail. If you have not received the new cards, please contact BeneSys immediately to request one. You can also download the Blue Cross Blue Shield app (BCBSM) to any smart phone. The app provides tools and features to help you access information pertinent to your account.

These changes are for active members and pre-65 retired members only.

**RETIREES NOTICE:** Due to Covid-19 and restrictions placed for social gatherings, as well as the health and safety of our retirees and their families, the retiree's luncheons have been cancelled until further notice. We will notify when luncheons will resume. Stay healthy and safe.

Please contact Fred Engelman at fred e1@yahoo.com if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

**CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL:** The Constitution and Ritual of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact Laura or Lee Ann at the Union Hall.

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

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





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THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

**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, June 10, 2021 at 6 p.m. \*Zone 1- July 8th -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 –July 20th -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- (Saginaw) July 7th -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3- (Traverse City) June 17th - 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 4- July 13th - 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 –June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6:00 p.m.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2021. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are hav-

SAM

ing issues registering.

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

FULLER

ZONE 1 Info: Condolences to the family and friends of Boyd Tyler who recently passed away.

Please remember to inform James or Eric of your employment status in the case of a layoff. Apprentices please remember to also inform Kevin at the Zone 1 Training Center of your employment status.

If you are experiencing any problems with unemployment, please contact your Business Agent for additional assistance. Any Journeyperson interested in up-grade classes, please contact Kevin at the Training Center (269) 781-7183. Please note that class availability depends on the level of interest. In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 is picking up, let me know if your work status changes or your looking for a job if you been off. Next meeting is July 20, 2021 in the Grand Rapids hall 6pm at this time. The hall is up for sale by the owner and we may be moving before then, will let you know if this changes our meeting Location. Thanks Dave

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Saginaw) Work in Zone 3 is steady, most of the members are working and looks like we will have a lot of school work this year. If any members need OSHA 30 or need to get welding certs contact me and we can make arrangements to get it done. The next retiree meeting will be June 22 at 12:30 at the Ponderosa in Bay City.

Also, a reminder on June 5th there is a fundraiser for Bob Vargas's 6 yr. old daughter who recently had a heart transplant. You can get more information on Facebook at #TrinityStrong or contact me for details on how to help. Our elections are coming up June 18 & 19 so get out and vote it's your right. Everyone have a great summer. Thank you, Wayne Stover

**ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City)** I would like to congratulate the Membership of Zone 3 on ratifying a new agreement! It would not of been possible without the membership standing together strong! Work outlook for this summer looks great. We will be reaching out to other areas first when additional manpower is needed then working on weakening our non union competition. The next Traverse City Retirement Breakfast will be Friday June 4th at Willies Restaurant. Thank You, Travis Eastman

**ZONE 4 Info** Work in zone 4 is steady with only a few members off. With summer around the corner work is going to be great, lots of projects and a ton of school work to do. Please stay safe on the job and at home covid has changed how we all do things, but we will get through it. Stay strong brothers and sisters! Your Brother, Larry Kinzie

ZONE 5 Info Congratulations to James Wheeler and Micah Johnson on passing their final exam and will be Journeymen June 1, 2021. Work in the area is steadily picking up and looks to be a very busy summer. Everyone should have received the special call notice for disbursements Saturday May 22, 2021 at 10am EST. Respectfully



May 21, 2021

sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well, that is not done through the hall.

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

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

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

LAYOFFS: 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 bi-annually: March 1 through March 20 and September 1 through September 20. If you fail to re-register you will be removed from the list.

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

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

your Benny Card may be suspended until all requested documentation has been received. If you have any questions, contact BeneSys at 248.641.4992 or the Union Hall.

DUES: Membership dues are required to be paid in advance of the month for which they are due. The union hall is not open on Saturday or Sunday, therefore, if you pay dues on either of those days, it will not be processed until Monday. If you are on suspension warning, your dues are 60 days late. To avoid suspension, dues must be paid online or at the union hall by 4:00 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).

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

OUT OF WORK: If you become laid off, you Must complete an Out of Work List Registration /SUB form. SUB forms are available at the Union Hall and also through all shop stewards. This is the only way your name will be added to the Out of Work List.

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

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

NOTARY PUBLIC: For your convenience, we now have a Notary Public on site at the union hall. Notary services are free of charge to our members.

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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class May 22.

These classes would be for members that are ready to try and obtain an AWS welding certification, learn how to weld, or just need to practice welding.

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

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

### Local 80 cont'd

#### the contractor you are working for.

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

#### SAVE THE DATE:

Building Trades Wage Allocation: May 25, 2021 5:30 pm Service Wage Allocation: May 27, 2021 4:30 pm Residential Wage Allocation: May 27, 2021 5:00 pm Local 80 Golf Outing: July 17, 2021 Local 80 Picnic: August 7, 2021 \*Cancelled\*

#### **Greg Faust**

SASMI Information - Zone 3 and 5: Underemployment - Filing for period 2020-B is from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Eligible members who worked less than 750 hours from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 may receive an underemployment benefit. Health and welfare benefits paid on your behalf will be deducted from your benefit. NOTE: Members who received an Emergency Advance Benefit must file for Underemployment to receive the remainder of that benefit for the stabilization period.

In addition, you must provide copies of all W-2 forms for the entire year of 2020.

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

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

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

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

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

#### Local 7 Officers:

Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer) 517-882-4064

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223 James Callahan (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-342-8842 David Rutz (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-458-2313 Wayne Stover (Saginaw) 989-692-0002

Travis Eastman (Traverse City) 231-943-5150

Larry Kinzie (Agent-Flint)

810-785-6831

Greg Faust (Agent-Upper Peninsula): 906-372-9288

"There is nothing stronger in the world than gentleness. -Han Suyin



#### Doogies hats

WE MAKE THE BEST FITTING, LONGEST LASTING UNION MADE CAPS FOR THE HARD WORKING MEN AND WOMEN IN ALL BUILDING TRADES! WWW.DOOGIESHATS.COM UNION MADE IN THE USA 3655 N. MERIDIAN RD. SANFORD, MICHIGAN 48657 USE COUPON CODE: MTBT2020 TO GET AN EXTRA DISCOUNT!



IBEW Local 692's column – See Page 8



# IBEW Local 445

#### IBEW Local 445

BATTLE CREEK – **Initial Sign and Daybook**: Effective June 1, 2021, with the suspension of the NDERA, normal initial sign to Book 2, dings and the Daybook procedures will return to normal business as usual. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Hall.

**Reminder:** You can pay cash, check, money order or credit/debit card for dues. For those that have scheduled payments, please verify with your bank that you are sending in the correct amount.

**Building Committee**: The Hall is looking for Members that are interested in being on the new Building Committee. You can be an Apprentice or JIW to be on the Committee. Please submit your interest in writing to info@ibew445.com.

The **Annual IBEW 445 Picnic** is scheduled for June 26, 2021. The venue has been changed this year to C.O. Brown Field for a Battle Creek Bombers game. There will be fun, games and food before the game. Watch your mailbox for a postcard with the information.

The **Night at the Ballpark Outing** has been scheduled for July 31, 2021. Please watch your mailbox for additional information.

The **Annual IBEW 445 Golf Outing** is scheduled for July 17, 2021. If you would like to play or volunteer, please contact the Hall for additional information.

The **General Membership Meeting** is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall. Please make sure to wear your masks.

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

**PLEASE HELP!!** – The Hall is asking for each member to verify their address, phone number and email address that we have on file. We are looking into a texting and email service, and if you would like to be included in those correspondences, we need your current information. Thank you!

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



IBEW Local 131

KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership** meeting is scheduled for June 7th at 6 p.m.. The next **Executive Board** meeting will be held on June 21st at 5 p.m.

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

All Book 2 signings shall be done by fax or email from the member's home local.

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

We are continuing to fill a large number of calls for "Project Bronco" at Graphic Packaging International for Van Ert Electric.

The LMCC has launched a new website www. poweringkalamazoo.com. This website will be used to highlight local signatory contractors and used as an organizing tool. Follow us on Facebook @poweringkalamazoo, Twitter @PoweringKzoo, Instagram @poweringkalamazoo, and LinkedIn @poweringkalamazoo. Please



AT WORK ON A 3,500-AMP distribution panel at the Beaumont Outpatient Lenox campus is Doug Herbert of IBEW Local 58. He's employed by Centerline Electric.

#### IBEW 58

DETROIT - Information regarding the next General Membership Meeting. Current guidelines and restrictions are preventing a May 18, 2021 meeting. We are hoping for a relaxation. Unfortunately, we are facing a "last minute" decision as to whether or not to hold an in-person meeting. Should restrictions relax allowing us to have an outside meeting then we would have a Special Order of Business at our regular membership meeting on May 18, 2021 at 6:30 pm for Nomination of Officers for Local Union No. 58. Nomination of Officers and Delegates are being currently accepted through USPS or Email election.judge@ibew local58.org

**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

VACATION FUND: Disbursement from the Vacation Fund is anticipated to be transferred to your PNC Bank Stored Value Card or if you elected, direct deposited into your checking or savings accounts, on or around May 25, 2021. Please check the listed contributions from your employers with your pay records for accuracy. A list of contributions may be obtained from the Benefit Office Website, www.ewjbt.org by logging into your personal information and clicking My Benefits then Vacation Benefits. If you require a paper statement, please contact the Benefit Office for a printout. If there is an error, contact the Benefit Office at (586) 575-9200 ext. 212.

# **IBEW LOCAL 58**





bait and tackle shop. Special thanks to Chris Wroblewski the owner of Anglers Point. Please check out his bait and tackle shop located in New Baltimore next to the Selfridge public access site for all your fishing needs.

The Jerry Gaudi Memorial Golf Outing will be Friday, June 4, 2021, at the Glenhurst Golf Course in Redford, Michigan. This will be the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Gaudi Open. The Entry Fee is \$75 per ticket, which includes cart, golf, prizes, & lunch (at the turn). Everyone is welcome and bring a friend. Limited to 120 golfers due to Covid restrictions. Arrive by 8:00 AM, Golf starts at 9:00 AM.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$100 and raffle tickets are available for a Cooler of Cheer and an IBEW golf bag with accessories. If interested in hole sponsorship, raffle tickets or donations please contact Michael Bellhorn 586-612-5964 or Jim Peltier 586-610-1154. Thanks again for all your support.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 8, 2021 at 5:30 PM. The Wobbly Kitchen is up and running again and we are assisting them every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday with food prep and distribution at Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8:00 am to help with the Wobbly Kitchen program. To get involved with future community service projects contact Mike Conflitti or Rob Z at the union hall. 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 for further information to volunteer or participate.

Bradshaw (313-408-1287). PAC contributions can be made through the APP, and at the Union Hall. You can contribute more than the \$4 that is suggested on your quarterly dues, but you cannot exceed \$175.00 per calendar year. The loss of our deduction cut our resources in half, and we would like to assist local candidates and our members looking to run for office.

Local 58's Women's Softball team, The Live Wires will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary this year and welcomes new players. Season begins April 26<sup>th</sup>. We play single recreational games, USA Softball rules, Monday nights at Claude Allison Park in Redford on Beech Daly Rd. All skill levels welcome to join the camaraderie and solidarity. If you or someone you know would like more info, please contact Grace Trudell at 313-244-2268.

Local 58's Women's Committee- Our next regular meeting is Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 6pm on Zoom. Please watch for emails with further updates and hopefully we will be meeting in person soon. ARC Scholarship and Awards are back for 2021! Scholarship applications and award nomination forms are available under the Women's Committee tab on the app/website. Scholarship applications and nominations have been extended! The new date is May 27th. ARC Awards dinner is being planned for July 17th. Bids are still opened for catering, music/entertainment, photography, tent rental. If you or someone you know offers these services and would be interested in participating in this event, please contact the women's committee. You can Email us at: 58Womenscommittee @ibewlocal58.org, or call committee chairs Angela Panicucci (586) 291-8014 or Kayla Pauli with any questions. Follow us on Instagram @ibewomen58; Check us out on Facebook Local 58 Women's Committee. Local 58 Senior Softball Team – We now have a senior 55 and over team. Games are played Monday and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am or 12:00 pm in Shelby twp.at two locations. Main diamonds at Ford field on 23 mile rd. west of Van Dyke and second at Mae Stecker park on 24 mile rd. east of Van Dyke. Those who can come on out to cheer on your team. You may get a laugh or two and say I can do that. First game is at Ford field May 10th 10:00 am diamond # 5. If you would like more info, please contact Gerry Cassani at 586-804-8026 or Joe Schraufnagel at 586-255-1205. Remaining schedule will be soon to follow.

**IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association:** Spring is upon us, and we can now look forward to mowing lawns, gardening, walking, biking and other warm weather coming activities. The Retirees Association continues its suspension of our events. We expect to return to a normal schedule sometime before the end of this year. We are still guardedly hopeful that a Christmas Party in early December will take place.

Any news on returning to social gathering will be shared in this column and in our monthly newsletter. Just a reminder, if you haven't paid your 2021 dues, \$8 per year, per person, please send a check payable to the "Retirees Association," to Ray Owen, 428 Welch Road, Northville, 48167.

Let's continue to check on each other, via phone calls, texts or emails. We are all looking forward to seeing one another in person very soon!

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

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members

feel free to share the wage calculator feature of this site.

If you believe we do not have your email address or correct cell phone number, please email Christine at cbohms@ibew131.com

**Dues pricing -** The price for dues in 2021 is \$40/month. If you're unsure about your balance, please call the Hall for the exact amount or email Christine. If your dues ticket reads paid through May 2021, your dues are not current; please contact the Hall.

We have finalized our automated dues reminders; these reminders will be sent ahead of possible late dues. You may receive a message via text or email if you have not tendered your most current I.O. Dues payments. Dues payments can also be made online; to log in, use your Last Name and Card Number.

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

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

Retirements: Congratulations to the following retiring members: Adrian DiVisser, July 2020. Michael Chaddock, May 2020. John Magnan Jr., May 2020. Robert S. Davis, June 2020. Roger Clark, March 2020. Patrick Klocke, May 2020. Keith Moore, April 2020. William Slater, July 2020. Thomas Vrobel, August 2020. Peter Spreitzer, August 2017. Joe Haskins, May 2021.

**Condolences:** Brother James Stewart passed on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Brother Gary Yack passed on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Brother Wes Smith passed on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Brother Adam Russell passed on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Brother James Wynn, passed on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Brother Wenford Abbs March, 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

All Memorials (members and members families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the Memorials Tab.

FROMTHEAPPRENTICESHIP: Journeyman Upgrade Classes: Fall 2020-Winter 2021 6. Foreman Training W March 10 to May 12, 2021 7. CPR S March 13, 2021 8. CPR S April 10, 2021 \*\*Code Update Classes: it is now required for Journeyman to

pay in advance to hold your spot in the Code Update Class. We require 48 hours' notice for cancelations if you need to reschedule for another available Code Update Course.\*\*

Please visit our website www.kalamazoojatc.com or stop in to sign up for the Code Update Class. September 3, 2020. Call Nicole at 269-388-4434 with any questions.

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

**Negotiations:** The Local Union has ratified our contract for the upcoming cycle, along with important language changes, the local has received total package increases of 3.5%, 3%, 3% over the next three years. Thanks to our Negotiation Committee for all their hard work, Brother Scott Mueller, Brother Tim Haydon, Brother Randy Williams, Sister Kari Collison, and Brother Scott Bryer.

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

"United we Bargain; divided we beg" Brian O'Donnell Business Manager/Financial Secretary ATTENTION - TO UPDATE BANKING INFORMATION THE FUND OFFICE MUST RECEIVE CHANGES BY April 30, 2021. You may check your Stored Value utilization history by logging on to www.pncpaycard.com and by entering your 16-digit card number listed on the front of the card and the last four digits of your Social Security Number, also referred to as your Account Access Code (or AAC for short). Customer Service can be reached by telephone at (866) 453-5071.

Local 58 Dues Information: Dues should be paid by the first day of the quarter. You can pay your dues with an APP. Go to Apple/Google Play and download the IBEW 58 APP. In the APP go to My Profile, My Member Tools, Pay Dues. Please follow all instructions. You can also pay by phone with credit/debit or mail a check/money order.

Local 58 Motorcycle Club: For more information contact Anthony Anderanin at aanderanin@gmail.com or Grace Trudell 313-244-2268 for more info.

Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund: The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, June 1, 2021 5:00 pm.

Local #58 Benevolent Fund would like to thank everyone who participated and helped out at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Walleye Tournament on Saturday, May 1, 2021. We had a great turnout with 16 boats and over 50 fishermen. It was great to see everyone and we hope for an even better turnout next year. Glitter Sparkles was the winning boat with their fish weighing in at 23.02 lbs. They also had the Big Fish that weighed 6.82 lbs. The fishermen on the boat were Matt Decker, Caleb Brewer and Tom Duplanty.

The second-place boat was Charb and their fish weighed 17.77 lbs. Nate, Mike and Andrew Charbonneau were the fishermen on that boat. Sister Heather Brugioni out of Local #141 was the winner of the raffle which consisted of a Made in USA Igloo Polar 120 cooler, \$50 gift card to Cabela's and a custom rod and reel donated by Anglers Point Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Wednesday, June 8, 2021, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 pm.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI** – The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 21, 2021 at 6pm. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. What can we safely participate in that continues to promote the IBEW in the community? We are collecting for our Toiletry and Sock Drive to benefit the Detroit Public Schools Community District Office of Homeless and Foster Care. New and unused toiletries and socks can be placed in the collection container at Local 58 anytime during regular business hours.

Thank you to those who continue to attend our Zoom meetings as we navigate through these difficult times. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please continue to stay safe at work, home, and in the community. #ibewstrong

**The RENEW Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

**The Safety Committee meeting** will be on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

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

**The Political Action Committee (PAC)** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month Via Zoom. To be added to our email list please contact Jeannette who have been placed on International Pension: Jeffrey L. Collins, Robert E. Hendricks III, Daniel P. Jackson, Donald J. Nichols, John Palma, Julian J. Scorzelli, Walter T. Siebenrock, and Marc F. Watson.

Members that have Passed Away- Mary Allgeyer, widow of the late pension member Bernard Allgever; Robert T. Bogues, Journeyman Inside Wireman; Patrick Cosgrove, Technician I: Garv Culicerto, pension member, 49 year IBEW membership; Leon Malfait, pension member, 54 year IBEW membership; Willard Noricks, pension member, 50 year IBEW membership; Alyssa O'Harra, Sister to Technician I Angela Panicucci, George Roman, pension member, 56 year IBEW membership; Catherine Seffens, Wife to JIW Michael Seffens. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.





#### IBEW LOCAL 948

**IBEW Local 948** 

FLINT – Our June Union Meeting will be held at a place to be determined Monday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Our May Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, May 24th, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

The Retiree Club Meetings are still cancelled until further notice. Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. www.local948.com.

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

2021 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month

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

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

-Gregory Remington, Business Manager

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



BEW Local 557

SAGINAW – Union News: Local 557 would like to thank our Labor Council delegates for attending the Clean Up Saginaw community event. This was put on by the mayor and brought a variety of volunteer groups to clean the streets and neighborhoods surrounding City Hall. The Saginaw Police and city workers were there to help and their efforts deserve many thanks. House Bill No. 4125 regarding cleaning up out-of-date electrical license language, is still in committee and awaiting further discussion. By the end of May, The Apprenticeship Board will have chosen a new class with start-to-work date around June. Thank you to all our members who are involved in this process. We know it takes a lot of time, and our local couldn't continue to thrive without your hard work.

The following policies are in effect to keep our members, their families, and the union hall staff as safe as possible:

-The Union Hall is OPEN. Please limit trips to the Hall for critical business through utilization of the glass service window.

-When visiting the Union Hall, you must wear a mask and stay socially distanced.

- Please continue to take care of as much business as possible via email, phone, or fax when you can.

-Please try to take care of your quarterly dues payments by utilizing a credit or debit card over the phone. E-checks are also available.

-Apprentices should continue to monitor emails and correspondence from the school regarding upcoming class schedules. **Please make sure you are up-to-date on all work reports and book payments.** You can send book reports via email, fax, or drop them off at the hall.

-Stop by the hall and purchase your short or long sleeve 557 shirt. Represent your local with pride wherever you go.

Keep in mind, all of these decisions have been made to keep members and their families safe.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS- Our May 4th meeting was focused on wage allocation. The members were presented with three different options. The body voted to divide the \$1.57 between on the check, the annuity and health care. The new JIW hourly rate being \$35.00. Please make sure this change is reflected on your paychecks issued the week of June 7th. Thank you again to our negotiations team. Eboard will meet on Tuesday May 18th. MICHIGAN INITIATIVE- Michigan Initiative Organizer Gus Voisine will begin working with our local. Brother Gus is a member from our Sister Local to the north of us, 692. We welcome Gus to this exciting and demanding position. If our members have any questions or work tips they can reach out to him on his cell: 989-941-8046. Also, Local 665 member Cameron Haynes will be coming aboard around June 1<sup>st</sup> to help with organizing efforts in Saginaw and around the State. Organizing is the life blood of the IBEW and the future is bright with two new, hard-working and motivated Brothers. UNION HALL OPERATIONS- The Union Hall is open. Please limit visits to the Hall for critical business if possible. We ask that if business can be taken care of with phone calls, emails, or a fax that you please do so. Otherwise, the glass service window in the front of the building should be utilized as much as possible to keep everyone as safe as possible. Thank you to our membership for their understanding and patience. BOOK SIGNING- Out of work lists can be signed for other Locals through fax or email. This is to continue to cut down on as many in-person transactions as possible. Contact your home local and request a correspondence to be sent to the Local you are interested in signing. WORK OUTLOOK- There have been some setbacks to the Caro Mental Health facility due to permit issues. Mary Free Bed continues to have manpower issues on the electrical side. They have temporarily switched to 10 hour shifts for the next month or so to try and catch up. We hope to see them hire more JIW's soon. The Meridian Wind Farm hired and will continue to hire in the upcoming weeks. The new Youth Center Tennis courts have started and we await hiring. HEALTH CARE-The Michigan Electrical Employee's Health Plan continues to cover 100% of the costs related to testing for COVID-19. During this pandemic, remote care is encouraged and Blue Cross members can call the 24-Hour Nurse Line at 800-117-BLUE. You may also want to inquire if your primary care provider offers telemedicine. The Health plan continues to meet regularly via teleconferences to stay on top of the pandemic and update coverage as necessary. Don't forget to schedule your annual physical with your doctor. By completing your annual physical, you could catch a health concern early and also help keep the cost of health care down. Registering on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield website is highly recommended. Please take the time to visit www.bcbsm.com. Upon registering you can take the Free Health Assessment test and find instant results that can lead to living a healthy lifestyle. BLUE CROSS APP-Download the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan app for your smartphone. Search for "BCBSM" on the Google Play app or Apple store. Benefits to utilizing the app include: instant access to EOB's, a virtual ID card on your phone, information on deductibles, explanations of coverage and other helpful tips related to your Health Care coverage. EOB's can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt requests. **WEX APP-** Search for the "TIC HRA" app in Google or Apple and download it today. Utilization of this app will give you access to account balances, receipt reviews and submittals, barcode scanning for covered items, other helpful services. This is a great tool to accompany your Health Care benefits.



"Powering Northern Michigan Since 1949"

IBEW Local 498 TRAVERSE CITY – Meet-

ings. Regular E Board- The next

regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 6pm.

**Regular Meeting** – Schedule is 7pm Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We will continue the Solidarity Picnic before the Regular meeting at 6:30pm.

**JATC** – The JATC is looking for a part time instructor. If you are interested, please notify the Traverse City JATC. The JATC is also scheduling a first aid and CPR class in June. If you are in need of an update please call the JATC or Union hall to get on the list.

Habitat for Humanity – There is a house in Maple City coming up to be roughed in. Anyone interested please call the hall for more information.

**Email** – Please get an email address to the hall so we can get info out easier and faster, thanks. You can email your address to the hall at ibew@local498.net . Please put your name in the subject.

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

**Dues 2021** – There is no Union Dues increase for 2021. Effective Jan. 2021 the rate will remain \$140.10 per quarter.

**Resale Items** – We have Local 498 Beanie Hats for resale and T-shirts. Stop in to get yours today! Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

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

Made in America Websites www.theunionbootpro.com -100% American made/union made. Union member discounts 27% off. Use this code when ordering. Be0498mD or order toll free 1-800-723-5384. Email Addresses - Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communication to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at ibew@local498.net Thank you!



IBEW Local 252

ANN ARBOR – CON-TRACTOR CLASS: We will be hosting Pro-Union Consulting to assist IBEW Local 252 members in becoming profitable union electrical/renewable energy contractors. THE DATES FOR THIS CLASS HAVE BEEN CHANGED to Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Please call the Union Hall to sign up. We need a minimum of 20 people for the class. TRAINING CLASSES 2021: 1.CPR/FIRST AID: Tues-

day, June 8 and 15, starts at 5 p.m. **2. Photovoltaic Class:** Monday, Aug. 2 through Oct. 11, starts at 5 p.m.

To register, call the Training Center at (734) 475-1180. Masks must be worn at all times in the school.

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** If your employment is disrupted due to COVID-19, please contact the Hall so that we can ensure that you get everything that's entitled to you, and that proper protocol is followed for everyone's safety.

Local 252 Website & App: The Local's website www. ibew252.org is up and running. There is also a Local 252 App available to download. Search "IBEW 252" in the app store. You must create a new login and password to access the Members Only section. Your login for the old

website is no longer valid. SERVICE PINS: If you would like your service year pin please call the hall to make arrangements to receive it.

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

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

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



UPPER PENINSULA-MEETINGS

MARQUETTE UNIT-First Tuesday

IRON MOUNTAIN UNIT-Second Tuesday

ESCANABA UNIT–Second Wednesday

PLEASE PROTECT YOUR-SELF AND OTHERS BY KEEP-ING 6 FEET OF PHYSICAL DIS-TANCE. WEAR YOUR MASK AT THE JOBSITE. FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES ON HAND WASHING AND WIPING DOWN SURFACES. BE SMART, BE SAFE.

IBEW Service pins were presented to the following members: **15-year pin:** Leonard Anderson

25-year pin: James Mannikko, Dan Johnson, Kevin Hogan, Gary Gardipee, Jeremy DesJardins, Robert A. Carlson, Stephen Butina, John Butina, John Albanys.

We congratulate these Brothers and thank them for their service.

Negotiations are ongoing for the two Units in Norway. Both the Supervisors Unit and the Electric Department are currently engaged in contract talks. We believe these Units will settle the few remaining issues at their next session.

The Inside group settled on the following allocation of this year's raise:

On the check: 51 cents (\$36) Health: 35 cents (\$8.84) Pension: 52 cents (\$12.91) for a total package of \$58.33.

Iron Mountain will receive \$1.01 and Escanaba will receive \$1.10 on the check. The benefits will be the same as the Marquette area. Next year it will be the same package across the entire U.P.

IBEW 906 will be hosting the Michigan State Conference in August. The Conference consists of all IBEW Locals in the State and also Local 8, Toledo Ohio and Local 153 from South Bend, Ind. The Conference will be held at the Island in Bark River.

A reminder that the monthly dues are \$40. We have received some at the old rate of \$39 and a few members are overpaying. This makes the bookwork diffi-(Continued next column)



**IBEW 275** 

COOPERSVILLE – Dear Brothers and Sisters, Walter and Geoff are currently working on scheduling a New Member Orientation class. Details on when and how the class will be held will be made available soon to those who need it.

Now that we are able to meet indoors (up to 25 people), I will try and schedule the Stewards training that we had to postpone last year. If you were on the list of those who wanted to attend, you still are and I will confirm that you are still interested as the time draws nearer.

As summer quickly approaches, it is time to start planning this year's annual picnic. We tentatively have it scheduled for Aug. 14. If anyone is interested in being on the Picnic Committee, please contact Geoff Yonkers.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three or more months behind in dues: Aaron Elliott, Joshua Erb, Norm Kaminski, David Oberlin Cody Wasilchenko and Kevin Wynn. From now on, all resign request will be sent to gyonkers @ibew275.org. The procedures are still the same.

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

Dues for the year 2021 are \$42.90 per month. Please make adjustments when making payments through mail and automatic bank payments.

#### Local 906, con't

cult. Please if you have a service that pays your dues monthly inform them of the correct amount.

Please remember that address changes and phone changes along with new additions to the families need to be passed on to the Hall and the Pension and Health Plans.

If you have any information

**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 YOUARE SEEKING WORK don't forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3.

STAY CURRENT ON DUES –Please check to see if you are cur-(Continued next column)

Important numbers for you to write in your address book:

MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508

MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-517-321-7502

(New address Michigan Pension and Health Plan)

TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917

NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000 **DUES RATES.** Jan 1, 2021 – No increase. Still remains

\$140.10/Quarter **Info Updates** – Any member with a new address, phone number, email address, etc. should contact Local 498 with these changes.

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

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 3#

#### Local 557, con't

rent. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also Echecks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

**CONTACT NUMBERS-**Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielectricalhealth.org

–In Solidarity, Breanna DePottey, Press Secretary

number: (517) 306-0144.

**AT&T Discount:** Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans.Visit UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.

Winter Gathering: Due to covid-19 concerns, the Winter Gathering in Lakeland, FL will not be held this year.

**Retirees' Breakfast:** The Retirees' Breakfast will resume on April 14, 2021 and 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.

Union 4 Life Golf Outing: The 2021 golf outing has been scheduled for Sunday, September 26, 2021 at Stonebridge Golf Club, 1825 Clubhouse Dr. Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with a tee-off at 9 a.m. To complete your team or individual registration, visit www.union4lifecharity.com. Registration is \$100 for individuals, \$400 for a 4 person team.

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

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

UNION DUES FOR 2021: Effective Jan. 1, 2021 union dues for "A" members will remain \$119.25 per quarter. Union dues for "BA" members will remain \$61.80 per quarter.

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 3/ 2021, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2021. "BA" members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2021. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your second quarter dues (Apr. through Jun.) are due now.

Payments for second quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, June 30, 2021. you would like to see noted in this article or something you believe should be published please email the Hall with your request. Ibew906@gmail.com

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

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

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



representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear 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

#### THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 8





CENTERLINE ELECTRIC Foreman Jason Morang of IBEW Local 58 looks over blueprints while working at the Beaumont Health Lenox Township Outpatient Facility.



#### INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

#### **IBEW Local 692**

BAY CITY – Message from the Business Manager. Please remain vigilant in your efforts to stay healthy and safe from Covid-19. All adults are now eligible to be vaccinated in the state of Michigan. Please contact myself or one of our agents for any questions you may have regarding Covid-19.

The June monthly membership meeting will be held outside at 6PM on June 7, weather permitting. Although the state of Michigan has very recently adopted new mask guidelines for those that have been vaccinated, please continue to wear a mask and maintain social distancing when entering the Union Hall. We are currently reviewing changes to this policy that may drop the mask mandate if vaccinated and willing to show evidence of that. Stay tuned.

**Contract Negotiations.** A special thanks to our negotiating team of Pat Nitschky, Derek Simms, Brian Walker and Travis Brady. They worked very hard in representing all members that work under the Local 692 Inside Wireman Agreement. We met with

Projects that are slated for our jurisdiction. We are currently working on a timeline for all solar work. Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Work remains very good in Detroit, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo, and Lansing. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books. Ryan Charney

#### **Business Manager** / **Financial Secretary**

Organizers Report. 692's Organizing team will continue to speak with unrepresented workers in our jurisdiction about the benefits of joining the IBEW. Jobsite visits are occurring more regularly as statewide COVID restrictions are relaxed. We are actively recruiting JIWs as well as accelerated apprentices to help man the work we anticipate our contractors will secure in the upcoming months. Apprenticeship interviews for 2021 have concluded for the time being, and a new class of successful applicants should be announced soon.

Engaging with young people

#### BAY CITY MICHIGAN Death Benefits. We regret to inform you of the death of retired

Brother Robert "Gene" LaLonde, Card Number D60460, who passed away on May 8, 2021. Brother LaLonde was born on April 1, 1935 (86 years old). He was initiated on March 10, 1954. Gene resided in Onaway, Michigan

#325. Local death fund assessment \$5 each (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692 1300 W. Thomas, Bay City, MI 48706

Please stay up-to-date on Death Benefit payments. Local death fund assessments are \$5.00 each (due within 30 days). They can also be paid in advance, which is recommended to ensure that families receive the benefit in the event of a member's unexpected passing. Any overpayment of benefits will be refunded to the family of the deceased member.

State IBEW Golf Outing. The 2021 State IBEW Golf Outing has been cancelled this year.

Local 692 Retirement Party. The retirement party originally scheduled for May 2021 has been postponed to March 11, 2022. It



Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD-REMIND-ER: We continue to be under the directive of the International Union and pursuant to that directive, the JUNE 2021 UNION MEETING has been cancelled. Continue to monitor the Facebook page for updates.

APPRENTICE APPLICA-TION: The Apprentice applications acceptance period has been extended through May 2021. To learn more and apply online, visit HeatFrostInsulators.org/

> Apprenticeship. If you have any questions, contact the Union Office (248) 352-1850.

**QUALIFI-**CATIONS NECESSARY FOR AN AP-PLICANT TO CURT **BE CONSID-**McGLONE

**ERED FOR A** HEAT AND FROST INSULA-**TORS LOCAL 25 APPREN-**TICESHIP

1. Must be at least 18 years of age by June 1, 2021, and have a valid driver's license.

2. Complete the application. Be sure that you sign the application and you must upload any required supporting documents, including documents that support previous employment or extracurricular activities.

• If you are a current high school senior, you must provide your diploma or GED certificate (proof of completion) by June 1, 2021

• Successfully complete an aptitude test when scheduled, (at the applicant's expense of \$30). • Appear for an interview

when notified. • Have a residence and live in the Territorial Jurisdiction of Heat and Frost Insulators Local

25 as follows: In the counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, and neighboring counties as well as the Townships of Ann Arbor, August, Lodi, Northfield, Pittsfield, Salem, Saline, Scio, Superior, Webster, Ypsilanti, York in Washtenaw County.

Before employment, all applicants accepted for probationary apprenticeship will be required to pass a physical examination and pre-employment drug test as pre-



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

LANSING - To combat and limit the spread of Covid-19, Local 47 encourages all members to continue to work safe, and if you feel sick contact a doctor immediately. Any retirees wanting to go

to work, please call the office. The Funds Trustees have

waived the 79-hour rule. All members should have

received a letter from our International regarding the Asbestos Exposure Scientific Study. For more information on how to participate in this study, please contact Business Manager Patrick Welch at the main Local 47 Office number: 517-708-0665

Contracts are available at the Union Office.

OSHA 10: Local 47 will be offering OSHA 10 to any Active Member who is not current with the program. The course is done online, so if you wish to take the course please contact the Local Union office with your email address and we will be more than happy to set it up for you. If you do not have a computer at home, you are welcome to come to the Local Union Office to take the course.

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

Anyone interested in joining the newly formed Breath Of Life Committee is asked to please call the Local Union Office.

We have received our Breath of Life Gun Raffle Tickets. To purchase any tickets please call the Union Office.

Local 47 now accepts PayPal and Venmo for our members to send their PerCapita Payments, shirt purchases, or any other monies that may need to be sent to the Local.

•To send money via PayPal



**Abatement Workers Local 207** 

TAYLOR - There are a lot of upcoming projects slated for Spring so be prepared for work. When you do return to work, follow all required Covid guidelines that may be in place for certain sites. Remember to call in if you are unemployed for help with future placement.

Workers are needed Immediately all over the Detroit area! It is time to get off the couch and get back to work! Remember if you go more than a year without



hours the system will Lapse you automatically and you will lose your membership. It is time to call in your availability and get back to some steady

KEVIN MEAGHER work for you

and your family! Updated, working telephone numbers are necessary to help you with work placement. Do not get caught without the necessary current job site credentials, although several state agencies have relaxed renewal requirements due to the pandemic.

The General Office still has a ban on Union Meeting and Elections. Our current election process is still on hold until an ok is given to proceed.

There is a major need for manpower right now in Illinois and Missouri... Most of this work falls under the Missouri rate of \$32.60 per hour as well as *overtime* on some of these projects and hotel on a per contractor per job basis. Some of the work is ASAP and some of the projects are 2 weeks out. If you have a Illinois or MO License please Contact Wade Edwards as soon as possible for details at 314-581-2254.

With most state agencies working from home during this pandemic filling out on-line renewals is the way to go. They are processing much quicker than traditional mail in applications. If you have any questions about on-line applications or what states you may want to get a license for do not hesitate to call the office or my cell. We are looking at scheduling a new initial class so please if you can recommend anyone that you know can handle this work have them call the office to get an application filled out and sent in so we can get them into the next class.



the employer side on 7 different occasions and fought hard for the membership.

The membership overwhelmingly ratified the agreement on April 26th. Some highlights to the ratified contract include 3%, 3% and 3% total package increases over the next 3 years. Zone 2 received an additional .25 cents on top of the 3% over the next three years. This was done in an effort to bring the two zones wage packages closer together. Lastly all work inside of the "old" Dow Chemical will progress to 100% over the next two years. This has been a long time coming for those members inside what they now call the I Park. The most beneficial part to this agreement is our side gave nothing up. Great work Brothers!

Work Report. Master Electric has secured the new Meijer in West Branch as well as the new Isabella County Jail located in Mt. Pleasant. The Meijer will begin this month. The new jail is seeing some delays, we will keep you posted. Ted's Electric has been awarded some of the work at Midland Public Schools with Barton Malow serving as GC. Ted's was also awarded the Bay County lift station project.

A large energy upgrade project is currently being bid for Midland Public Schools. Alpena Schools have been awarded to Zone II contractor John's Electric. John's has also been awarded the Alpena library project and a large marijuana grow facility located in Harrisville.

Clements Electric is continuing work on the Sterling Saw Mill, Monitor Township Fire Department, Bay-Arenac ISD bus garage, multiple marijuana dispensaries and the Handy Middle School office renovation. Countyline Power has secured Midland/Gladwin County dam work, the Mackinaw City lift station and the Roscommon Airport.

Consumers Energy work for the summer includes Karn 1&2 utility separation, and also work on the generator at Alcona Dam. LaFarge PLC upgrade. There are also a large number of Solar

to encourage them to consider a career in the skilled trades has been a consistent focus as we've attended and presented at multiple career day events in the past month. It is important to recognize the fact that apprentices alone will not replace those brothers and sisters leaving the workforce for retirement. We need to actively recruit and organize non-union electricians to keep pace with attrition and strengthen our membership.

Recent school board decisions to award bond projects to non-signatory contractors should strengthen our resolve to support candidates who see the value in local labor and appreciate the efforts made by our membership to strengthen our community. Although we have seen some recent success turning school jobs around to our contractors in lieu of a lowball bid, it is important that we keep the pressure on and continually educate trustees on the benefits of partnering with NECA and the IBEW.

If any members are interested in receiving some talking points that will be helpful when discussing with their local elected officials the importance of hiring local professionals to work on taxpayer-funded projects, please contact the hall and we will supply you with that information. Educating people in positions of power is one way we can ensure that our contractors continue to secure work for our members. Brian Klele 989.252.9225

Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131

Union Dues. 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.

2021 Dues (Effective Januarv 1, 2021 Monthly \$41.20 Quarterly \$123.60 6 months \$247.20 Yearly \$494.40

To avoid a reinstatement Northern Valley Electrical has the *fee, please remember to keep* your dues current.

(Continued next column)

will be located at the DoubleTree in Bay City. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this great event to honor our retirees!

Retirees Lunch. All retirees' lunches have been postponed.

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

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

**RENEW Committee.** The next scheduled RENEW meeting will be held Friday, May 21st at 5:30 PM in the Union Hall. Masks are required unless fully vaccinated. If you are a member in good standing under the age of 35 and looking to get more involved in the local, please reach out to the hall and we can get you the information that you need.

**Important links & numbers** IBEW Local 692, 989-684-4510

www.ibew692.org

Health Plan 517-321-7502 www.mielectricalhealth.org

Michigan Pension Fund 517-321-7502

www.michiganelectrical.org

First time logging in, use your Social Security Number in the "ID Box"

NEBF/NEAP: 301-556-4300 IO Pension: 202-833-7000

"He that will not sail until all dangers are over, will never put to sea.'

-Thomas Fuller (1608 - 1661)

"I don't think anyone should write their autobiography until after they're dead.' -Samuel Goldwyn (1882

1974)

"Always be a little kinder than necessary."

–James M. Barrie (1860 1937)

scribed by the local JATC

APPAREL New Local 25 apparel is available at the Union Hall. New items include: knit hats and beanies, new hi-vis short and long sleeved t-shirts and hivis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

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

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

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 \$50 fine.

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

SUB FUND TIME LIMITA-**TION**: 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.

**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.

all you need is our email address which is insulatorslocal47@hotmail.com (Please make sure to check the "Friends and Family" box to avoid any fees.

To send money via Venmo you can scan the QR code below or call the Local Union office and we can text the QR code to you.

We will be making changes to the Rules of Procedure this year. If any member has a recommendation to amend any part of the Rules of Procedure you will need to send in writing which part you would like to recommend along with your recommendation. Once completed please make sure to sign, date and put your registration number at the bottom of the page and mail to the office.

Per the Rules and Procedures: Members must notify the

office within 24 hours of being laid off or charges may be placed.

Members must notify the venmo office before ANY overtime Scan this code to pay is worked.

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671, Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Dr., Lansing, MI 48917-9275 Toll Free: (800) 323-8079

Fax: (517) 321-7508

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

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

(Continued next column)

**UPCOMING ASBESTOS TRAINING CLASSES:** 

Asbestos Supervisor Refresher June 5.

Asbestos Initial Class June 7 thru 11.

Check with the Office to ensure the classes will occur as scheduled.

-All classes will be held at Local 207's office @ 26453 Northline in Taylor.

- Classes begin promptly at 8AM and end at 4PM, followed by a Lead Awareness Update.

If you are due to expire and need one of these refreshers now, please call the Taylor Office (1-800-207-5622) to register.

-Class sizes are being limited due to state guidelines currently in place.

BE SAFE, WEAR YOUR MASKS, & FOLLOW THE SO-CIAL DISTANCING GUIDE-LINES!

#### Local 47 cont'd

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, 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 10 days from the end of the current work week."

Local 25

**Iron Workers** 

# Local 149

#### **Roofers Local 149**

DETROIT - Main Office -Southeastern Lower Michigan -

**Regular Membership Meet**ing. The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, June 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The regular membership meeting will be broadcasting live on "Detroit Roofers - Radio Active" channel 88.5 on your FM dial. You must be within one mile of the Union Hall to hear the radio station. Providing that the weather is fine, we will have the regular membership meeting outside in the parking lot.

**Executive Board meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., May 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

The Detroit ratified contract is as follows: 3-year contract

• \$1.90 1st year, \$1.65 2nd year, \$1.60 3rd year, all raises are across the board.

•Foreman pay is \$3.50 over Journeyworker pay.

•Travel pay increase, Area 1 \$23, Area 1A \$50, Area 2 \$80, Area 3 \$90.

•Vacation pay (\$4.45/hr) starts as soon as a member pays off their union card.

Detroit Raise Notice. \$0.67 on the check, \$0.23 to the Pension, and \$1.00 to an Annuity/ Defined-Contribution Plan

Condolences. It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of the following Brother. Brother Roger Lee, he was 64 years old and a 42-year member. Brother Lee past on 5/16/2021. Brother Roger Lee has been a Union Officer, Training Center Instructor, and the Retirees Association President. Rest in Peace Brother Lee, thank you for your years of service.

Website for announcements, news, and updates: www.rooferslocal149.com

**DAD's Day.** It is with great sadness that we inform you that the June DAD's Day canister drive is canceled. This was an extremely difficult decision to make. Our union will try to have an event later in the year.

Union Dues. Make sure you pay your monthly dues before the end of every month to stay in good standings. You can pay dues over the phone with a credit or debit card. Monthly dues can be taken out of your vacation check by filling out a form at the Hall (active Members only). If you have to come in to our office to pay, please understand that we are adhering to Michigan COVID19 guidelines; masks and social distancing are being enforced to protect our staff and our tenants. The mailbox is only to be used for checks and money orders, do not put cash in the mailbox. To be eligible for the International Union Burial Benefit, a member must be in continuous good standing. If you have any questions please feel free to call the Hall at 313-961-6093 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. **Detroit Training Center In**formation. Journeyworkers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Detroit LU 149 members.



#### **Boilermakers Local 169**

ALLEN PARK - The next Union Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, 2021, will be held in Area Three at IBEW 692 -1300 West Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706. Please make a note of the new day. Masks are required for entry.

The Union Hall has resumed "normal" operations with the previous safety measures in place, which include social distancing, mandatory mask use, and limited occupancy. As always, if you do not feel well,

do not come to the hall. We are currently looking for volunteers

for the Entertainment Committee in Area One to help with the picnic.

BOB In order for a HUTSELL safe and healthy event,

more volunteers will be needed than previous picnics. Please call Jamie at the union hall if you are interested.

Union dues for 2021 are \$49.85 per month. The union hall accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the hall and over the phone.

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

Training Center: Journeymen wanting to obtain welding certifications are encouraged to attend training in Allen Park, in preparation for the Commonarc test currently scheduled for this August.

Apprentices: All training centers are reopening on the following dates: Årea 1 – May 17, 2021; Area 2 – July 1, 2021; Area 3 - Following current outages; Area 4 - Following current outages. Your area agent will contact you with your scheduled class time.

Sweatshirts are available for purchase for \$40.00. Payments can be made with cash, check, or credit. If you live out 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.



#### **Iron Workers Local 25**

NOVI-Cut off for early Vacation check request is before 12:00 pm (NOON) Tuesday June 1,2021 for check pick up after 2:00 pm on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at the Novi Union Hall. Call the Fringe Office 800-572-8553; Prompt 1 for member, Prompt 1 for Vacation. Anyone on Direct Deposit your Vacation check will be in your account Friday morning June 4, 2021. All other Vacation checks not scheduled for pick up will be mailed at the end of business day Tuesday June 1, 2021 and all checks are dated June 5.

May's ZOOM Union meeting will be Monday May 24, 2021 at 7 p.m. Memorial Day is Monday, May 31, 2021 and all Union Halls will be closed. We wish everyone a Safe & Happy Memorial Day!

**ZOOM:** If you have not yet signed up for Notifications please sign up as Notification will go out via the APP. To participate in the Zoom Union meeting is very easy ... just be sure you have downloaded our APP or signed up for our emails via our website (www.ironworkers-25.org). We are leaning toward communication through the **PUSH NOTIFICATIONS -**Please download the APP if you haven't done so yet!! Again, via our website!

**CREDIT/DEBIT CARD pro**cessing for Union Dues: Comerica has changed the processing platform in compliance with new banking regulatory rules. The new platform now requires all new and existing users to authenticate themselves. Anyone who has used the prior system will need to set up brand new payment information AND will need to create a new log-in and password the first time you log in. The link is available on our website www.ironworkers25.org and cell phone APP. The NEW phone number effective 5/10/ 2021 is 866-635-2826. A letter was mailed on 4/20/2021 explaining all you need to know. If you have questions, please call the Union Hall or your Business Agent.

Pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 -P.O. Box 965 - Novi, MI 48376-0965. PLEASE include your book number on the face of the check/ money order. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NU Cash). After-hours use the outdoordues-collection box. Iron Workers Local 25 Annual Picnic will take place this year on Saturday, August 28, 2021. Location at the Training Center 50490 W. Pontiac Trail, Wixom MI 48393. More details to follow; Mark your calendar! "I hate Unions!", an unrepresented Ironworker snapped at me last year. He was seriously anti-union, and ready to fight about it. I tried asking him to explain his view, but he was looking for any reason to swing at me. This is my favorite type of Ironworker to meet in the field because they are not afraid to talk about what they believe in. If I can get them to see the truth about collective bargaining, chances are good they'll be more fired up to be pro-union than they were anti-union. That first communication is difficult, uncomfortable, and often seems pointless, but it is necessary if we want to win back nonunion jobs in Michigan. It takes patience, and persistence, but



# Meijer store rises in Jackson

A NEW MEIJER store in east Jackson was populated last month by Iron Workers 25 members, putting up the structural iron for Wolverine Steel. Among the iron workers were Keith Gretzer, Ed Martin and Steve Roberts. Photo by Marc Crance

I've seen people come around 180 degrees. After all, who doesn't want higher wages, better benefits, and a safer work environment? "It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it." -Upton Sinclair.

-In Solidarity, Your Organizer Hank Kiluk, (313) 600-8242

IT IS MANDATORY TO WEAR A FACE MASK IF YOU VISIT ANY OF THE UNION OF-FICES OR UNION HALLS.

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

BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD: Any member who has a new born child, or a new dependent child through marriage MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office of your new dependent within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next open-enrollment period (April 1-Âpril30). A birth rtificate will be required.

up to date as it is criteria for working. You can be asked to leave the jobsite if your dues are not current.

MUST Safety now has an APP. Download from the APP store or google play. Search key word "MUST SAFETY."

New Apprentice Applications are being accepted BUT you MUST go to ironworkers25.org, print the application, gather documentation then phone the school for an appointment; no walk-in foot traffic. The Wixom Training Center - Phone: 248-*960-2130*.

Apprentices: Fill out your monthlies online at the website or mobile app located under the apprenticeship tab "Monthly Report Sign-In," this gives you the ability to electronically submit your monthlies. Also located under the apprenticeship tab you will find "Evaluation Form" Journeyman/Supervision can use this to submit apprentice evaluations using computer/cell phone and submit electronically.

Please also note, you must check your email on a regular basis; we now email your annual MUST drug screen paperwork and your pay raise slips.

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please



#### **Iron Workers Local 8** Tim Roman

**Business Representative** MARQUETTE - WELD

**CERTIFICATIONS:** Weld certifications are being held on a asneeded basis. Please contact Rich Hanson at the Apprenticeship office for more information. 414-476-9372.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

It is the intent of Iron Workers Local #8 to tentatively resume inperson Membership Meetings. The next meeting will be held on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. CST. Local #8 will stay in compliance with governmental guidance of social distancing and capacity limits. Due to this limitation, our plan is to continue a virtual broadcast of the meeting in conjunction with in-person attendance. Members can gain access to the meeting at https://meeting .iwl8.org on the afternoon of the

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Thomas Jaranowski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, or TJaranowski @DetroitRoofers.org to make arrangements

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

Reminder. Members please call the Hall when you see a roofing project whether it is one of our signatory companies or not. The Hall needs this information. Members are reminded to call the Hall (313) 961-6093 to put their name on the out of work list.

MID-MICHIGANAREA-Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., July 13, 2021 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Mid-Michigan Raise Notice. \$0.80 on the check, \$0.78 to the Pension, \$0.22 to the H&W and (Continued next column)

# Local 149 cont'd

\$0.05 to Check-Off Dues

**Mid-Michigan Training** Center Information. Journey workers upgrade classes to improve your skills, your worth, and our Brotherhood/Sisterhood is available at no cost to all Mid-Michigan LU 149 members.

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact Rick Baird at the Union Hall/Training Cen-810-687-1368. ter. or midmichroofers149@gmail.com to make arrangements.

Notice. When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up to date phone number. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work

The publication above is as 5/17/2021, 12:30p.m.

In Solidarity, Brian Gregg Business Manager, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149.

'The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it.

-Terry Pratchett

"Do not remove a fly from your friend's forehead with a hatchet."

-Chinese Proverb

"One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can do the work of one extraordinary man."

-Elbert Hubbard (1856 -1915)

"What's the difference between a boyfriend and a husband? About 30 pounds." Cindy Gardner

"If you don't risk anything you risk even more. -Erica Jong

**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-April30). A Marriage certificate will be required.

#### Stewards' Notes:

1) STW Meetings cancelled until further notice.

2) The link for Online Steward Report forms is found in the upper right-hand corner of our website www.ironwork-ers25.org LOG-IN DIRECTIONS will follow once you click the link that reads "Electronic Steward Reports" These forms are much easier than the paper forms, we encourage you to give it a try if you have not vet done so.

3) PLEASE be sure to check dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH THE RECIPROCAL AND THE ASSESSMENT-TARGETING

4) All members please be sure to keep your Union dues paid



The Novi retirees Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 in Novi at 9:00 am. The Novi retiree meeting will be Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 10:00 am. Watch for updates at (www. ironworkers25.org) or the Local 25 app that you can download by searching "Iron Workers Local 25" to stay informed on union matters.

Jim Hamric started up breakfast on the last Friday of the month at Mom's Restaurant 9:00 am. Located 2691 Fort St, Trenton, MI 48183. All are welcome! To all Union Members:

Please be safe in this pandemic! This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (05/17/2021 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

meeting MINE SAFETY TRAINING:

A 24-Hour MSHA Class will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 8:30 a.m., at the Operators' Hall, 802 Clark Drive, Gladstone, Michigan. To sign up for this class, contact Ann Lakenen at the Pipefitters #111, at 906-226-6511.

The next MSHA Refresher Class will be held on June 19th, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. To sign up for this class, and provide your email address, please contact Ann Lakenen at Pipefitters #111, 906-226-6511.

If you sign up for MSHA classes and do not attend or cancel, you will be charged a fee of \$30.00 and will be suspended from any further Mine Safety classes until the fee is paid.

**IRON WORKERS LOCAL #8 ONLINE STORE:** Check out Local #8's swag at the online store at iwl8.org.

"Adversity has ever been considered the state in which a man most easily becomes acquainted with himself.

- Samuel Johnson (1709 -1784)

**BeneSys** 

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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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With over 800 experienced and technical professionals on staff, BeneSys stands ready to assist Trustees in providing exceptional service to Plan Participants. BeneSys has clients across the U.S. and 23 regional office locations.

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#### THE BUILDING TRADESMAN May 21, 2021 10



SETTING A WATER HEATER on the second floor of the Beaumont- Lenox Twp. Outpatient facility is Skip Chaffin of Plumbers Local 98. He's employed by Guideline Mechanical.



Vaccine. For up-to-date informa-

#### Plumbers 98 DETROIT - Membership of **Plumbers Local 98 Brothers and Sisters.**

With Memorial Day approaching, your officers and I would like to thank the brave men and women who courageously gave their lives for our country. Let's continue to be smart and stay safe out there.

WAGEALLOCATION. The new wages and allocation were approved at the Special Called Meeting on May 13, 2021. Find the rates on our website ualocal98.com/wage-allocation.

MEETINGS. The next Union Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 17 at 7 pm in person.

Please note this will be on the third Thursday of the Month due to the State Convention. June's meeting will take place outside at our Union Hall and all Covid restrictions will be in place using social distancing and masks. Join us starting at 5 o'clock for a BBQ, we will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and refreshments.

E-Board meetings. E-Board meetings are the first and second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you need to contact or see the board, please call V.P. Jim Cools at 734-307-9841.

Retiree Meetings: The President of the retiree association has worked out a detailed plan for restarting these meetings. All

tion on COVID-19 you can go to the website Michigan.gov/ protectmicommision. Or, if you would like to be a part of the conversation and join a workgroup, you can reach out to protectmicommission *amichigan.gov or michigan* .gov/covidvaccine for locations or information regarding COVID-19 updates. WEAR YOUR MASKS! Any concerns with COVID-19 safety protocols or lack of PPE contact the **Business** Agent in the area or the Union Hall.

Additional information on vaccination sites is available on our website, please visit **ualocal** 98.com/covid.

UNION HALL. The Union Hall is Open by APPOINTMENT **ONLY.** Properly worn masks are required. There is a COVID-19 questionnaire that MUST be filled out by everyone entering the Union Hall.

**APPS/OOW** SUB CHANGES/ BENEFITS. Due to influx of travelers, SUB pay is closed to all except for medical or COVID related injuries. It is your responsibility to fill out a SUB App when you are laid off. SUB Apps should now be filled out electronically. This can be found on the web page under the **OOWL** section. If you're still having unemployment issues call BAs Gary Glaser or Tom McWilliams.

through July 16, 2021. If you know anyone who is interested, please direct them to the Training Center's website plumbers 98tc.org.

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

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

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

Check out The Training Center's website www.Plumbers 98tc.org

The Apprenticeship Application process is now open through July 16, 2021.

The Training Center is open and adhering to COVID-19 restrictions. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

**Michigan State Plumbing** License Renewal – There is not an update required to renew the Michigan State Plumbing License this year. In order to renew your license, go to Michigan.gov/lara and click on License Renewal. \*\*Deadline was April 30th, you

may be required to pay a late fee. ASSE Backflow Tester Re-



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 370

FLINT - The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 15, 2021 at 7 pm. Please note the change to the  $3^{rd}$ Tuesday of the month due to the State Pipe Trades Convention. This will be a refreshment meeting.

Please note that your monthly work hour statements from TIC now show your Health Care banked hours and Benny card dollar bank.

Scholarship Applications for the 2021-2022 school year are now available online at our website UALOCAL370.ORG. The applicant must be a son or daughter of a member in good standing of UA Local Union 370. Complete lists of qualifications and applications are also available at Local 370 Hall. Applications are due by May 15, 2021

Local 370 2021 Golf outing will be held Saturday, June 26 at Flushing Valley Golf course in Flushing. 9 am Shotgun Start. The price is \$70 a man. \$280 per team. Price includes 18 holes with cart, lunch at the turn, Refreshments, Door prizes and Dinner. Stop by the hall and get the signup sheet with all the information. We are limited to 38 teams so sign up early if you want to play. Committee and Board meet-

ings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, June 15,2021 at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday June 15, 2021 at 4:00pm PAC committee – Tuesday June 15, 2021 at 5:00pm Executive Board – Tuesday June 15, 2021 at 5:00pm Building Committee - Tuesday June 15, 2021 at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday June 15, 2021 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.



LANSING - June's union meeting to be announced.

Effective June 1, 2021 Foye Pierce III will be the new organizer for Local 333. We wish Foye the very best of luck with his new position in the Local.

SCHOLARSHIPAPPLICA-**TIONS: Scholarship applica**tions for the 2021-2022 school year will be available April 1, 2021. Students who received an award last year will receive an application in the mail. Applications will be available at all three union halls or members may request an application by calling Joni at the Jackson office, 517-784-1106, ext# 4. Application must be postmarked by June 26, 2021 and in the Jackson office by July 1, 2021.

Plumbers & Pipefitters Annual Golf Outing will be held Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021 at the Eldorado Golf Course, 3750 W. Howell Rd. Mason, MI. 48845. 9am Shotgun starts at 9am. \$300 per team, this includes 18 holes of golf, cart, chicken/steak dinner and prizes for everyone. Come and join the fun. Registration forms are at all three halls and needs to be turned in by July 19.

Weld Classes: Lansing's weld class: Tuesday's & Thursday's Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson's weld class: Tuesday's & Thursday's, 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

Battle Creek's weld class: Monday's & Thursday's (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

If you are interested in signing up for classes go to our website at www.ua333.org or call the Training Center (517) 323-0333. PLEASE NOTE FOR ALL

**CERTIFICATIONS:** Per the UA as of January 2019, all Braze and Weld Certifications shall be updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired please contact Diana at 517.323.0333. Though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed; between changes in addresses and the Post Office



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671

MONROE - The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2021 at 7 p.m. This will be a Special Order of Business for Wage Allocation. The Executive Board will meet in person on June 3 at 5 p.m. If any Member wishes to see them, please contact the Hall prior to the meeting.

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

Condolences: It is with saddened heart the I report the passing of retiree Harold Jones. Harold was a 40-year member of Local 671 and a respected leader in the community. Harold passed away on May 13 from ongoing health issues. I would to extend condolences to his family and friends. At the time of this article no services have been arranged. Also, we extend our condolences to Brother Dave Merrick and his family on the passing of his Mother Gladys Marie Merrick on May 13.

Health and Welfare: If you have any insurance problems or questions, you can contact Carly using the health line on the back of vour insurance card. 734-241-6180. Any MRA or Dental/Vision receipts can be mailed, emailed or faxed to the benefit office. Contact information is at bottom of article. Covid tests and vaccinations are covered 100% by our insurance. Do not pay for these tests up front or through the billing process. Contact Carly if you are asked to pay!

If you are working out of another local it may take up to 90 days for your pension and insurance money to reciprocate back to Local 671. Please keep track of all hours and keep your check stubs so there is no disruption in your health coverage.

Congratulations: Congratulations to the following Members who recently have retired: Rich VanHove and Don Scheich. May you both enjoy your well-deserved retirement time!

Work Opportunities: As discussed over the last few months, we have a significant amount of work starting very soon in our jurisdiction, and will have many travelers in town. The expectation always remains the same; our Local hands will come back home to man their work. Please contact Vinnie for details on the various projects. Mobile App: Our Mobile App titled "UA Local 671" is available in the App Store for iPhone or Android. The Username for Local 671 Members is your last name and your book number (UA Card No.). The Password is just your book number. We recently have sent Push Notifications with important information such as Covid-19 updates and Informational Meeting notices. This mobile app is a great tool to stay current with all the latest information from the Union Hall. PLEASE DOWNLOAD THIS APPSOYOU CAN KEEP **UP ON CURRENT INFORMA-**TIONTHATTHEHALLNEEDSTO GET OUT. The App is available in the Google Play Store or on iTunes. In Closing: Over the past several months I have had the unfortunate task of attending a lot of funerals for friends, coworkers and fellow members. The biggest mistake we all make is thinking we have time; at some point we will all run out of time. Let's not put off seeing that loved one until next week. Go do and see the things you have always wanted to do. Time is the one thing that is given but cannot be recovered. May God Bless Local 671 and all Union Labor.

Covid-19 protocols and distancing will be adhered to. They are exercising extreme caution so everyone can remain healthy and safe. The next Retiree meeting will be Wednesday, June 9 from 12pm 2pm at the hall.

**OTHER EVENTS.** As of this moment, the State Pipe Trades Convention is on for the second week in June. Your delegates have met and are ready to represent us. It has been presented that the convention centers in both Michigan and California are requiring attendees to be vaccinated against Covid-19. As for the National Convention, we should be hearing news by the end of the month as to whether it will be taking place.

SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING. Tickets are now available for our 43rd Annual Scholarship Golf Outing which will be held August 14, 2021 at Marsh Oaks Golf Course. The cost is \$90.00 a golfer and tickets can be purchased by calling the hall. For more information on the outing please contact Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo at (248) 762-9238.

LICENSE RENEWAL. If you are looking to take your journey plumber or master plumber exam the Training Center is having a code study class on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm. This will be a 4-hour class. Please bring your code book if you have one. There are a limited number of code books available for sale for \$76.85 through the Training Center if you do not have one already. For more information, or any other continuing education opportunities or classes, you can contact Training Center Coordinator Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435.

BAs Gary Glaser and Tom McWilliams are admins on the Must/Most program, contact them if you need help.

**DUES.** You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto-payments. If you have any questions or need to pay dues, please contact Kristina Lodovisi at (248) 307-9800 ext. 4 or on her cell at (248) 331-7232.

**COVID-19 Information &** 

For any issues that are unresolved at BeneSys, please get the name of the person you are dealing with and contact Carlo, Jon, or the Union Hall immediately.

**NOTE ON DISABILITY**/ **RETIREMENT.** If you are filing for Social Security Disability you will need to file for your Local 98 Disability Pension at the same time in order to make sure you get all of your pension checks.

Social Security normally takes at least a year and sometimes a lot longer. If you file for your Local 98 Disability Pension at the same time, when you receive your award from Social Security, we will be able to pay you all the retro money owed. If you are less than a year from retirement, we suggest you set up a meeting with Jon DeRoo prior to your retirement date.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPOR-**TUNITIES.** All of the information regarding the scholarships available through Local 98 and the UA can be found on our website, ualocal98.com/scholarship. These scholarships are open to the dependents of our members who are seeking a higher education. Please note, the UA scholarship deadline is fast approaching, June 9, 2021. The deadline for the Local 98 Scholarship is June 30, 2021, but it is best to get your application submitted sooner rather than later.

**RETIREES.** Congratulations to Brother Don Priest, Brother Reginald Freeman, and Brother Joseph Montagano on their retirements. We wish you all endless days of relaxation.

IN MEMORIAM. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family and friends of our Brothers who have recently passed away. Brother Dennis Rooke passed on April 12, 2021. Brother Frank Zaleski passed on April 29, 2021. Brother Fonando "Freddy" Cirilli passed on May 1, 2021. Brother Edward "Ed" McIlroy passed on May 9, 2021

GOOD/WELFARE. Plumbers Local 98 Training Center is NOW accepting applications for our Apprenticeship Program,

Certification exams are scheduled quarterly. Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. For those who are eligible, please call the Training Center to register and pre-pay by check only before the deadline June 25, 2021. The next scheduled recertification class is July 27 & 28, 2021

\*OPEN WELDING\* -Call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 to reserve a booth and visit the updated welding shop. Looking to try something new? Ideas for a class? We're here to help.

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next WELDING Tests will be Saturday, June 5 and July 10, 2021. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the class. The next BRAZING Cert Session will be Friday, June 4 & July 9, 2021. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

2021 Course Hour reimbursement forms are now available at the Training Center. You must have 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from January 1 - December 31, 2021 to be eligible for the \$80.00 reimbursement.

**OSHA Training - OSHA 10,** available as on an online class for \$25 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.

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

Sub Pay: Remember to qualify for sub pay when you are laid off, you must sign the out of work list. You can also collect when you are on Jury Duty and miss work. If you are traveling, call Karla to see if you need to make sub-fund self-payments. All members were sent a Sub-Pay manual in 2018. If you did not receive one, call TIC at (517) 321-7502 and ask for the 370 Sub Pay Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD)

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. Members present must have dues paid to date to claim award. Monthly award is 150 dollars.

Attention All Active Members in Good Standing: The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC.

Mobile App. Our mobile app. is now available for download on you cell phone. Go to the app store and search UA Local 370. Download the app and sign in.

Our web site is up and running. Check it out at ualocal 370.org

We are now able to accept Visa. Master Card. Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advan-

there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it's the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated.

If your Med-Gas Installer is going to expire within the next few months please sign up on our website to take the renewal class.

#### Local 370, con't

tage of this service there will be a \$1 per month charge added to the monthly window dues fee and a 3% fee for all other transactions.

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

Remember to keep your dues current. Any member failing to pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

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

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

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

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

Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: vinnie@ualocal 671.com

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692





Plumbers and Steamfitters 85 SAGINAW – Union Meetings will be Wednesday, May 26, 2021. Meetings will be held at the Union Hall located at 3535 Bay

Local 85

Road and start at 7:00 PM. The next **Northern Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 7:00 pm at BJ's in Gaylord.

Seeking licensed plumbers to work in Alpena, if interested please call Clint Steele at (231) 499-7330.

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

ALL NON-CRITICAL IN-TERACTIONS is cancelled until further notice. Please utilize email and phone calls whenever possible.

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

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

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

The **new Facebook** page is live. If you are currently on the Local Eighty-Five Facebook account, invites were sent to have you join the new site. UA Local 85 page is our public Facebook



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111 UPPER PENINSULA – Both the Escanaba and Marquette halls have been closed to walk-in

Local 111

halls have been closed to walk-in members until further notice. Please call either hall for any assistance you may need.

A special-called meeting is scheduled for the June 1<sup>st</sup> wage allocation. This meeting will be May 27, 2021 at the Escanaba hall @ 7:30 EST. and will be held outside.

If you missed the recent MRA webinar with Zenith American, you can access it again on our website at – LU111.com, click on the Zenith link, click on the MRA link and enter the password. Please check it out for useful information.

Thank you to the membership for your patience during this process due to the current situation of the COVID-19 mandates of gatherings. Any questions please call Business Manager, Dean Gutzman and stay safe.

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

**Important Information:** Contact the hall with *any changes* with any of the following: E-Mail, address, phone number, a new birth, marriage, divorce, or death. For those of you, who have an email address that we do not yet have on record, please call and give it to April or Ann.

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

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



Plumbers, Pipefitters & HVAC Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO - UNION **MEETING:** June's membership meeting will be a special-called meeting and will be held on MONDAY, JUNE 7TH. The meeting will start at 6:30 pm and be held outside on the east end of the building. To enter the building to vote you will need to wear a mask. If you wish to submit a wage proposal you will need to by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Finance Committee and Executive Board will conduct their regularly scheduled monthly meetings. The Building Trades Paper serves as your official notification.

**ORGANIZING:** Organizer Phil Curtis's cell number is 269-330-3267 and his email is pcurtis@ualocal357.com. If you are working around someone or know someone working in our industry who is interested in membership, please contact Phil.

MEDICAL CLAIMS IS-SUES: As a member, TIC International provides a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at 1-888-281-3461. If you are not satisfied with the service you have received, please call me, Ken Willcutt, at (269) 569-3492.

WEBSITE INFORMATION -FRINGES-TIC: Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/UALocal 357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Members Access Your Information Here, then click on TIC International Corporation and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and Create your own password. Once you have completed all the information - click on the LARGE REGISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day.

To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

<u>Local 190</u>

ANNARBOR-THE UNION

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190

**MEETING FOR THE MONTH** 

APRILWILLBEANORMALIN-

**PERSON MEETING:** The next

meeting will be held on Monday,

June 14th and will start 6:00 p.m.

at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Ar-

bor, MI. Members are urged to

attend and take an active part in

the proceedings. Masks and

maintaining social distance will

**NEYMAN:** Requalification test-

ing for Consumer Energy and

Semco Energy will start Tuesday,

June 1st and run the whole month

of June. Testing will be held at

our training center. Please con-

tact Roy Musgrove 734-369-1432

for more information and to

Our office will be closed at noon

on Friday, May 28th and all day

Monday, May 31st for Memorial

Day. Our thanks to those who

serve. As we celebrate our lib-

erty and freedoms we remember

and support those who protect

UNION HALL HOURS: Effec-

tive Monday, April 5th the office

will resume normal business

hours. The office will be open

on Monday through Friday from

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 (the office will be

closed for lunch from Noon to

1:00 p.m.) There will be no foot

accepting any apprenticeship

applications. A note will be put

in the paper when this current sta-

WHEN ENTERING THE UNION

HALL BUILDING AND TRAIN-

ING CENTER DUE TO THE EX-

190 Scholarship is now available

at the union hall for distribution

to members and their families.

There are two scholarships avail-

able. One from Local 190, due

back no later than July 9th. The

UA scholarship will now only be

accepted electronically, no later

than June 9th https://

uascholarshipfund.community

force.com. You can contact the

union office at (734) 424-0962 for

sending out Robo calls to keep

further information.

Currently Local 190 is not

MASKS MUST BE WORN

SCHOLARSHIPS: Local

traffic to the back offices.

tus changes.

ECUTIVE ORDER.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE –** 

UNIÓN HALL CLOSING:

schedule your testing date.

MICHIGAN GAS JOUR-

be enforced.

them.

card on the transaction amount. We will then mail you your dues receipt and credit charge slip.

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK – IMPORTANT RE-MINDER TO ALL MEMBERS: All members who get laid off or report back to work *please immediately contact Karen (734)* 424-0962 Ext. #210, to report the last day in which you worked or to report the day you went back to work. *PLEASE NOTE:* Members can now go to the website under "members only" and fill out a "back to work" form or "laid off" form.

INFORMATION -FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: NEW VISION PROGRAM

-DAVIS VISION: Please be advised of the January 1, 2021 change to your vision benefits. Effective January 1, 2021, your vision benefits are now being offered through Davis Vision. Welcome letters and cards, detailing your new benefits, were mailed during the month of December 2020. If you have not received this information, please contact the Fund office at #888-390-7473. You can also go to the Local 190 website www.ua190.org and go to the benefit section for more information.

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

**REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: Effective Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> due to COVID there will be no representative at the union hall the** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month until further notice. 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.

CLASS INFORMATION – TRAINING CENTER–OFFICE PHONE: 734-426-3700.

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. We are following



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT– The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, June 16 at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

Reminder: Article V, Section 13 of Local 704's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order. Any project that falls into the jurisdiction of Local 704 shall be manned by not less than two (2) members. Any member violating this By-Law shall be brought before the Executive Board for a trial and be subject to a fine.

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

NFPA All Access is available for all 704 members. Please contact the Local 704 Training Center for username and password.

**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.

Continuing education classes are being formed. Please reach out to the training center for further information or future classes you would like to see added.

Condolences go out to the family and friends of retired Brother Louis Grilli who passed away. Brother Grilli was a 39 year member of the UA. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please keep your information updated with the union hall.

A speedy recovery to all of our sick and injured members.

### Local 190, continued

we have enough, we will put this class on. Looking to put this class on in the late summer, early fall, as we are upgrading our rigging course.

**EPRI** Rigging and Signal Person **Re-certification** (16hrs): This class will be four (4) days long. The Training Center is looking to put on a recertification/upgrade class. This upgrade is a 120-question test. All rigging certification and re-certification classes will include the signal person certification going forward. Please call Retha to be put on the list. We will run this class as soon as we have enough for a class. ICRA Certification (16hrs): Looking to put on another ICRA certification class. Next class possibly in-person at the Training Center. In-person class is limited to 8 participants. Call Training Center to get put on the list for the next class. If it is on-line, it will be ran through Zoom. For on-line class, you must have a computer with good reliable internet access and a webcam. You must also have a valid email account. Test day will be at the Training Center.

account. UA Local 85 Members Group is our new members only Facebook. On this page, we will have important messages and reminders specific to our membership. Please like both and let us know what you think.

**TRAINING NEWS.** Congratulations to our newest journevman Cruz Hale!

#### GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT! SUB Fund:

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

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

**SUB Application for Ben**efits: 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 TOALLMEMBERS:** 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 (Continued next column) 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 online 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: The 2021 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. Call Ann at (906) 226-6511 ext. 4 to register. MSHA expires in one year.

### Local 85, continued

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. AL-WAYS SAVE YOUR CHECK STUBS and fax them in to the hall at 989-791-3468 with the local you are working out of indicated. We will fax them down to BeneSys to keep your Insurance up to date.

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** All retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up to date information.

**CONDOLENCES:** We extend our condolences to the family of Robert Hester who passed away on April 27, 2021.

Remember you all are essential to me.

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

"Big, sweeping life changes really boil down to small, everyday decisions."

-Ali Vincent "If there is no struggle,

there is no progress." –Frederick Douglass (1817 -1895) Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS.

**CHANGE OF STATUS: If** you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, remarried, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call TIC at the phone number above and Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date. There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description **Booklet for clarification)** Time limits apply for

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Randy Smith on his recent marriage.

Congratulations to Donald Bell on his 50-year life membership with the Union.

**CONDOLENCES:** Condolences to the entire Lisowski family on the recent passing of their mother / grandmother.

"As I know more of mankind I expect less of them, and am ready now to call a man a good man upon easier terms than I was formerly."

–Samuel Johnson (1709 1784)

"Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force; like fire, a troublesome servant and a fearful master. Never for a moment should it be left to irresponsible action."

-George Washington (1732 - 1799)

"Therefore search and see if there is not some place where you may invest your humanity." -Albert Schweitzer (1875 -1965) you updated and informed, if you are NOT receiving these messages it means we do not have a current phone number on file for you, please contact the hall to update.

**ROBO CALLS:** We are

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE -47th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING: Our annual golf outing will be held on Saturday, July 31. Our event will be held at Whitmore Lake Golf Links, Whitmore Lake. Mark your calendar for this special event. The prices are as follows: \$80.00 union member, \$60.00 retiree union member and \$100.00 for non-union. *Please* purchase your tickets no later than Wednesday, July 29th. If you have any questions please contact Karen at (734) 424-0962 Ext. 210

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRI-BUTION JOURNEYMAN WELDERS: Please remember it is very important to keep your continuity forms up to date.

MICHIGAN GAS DISTRI-BUTION - 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 RE-NEWAL: 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.

UA LOCAL 190 WEBSITE: www.ua190.org Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card number.

**NEW ON THE WEBSITE:** Members can now view and sign up for job calls. The same procedure will be used as the call-in line. If you are laid off or go back to work, there are forms available to fill out on the website that will inform the hall.

**CREDITCARDMACHINE:** 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

CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. You must wear a face mask while inside the building. Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!

Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2021 Schedule - All on Mondays - July 19, 2021 @ 5:00pm, and Oct 4, 2021 @ 5:00pm. Call Retha to be put on the list for the day you choose.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2021 Schedule - All on Mondays - July 26, 2021 @ 5:00pm, and Oct 18, 2021 @ 5:00pm. Call Retha to be put on the list for the day you choose.

EPA Universal Certification (16hrs): This is a 16-hour class. Class will be Wednesday June 16th, Thursday, June 17th, Wednesday, June 23rd and Thursday, June 24th from 5pm -9pm. Please call Retha to be put on the list for this class.

Welding Lab: Welding lab is closed for the summer. Open welding lab will resume the week of September 6, 2021.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). Class will begin Tuesday, Sept. 14th and run Tuesdays and Wednesdays for 5 weeks.

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110) will be Tuesday, Oct 19th and Wednesday, Oct 20th.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): The next class will be in the fall.

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): These classes are complete. We will have classes in the fall.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs):** The UA and EPRI have developed a test to cover both the Rigging Certification and a Signal Person Certification. The standalone Rigging Certification will no longer be offered. Please call Retha to be put on the list for the next class. Once

(Continued next column)

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

**NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE BUILDING TRADESMAN PA-PER:** 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.

"Middle age is when your broad mind and narrow waist begin to change places."

-E. Joseph Cossman

"It's the same each time with progress. First they ignore you, then they say you're mad, then dangerous, then there's a pause and then you can't find anyone who disagrees with you."

-Tony Benn

"Everyone takes the limits of his own vision for the limits of the world."

-Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860)

"To win without risk is to triumph without glory."

-Pierre Corneille (1606 - 1684)



#### Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT – The Next Union Meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2020, it will be held at St. **Georges Romanian Culture** Center located @ 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield MI 48075. It will start at 7pm. MASKS or FACE COVERINGS are mandatory and temps will be taken at the door.

Antibodies testing will be held at the Pipefitters 636 Union Hall (30100 Northwestern Hwy. Farmington Hills MI 48334) on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 12pm (Noon) to 7pm. Registration Information will be mailed to all members from Benesys.

The Pipefitter 636 48th Annual Golf Outing is now SOLD OUT. We are on a waitlist so if you are interested in golfing, you may contact Terry Gilligan to get on the list. 248-538-6636.

The Pipefitters 636 Retirees play golf every Thursday throughout the Spring, Summer, and Fall. We move around to different East and Northeast Courses usually playing around 11:30am. Regular attendance not mandatory. Play when you can. If interested in joining us, contact Jim Dunn @ 248-709-7036 or Joe Bourgeois @ 313-590-0448.

Pipefitters 636 would like to extend our condolences to the family of Retiree Brother John Seigler on the passing of his wife Elaine Seigler who passed away on May 6, 2021.

Pipefitters 636 would like to inform the Local 636 members of the current Office Administrative changes they are as follows (please notice the changes in the SUB FUND correspondence):

Receptionist/Dues/Address Changes/General Inquiries: Craig Harmon email: charmon(a) pipefitters636.org



West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE-Meeting Notice: We will have an in person, SPECIAL-CALLED meeting on Tuesday, June 1st at 7pm at the Union Hall to allocate our upcoming raise. We will have designated overflow areas should we reach capacity in the Assembly Hall. The meeting will also be broadcast in the members private Facebook group.

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

Stewards Class: Local #174 will be offering a Stewards Training class Tuesday, May 25th from 6pm-8pm at the Assembly Hall. Come and learn why jobsite Stewards are so important. We will cover work jurisdiction, organizing and contract issues. Dinner and drinks will be provided. Contact Nathan Phillips to RSVP.

**Student Council:** Below is a list of our 2021 Apprentice Student Council Members:

Ed Bouchard (President), Connor Brown, Josh Brown (Secretary), Kevin Giles (Vice-President), Joe Kersjes, Gabriel Miller, Aaron Plambeck, Aaron Rederstorf, Colin Van Heukelom, Konner Wolter. Congratulations and thank you for serving our Local Union.

Local Union Office: The office will remain open. To reduce foot traffic in the building we're asking members to conduct business by phone are use the website when possible.

**UA Convention Delegate Election:** Congratulations to our elected delegates listed in order of votes received below. Thank you to all who stopped by and voted. Thank you to our election committee and Office Manager/CPA Lisa Johnson for your help. Our final delegate count will be based off end of March membership numbers, but we'll likely have 9 delegates plus the business manager.

- Jason Finch 1.
- 2. Nathan Phillips
- 3 **Clint Fowler**
- Terry Brown
- 5. Mark Mangione
- 6. Frankie Pagan
- Jeffery Rumsey 7.
- 8. Jeremy Raap
- 9. Jason McDiarmid



Local 174 Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

> 10. Chris Pelton (1<sup>st</sup> alternate) Robert Barnett (2<sup>nd</sup> alternate) 11. Lenny Dehoff (2<sup>nd</sup> alternate) 12. Micah Perkins (4<sup>th</sup> alternate) 13. 14. Jeffery Rumsey II (5th alternate)

> UA Convention: The UA Convention will convene on the week of August 23, 2021. The convention will either take place in San Diego CA in person, be entirely virtual, or a hybrid approach with some delegates participating in person and others virtually.

> Local Union Picnic: The Local #174 Family Picnic will take place at Heritage Landing in Muskegon on Saturday, July 17 from 11am to 3pm. This year we would like to purchase prizes from local vendors. If you know of a local small business we could support please forward their info to Ryan at rbennett@ua174.org.

> **Dave Reynolds Memorial** Golf Outing: The Local 174 Golf Outing will take place on Saturday, August 7th at the Falls at Barber Creek. The format will be a four person scramble. Each team must have two Local #174 members. Registration at 8am and shotgun start at 8:30am. The cost is \$65 per person. Contact Cami to sign up. Money must be paid by July 31st

> DHE Plumbing and Mechanical: We would like to talk to DHE's workers. If you know of a jobsite where they're working, please contact Chris Pelton.

Contact Information: If you have a change in contact information PLEASE CONTACT CAMI so we can keep our system up to date.

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

COVID-19: The virus is showing up on many jobsites throughout our jurisdiction. Please continue to practice social distancing, wear a mask and wash your hands frequently.

PAC Cards: Since the elimination of prevailing wage, the race to the bottom on wages and benefits for publicly funded projects has begun. Our political focus over the years to come will be electing people who support prevailing wage and wage standards in general. To do that we need to raise our PAC card participation. We currently have less than half of the local contributing to our PAC. Your PAC contribution DOES NOT COME OFF YOUR CHECK. When you sign the PAC card it allows us to move money from your working dues over to our PAC. Please call Cami today and find out if you have current PAC card on file. Medicare Retirees: Effective January 1st 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are as follows:



MOVING A BIN OF SCRAP outside the new Beaumont Outpatient Facility in Lenox Twp. is Al Vanlerberghe of Operating Engneers Local 324, behind the controls of a Telehandler He's employed by Roncelli.

# Hardhats and hard conversations 'Lean-In' groups bring tradeswomen together to navigate industry bias

(From North America's Building Trades Unions)

LeanIn.Org, North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU), and Canada's Build Together on May 11 announced the formation of "Lean-In Circles for Union Tradeswomen," a peer mentorship and training program to help women break new ground in an industry that's been historically dominated by men.

"Women in the building trades are talented and determined-but they are often alone," said Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook COO and LeanIn.Org founder. "Lean In Circles for Union Tradeswomen will connect them with each other and help them gain valuable skills for self-advocacy and navigating bias. This is an important step toward empowering more women to take advantage of the pathway to economic security that trade union jobs provide."

Less than 4 percent of construction workers are women, and because there are so few of them, they are often the only woman on a crew or at a job site. Being an "Only" is a major barrier to women in any industry. Women who are Onlys face more bias and sexism than women who work with other women. They are more than twice as likely to be asked to prove their competence, over three times more likely to be mistaken for someone more junior, and about twice as likely to be subjected to demeaning or disrespectful remarks.

The challenges of the Only experience make it exponentially harder for women to gain a foothold in male-dominated industries like construction. This is a problem, because these jobs tend to offer higher pay and better security than other industries and provide critical benefits for workers and their families. As investment in infrastructure grows and jobs in construction increase, having access to these kinds of trades represents a crucial opportunity for women.

Lean In Circles for Union Tradeswomen addresses head-on the issues tradeswomen face. The yearlong program brings trades women together in small groups (virtually for now) to connect, share advice, and learn new skills.

Tradeswomen discover how gender bias can play out on a work crew or at a job site, gain practical skills for navigating bias, and explore strategies they can use to advocate for themselves and other women in the trades. Each monthly meeting covers a specific topic – such as how to respond when your abilities are questioned or how to advocate to your boss for a leadership role, like foreman - and includes real-world examples and scenarios to prompt discussion.

At the end of each meeting, tradeswomen commit to one action they plan to take to push back on bias at work or advance their career.

"Unions are all about collective voice, and this innovative program offers the perfect opportunity to enhance that solidarity," said AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer Liz Shuler. "We need more women in the trades, more women in leadership roles, and having programs like this is a meaningful step to create lifelong leadership skills and real tools that will guide tradeswomen throughout their careers. Connecting with other women in similar situations and sharing strategies through networks is invaluable.'

Two years in the making, the program was developed by LeanIn.Org in partnership with AFL-CIO and NABTU leaders, subject matter experts, and tradeswomen to address the specific experiences of women in the building trades. The program was piloted in St. Louis, Missouri, and throughout Canada in 2019 and 2020 and received positive feedback from participants: 95 percent of Circle members said they built strong connections, and 90 percent of group moderators reported gaining leadership, facilitation, and organizing skills. As one tradeswoman put it, "The confidence I feel when a Circle member looks to me for advice is immeasurable. I take that confidence with me to the job and demand respect through my actions." Following the success of the pilot, so far, more than 700 tradeswomen have signed up.

Sub Fund Office: Kristina Springer: Please send all SUB Fund Requests to email: kspringer@pipefitters636.org 248-538-7065

Account Management/ **Death Notice:** Margaret April email: mapril@pipefitters636.org 248-538-6636 extension 102

The Hall is now open to all foot traffic. Masks are RE-QUIRED. Dues payments or SUB transactions can still be done via email or by phone. SUB email is kspringer@pipefitters636.org

The contract with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has been finalized and Jason May has new contact information, 248-655-4048

CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences which is still beneficial to all our members and their families. You can contact her @ 313-580-6887

The Retiree Association Meetings have been cancelled until further notice. The election has also been postponed until further notice. – President David Evans

UA password good thru June 30, 2021: CERTIFIED AP-PRENTICESHIPS

Any member that is Retiring contact Benesys @ 248-813-9800 for your Retirement paperwork or if you want to meet with the Financial Secretary Treasurer, please give him a 7 to 10 day notice so that he can get all of your paperwork in order.

**Dues:** If you do not pay your Dues by the end of each quarter. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Initiation fee.

**Defined Contribution Pen**sion 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-

(Continued next column)

410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526.

You can now login to your Defined Contribution account on the Local's website. Just click on the "Defined Contribution login here tab" and it will take you to the BeneSys login page. The Defined Contribution website is www.yourplanaccess.com/ benesys. All inquiries.

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 FU-TURE BONUS PAYMENTS.

**Recovery Support Group:** Pipe Dreamers, a Peer Support Recovery group for ongoing recovery from substance abuse and addiction meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:30pm at the office of "Work Life Strategies" 26789 Woodward Avenue, Suite 3105, Huntington Woods 48070. Call 248-545-8301 for details or any questions you may have.

Also, a Relations/Divorce Support Group meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6pm.

Worker Assistance Program: Work Life Strategies, LLC are available to our members and their families to provide personal counseling services and when needed, referral to other professionals. Call 248-545-8301 to talk to a counselor for issues relating to grief, alcohol and or drug addiction, bankruptcy, financial management, marital, depression, legal and family counseling.

Consultations with Work Life Strategies are a service paid for by the Insurance Fund. Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits.

Single Medicare \$262.55 Retiree and Spouse Medicare \$525.09

Retiree and Non-Medicare Spouse \$677.55

Short Term Disability: The Local 174 Board of Trustees recently voted to increase the short-term disability amount from \$300 per week to \$400 per week. This increase will be effective September 30th, 2019.

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

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retirees Aetna: (888)290-7241 Save-Rx: (800) 228-3108 Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616) 345-0788

Organizing Update: Please contact Chris Pelton if you know of any jobsites with a non-union plumbing or mechanical contractor or if you are interested in actively assisting with our organizing efforts. There are plenty of opportunities available, ranging from a one-day ride-along with a Business Agent or Organizer all the way up to full blown salting.

Dues: Please keep your monthly window dues current.

You can find your dues balance on the website or by calling (Continued next column)

#### Local 174, continued

the Union office. Remember that if you are expelled from the UA that you are no longer eligible to attend Local Union events, such as meetings, picnics, awards banquets, and Christmas parties.

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

Contact Info: Please make sure we have your updated contact information. Check your info on the website or by calling Cami at the Union office.

Retiree Breakfast: Cancelled until further notice.

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 vou to let the Union office know.

Labor Councils: - Kent Ionia - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month / Labor Temple 918 Benjamin / 5:30pm

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

All members are encouraged to become active in our area Labor Councils. Please contact a Union Officer for details.

FRINGE PLAN THIRD **PARTY ADMINISTRATOR:** (TIC) West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI48917-9275

(517) 321-7502 Phone (855) 40-PLUMB Toll Free (517) 321-7508 Fax **BENEFITS WEBSITE:** 

westmichiganplumbers.org is the TIC website where you can check your contributions and benefit information. Click on benefit inquiry. Your username is your social security number. The password for first time users is K4GHB39 (case sensitive). You will then be prompted to create a permanent password.

Forms: The forms for Dollar Bank Reimbursement and Sub Pay are on the www.ua174.org website under the Members Only section and Forms and Links tab.

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

Out of work list: Please remember to call extension 17 when you are laid off. You must call line 17 to be put on the available to work list. When you leave a message, please speak clearly. Any member who goes to work without a referral is in violation of our Collective Bargaining Agreement and Article XXXI of our Constitution and By-Laws. Please contact the Union Hall to find out your position on the out of work list.

Union Hall extension numbers: Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext: 12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext.14, Chris Pelton Organizer

ext.15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager 11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Shumaker ext. 30.

#### Training News.

FIRST AID: First Aid/CPR/ BBP class will be the second Thursday of the month, from 5:00p-9:00p. The next class will be held June 10, 2021.

OPEN WELDING: Open Welding on Wednesday evenings has been cancelled until further notice due to lack of participation.

ASSE BACKFLOW **TESTER:** Class has been postponed and is now scheduled to begin on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 @ 5p-9p (previously scheduled to begin on 5/10). The revised class dates are as follows: June 2, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16, 17 & 19 (Exam). Saturday classes are scheduled for 8a-4p. The cost for the exam is \$120. Exam fees are due prior to testing.

Night classes will be added to the schedule based on student demand and instructor availability.

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

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

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



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



A CLEAN SWEEP of the new Beaumont Outpatient Facility in Lenox Township is made by Bill Kelly of Laborers Local 1076. He's employed by Roncelli.

# 'I can't find the workers I need' ('at the wages I want to pay')

**By Heidi Shierholz Economic Policy Institute** 

There are lots of anecdotal reports swirling around about employers who can't find workers. Just search "worker shortages" online and a seemingly endless list of stories pops up, so it's easy to assume there's an alarming lack of people to fill jobs. But a closer look reveals there may be a lot less to this than meets the eye.

First, the backdrop. In good times and bad, there is always a chorus of employers who claim they can't find the employees they need. Sometimes that chorus is louder, sometimes softer, but it's always there. One reason is that in a system as large and complex as the U.S. labor market there will always be pockets of bona fide labor shortages at any given time.

But a more common reason is employers simply don't want to raise wages high enough to attract workers. Employers post Viewpoint

growth. Unsurprisingly, at a recent press conference, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell dismissed anecdotal claims of labor market shortages, saying, "We don't see wages moving up yet. And presumably we would see that in a really tight labor market."

Further, when restaurant owners can't find workers to fill openings at wages that aren't meaningfully higher than they were before the pandemic - even though the jobs are inherently more stressful and potentially dangerous because workers now have to deal with anti-maskers and ongoing health concerns – that's not a labor shortage, that's the market functioning. The wages for a harder, riskier job should be higher.

Further, despite many anecdotes of restaurants in particular not being able to find workers, the labor market added 280,000 jobs in the leisure and hospitality sector in March, the sixth highest percent increase in the last half century, even though average weekly earnings for nonsupervisory workers in that sector equate to annual earnings of just \$19,651. With these kinds of numbers it is difficult to take the claims of widespread shortages very seriously. And there are far more unemployed people than available jobs in the current labor market. In the latest data on job openings, there were nearly 40 percent more unemployed workers than job openings overall, and more than 80 percent more unemployed workers than job openings in the leisure and hospitality sector. While there are certainly fewer people looking for jobs now than there would be if Covid weren't a factor – many people are out of the labor market because of Covid-related care responsibilities or health concerns - without enough job openings to even come close to providing work for all job seekers, it again stretches the imagination to suggest that labor shortages are a core dynamic in the labor market. One question people raise is whether the expanded pandemic unemployment benefits keep workers from taking jobs. Right now, for example, unemployed workers who receive unemployment insurance benefits get not just the (very meager) level of benefits they would get under normal benefits formulas, but an additional \$300 a week. That means that some very low-wage workers - like many restaurant workers - may receive more in unemployment benefits than they would at a job. Is this making jobs hard to fill? There was a lot of fuss about this same question a year ago, when workers were getting a \$600 additional benefit a week. There were several rigorous papers that looked at this question, and they all found extremely limited labor supply effects of that additional weekly benefit. If the \$600 a week wasn't keeping people from taking jobs then, it's hard to imagine that a benefit half that large is having that effect now.



### **Cement Masons** & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT - The next membership meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2021 at 7 p.m. for a Telephonic meeting. Please feel free to call the Business manager or any agent with questions on how to sign up.

Have a safe and enjoyable Memorial day weekend.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the retirees that you all are safe and well.

Membership gold cards-**Congratulations!** 

Adolfo Santos – 25 Years John Predkelis - 25 Years Gregory Brisboy – 25 Years Louis Carducci – 25 Years Jackie Galloway Sr. - 25 Years

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

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

Attention all Apprentices now you will need to go to the website: www.micementplasterer training.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. (248) 548-0800. The Local's website is: www.opcmiami.org.

O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a satellite office in Flint, MI. 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. Members work-



BAC Local 2

WARREN/LANSING - We take the COVID-19 outbreak seriously and recognize the importance of minimizing the spread of the virus. The health and well-be-

ing of our members and their families and continuity of service to our members is our highest priority. If you have any questions or concerns, CHUCK please contact KUKAWKA either the War-

ren office at (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office at (517) 886-9781

**MAY 2021 CHAPTER MEETINGS.** The May Chapter meetings will also include the Special Called meeting in all Chapters for the purpose of NOMINA-TION / ELECTION of Chapter Chairman, Recording Secretary and Sergeant-at-Arms for each Chapter. If an election(s) is necessary in any of our Chapters, it shall be conducted by secret ballot election at that June Chapter meeting.

**SĂGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

JUNE 2021 CHAPTER **MEETINGS. METRO DETROIT** CHAPTER: Tuesday, June 01, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091

**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER:** Tuesday, June 01, 2021 at 7:30 PM, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter, MI 48130

FLINT CHAPTER: Wednesday, June 02, 2021 at 7:30 PM, 1701 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER: Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 6:00 PM, 11847 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

LANSING CHAPTER: Monday, June 14, 2021 at 6:00 PM, 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, June 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street,

#### May 21, 2021 THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 13



the family and friends of **Brother** Richard Zellinger (Bricklayer &

Welder) who passed away on April 11, 2021. Brother Zellinger had been a member for 29 years. **CRAFTWORKERS** NEEDED: We need Skilled Brick-

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

SIGNING BONUS FOR **SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS:** Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a Signing Bonus for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors for a month. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and non-supervisory members can get the same amount as a Finders Referral Bonus for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781. You can view the full Signing Bonus policy on our website.

**ASPEEDY RECOVERY:** A speedy recovery is wished to all those who have been sick or iniured.

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

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

**UPDATE-BACLOCAL2'S** TRAINING CENTERS: Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members but visits to our offices should be scheduled by appointment. Please contact our Training Centers at the numbers listed below for an appointment for annual RESPIRATOR FIT TESTS and other services.

**DETROIT IMI TRAINING** NTER: To schedule appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Tom Ward directly at (734) 552-7066. TMT RTI CLASSES RE-SUME WITH REDUCED CA-PACITY DUE TO COVID-19; REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. To register visit detroit troweltrades.org and click Calendar. Classes are filled on a first registered first served basis and will be held on the following Saturdays from 7:00am – 3:30pm: June: 5th & 12th

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

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

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

MEMBERSHIP 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 http://bit.ly/MAP-BAC and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday -Friday 8 am – 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

E-MAILADDRESS: 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.

BAC 2 MI Texting Program: We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership lately. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our text messages by

their too-low wages, can't find workers to fill jobs at that pay level, and claim they're facing a labor shortage. Given the ubiquity of this dynamic, I often suggest that whenever anyone says, "I can't find the workers I need," she should really add, "at the wages I want to pay.'

Furthermore, a job opening when the labor market is weak often does not mean the same thing as a job opening when the labor market is strong. There is a wide range of "recruitment intensity" that an employer can apply to an open position.

For example, if employers are trying hard to fill an opening, they will increase the compensation package and perhaps scale back the required qualifications. Conversely, if employers are not trying very hard, they may offer a meager compensation package and hike up the required qualifications. Perhaps unsurprisingly, research shows that recruitment intensity is cyclical. It tends to be stronger when the labor market is strong, and weaker when the labor market is weak. This means that when a job opening goes unfilled when the labor market is weak, as it is today, employers are even more likely than in normal times to be holding out for an overly qualified candidate at a very cheap price.

This points to the fact that the footprint of a bona fide labor shortage is rising wages. Employers who truly face shortages of suitable, interested workers will respond by bidding up wages to attract those workers, and employers whose workers are being poached will raise wages to retain their workers, and so on. When you don't see wages growing to reflect that dynamic, you can be fairly certain that labor shortages, though possibly happening in some places, are not a driving feature of the labor market.

And right now, wages are not growing at a rapid pace. While there are issues with measuring wage growth due to the unprecedented job losses of the pandemic, wage series that account for these issues are not showing an increase in wage ing 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 DE-**TROIT COMMERCIAL CE-MENT MASONS:** You can track your annuity fund status at the Wells Fargo website. You may do so by logging on to: www. retirement.wellsfargo.com or call (866) 640-5138, you can also call the fund office at (248) 645-6550 with any related questions.

PLASTERERS AND CE-MENT 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 forms, please contact the Local. Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local.

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, ROAD BUILDERS can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. PLASTERERS'AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MA-SONS can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All Plaster-(Continued next column) Traverse City, MI 49686

Our deepest sympathies to Brother Nicholas Mataitis and his family on the passing of their son. Adam.

**DEATHS REPORTED:** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother John Meffer (Bricklayer) who passed away on April 25, 2021. Brother Meffer had been a member for 6 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Robert Voss (Tile Layer) who passed away on April 03, 2021. Brother Voss had been a member for 22 years.

Our sincere condolences to

Local 514, con't ers and Cement Masons can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. For the INTERNATIONAL **PENSION** Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

Apprentices, remember that Related Training Instruction (RTI) classes are a requirement of your Apprenticeship, failure to attend will delay your apprenticeship and raises.

Additional classes will be added as necessary to accommodate all apprentices.

Feel free to contact your BAC field representative or the Apprentice Coordinator should you have any questions.

**METRO DETROIT AP-PRENTICE WORKSHEETS** AVAILABLE FOR DOWN-**LOAD:** Turning in monthly texting 2MI to 877877

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!

**PENSION AND HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION:** Bricklayers Metro Detroit Local Pension Fund (248) 641-4954

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

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

Cement Pension Fund (248) 645-6550 (detroitcement masons.org)

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

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



Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$34.54 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and

2 Pensions. Our Contractors have immediate opening for **Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry Restoration Workers.** 

For more information go to: bricklayers.org



Michigan Painters District Council

WARREN – Dear Members,

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

**DC 1M UNION CARDS**\* Any questions regarding a lost, damaged Union cards, or have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at:

Warren Office: (586)552-4474 extension 100

Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

**\*FULLTIME POSITION OPENING FOR FTIAPPRENTICSHIP-**LANSING FACILITY\* The FTI of the Great Lakes Michigan Apprenticeship is looking to fill a full time instructor position at the FTI Lansing Facility. Any interested candidates please contact FTI Training Director Shawn O'neill at (517) 304-4425 or email dot@iupatdc1m.org

\*D-BAR-A BOY SCOUT CAMPANNUAL MIX FIX 2021 SUC-CESS\* Thank you to all DC 1M Members who participated in the 2021 D Bar A Mix Fix. We had over 100 Brothers and Sisters participate to help beautify the Boy Scout Camp.

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

For ANDROID got to Google Playstore

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

Password: painters

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

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

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

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

Get involved. Work smart. Work safe.



#### 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

Local Union 514 Business Rep: Scott Mikulen Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann



Sign, Pictorial & Display Local 591

Sign Pictorial & Display 591 WARREN – The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at

6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m. Meeting may be postponed due to covid, will notify a.s.a.p. 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, or Keith Anderson at 586-899-7958, your Business Representatives. Questions pertaining to Local 591 Pension Fund 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.



DRYWALLING AN ELEVATOR lobby at the Beaumont-Lenox Twp. Outpatient Campus are (l-r) Enrique Guillen and Guillermo Guillen of Michigan Painters District Council 1-M. They're employed by Denn-Co. Construction. The soon-to-open facility brings a new option for a full slate of health care services to northeast Macomb County in a three-story, 109,650-square-foot building erected near the intersection of I-94 and 26 Mile Rd. Roncelli is managing the project.



# **Michigan Painters Mix, and Fix**

Another year, another successful "Mix-Fix" weekend effort to help fix and maintain the facilities at the D-Bar-A Boy Scout Ranch in Metamora. Volunteers from the Michigan Painters District Council 1-M spent the day on Saturday, May 8 fixing doors, repairing screens and painting cabins. It's a traditional destination for the Painters Union, which has been volunteering a day each springtime for more than two decades to help to refurbish the camp. Thank you to everyone who gave their time to give back to the community!



*"There is no safety in numbers, or in anything else."* – James Thurber (1894 - 1961)

"O, it is excellent to have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant."

–William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)

"I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker."

-Helen Keller (1880 - 1968)

#### Claims Transparency Clear insights into your health care costs.

Arbor, MI. **Web site:** www.iupatlocal514.org. Local Union 826 **Business Rep:** Rocky Ackerman **Meeting date:** 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. **Place:** 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

Local Union 845

Business Rep – Fred Frederickson Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933 Local Union 1052 Business Rep – Jake Fluty Meeting date: The Fourth

Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI

48529 Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovalle Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Place: 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623. Local Union 2352 Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI. Local Union 2353 Business Rep: Keith Anderson Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.

"Let us make one point, that we meet each other with a smile, when it is difficult to smile. Smile at each other, make time for each other in your family."

-Mother Teresa (1910 - 1997)

"The squeaking wheel doesn't always get the grease. Sometimes it gets replaced." –Vic Gold

"Men make history, and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

-Harry S Truman (1884 -1972)



Glaziers & Glassworkers

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357 WARREN - Our next regular scheduled union meeting will be on Monday June 7, 2021 at 6pm. We will be voting on delegates to the district council at this meeting.

Work remains steady in the area. There is lots of school work coming up this summer. That being said, we will be busy.

Brother Tony Meyers passed away on May 10th. Brother Dennis Roberts passed away on May 13th. Please keep them both in your thoughts and prayers.

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 (Continued next column)

#### Local 357, con't

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

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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

-Business Rep- Don Stepp



# AIELLO LAW GROUP PLLC

Construction Injury Specialists Representing Trades Workers and their families over 25 years



Painters District Council 1M

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Feel the Power

#### Laborers 1191

DETROT – **UNION HALL OPERATIONS**- Laborers' Local 1191 has remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Local 1191 is making every effort to keep our members and staff safe during this time by limiting person-to-person contact at the Local Union Hall. Thanking you in advance and please follow the COVID-19 recommendations to stay safe and healthy.

**Monthly Membership Meetings:** We continue to monitor new orders and directives pertaining to COVID-19. Decisions about membership meetings will be determined and relayed to you as they approach. Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays), next membership meeting will on the June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**Retirees: Retiree Council's monthly meetings will resume starting May 2021.** Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11:00 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, located at 2161 West Grand Boulevard in Detroit.

Union Dues For 2021: Effective January 1, 2021 regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00.

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

Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org!!! Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instructions...Please also check out our website and "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

NOTICE: The Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member shall be deemed suspended by the International Union without notice.

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

Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction Authorization: Members may revoke vacation monthly dues authorization at any time by signing a vacation deduction cancellation form. This cancellation form must be sent to the Local Union 1191 office, however understand that Local 1191 needs to have this form on file at least (60) days before the next vacation checks are distributed for the months of May or November.

**Vacation Check Direct Deposit:** If your mail delivery is slow or your mail is getting lost, then it is highly recommended to get your vacation check direct deposited into your bank checkings or savings account. A Payee Deposit Agreement must be completed and signed, and the member must return the payee deposit agreement at least 60 days before the following vacation distribution for the month of May, or November to Michigan Laborers Vacation Fund, 6525 Centurion Dr. Lansing Michigan 48917.

**MUST Safety Awareness Training:** Please check the MUST website at www.mustbsafe.com to see how many modules you have.

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 visit the training school website www.mltai.org to schedule appointments for modules. You can also contact the Local Union office at (313) 894-2241 to use a Local Union computer to complete required modules.

**Training:** Check out the training classes available to you at no cost. Journeymen and apprentices may still obtain training through MLTAI's online training at https://lms.mltai.org. Types of training you can take include: Asbestos Awareness-Silica Awareness-Infectious Disease Awareness-Respirator Awareness-Hazard Communication-Blood borne Pathogens Awareness-Covid-19 Awareness-Lead Awareness



Elevator Constructors 36

DETROIT – ALL MEM-BERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting is planned for Monday, May 24, 2021 at 5:30 pm. As of this printing we are having a meeting in the parking lot only, we are seeking alternate ways to communicate if the weather does not cooperate or a venue to accommodate us. Keep watching your email for possible changes!

Attention All Apprentices, monthly OJT forms are now online at NEIEP which must be completed before the 9th day of the next month. If you are working out of our jurisdiction, laid off or a probationary, OJT forms must be filled out and turned into the Hall. This is a requirement of the Department of Labor. Do not put your apprenticeship in jeopardy by failing to fulfill your responsibility. Reminder to All that the NEIEP website is available to All interested in Reviewing and Continuing Education.

Attention All Members Refund checks are available at Hall!

**Attention All Members:** Check your pay stubs regularly, there have been multiple issues with several Companies with Pay and Rates due. The hours you are paid should match hours toward vacation, benefits and expenses submitted. All may request a copy of the time you submit, according to the NEBAAgreement, Article XI, Par 2. Any changes made to your time are to be documented and given to you, NEBA Agreement, Article XI, Par.1. All Testing must be done according to Code and your Companies Maintenance Control Program. Document all tests that are due and only tasks you have completed. Keep all job logs current with this information.

All Members, Local 36, Local 85, Lansing and the EIWPF are holding outreaches sessions on Monday nights, 6:00 - 8:00 pm. No session on May 31st for the Memorial Day Holiday. Reviewing and answering any questions pertaining to Michigan and Detroit Elevator Codes. Contact the Hall if you are interested. The link will be sent to you for either online or phone participation. Maintenance Control Programs (MCP) reference the Codes, are ou being Code compliant? Know what the MCP is referencing for you the Licensed Journeyperson. Reminder, keep your State of Michigan and City of Detroit licenses current. Sign up to receive Safety Alerts at IUEC.org for safety and product alerts to your phone. All Construction and Modernization work is Teamwork. Request assistance when needed, do not proceed until provided as stated in your Company's Safety Policy. Contact the hall if assistance is denied. Keep the hall informed of starting all jobs. We regret to inform all members, but the Executive Board and Officers have decided to cancel this year's 2021 Picnic due to Covid concerns. Remember to always follow COVID-19 guidelines for your safety and those around you Have a Safe and Enjoyable Memorial Day. The Hall would like to pass on our condolences to the friends and family on the passing of Honorary Retired Brother Dan Gawenda. Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Be Safe and Be Healthy!



LOOKING OVER PLANS in what will be the emergency area at the Beaumont Lenox Outpatient Facility are (L-R) Blake Stewart and Kim Fountaine of Electrical Workers Local 58. They're employed by Centerline Electric. Photo by Laura Mastrangelo/Roncelli

# New option for health care set to open in Macomb County

(Continued from Page 1) place later in the summer.

"We are thrilled to offer much-needed health care services in Macomb County," said Beaumont Health CEO John Fox. "We selected the site because of its convenient location close to major thoroughfares in a growing and thriving community." Beaumont Health selected NexCore Group as its development partner for the project.

All manner of work was ongoing at the facility last month, with building trades workers toiling in all corners of the building. Befitting a facility that will offer a wide variety of medical care, it's a very intense mechanical building, with pipe, conduit and duct runs set in-between the floors.

It's a building without a basement; the mechanical room is on the first floor with electrical rooms placed on each of the three floors. The major mechanical equipment, including air handlers, rooftop units and exhaust fans, is located on the rooftop.

The facility will offer Beaumont Health-affiliated primary and specialty care physicians, emergency care, imaging, outpatient surgery, cancer services, physical therapy and many other services.

"The campus will allow our team of experts to share knowledge with each other and collaborate with patients and their families for care that works best for them," said Beaumont Chief Medical Officer David Wood, M.D.

most fun projects I've been associated with," Azar said. He said Roncelli has had "a great relationship" with Beaumont and NexCore. And the building trades workers "have been fantastic, couldn't be happier with them," he said.

While the building and campus have been erected on virgin land, that doesn't mean there weren't a host of other considerations at the site. Azar said the first and biggest task at the site was the de-watering effort – a high water table below ground necessitated a two-month effort to dry the area to install the underground utilities, such as storm sewer, sanitary and water mains, and to place concrete footings and foundations.

The construction team also had to be cognizant of, and work around, an existing 24-inch DTE Energy high-pressure natural gas main running through the site and located only three-and-a-half feet below ground through portions of parking access at the west side of the site. Then, there's also a major storm sewer structure under the gas main. "DTE stressed the importance of what would happen to local homes and businesses – and the local economy - if we hit into that pipe," said Gaudreau. "So we dug very carefully around that main."

One of the unique – and heaviest – features of the building will rarely be seen by most

Access is through a 2.5-footthick "giant door," O'Dwyer said – "it's 23,000 lbs. lined with lead and containing high-density block."

The Outpatient Campus in Lenox is the first of its kind for Beaumont Health, which said the facility "will offer a full continuum of quality outpatient care under one roof in a highly visible location. With eight hospitals throughout southeastern Michigan, Beaumont recognized the need to bring high-quality and affordable healthcare services to the communities it serves."

Beaumont partnered with NexCore Group, a national health care real estate developer, to develop the campus. NexCore will handle design management, financing, contractor selection, development, leasing, property management and asset management. There are opportunities for independent physicians and groups to open offices at the site.

NexCore said its design team, HKS Inc., "created a building design that was flexible enough to accommodate the acute care needs of the hospital as well as lower acuity spaces. The result was a dual entrance design concept with two-story glass atriums at each entrance to maximize daylight and provide an open and inviting layout. A greeter will be stationed at the entrances of the building to assist in guiding patients and to provide concierge-quality service. Public areas available throughout the first floor include a café, lounge space for common area waiting, and a retail pharmacy focused on wellness.

Twureness.

**NOTE:** Classes & Certifications contractors have been asking for are: OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety, Class A Cdl License, Asbestos Removal Supervisors Licence, Confined Space Permit Required, Grade Checking Blueprint Reading & Measuring Tools, GPS Location. The above training and certifications are all available at the training center. It could mean the difference of being sent to work or not! FYI: By taking the OSHA 30 your 18 MUST Safety modules are updated as well. If you are not able to go to the Training Center for MUST Safety Modules contact the Local Union to assist you with making arrangements to complete them.

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm and put their name on the out-of-work list. You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. Also be sure to Check & Update your Skills regularly.

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

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

**CONTACT NUMBERS**. Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension & Vacation)

\*Telephone: (877) 645-2267 \* Fax: (517) 321-7508 \*Website: www.michiganlaborers.org

\*Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension) \*Telephone: (248) 641-4942 \*Fax: (248) 813-9898

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare) \*Telephone: (800) 228 0048

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Vacation) \*Telephone: (877) 645-2267 \*Web Site: www.metrodetroitlaborers.org

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, 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.

**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.

Scholarships. LIUNA members can apply for scholarships for university, college, trade school and technical trainings through Union Plus. Learn more information about Union Plus scholarships at www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships.

"Make it a rule of life never to regret and never to look back. Regret is an appalling waste of energy; you can't build on it; it's only for wallowing in."

-Katherine Mansfield (1888 - 1923)

"All progress is precarious, and the solution of one problem brings us face to face with another problem." –Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

*"Wonder is the beginning of wisdom."* –Greek Proverb "Usually, terrible things that are done with the excuse that progress requires them are not really progress at all, but just terrible things."

-Russell Baker (1925 - 2019) "They can do all because

*they think they can.*" –Virgil (70 BC - 19 BC)

"Total absence of humor renders life impossible."

– Colette (1873 - 1954),

1990)

"Ability will never catch up with the demand for it." –Malcolm Forbes (1919 -

"An ignorant person is one who doesn't know what you have just found out."

-Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

"Victory belongs to the most persevering." –Napoleon Bonaparte (1769

-Napoleon Bonaparte (17 - 1821) Construction began with site work in November 2019. Roncelli's team leaders on the project include Senior Project Manager Paul Flores, Assistant Project Manager Ryan O'Dwyer, Project Engineer Mohamad Fardoun, Superintendent Jeremy Azar, Superintendent Rob Martin and Director of Health and Safety Brett Gaudreau.

"I'm very pleased with the project, it's one of the biggest and

patients and visitors. In fact, most of the staff at Beaumont Health will have never seen a linear accelerator vault, which is under construction on the building's first floor. It's a super heavy-duty structure that will house a pinpoint radiation delivery system to aid in cancer treatment.

The accelerator – one of only a handful in Michigan – requires the placement of a concrete enclosure that is 3.5 feet to 6 feet thick in order to safely operate and encapsulate the radiation. Roncelli's Azar said even with a three-week interruption in construction at the site last year due to Michigan's executive orders reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic, the building will be turned over to NexCore on schedule, or ahead of schedule, and on budget.

# **Employers: Want workers?** It's time to pay a living wage

#### (Continued from Page 1)

\$70,000, recently said he gets 300 applications for every opening. It turns out there's no "labor shortage" – just a shortage of people who will work for starvation wages, especially during a pandemic that's hit low-wage workers the hardest. What we are witnessing now is a reckoning and reassessment of the future of work.

But rather than think critically about why so many workers are hesitant to return, some pundits and right-wing politicians blame unemployment benefits. President Joe Biden's American Rescue Plan provides an extra \$300 a week for those out of work during the pandemic.

The GOP now wants to take that away. Republican governors from Montana, South Dakota, Utah, Iowa, and Arkansas, for example, have already announced they will cut unemployment benefits in order to force more people back to work. If Republicans truly wanted to abide by their free market ideals, they would recognize that in order to

#### 'What we are witnessing now is a reckoning and reassessment of the future of work'

stay competitive, employers must adapt to the demands of the market and pay their workers what they are worth.

Instead, they're opting to slash unemployment benefits, oppose significant increases in the federal minimum wage, and have the government subsidize businesses by forcing employees to rely on assistance like food stamps to get by. Same as it ever was.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the reality that our economy is dependent on exploitation. As the virus spread, many workers watched their bosses prioritize profit over the lives of employees, who risked their health and lives to work frontline jobs during a pandemic that killed over 500,000 people in this country. While these low-wage workers braved the pandemic, their CEOs cashed in.

A new report from the Institute for Policy Studies found that among the 100 S&P 500 firms with the lowest median worker wages, 51 rigged the rules in 2020 to award CEOs large bonuses while their low-wage employees suffered. Average CEO pay skyrocketed 29 percent to over \$15 million, while average employee salaries fell to barely \$28,000.

It's been well over a decade since Congress raised the federal minimum wage. But meanwhile, the CEOs and speculators who get rich off minimum-wage labor have seen their fortunes skyrocket. If the minimum wage had increased at the same rate as Wall Street bonuses since 1985, it would be worth \$44 an hour today.

With all of this in mind, would you put your life on the line for \$7.25 an hour? For employers, the lesson should be simple: If you want workers, pay them a living wage.

(via www.otherwords.org)

"Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought." -Albert Szent-Gyorgyi (1893 - 1986

*"I never cease being dumbfounded by the unbelievable things people believe."* –Leo Rosten (1908 - 1997))

"It is no profit to have learned well, if you neglect to do well."

– Publilius Syrus (~100 BC)



By Scott Heintzelman, Aaron **Switzer and Joe Mickevich Michigan Department of** Natural Resources

Have you ever wondered where those salmon and trout the Michigan Department of Natural Resources stocks in the Great Lakes and tributaries come from? Before they hatch into fry (very young fish), before they grow to stocking size and before they leave the stocking truck, the eggs of these fish must be collected by DNR Fisheries Division personnel

The Little Manistee River Weir and Egg Collection Facility, located on the beautiful Little Manistee River just outside of Manistee in Manistee County, is the place where this story originates.

For over 50 years, workers at the Little Manistee facility have collected eggs from Chinook salmon and steelhead, two very important and popular gamefish species.

The egg-take facility was constructed in 1967 and began operations in 1968 to meet the growing interest in fishing for salmon and steelhead - two nonnative species introduced previously to the Great Lakes. This site on the Little Manistee River was chosen based on its proximity to Lake Michigan and its ideal spawning habitat that already supported natural reproduction of steelhead (lake or ocean-going rainbow trout).

In the late 60s and early 70s, the introduction of coho and Chinook salmon revitalized Great Lakes fisheries that were depleted by invasive sea lamprey and alewife, commercial fishing and habitat degradation that had occurred over time.

Beginning in 1968 and continuing through today, the Little Manistee egg-take facility has operated as the primary source for Chinook salmon eggs, and the sole source for steelhead eggs, for these two fish-stocking programs.

The facility operates from about mid-March to May to collect eggs from steelhead that spawn in the river each spring. Mid-September through October, the facility staff collects eggs





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT of Natural Resources staffers work to sort fish for spawning at the Little Manistee River Weir and Egg Collection Facility in Manistee County.

from Chinook salmon that spawn in the fall.

In 2019, the facility got muchneeded upgrades, including replacing most of its mechanical and concrete infrastructure and adding efficiencies such as LED lighting and pump improvements.

Over the last 50 years, there has been only one time the facility and staff were unable to fulfill the egg quota for the steelhead program. In the spring of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic was still in its early stages, and the many unknowns at the time resulted in the painful decision to suspend spring egg-take operations out of an abundance of caution.

For the fall Chinook salmon operations, return-to-work protocols were in place. These same protocols were in place for the 2021 spring steelhead operation, allowing staff to meet the needs of this important program while safely working together.

The Little Manistee Weir and Egg Collection Facility and grounds includes several important components that provide a way to capture and hold fish and allow staff to collect and fertilize eggs and to release or harvest fish.

The process begins with the weir structure itself. The weir is basically a temporary dam that blocks fish from migrating upstream but does not impound water in the way a traditional dam spawning habitat. This instinct



**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT of Natural Resources fisheries techni**cian Ed Barr works with collected fish eggs at the Wolf Lake State **Fish Hatchery. MDNR** photos

would. The other major component of the facility is a fish ladder leading to a raceway that connects to several ponds. The ponds, raceway and fish ladder are all flooded using large pumps that pump water from the river channel that circulates throughout the facility and down the fish ladder.

The flow of water through the facility attracts fish congregated below the weir up the fish ladder and into holding ponds. Chinook salmon and steelhead on their spawning run instinctively move upstream to seek out leads them into the facility. Once a significant number of fish have been collected in ponds, egg-take

operations can begin. A typical day of egg take begins with a significant amount of planning and preparation. First, the quota of eggs to meet the stocking requests of the program, including enough surplus stock to allow for changes in stocking numbers and losses during the rearing process, must be determined. This gives staffers who conduct the egg collection an idea of how many days the operation will take and the staffing level nec-

essary to complete the work.

There is also a detailed protocol created and revised annually that describes the process required to fertilize, disinfect and prepare the eggs for the trip from the weir to the hatchery.

Once these steps are determined, it is time to bring in the fish. Fish are moved from the large holding ponds by opening the pond doors and using a machine called a crowder to slowly push them into the main raceway.

From there, the fish are slowly pushed into the spawning building and lifted by a basket into a tank where fish are anesthetized for handling. The fish are then taken out of the basket and put onto a sorting table where ripeness can be checked, and males and females are separated. The ripe males are gently squeezed so milt, or sperm, can be collected in a small receptacle. Eggs are removed from ripe females by adding compressed air into the body cavity with a small needle.

In the steelhead egg collection process, spawned fish are moved to a recovery tank outside the building before being released upstream. Steelhead do not necessarily die after spawning and can spawn more than once in their life cycle.

In contrast, Chinook salmon only spawn once during their life cycle and then die, so fish that have been spawned are then harvested and sold by a state contractor. During both egg collection operations, males and females are put in individual buckets for fertilization. Eggs are then combined in large egg buckets to finish preparation for transport.

When the buckets of fertilized eggs leave the Little Manistee River Weir facility, they go to a DNR fish hatchery, where Hatcheries. they are counted and placed in incubators. This begins

the fish's journey through the hatching and early rearing process.

The fish are kept in the hatcheries until they begin the visible smolting process, when physiological changes occur as these migratory fish begin homing in on

spawn.

The clearly visible part of the smolting process is the shedding of the camouflaged (with parr marks) scales that help conceal the fish while in rivers and streams. These scales are replaced with bright silvery scales as they migrate down rivers to the Great Lakes.

This occurs after only six months for Chinook salmon, while steelhead are in the hatchery for about one year. Stocking fish during the smolting process assists biologists in predicting where the fish may return to spawn.

The Little Manistee River Weir facility and grounds is also a great place to visit. Egg-take operations are usually open to the public (apart from recent COVID-19 restrictions) and allow visitors to see these amazing fish and the process of harvesting their eggs up close. Weir tours, combined with education and outreach efforts, bring hundreds of students to the Little Manistee Weir every year to learn about the life cycle of fish, invasive species, the history of salmon in the Great Lakes and the DNR programs that manage and sustain these prized fisheries.

In 2012, the DNR partnered with the Manistee Explore the Shores Program to add universally accessible amenities at the site, including paved pathways around the grounds that offer a self-guided tour with informational signage, a large observation deck below the weir structure, handicap parking spaces and Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant pit toilets. This work was made possible by a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

If you would like to visit the weir, check out dates of operation and more at Michigan.gov/



their surroundings, AND HERE'S WHAT FISH EGGS BECOME: which will determine Olen Gannon, Michigan Department of Natural where they return to Resources fisheries technician at the Harrietta Field Office, is shown with a 20-pound steelhead.

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-Widow of Chrysler Engineer

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