THE BUILDING TRADESMAN () () Since 1952 VOL. 71, NO. 5 Since 1952 • Serving the highly skilled men and women in Michigan's building trade unions 65 Cents March 11, 2022



# **Construction's got** challenges? Yup. Lots going on in the U.S.

construction industry.

There's a scarcity in U.S. construction workers: on average in 2021, 4.4 percent of building industry jobs were unfilled. Those labor shortages are boosting wages: over the past 12 months, construction pay climbed 5.1 percent. And combined with unrelated higher material prices, the situation "has produced significant increases in the cost of delivering construction services," says an analysis released March 2 by construction accounting firm in Marcum LLP.

Under the headline "Construction workers are scarce, aging and really popular,' Marcum's chief construction economist, Anirban Basu, said, unsurprisingly, that the turning point for the current state of the industry took place at the start of the Covid-10 pandemic. "The pandemic resulted in a 14.5 percent decline in construction employment from February to April of 2020," he said, "persuading some workers to enter retirement earlier than anticipated and inducing others to seek employment in other industries, including those that offer the ability to work remotely and/or on flexible schedules.'

Today, Marcum says, the industry "faces a historical level of unfilled jobs." The 4.4 percent level of unfilled construction jobs "was easily the highest proportion over the course of the two decades that the Bureau of Labor Statistics has monitored such things.'

Marcum said the share of unfilled jobs expanded over the

# **Here comes** prevailing wage, again fair pay rule resurrected by Whitmer

### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

LANSING – Prevailing wage is back in Michigan. Well, it's back at least as long as Gov. Gretchen Whitmer stays in office. Or, it's back at least until a court could potentially rescind her executive order, which hasn't happened in the past six months.

Whitmer announced on

March 1 that the reinstatement of prevailing wage rules for many, but not all, state construction contracts, was effective that day. It puts into effect her announcement made last October, when she surprisingly told a press conference at the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333 Training Center of her decision to reverse parts of a Republican-imposed state pre-

vailing wage ban made in 2018. There are now some significant limitations on what the prevailing wage rules apply to, however.

Until the GOP's 2018 action, all of Michigan trades workers, both union and nonunion, enjoyed the benefit of prevailing wages on state-sponsored contracts since the law was put in place in 1965.

"Reinstating prevailing wage for state construction projects puts working people first and helps us build high-quality, cost-effective infrastructure with the right mix and materials," said Whitmer. "In Michigan, we are leading by example and delivering real change for our hard-working people who deserve to be (Continued on Page 4)



NEARLY TO THE DAY that the Norfolk Southern bascule railroad bridge celebrated its 100-year anniversary (it opened on Jan. 26, 1922), Iron Workers Local 25 members employed by the Ruhlin Co. began a month-long project to replace two key components of the historic bridge. Spanning the Rouge River, and shown with a section of I-75 as a backdrop, it is described as one of the rarest bascule bridges of its type in the nation.

Photo credit: Craig Hensley Photography

# Iron workers keep the swing in century-old rail bridge

# **By Marty Mulcahy** Editor

RIVER ROUGE – Iron ore freighters and other boat traffic navigating the narrow Rouge River have to pass through, or under, no less than seven bridges from the Detroit River to reach the usual destination where a fork of the river's flow dead-ends at the Ford Rouge Plant.

In that region, both sides of the Rouge River are heavily



# **Biden pro-union panel's** recommendations boost organizing, hit union-busters

By Mark Gruenberg Press Associates Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Not waiting for a gridlocked Congress to act on workers' rights, a special Biden Administration commission on increasing unionization issued 70 recommendations last month on how the administration could do so on its own.

Measures range from making organizing easier within government agencies to - in the general workforce - forcing more disclosure by union-busters, among other plans.

The report also recommends using the "power of the purse," in deciding which businesses get the \$600 billion yearly the feds dole out in contracts, to promoting unionizing and union-friendly firms. And much of that money will be spent to fund construction projects under a Biden executive order requiring the use of project labor agreements on federal work exceeding \$35 million.

"Their 43-page report is a roadmap for bolstering workers' rights and bettering their lives through policies that support union organizing and collective bargaining, goals Biden has championed from the White House bully pulpit like no president before him," said IBEW General President Lonnie Stephenson. "This is a significant milestone.'

"Recent organizing drives like the national movement for a \$15 minimum wage – illustrate the promise of the current moment for worker organizing and worker power. This is especially true when workers are able to deploy creative new forms of collective action....

But it's also in line with rest of Biden's pro-worker actions since he entered the Oval Office, including outright and vocal support of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union's organizing drive at the big Amazon warehouse in Bessemer, Ala., last vear

The president said unionizing it would be important for the entire nation. Rampant Amazon labor law-breaking, including millions of dollars spent on unionbusters, beat the Retail Workers' unionization effort. It was so (Continued on Page 2)

# Past year sees robust growth for **U.S.** construction expenditures

U.S. construction spending increased in January compared to both December and a year ago, with strong gains in both private nonresidential and residential construction. But there was mixed results for public spending, according to an analysis of federal spending data released March 1 by the Associated General Contractors of America. "Private nonresidential construction, especially for manufacturing plants, has rebounded sharply in recent months, while demand for housing remains strong," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "But public projects have yet to grow consistently." Overall U.S. construction spending in January totaled \$1.68 trillion at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, 1.3 percent above the upwardly revised December rate and a healthy 8.2 percent higher than in January 2021. Broken down, private residential construction spending rose 1.3 percent in January from a month prior and 13.4 percent from January 2021, while private nonresidential construction spending increased 1.8 percent from December to January and 7.3 percent from January 2021. But money from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law adopted last year has yet to trickle down in any significant amount. The AGC said Congress has yet to appropriate the money – and in fact, U.S. public construction spending rose 0.6 percent in January but slipped 1.3 percent from the year-ago level.

course of 2021, rising from 3.9 percent in January to 5.7 percent by October, but declined to 4.3 percent at the end of the vear. The average level was 2.5 percent during the decade prior to the onset of the pandemic.

The median age of construction workers has risen in recent years, and more construction workers than ever consider themselves general construction laborers, rather than skilled in a particular craft, the study found.

"This suggests that the industry doesn't simply face a worker shortage, it faces a skills shortage," Basu said. "While these dynamics predated the pandemic, they have become especially apparent over the past two years. Above all, this threatens industry profitability as well as creating circumstances that could result in widespread firm failure."

# Union elections off to good start in '22

This year has seen a good start for union election filings.

The UComm Blog that through the middle of February, nearly 100 Starbucks locations have been organized, "with more being announced each day."

And according to the Union Elections Twitter handle, which tracks union election filings with the National Labor Relations Board, January 2022 saw twice as many election petitions as the year earlier.

The success stories among groups that have organized are quite diverse. Gas workers in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, the Art Institute of Chicago, Steelworkers in Missouri, and Duke University Press workers in North Carolina are among those who have signed union contracts.

# Quotable

"No one is so senseless as to choose of his own will, war rather than peace, since in peace the sons bury their fathers, but in war the fathers bury their sons."

-Herodotus (c. 484 B.C.)

industrialized, and three of those spans that cross the waterway are old, mighty steel rail bridges that have delivered faithful service for a century or so. The rail span closest to the Rouge Plant recently received some important upgrades, on its 100th anniversary, no less the River Rouge Norfolk Southern Railroad Bridge.

The span is a "trunionbalanced bascule bridge "that utilizes a complex counterweight that moves to adjust the weight as the bridge raises and lowers, a patented design called the ABT Bascule Bridge," says Historic Bridges. "It is among the rarest bascule bridge types in the country. Michigan has three examples, perhaps the highest (Continued on Page 2)

THE KEY COMPONENT to the Norfolk Southern Railroad Bridge was the replacement of the link pin and bearing of the concretefilled, 1,000-ton counterweight that looms over the span. We weren't allowed on site to take photos.

And to make sure the report is not filed and forgotten, Biden kept the task force going – it was formed last year – and ordered it to report in six months on progress implementing its recommendations.

The task force said its recommendations are "a comprehensive approach" to promoting unionization via "the existing authority of the executive branch. Our goal is not just to facilitate worker power through executive action. It is to model practices that can be followed by state and local governments, private sector employers, and others."

The report justifies backing unions by an economic argument, tying declining private-sector unionization to stagnant or declining wages and income for the U.S. middle class.

# Workplace strikes see tiny resurgence

### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

As the Covid-19 pandemic skews all manner of workplace government statistics – unemployment, on-the-job illnesses, job. union density - now comes the numbers for major work stoppages.

U.S. work stoppages - essentially, strikes, and relatively onset of the low and approaching dormancy for four decades – suddenly

surged in 2018 and 2019, when major role. Now, led by the worker called "Striketober" last fall, 485,200 and 425,500 workers in actions in the month of the so-

those years, re-Number of workers involved spectively, walked off the in major U.S. work 500.000 stoppages - 1973-2021 But those work stoppages 1,000,000 plummeted in ureau of Labor Statistics 2020, with the pandemic no doubt playing a

the numbers are creeping back

up "In conjunction with an increased momentum around unions and union activity, the number of workers involved in major strikes increased in 2021 to 80,700," according to an Economic Policy Institute analysis of federal date released Feb. 23 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (Continued on Page 2)

# 'Safety helmets' the latest in head gear evolution

Source:

(From *The Construction User*)

When you think of the construction industry, most people picture the iconic hard hat. Traditional hard hats are typically made of polyethylene, and they've been the go-to choice for head protection on the jobsite for decades. But a "helmet revolution" is underway, and many safety managers are looking at a new option: the safety helmet.

Construction safety helmets look a lot different from hard hats. Their design is based on headgear used in extreme sports, such rafting. They attach more closely

straps. PPE manufacturers produce safety helmets in a variety of congurations to withstand various hazards on construction sites.

Regular hard hats do a good job of protecting the top of the head from falling objects. But jobsite hazards can come from any direction, not just up. A worker could be knocked off a ladder and fall at an awkward angle or get struck in the side by a piece of material being transported across the site.

Unlike a hard hat, a Type IIas rock climbing and whitewater rated safety helmet can offer increased protection from side and

on the head and have built-in chin off-center impacts to the head.

Though it may seem like a small detail, the safety helmet's built-in chin strap is another important feature. Hard hats without chin straps are prone to falling off, leading to more than 80.000 head injuries per year, according to RMI. Because safety helmets always have chin straps, it makes them more likely to be used - and less likely to come off during a fall.

The increase in the adoption of safety helmets on jobsites has some manufacturers of head protection and other forms of PPE (Continued on Page 4)



AVAILABLE WITH adjustable chin straps, ear protection and face shields, construction safety helmets are gaining popularity on today's jobsites. Photo credit: The Construction User

March 11, 2022

# Viewpoints

# The fading PRO-Act...

Editor's note: The Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act was adopted a year ago by the Democrat-controlled U.S. House, and contains a host of provisions that would bolster workers' rights and make it easier for the nation's labor movement to organize new workers

It remains stalled in the U.S. Senate, where 10 Republican senators would have to nod their support of the bill in order for it to get 60 votes and move past a filibuster and signed into law. To date, zero Republican senators have expressed support for the legislation. There is a small, fleeting chance that some or all of the PRO Act could be attached to a legislative package that would only require a 51-vote majority in the Senate.

Here are five major provisions in the PRO Act:

1. So-called right-to-work laws in more than two dozen states, including Michigan, allow workers in union-represented workplaces to opt out of paying union dues, while enjoying the wages and benefits in a collectively bargained contract. The PRO Act would allow unions to override such laws and collect dues from those who opt out, in order to cover the cost of collective bargaining and administration of the contract.

2. Employer interference and influence in union elections would be forbidden. Amazon and Starbucks are just two companies with ongoing union organizing drives that are accused of illegally influencing workers against unions. Amazon has been holding company-sponsored meetings that seem intended to coerce workers not to unionize.

3. The PRO Act would allow newly certified unions to seek arbitration and mediation to settle impasses in negotiations - which would be useful when unions and management fail to reach an initial contract.

4. Significant monetary penalties would be established for la bor-law breaking companies and executives.

The above primer serves as a lead-in to the opinion below.

# ...Long live union organizing

We can't just keep saying "Pass the PRO Act." We have to organize

In January our movement got its annual punch in the gut from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, whose 2021 report shows 241,000 fewer union members than the previous year. Just 1 in 10 workers belongs to a union; in the private sector it's 1 in 16.

In 20 years the country gained 14 million workers—but unions lost 2 million members. Poll after poll shows majority support for unions; "Striketober" gripped headlines for weeks. And yet our numbers keep going down. The law is broken, the employers are aggressively resistant, the members are on defense – all true enough, but none is an answer to the crisis. The bottom line is that our unions either can't organize, or won't.

The United Auto Workers has lost 275,000 members - 40 percent of its membership – since the year 2000. That's not because there's no auto manufacturing here anymore; there are nearly a million auto and auto parts workers, more than 80 percent of them non-union

There's no reason to think those workers are against joining an organization or having power on the job – any more than the auto workers of the 1920s, the public school employees of the 1950s, or the Starbucks workers organizing today. This slow-motion train wreck used to be something labor leaders talked a lot about.

In the 1990s, when the crisis was already acute, there were big changes at the top of the AFL-CIO, with public campaigns for "30 percent by the year 2000" - the proportion of the budget to be spent on organizing.

Then-AFL-CIO President John Sweeney was still urging unions to reach that 30 percent mark in 2001, when he called the decline in membership "the harshest judgment history can make on our collective leadership of the labor movement."

In 2005, spending less on electoral politics and more on organizing drives became the rallying cry of the unions that split to form a new federation, Change to Win. There's plenty to say about why these efforts mostly failed. As Mike Parker and Martha Gruelle wrote in 1997, "The AFL-CIO's version of revitalization will not go far without democracy, without rank and filers organizing themselves"- but at least they had the problem in their sights. These days most labor leaders have written off large-scale organizing as impossible under current laws. Some have resorted to desperate shortcuts instead. The gist of the AFL-CIO response to this year's predictably bad news was, "We need labor law reform. Pass the PRO Act!" That press release came out the day after the majority party's own voting rights reform, backed by the president, had failed in the face of the filibuster.

# Workplace strikes see tiny resurgence

# (Continued from Page 1)

(BLS). "This is an increase from the number of workers involved in major worker stoppages in 2020, which was 27,000 - however it is still a significant decline from pre-pandemic levels.'

The EPI continued: "Crucially, the BLS data do not capture all strike activity because it only includes strikes involving 1,000 or more workers lasting at least one full shift. These size and duration limits mean that the BLS data did not capture actions taken by many workers who walked off the job to demand fair pay and safe working conditions during the pandemic.

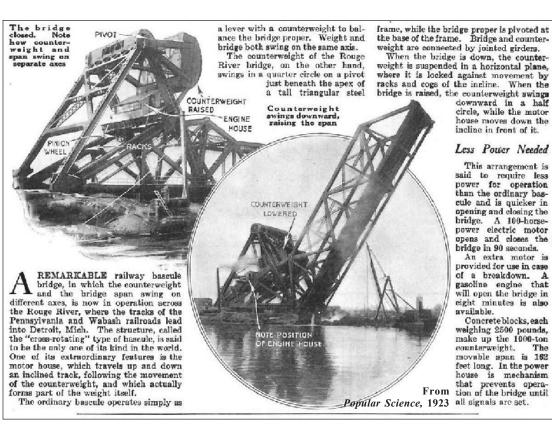
Many of those walk actions have been at smaller workplaces, like ongoing worker actions at individual Starbucks coffee shops.

According to the federal BLS, in 2021, there were 16 major work stoppages beginning that year. The BLS said over the past several decades the lowest annual total of major work stoppages was five in 2009 and the highest was 470 in 1952, which was near the height of organized labor's density in the U.S. workplace. Since the year 2000, there have been an average of 17 work stoppages beginning in the year.

The labor-backed EPI said since the BLS does not distinguish between a worker strike or a management lockout when it comes to a "work stoppage," lockouts are rare relative to strikes, so it is "reasonable" to call a major work stoppage a strike.

Labor actions that are ongoing or have recently taken place at workplaces large and small include the settlements after the Kelloggs, John Deere and Nabisco strikes, two union votes at Amazon, barista strikes at various Starbucks stores, and a near-strike by 60,000 film and television workers. In 2018 and 2019, some 400,000 teachers walked off the job.

"Workers are turning to strikes to fight for better wages, benefits, and working conditions during the pandemic. This activity is occurring despite the obstacles current labor law poses to workers to effectively engage in their fundamental right to strike," said Margaret Poydock, EPI policy analyst and government affairs specialist. "Crucial reforms like the PRO Act would strengthen the right to strike and help ensure that workers have the leverage they need to secure their



# Iron workers keep the swing in century-old rail bridge

# (Continued from Page 1)

population of the type in any one state." (The others are in Saginaw and Port Huron).

A month-long project that wrapped up on Feb. 25, undertaken by The Ruhlin Co. of Ohio and a crew of Iron Workers Local 25 members, replaced the span's counterweight link pin and bearing. "To the best of my knowledge, they were original components," said Ruhlin Project Manager Ben Neal. "They are major components of the bridge.'

He said the project required jacking the counterweight and replacing it with temporary supports, and replacement of some steel. Overall, he said "it's amazing after 100 years of wear, the bridge is still in very good condition."

The wear comes from both the up and down movement of the deck to accommodate the passing of the freighters, and the horizontal support of freight trains on the deck's two tracks. The project was planned for the winter months when freighter traffic on the Rouge River has come to a stop, allowing the iron workers access to a bridge permanently in the down position.

Train traffic is more sporadic these days, but back when the span opened a century ago, a train rumbled across the bridge every 13 minutes. "It was a challenging scope of work for us, but we had a very good crew and they did very well," said Neal.

With the Ford Rouge plant, operations on nearby industrial-

a span of 90 seconds. An operator on duty around the clock raises and lowers the bridge.

The engineering that went into the new Rouge-Wabash span brought differences to existing designs that only a bridge geek would appreciate. Likely, one of them was Otis Ellis Hovey, an assistant chief engineer with American Bridge, who wrote an entire book in 1926 on his favorite subject, titled Movable Bridges.

"During 1920," he wrote, "there was developed a new type of trunion-balanced bascule bridge, in which the counterweight moves in the opposite direction to the bascule leaf," he wrote. Patented by the American Bridge Co. of Chicago, "the first bridge of this type to be built was that of the Wabash Railway, across the River Rouge, Detroit.'

And he added a description of the bridge's workings: "As the counterweight and the operatinglink joint rotate in arcs of circles, and power is applied along the bisector of the scissors-joint angle, an almost exact balance is attained in all positions of the moving leaf."

Hovey added: "The design lends itself to easy construction in the open position of the leaf. A bridge of this type can be completely erected in open position and the machinery tested, by actual operation for small angles, without in any way interfering with the traffic over and old structure."

Translation: the primary advantage to this type of bridge was not interfering with river traffic as it was being constructed.

There have been upgrades over the years on other portions of the bridge. According to Michigan Railroads, the bridge "was rebuilt by Midwest Steel Co. in 1981 and 1982. In January, 1982, six switch engines stored at Oakwood Yard were placed on the bridge to keep the span down while the counterweight was disconnected and new beams were placed."

# **Pro-union panel boosts** organizing, hit union-busters (Continued from Page 1)

flagrant that the National Labor Relations Board's regional office tossed out the election and ordered a rerun, now occurring.

Biden appointed the commission, headed by Vice President Kamala Harris and including Labor Secretary Marty Walsh - a Laborers Local 223 member – even before it became clear the 50-50 Senate, gridlocked by Republican right-wing filibusters, has little chance of passing the Protect The Right To Organize (PRO) Act, the wideranging pro-worker labor law reform and unions' No. 1 legislative priority. The report pushes the measure, anyway.

No major organizing drives to point to, no plan to build density in core industries, no reallocation of budgets, no member-tomember education or outreach programs – just a wish that the ruling class would change the rules.

Let's be real: the PRO Act isn't going to pass anytime soon. We need a plan B where we figure out how to organize under current conditions. Besides, even if the PRO Act were enacted tomorrow, a union revival wouldn't be automatic – it would take organizing plans, analyses, campaigns, budgets. So where are they?

The labor movement is not dead; its 14 million members are a base to build from. But those who command the union treasuries can't just whine for legislation – they have to get back on the horse and try to organize. And those of us who have their ear (and pay their salaries) must help them find the courage

Jonah Furman via Labor Notes, Feb. 22, 2022

# **Tax the uber-rich? Horrors!**

# **By Jim Hightower**

The rich are different from you and me. For one thing, they're rich

Among the super-rich, though, there tends to be a peculiar sense that their net worth is a testament to their true worthiness. Thus,



they seem to cling desperately to the very idea of being extremely wealthy. This leads to one specific difference between them and us: Most of us favor a wealth tax to help bridge the gaping chasm of inequality in our society; the rich do not.

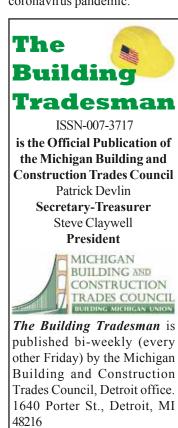
Indeed, we hear shrieks of abject horror and cries of doom coming from corporate board rooms and other defenders of the plutocratic order. It would be comical if they weren't so pathetic. They exclaim that such a tax will "destroy" entrepreneurial motivation, "sap' innovation,

"punish' success, and - get this - "spur" a wave of divorces! The psyches of the rich are so fragile, goes this line of bull, that a tiny tax on people with more than \$50 million in wealth would keep them from getting out of bed in the morning.

Jamie Dimon, a billionaire Wall Street banker, disingenuously asserts that super-wealthy people like him would "be happy to pay more in taxes." But he fears the government would just squander it on giveaways "to interest groups and stuff like that." I have to admit that Jamie does know his "stuff" - after all, he weaseled billions of dollars from us taxpayers to bail out his bank during the 2007 Wall Street crash.

Far from squandering revenues on such welfare cases as Dimon, those supporting the wealth tax specifically call for the money to fund universal access to higher education, free health care for all, restoration and expansion of our national infrastructure, and other direct efforts to restore the common good.

share of economic growth during the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic."



Printed at Grand Blanc Printing, a union shop

Periodical mail postage paid at Detroit, MI and additional mailing offices.

The Building Tradesman 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI 48216 Phone: (313) 961-3800 Fax: (313) 961-2467 Union members with address changes are asked to contact their local union. Editor/Photographer Marty Mulcahy E-mail: buildingtradesman@ ameritech.net **Advertising Director** 

Joe Hoshaw E-mail: btads@ameritech.net (734) 558-6955 Subscription Rate \$15 annually (group rate for unions) Visit our website: www.michiganbuildingtrades.org

ized Zug Island and a host of other businesses in the area about to flourish and a newly dredged, widened and improved Rouge River to accommodate the big boats – the bridge opened to rail traffic on Jan. 26, 1922. The span, built by American Bridge Co. for the Wabash Railroad, soon received some national attention with write-ups in the Engineering News Record and Popular Science magazine.

"At the crossing of the Wabash RR over River Rouge, Detroit, a bascule bridge of radically new type has just been built to replace an old swing bridge," said the ENR in its March 2, 1922 edition. "The new bridge was made necessary by improvement of the channel to a width of 300 ft. with depth of 20 ft. The new structure is a single-lead double track bascule bridge... with 162-foot lift span. The total length is 291 ft."

The new bridge design received its own patent in 1922. The original design included a 1,000ton counterweight - a steel basket filled with concrete - that swings downward under the power of two 100 horsepower electric motors, although only the power of one is sufficient to operate the bridge. Each motor has a solenoid brake for holding the leaf in any position. One motor

"It is important to acknowledge the task force recommendations do not and cannot take the place of the robust legislative change needed to fix our labor laws," its report admits.

The report contains recommendations to:

•Expand public-sector worker collective bargaining rights to state and local government employees. Some states, mostly in the South, restrict bargaining by public workers or say unions may only "meet and confer" with bosses. North Carolina has an outright ban.

•"Position the federal government as a model actor," the report says. "The federal government will promote broader labor-management engagement, as we know that such engagement helps to make the government more effective. The federal government will also provide greater access and information to unions seeking to represent and build membership among the federal workforce.<sup>3</sup>

•Order the departments of Labor, Defense and Health and Human Services, plus the Small Business Administration, "to expand awareness of workers' organizing rights and employers' responsibilities when workers are trying to organize." DOL "will become a resource center, providing materials on the advantages of union representation and collective bargaining."

IBEW Government Employees Director Paul O'Connor cautions that marked progress will likely demand more direct language than what the Office of Personnel Management has put out so far. "I see words like 'urging agencies' and 'strongly encourage agencies," he said. "Nothing in the OPM guidance requires agencies to do anything.'



If you want to adjust the temperature inside your home this winter, the only effort to make that happen will likely require just a few steps over to your thermostat, or maybe even a few taps on your connected mobile device. The wonderful combination of natural-gas fired furnaces and modern electronics have taken nearly all the effort out of maintaining a comfortable, cozy home during Michigan's winter months.

A century ago, achieving a comfortable domestic environment took a bit more effort. Actually it took a lot more effort. **Relying on coal as the primary** fuel for heating home and hearth, Michigan and the rest of the nation were generally stuck with a grimy, inconvenient and inefficient source of energy to keep Old Man Winter outside of our homes.

Despite all of its drawbacks, burning coal for heat was the industry standard for half a century. And in our communities, up sprang companies that would deliver and distribute the black stuff, and then plumbers, sheet metal workers and perhaps insulators who were trained to install gravity furnaces that would burn coal, capture the heat, and distribute it throughout a home or business. Systems were also set up to feed hot water for radiant heat systems.

A related history held by the Ann Arbor Public Library, by Grace Shackman, described what was going on with the domestic burning of coal in her community prior to the 1940s, in her account of When Coal Was King.

"Today," she wrote, "most home chimneys give off the almost invisible by-products of natural gas furnaces. A century ago, they belched columns of sooty coal smoke. Coal-fired boilers in offices and stores, factories and laundries, added to the pall that hung over the city.

"From the late-19th century to the mid-20th, coal was Ann Arbor's chief source of energy. Coal heat helped make winter tolerable, and coal-fueled steam engines powered almost every local mill and factory – as well as the locomotives that brought virtually all people and goods to the town. But the age of 'King Coal' was also incredibly dirty."

Coal-fired furnaces were an improvement on the traditional fireplace hearths, Franklin stoves and later kitchen stoves

# When we had coal piles in our homes HISTORY IN THE MAKING By Marty Mulcahy



A GRAVITY-FEED "OCTOPUS" FURNACE, age unknown, likely from the 1940s. "Usually, two and sometimes three times a day, once before he left for work in the morning, once after he came home from work, and probably again in the evening," says an account by Michael Kay for Ouora. "the homeowner would have to shovel coal directly from the coal bin into the furnace. Or he could carry the coal in a coal bucket from the coal bin to the furnace. There he would shovel it through the open waist-level heavy cast iron door of the octopus and spread it evenly on the furnace grate." The mass of ducts would move the heated air to various rooms in the dwelling. Photo credit: Inspect America

very slowly overnight but still

could be restarted in the morning."

in America, "For the first 100

years home heating in a heavily

forested America was dominated

by biomass (wood) and it was not

until 1885 that the nation would

burn more coal than wood. Prior

to 1885 the majority of homes in

America were heated with wood

burning brick fireplaces and de-

rivatives of the cast iron

Franklin Stove invented in 1742.

tury the invention of low-cost cast

iron radiators would bring cen-

tral heating to America's homes

with a coal-fired boiler in the

basement delivering hot water or

'By the end of the 19th Cen-

According to Home Heating

that traditionally warmed the nation's homes until the end of the 19th Century.

"Central heating," Shackman wrote, "greatly simplified the problem of keeping warm in the winter – there was only one furnace to feed instead of individual parlor stoves or fireplaces in each room - but tending a coal furnace was still a chore. For many years, coal had to be shoveled into the furnace by hand. The job became easier after the introduction of electrically powered stokers, but clinkers (unburned bits of rock) and ashes still had to be removed regularly. At night the fire had to be banked so that it would burn

steam to radiators in every room. "At about the same time, in

1885, Dave Lennox built and marketing the industry's first riveted-steel coal furnace. Without electricity and fans to move air, these early furnaces transported heat by natural convection (warm heated air rising) through ducts from the basement furnace to the rooms above. These two methods would dominate home central heating until 1935, when the introduction of the first forced air furnace using coal as a heat source, used the power of an electric fan to distribute the heated air through ductwork within the home."

The "gravity furnace" as it was know, became a fixture in the basement of homes across the nation A history provided by the real estate firm Remax reports that some homes today encountered by their sales people still have gravity furnaces, although they have almost certainly been upgraded to burn fuel oil or natural gas.

"As its name implies, air circulation in a gravity furnace relies on gravity... the principle that warm air rises and cool air falls," Remax said. "There typically is no fan on an older gravity furnace... that is why there are so many (octopus) 'arms' and why they are so large. Since no fan is pushing the air, the air pressure is lower as the warm air gently enters the room and there tend to be fewer hot spots. However, there is no way to provide central air conditioning or warm air to the basement with this type of furnace... and there is no filter since that obstructs air movement."

A century ago, homeowners who opted to purchase a gravity furnace instantly became semiexperts in a number of unexpected areas. For example, the qualities of coal – softer bituminous was cheaper, but created more smoke and ash – while anthracite was more expensive but burned better.

How do you start a fire in the gravity furnace? Best to keep kindling, a hatchet and some newspaper near the furnace. Where do you put the coal pile in your basement? As close

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

THE BLUE COAL Corp. of Pennsylvania was a huge purveyor of the product in homes and businesses throughout the U.S. in the middle of the 20th Century. Here a chute delivers the product to a basement, year unknown. They even used a blue coloring in the coal to differentiate their product. A Blue Coal radio commercial in the 1940s said a homeowner could order coal in four popular sizes: "egg, stone, chestnut or pea." Recalled Carl Thayer, who helped deliver the stuff as a teen in Ann Arbor, as recorded by Grace Shckman: "I'd go in (to the coal bin) and level the coal off, breathing dust. The coal would be up as close to the ceiling as you could get. If we could get it high enough, it would last all winter." The account said after World War II, there was a fast switch from the use of coal to fuel oil or natural gas heating. Photo credit: H. Armstrong Roberts

to the furnace's feeder door as possible. Where will the coal delivery companies deliver their product to your basement coal pile? Often it was through a removable basement window, or an access door cut and installed by the coal companies.

March 11, 2022

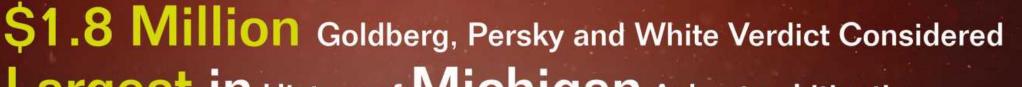
How often do you feed the furnace? Perhaps several times a day in the dead of winter. Where do you put the ashes? They could be spread on icy sidewalks to make them less slippery, but mostly they went out with the trash. How do you properly set a furnace air damper so that the coal burns at the proper rate? Trial and error.

In the floor or two above the homes with gravity furnaces, large ducts delivered the warmed air to registers in each room. The systems also usually had cold air returns, but likely not as many as today's systems.

"Originally, gravity furnaces only burned coal, although many were eventually converted to run on newer fuel sources, such as oil, natural gas and propane," said Nick Gromicko, certified master inspector with the **International Association of Certified Home Inspectors. "The** combustion-air and venting requirements are the same in gravity furnaces and forced-air furnaces, and the heat exchanger is similar. Gravity furnaces are larger than forced-air systems, however. They have fewer moving parts (which may account for their longevity) and they lack a blower fan. Without a blower fan to force air through a house, the furnace is quieter than modern systems, it kicks up less dust, occupants notice fewer hot spots around the vent, and the flow of warm air into the room is less forceful and obvious."

The disadvantages? Well, breathing toxins from having a coal pile penned in your basement for half the year is a big one. But the gravity systems were extremely inefficient, too: while the best forced-air systems today are 90 percent-plus efficient, burning coal was probably in the range of 50 percent efficient.

In the Ann Arbor area during World War II, no less than 10 companies delivered coal. But the writing was on the wall, and the suppliers knew their days were numbered after war. "As soon as they built the (natural) gas pipeline in the 1940s, school was out," said Bob Beuhler, the son of a supplier, in When Coal Was King. "Clean, simple, and cheap, natural gas quickly supplanted coal and oil as the preferred fuel for home heating."



# Largest in History of Michigan Asbestos Litigation.

# 

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# ASBESTOS CLAIMS Evaluation Request Form

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Phone No	)			
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DO you m	Yes		No	

Call 800-799-2234

# ALL BUILDING TRADESMEN

# Notice of Asbestos Health Hazards in Michigan

Exposure to asbestos can cause deadly diseases such as mesothelioma, lung cancer, and asbestosis.

Many Michigan building tradesmen worked with or near asbestos. Thousands have developed asbestos disease. Some are not aware they were even exposed.

For more than 30 years, GPW has represented thousands of Michigan union workers in lawsuits against the asbestos industry. We can arrange a free chest x-ray review by a NIOSH Certified B-Reader to

all qualified building tradesmen with start dates prior to 1980.

Return the form or contact us today: 800-7

www.gpwlaw-mi.com

Please don't delay, protect yourself and your family before it's too late. No recovery-no fee

We are considered the Very Best Mesothelioma Attorneys in Michigan for good reason- our results speak for themselves

Goldberg, Persky & White, P.C. One Towne Square Suite 1835, Southfield, MI 48076

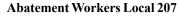


March 11, 2022

Local 207

Abatement

Workers



TAYLOR - There are a lot of upcoming projects slated for early 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

Updated, working telephone numbers are necessary to help you with work placement. Do not get caught without the necessary current job site credentials.



Work in other areas of the region will be picking up in Ohio, West Virginia as well as Kentucky. Spring outages in all areas in the region are on the horizon so make sure if you can travel that you make sure to get licensed as soon as possible. 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 online applications or what states you may want to get

**KEVIN** 

MEAGHER a license for, do not hesitate to call the office or my cell.

If you can recommend anyone that you know who 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. You can also fill out application on our website, WWW.local207.ORG

**UPCOMING ASBESTOS TRAINING CLASS.** Asbestos Supervisor Refresher Saturday March 19th, 2022

Upcoming Special Called Meeting: April 12th 2022, 7pm at the union hall. This meeting is for election of Delegates to International Conference In Detroit in August of this year. To be Eligible you must be a Journeyman with Local 207 and be in good standing with the Local (no monies owed) including referral fees.

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 SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES!

# Here comes prevailing wage, again – fair pay rule resurrected by Whitmer

(Continued from Page 1)

treated with dignity and respect and earn a fair wage - especially during these times. Good-paying jobs are the foundation of a strong middle class and state construction contracts must not be the exception. I'm proud to get this done, especially as we create jobs by fixing roads and bridges, replacing lead pipes, expanding high-speed internet, and installing electric vehicle chargers.'

The repeal of the Michigan Prevailing Wage Act of 1965 in 2018 started as a successful petition drive, when the sponsoring Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) garnered enough petition signatures to overturn the law. Employing an increasingly used quirk in the state Constitution, the petition was then presented to the Republican-led Michigan legislature for approval, where repeal of the law was adopted without input from the governor.

But the language in the legislation mattered: Whitmer, maintained that the Legislature repealed the prevailing wage requirement, but they didn't ban it from being enacted again. The governor's office said "Michigan's repeal eliminated the state's prevailing wage requirement, but left the door open for DTMB (the state Department of Technology, Management and Budget) to require prevailing wage under its authority to develop the terms of state contracts. Whitmer's order is limited, however, and doesn't affect big ticket construction like school work and most other locally initiated building projects that use state money. That may be one reason why the ABC hasn't filed for an injunction against Whitmer's executive order, said Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council attorney John Canzano, who said he is "a bit surprised, but I haven't heard anything" about threatened legal action by the Michigan ABC. Other potential reasons for lack of legal action so far by the ABC: Canzano said they may have been waiting for the law to take effect, or they may just be ignoring the order, because getting the executive order overturned might in some way prove to be an unfortunate precedent for them. Canzano said at the very least, one of the major advantages of Whitmer's order is the pay boost for workers in having the prevailing wage rates updated from 2018 for local city, township and county jurisdictions that still have their own prevailing wage laws grandfathered in place applying to local construction projects. "I don't see any reason why a local community with a prevailing wage law wouldn't have the right to go and refer to the state's updated prevailing wage pay scales," Canzano said. In the ensuing six months since Whitmer first announced the prevailing wage reinstatement, union reps around the state have worked to get appropriate craft wage information to the appropriate state agency - to help assure that union wage rates will "prevail" when it comes time for the state to set prevailing wage rates for different geographic areas as it lets state construction contracts. "Gov. Whitmer is standing up for Michigan's workers by reinstating prevailing wage laws for state construction contracts," said Price Dobernick, business manager of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 333. "We support the governor's decision and appreciate her having our back. Reinstating prevailing wage ensures that contractors bidding on state construction projects will pay fair wages, guaranteeing that these projects will be built to the highest standards by skilled craftspeople.<sup>3</sup> Just like the pro-worker executive orders that President Joe Biden is making on a federal level, the only assurance that Whitmer's prevailing wage reinstatement order will remain in effect, is if she remains in office. A succeeding governor could simply repeal the executive order, moving the state back to the Legislature's action repealing the law. "Gov. Whitmer's decision to reinstate prevailing wage will let good Michigan contractors compete on a level playing field, put more money in working people's pockets, and boost our economy," said Tom Lutz, executive secretary-treasurer of the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights. "We look forward to working with her to continue supporting working families and building up Michigan's infrastructure so that everyone can drive on safe roads and bridges, access reliable high-speed internet, drink clean water, and take advantage of the opportunities provided by a dynamic, growing economy.'



Local 47 Heat and Frost Insulators

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47 LANSING - The next Regular Union Meeting will be held on

Friday, April 8, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the J.A.T.C. Training center located at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48933.

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.

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 office before ANY overtime is worked. Contracts are available at the Union Office or at the Union Meeting upon request.

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

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

Local 47 has been receiving a lot of returned mail from our members. We ask that if you have a change of address or phone number to please call the Local Union Office right away so we can update your information throughout our system, TIC's, and the with the International. It is very important to make sure your contact information is always update with Local 47.

The JATC will be hiring two new Instructors for the 2022-2023 school year. If you are interested please send a letter to the Local 47 office by Friday, March 11, 2022. If you have any questions regarding the JATC Instructor position please contact Phil Wilson at (616) 466-8736

Breath of Life Gun Raffle Tickets are now available for \$20/each. Local 47's Annual Golf Outing will take place on July 30, 2022.

Please call the Local Union Office with the names of your Foursome. Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-267

Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275. Toll Free Number: (800) 323-8079

Telephone Number: (517) 321-7502

Fax Number: (517) 321-7508

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

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

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

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





### Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25

SOUTHFIELD - UNION MEETING - The next scheduled Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033. This Meeting will be special-called for nominations of Local 25's 4th Convention Delegate. The election will follow in April. This meeting mandatory for all apprentices.

APPRENTICE APPLICATIONS: We are currently accepting applications for the Apprenticeship Program. Please find all the necessary information on our website: heatfrostinsulators.org. under the apprenticeship tab.

NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, CURT prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Pro-

McGLONE gram, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges,

related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

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 hi-vis hoodies. Apparel can be viewed on the Facebook page.

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

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES: All employment changes; hire, lay off, fire, shop change, disability, etc. must be called into the Union Hall. This 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.

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

SUB FUND TIME LIMITATION: Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a participant receives a State Unemployment check, he/she must mail or deliver the receipt, check stub, or a copy of the check to the Administrator's office within 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.

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

"There is no stigma attached to recognizing a bad decision in time to install a better one."

- Laurence J. Peter (1919 - 1988)

"People need to be reminded more often than they need to be instructed."

- Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

"Cheese - milk's leap toward immortality."

- Clifton Fadiman (1904 - 1999)

"There are two ways of exerting one's strength: one is pushing down, the other is pulling up."

-Booker T. Washington (1856 - 1915)

"Everything that irritates us about others can lead us to a better understanding of ourselves.'

-Carl Jung (1875 - 1961)

"A censor is a man who knows more than he thinks you ought to.

-Granville Hicks (1901 - 1982)

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

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

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

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

# Just joking

Jack and Esther are flying to Australia for a two-week vacation to celebrate their 40th anniversary.

Suddenly, there's dead silence as the engines stop, and over the public address system, the plane's captain announces, "ladies and gentlemen, I am afraid I have some very bad news. Our engines have ceased functioning and we will attempt an emergency landing. Luckily, I see an uncharted

island below us and we should be able to land on the beach. However, our radio is not functioning, and the odds are that we may never be rescued and will have to live on the island for the rest of our lives!"

Thanks to the skill of the flight crew, the plane lands safely on the island. An hour later, sitting on the beach, Jack starts thinking, and turns to his wife and asks, "Esther, did we pay our \$3,000 winter tax bill yet?"

"No, sweetheart," she responds. Jack then asks, "Esther, did we pay our American Express credit card bill yet?"

"Oh, no! I'm sorry.'I forgot to do that," she says. "One last thing, Esther. Did you remember to pay the Visa and MasterCard bills this month?" he asks.

"I've been so busy packing and planning for the trip," said Esther, "that I didn't pay those, either."

Jack grabs her and gives her the biggest kiss in 40 years. Esther pulls away and asks him, "What was that for?"

Jack answers, "Because one way or another, they're going to find us!"

# 'Safety helmets' the latest in head gear

### (Continued from Page 1)

designing their helmets with safety, comfort and user efficiency in mind. For instance, Milwaukee Tool offers helmets that include padded suspension with an adjustable swinging ratchet for quick adjustment, or comfortably fitting, adjustable-buckle chin straps.

Other features include anti-microbial sweatbands and helmet liners that prevent odor and bacteria buildup and can even be removed to be machine-washed. These new advancements mean crews don't need to trade off safety for comfort. And like its hardhat counterpart, safety helmets include add-on options such as attachable visors and ear protection.

Preventing head injuries requires a sustained effort from everyone on the construction site. Thanks to the advent of safety helmets, manufacturers, safety managers and contractors now have a new tool in their toolbox to keep workers safe.

The Construction User is a publication of the Association of Union Constructors.

"The fact that man knows right from wrong proves his intellectual superiority to other creatures; but the fact that he can do wrong proves his moral inferiority to any creature that cannot.'

- Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

# **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

"Wait until it is night before saying that it has been a fine day.

-French Proverb

"I spent a lot of money on booze, birds and fast cars. The rest I just squandered.' - George Best



# Local 7 **Sheet Metal Workers**

Sheet Metal Workers Local 7 LANSING - NOTICE. This Newspaper Article shall serve as Official Notice of ALL meetings for Local 7! The next Statewide Meeting will be, April 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. \*Zone 1- May 10<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. \*Zone 2 –March 15th -6:00 p.m. \*Zone 3- May 11<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. (Saginaw) \*Zone 3- March 17th -6:00 p.m. (Traverse City) \*Zone 4- May 10<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 5 – April 7<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.



SMART Local 7 Picnic: Local 7 will be hosting a picnic on Saturday, July 23, 2022 at the Double JJ Resort located at 5900 Water Rd, Rothbury, MI 49452. If you are interested in making reservations at their campground, call their offices at 231-894-4444 or go to their website at www.doublejj.com. Let them know you are with Local 7. All Local 7 Members and their Families are invited to Attend. Renew Old Acquaintances and Make new ones with Games, Food, Beverages, Kids Games, and Door Prizes Etc ... view the Picnic Flyer on our local website www.sheetmetal7.org.

FULLER

SAM

NEWS: Local No. 7 - Union Hoodies available through the Lansing office for \$44.00/each (While

Supplies last). Hoodies are Red with White logo. Payment via check, cash or credit card. Payment must be received before shipping.

Please register on our website at www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date information on meeting schedules for 2022. Once you are registered it must be approved in order to be able to log on. Please contact your representative if you are having issues registering.

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

ZONE 1 Info. Work in the Zone 1 Area remains steady and is looking to pick up. Please remember to contact James or Eric with your employment status should you become unemployed. Apprentices, please inform Ryan at the Training Center of your employment statuses as well. If you are experiencing any problems with unemployment or health insurance, please contact James or Eric for further assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the level of interest). Now accepting applications for Local 7 Zone 1 JATC Instructor position. Job description available upon request. Contact James Callahan with any questions. Please send resumes to jcalsmw7@gmail.com or by mail to: Local 7 Zone 1 JATC attn: James Callahan PO Box 689 Comstock, MI 49041-0689 Application deadline is March 25, 2022

Zone 1 Retiree monthly meetings:

1st Wednesday 8:30 am at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202.

2nd Tuesday 1:00 pm at Rocky Top 1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202.

### -In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 remains good, there will be a special order of business at your next meeting. We need to add 2 Youth To Youth committee members and we also have a wage disbursement. The meeting is Tuesday, March 15th at 6:00pm, at VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores, MI. As always work safe and Thank You Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work is still slow in the area but looks to be a busy year once work starts. We will be having are Wage Disbursement in April, make sure you are checking your mail for a postcard with the location, date and time. Please make sure your union dues are paid on time and your address and phone number are up to date with the Lansing office. Thank you and be Safe. Thank you, Joe Dotson

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City) Our next meeting is March 17 at



# Local 80 **Sheet Metal Workers**

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 80** 

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The next general membership meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2022 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The next executive board meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2022 at 5:00 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 2022 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: April 18, 2022, June 20, 2022, August 15, 2022, October 17, 2022 (annual party) and December 19, 2022. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Asso-

TIM ciation please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-MULLIGAN 0593.

THANK YOU: Thank you to newly retired member, Bob Beeckman. Bob won the 50/50 drawing at the retirees meeting and donated back to the benevolent find.

SUB CHANGES: As of May 1, 2021 the 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.

BENESYS AT THE UNION HALL: There will now be a representative from Benesys at the union hall to help our members with anything related to benefits or funds. She will be available on Tuesdays from 12-4pm (appointment only) and 12-5:30pm (walk-ins) on union meeting nights. If you are interested in setting up an appointment, please contact LaShone at 248-813-9800 ext. 3250

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

RETIREMENT CLASS: Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 9am we will be hosting a FREE retirement education class with Graystone Consulting. This will give you the opportunity to ask questions about your retirement plans. Please call the hall to rsvp 248-557-7575. Spouses are welcome.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Randy Klein, Steven Gottschling, Steven Herr, Mark Majewski, Mark OKray, Kevin Armstrong, Mark Monette, Gerry Hammons, Anthony Caleca, Steve Vernon, Altilio Lucci, Christopher Malysz, Willie Cannon, Patrick Turner, Michael Ciresi, Thomas Wilkos, Justin Brotherton, Zolton Szeghalmi, Chris Salter & Martin Freiman

DUES GIFT: As of October 1, 2021 current, active members who pay for a year of dues at a time will receive a gift from the union hall.

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 vour spouse or children. As always seek the advice of an attorney. ADDRESS CHANGES: If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the Tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well, that is not done through the hall. ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Members who have their dues paid in advance (prior to the month of the accident) are eligible for accidental death and dismemberment benefits up to \$7,500.00. This benefit comes as a dues paying member of SMART International. WEEKEND WORKASSIGNMENTS: Saturday and Sunday work assignments. Please remember that when performing work on a Saturday or Sunday the steward must report it to the hall, give each members name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday. WORKASSIGNMENTS: Everyone must obtain a work assignment prior to starting work. If you fail to do so you could be written up on charges. LAY-OFFS: All members must report to the Union Hall immediately upon lay-off, even if you only work one day. These are the By-Law rules for the Out-of-Work List. Your name will be removed from the list fourteen (14) days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven (7) days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off. LAY-OFF SLIPS/TERMINATION NOTICES: Lay off slips must accompany all applications for sub pay. Without lay off slips you cannot collect sub pay. It is the member's responsibility to make sure they get one from the contractor when laid off. Your application cannot be submitted without one. It is the contractor's responsibility to issue one in accordance with our contract. S.U.B. BENEFITS: Report to the hall promptly upon layoff. You must complete a S.U.B. Application within seven (7) days from your layoff date or you will forfeit S.U.B. benefits. Lay-off slips must accompany the application to be eligible. Proof of UIA benefit payments must be submitted within 21 days of when you were paid in order to receive SUB benefits. Do not submit your sub applications directly to the fund office. Your application must be signed by the hall or you will not collect benefits.

March 11, 2022





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THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

# **Sheet Metal Workers' Local 292**

TROY-MEETING NOTICE: The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

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 March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall.

**CONDOLENCES:** Please keep the following families in your thoughts during this difficult time: Local 292 members George and

> Adam Brata, whose mother, Jakelina, passed away March 1, 2022; the family of Local 292 retiree, Tim Brown, who passed away March 3, 2022. Tim's brother Paul Brown is a Local 292 member. LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: We are excited



PAUL ADDRESS UPDATES: If you move, please con-

GUALDONI tact the union hall to update your address. **RETIREES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** 

The 2022 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree luncheon are as follows: April 7th, June 2nd, August 4th, October 6th, December 1st. The retirees luncheon will be held Thursdays at: Tavern on the Main @ 12:30 p.m., 235 S Main., Clawson MI 48017. (248) 588-1696. It is located 3 blocks south of 14 Mile on the east side of the street.

Please contact Gary Simon at jcsimon49@comcast.net if you would like to be added to the retiree email list. Please join us for lunch, great conversations and story telling. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old!!

**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. Remember that your Username is your full S.S. number and your **Password** is the first four numbers of your S.S. number. Members, please note that if you cannot access the MUST site to complete your safety mods you need to contact the Union Hall.

**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, 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).





the Mill Pond Event Center at 6pm. We are looking for some new apprentices, contact me if you know anyone interested. Please keep an eye out for a mailing about our wage disbursement meeting early in April. The next retirees meeting at Willies will be on April 1 at 9 am. I am available to anyone that needs H&W or EAP assistance and if anyone wants to travel, contact me; as we have other work out of state. (231) 590-1112. Regards, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: Work in Zone 4 is steady with a few members off and 6 traveling. Spring is almost here, and with that work will be rapidly picking up. We have lots of smaller projects coming up and our contractors are going to be busy. Our next meeting is March 8th at 6 pm, hope to see you there. Your Brother, Larry Kinzie

ZONE 5 Info: Congratulations to Chris and Lacey Williams on their marriage. Work in the UP is slow for the moment so if you are laid off please contact me to have your name put on the old work list. Thank you, Greg Faust

SASMI Information - Zone 3 and 5: Underemployment - Filing for period 2021-B is from July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021 Eligible members who worked less than 700 hours from July 1, 2021 through Dec. 31, 2021, 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 2021.

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) 269-569-9200 Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752 Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095 John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112 Larry Kinzie (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552 Greg Faust (Agent-Upper Peninsula): 906-372-9288

"It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers.

-James Thurber (1894 - 1961)

**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.

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 classes March 5th, 19th, 26th.

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 continued

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

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

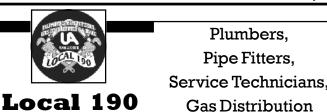
# 2022 SAVE THE DATES:

Local 80 Golf Outing – July 16th Local 80 Picnic – August 13th

"Next to trying and winning, the best thing is trying and failing.

-L. M. Montgomery (1874 - 1942)

(Continued next column)



Plumbers and pipe Fitters 190

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, March 14 and will start 6:00 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**UNION HALL CLOSING AT NOON FOR AN UP COMING HOLIDAY:** For the Easter holiday the office will be closing at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

**UNION HALL CLOSING FOR AN UP COMING HOLIDAY:** Our office will be closed all day Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day. Our thanks to those who serve. As we celebrate our liberty and freedoms we remember and support those who protect them.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Local 190 Scholarship is now available at the union hall for distribution to members and their families. There are two scholarships available. One from Local 190, due back no later than July 8. The UA scholarship will now only be accepted electronically, no later than June 9th https://uascholarshipfund.communityforce.com. You can contact the union office at (734) 424-0962 for further information.

**IMPORTANT ALLOCATION MEETING - MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION:** The Michigan Gas Distribution allocation union meeting will take place on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. The location of this meeting will be at Bucks Run Golf Club Conference Center, 1559 S. Chippewa Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Please make every effort to attend this very important meeting.

**IMPORTANTALLOCATION MEETING–OHIO GAS DISTRI-BUTION:** A "Special Called Meeting" for the Ohio Gas Distribution Wage allocation is scheduled for Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. This meeting will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton Columbus – Worthington, Ohio. We have a block of rooms set up until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April for a discounted rate of \$99 per night plus tax. Contact them directly at (800) 870-0349 and reference Group Code: PPU or make your reservation on the website: www.my-event.hilton.com/ plumberspipefittersunion/

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

**ROBO CALLS:** We are sending out Robo calls to keep 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.

**MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION JOURNEYMAN WELDERS:** Please remember it is very important to keep your continuity forms up to date.

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

**MICHIGAN LICENSE RENEWAL:** Plumbing license renewals are done online **ONLY!!!** For detailed instructions and requirements, please visit: www.michigan.gov/bcc. Feel free to stop into the Union Hall and pick up a copy of the instructions.

ATTENTION MICHIGAN GAS DISTRIBUTION & OHIO GAS DISTRIBUTION & BUILDING TRADES MEMBERS-UA LOCAL 190 WEBSITE: If you have not already done so, please log in and look at our website www.ua190.org *Current members will be able to log into the "Members Only" section using your last name and UA card No.* 

**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.

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

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK – IMPORTANT REMINDER



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

UA Local 370

March 11, 2022

FLINT – The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday April 12, 2022 at 7 pm.** and has been designated a **special called meeting for wage allocation**.

Scholarship Applications for the 2022-2023 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, 2022.

The May Membership meeting will take place on **Tuesday**, **May 3, 2022** at 7:00pm at UA Local 370 assembly hall, 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI and has been designated a **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING** for the purpose of **NOMINATIONS** for the following officers and trustees:

Please note this meeting is scheduled for the First Tuesday in May per Local 370 By-Laws. All Positions are 3 year terms and inaugurate in July 2022. (1) Business Manager/Financial

Secretary/Treasurer (1) President

- (1) Vice President
- (1) Recording Secretary
- (1) Inner Guard
- (4) Executive Board
- (2) Pension/Insurance Trustee
- (3) Finance Committee
- (3) Sub/Sick Trustee(3) Building Fund Committee
- (2) Scholarship Trustees
- (6) FMR Fund Committee
- (4) Examining Board

Per section 121 of the U.A. **Constitution:** No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union unless he shall be a journeyman member and shall have been a member of the united association and the local union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to the election. Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any local union.

Per section 124a of the U.A. constitution: "No member shall vote at any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the local union where the vote is being taken for a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election. Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to vote in any local union election." **Election will take place Tuesday, June 7, 2022** at UA Local 370 assembly hall at 2151 W. Thompson Rd Fenton, MI. The polls will open at 2:00pm and close at 7:00pm. In the event of a tie vote a runoff election will be held June 21, 2022 at UA Local 370 assembly hall at 2151 W Thompson Rd Fenton, MI. The Polls will open at 2:00pm and close at 7:00pm.

Upcoming Night Class Schedule. BackFlow. March 7th - April

21st, every Monday and Thursday @ pm 4:30 pm First Aid/CPR. Wednesday,

March 16th @ 4:30 pm Welding C. March 14th -

April 13th, every Monday and Wednesday @ 4:30 pm To sign up for night classes

call Kaytlin at 810-720-5243 ext. 15. If there is a book fee, bring a check on the first day of class made out to "Local 370 JATC".

Weld Test Schedule. Members can sign up for UA welding tests by calling Kaytlin at the hall extension 15.

Members must have a current UA weld cert or have made a pre-qualifier weld to be eligible to test. Weld tests begin at 7:00 am on the following **Saturdays: 3-12-22, 4-16-22** 

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

Committee and Board meetings are as follows:

Examining Board – Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday

April 12, 2022, at 4:00pm PAC committee – Tuesday

April 12, 2022, at 5:00pm Executive Board –Tuesday

April 12, 2022, at 5:00pm Building Committee – Tues-

day April 12, 2022, at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday

April 12, 2022, 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



### Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

SAGINAW – The Next Union Meeting will be Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at the Union Hall located at 3535 Bay Road starting at 7:00 PM.

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

ALL NON-CRITICAL INTERACTIONS 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 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.

**JATC News:** Plumbing Code Updates will be offered as soon as the information and material are available. You should renew your Michigan State Plumbing license as normal and plan on attending the update class as soon as offered.

GOD BLESS ORGANIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVE-MENT!

# SUB Fund:

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

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

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

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

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

# NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

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

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

# INFORMATION - FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE:

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

**AREPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE WILL BE AT THE UNION HALL: A representative will be at the union hall each month on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month.** Members will be able to meet with Bernadette from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. You can reach the benefits office Monday through Friday by calling 888-390-7473.

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MDHHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current!

Michigan Plumbing Code update classes: The State of Michigan has not issued guidance to the State instructors as to what needs to be taught. Please check UA Local 190's website for any updates. Lead/Asbestos/Blood-borne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2022 Schedule - Mondays - April 4, 2022, July 18, 2022 and Oct 3, 2022. All classes start at 5:00pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2022 Schedule - Mondays -April 18, July 25, and Oct 17. All classes start at 5:00pm.

Welding Lab: The welding is now open. The schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:30pm-8:30pm, until May 5, 2022. Weld tests will be scheduled as needed. The welding lab will be closed on Union meeting days.

**Pipefitter Class (32hrs):** This class will show participants how to properly set up torches, cut, bevel, and fit-up pipe. You will also be taught how to read welding procedures, proper flange tightening procedures, how to figure offsets, change in direction offsets and rolling offsets. This course will start on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 5pm. It will run for 8 weeks from 5pm-9pm. Class size is limited to 8 participants.

**ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs):** *This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110).* 

**2022 Schedule:** Next course starts Sept 13, 2022 at 5:00pm. Course runs on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). 2022 Schedule: The last scheduled course is Oct 18-19, 2022. Course is on Tue and Wed and start at 5 pm. The course is limited to 8. Call Retha to sign up for this course.

Med Gas Installer and Brazer Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class to be Med Gas certified. Must have a minimum of 4 years, documented experience in the plumbing and/or piping industry. 2022 Schedule: 1st course starts Mar 8, 2022 at 5 pm. 2nd course starts on Aug 23, 2022 at 5 pm. Courses run for 5 weeks on Tue and Thu. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

# (Continued next column)

Apprentices who have successfully completed their 3<sup>rd</sup> year are now eligible to vote if they meet the requirements listed above.

# Local 190, con't

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): Call Retha to be put into the next class. 2022 Schedule: Ist course April 19 & 21 at 5:00 pm. 2nd course Sept 27 & 29 at 5:00 pm. Courses are on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants. Call Retha to be placed in the course that keeps your certification current.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40 hrs):** This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Call Retha to sign up for this class. Once we have enough to put it on, we will schedule it.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs):** *This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Class will be 2 days and then the written exam. Call Retha to put on the list for the next class.* 

ICRA Certification (16hrs): Looking to put on another ICRA certification class. Class is limited to 12 participants. Call Training Center to get put on the list for the next class.

**RETIREE MEETINGS** – **PLEASE JOIN US:** Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, April 7th, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries and a warm cup of coffee.

**NOTIFICATIONSFORTHE 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. test. If your drug test is expired, you must take one before you can be dispatched to any GM work. Drug tests are only valid for 1 year. Call The hall and we will print you a drug test authorization form.

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

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

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. Member's present must have dues paid to date to claim award. Monthly award is \$150.

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

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

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

We are now able to accept Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express for window dues. If you want to take advantage of this service there will be a \$1 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 (Continued next column) **RETIREE LUNCHEON:** All retiree luncheons are postponed until further notice. Please check the ualocal85.org or Facebook for all up-to-date information.

**CONDOLENCES:** Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Richard Richter who passed away on February 23, 2022.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Leonard Thomas who passed away on February 24, 2022.

# Fraternally,

Justin M. Pomerville

Business Manager/Financial Secretary Local Union 85

# Local 370, con't

pay for 3 months shall stand suspended, unable to vote for a period of 1 year or run for office for a period of 2 years and subject to a \$50.00 reinstatement fee. Dues must be paid in 3-month increments according to our 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.

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

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

"What a blessing it would be if we could open and shut our ears as easily as we open and shut our eyes!"

-Georg Christoph Lichtenberg (1742 - 1799)

"Isn't it good just to be alive on a day like this? I pity the people who aren't born yet for missing it."

–L. M. Montgomery (1874 -1942)

"Whoever ceases to be a student has never been a student." –George Iles

"By the time I'd grown up, I naturally supposed that I'd be grown up."

-Eve Babitz

"The man who has nothing to boast of but his illustrious ancestry is like the potato – the best part under ground."

-Thomas Overbury (1581 -1613)

"A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel of brains."

-Dutch Proverb



# MOTOR CITY

# Sprinkler Fitters

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

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

At the March membership meeting, there will be a third and final reading of By-Law proposals. A vote will take place immediately after the readings.

COVID-19 vaccinations may become mandatory on certain jobsites in the Detroit area. No company can compel a member to receive the vaccine, it is completely a member's choice. Just be aware that if you choose not to get vaccinated, you will not be allowed on sites that mandate this stipulation.

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

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

Any retiree who would like to volunteer for picket line duty, please reach out to Rob Williams at the Union Hall.

Congratulations to retired brothers Steve Cook and Greg Pierce on achieving their 50-Year status with the UA and Local 704. Thank you for your years of service.

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

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

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

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



### Pipe Fitters 636

DETROIT – The UA Scholarship Trust Fund is gearing up for the 2022/2023 academic year scholarship awards. Dependents of UA members who are pursuing a post-high school education at an accredited college or university may apply for a scholarship. The deadline for submitting applications is June 9, 2022. Applications are accepted electronically through: *uascholarshipfund. communityforce.com* 

Please visit that site for further information and instructions. Also, the UA Scholarship Fund information is located at the back of the UA Journal.

**Dues:** 1<sup>st</sup> **Quarters window dues are due.** The Window Dues structure is as follows for active members: \$31 monthly/\$93 per quarter/\$186-6 months/\$372 for the entire year. For your convenience, you can call the hall and pay over the phone with your credit card number. If you do not pay your Dues by the end of each quarter, you will be assessed a "re-instatement" fee of \$50. After 2 quarters go unpaid you will then be Expelled and have to be Re-Initiated and pay a \$200 Re-Initiation fee.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Retiree Ervin "Rusty" Kurtzhals on the passing of his father. Also, to Retiree William and Journeyman William, as Mr. Kurtzhals was Retiree William's brother and Active member William's uncle.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to John Taylor on the passing of his brother Robert. May they rest in peace.

Pipefitters Local 636 Journeyman, Brian Mierendorf, has had a catastrophic accident on the job while working on a refrigeration



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333 LANSING – March's union meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906, at 7:30pm.

April's union meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at the Lansing Hall 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., Lansing, MI. 48911, at 7:30pm. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvers will be served to celebrate the completion of the Lansing Hall.

**PLEASE NOTE:** For all General Motors work you must be current on your MUST Safety Modules and drug test. If you have questions or concerns please contact the Lansing office. (517) 393-5480

Please check your certifications such a Backflow, Med-Gas, Weld, etc. for the expiring dates. If a recertification class in needed please check the website, or contact the Training Center at 517-323-0333

Weld Classes: Spring weld classes will begin March 28, 2022. If you're interested in taking the weld class please sign up at www.ua333.org or call Trent or Diana at 517-323-0333. There is a \$25.00 fee, please call your respective hall to pay for the class.

Lansing: (Tuesday's & Thursday's) Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson: (Tuesday's & Thursday's) 3101 Industrial Allied Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201. Battle Creek: (Monday's &

Thursday's) (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI. 49037.

Weld Tests are the second Tuesday of each month at the Lansing Training Center.

Masters test prep is Monday's and Wednesday's every week at the Lansing Training Center.

If you are interested in signing up for classes please 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 up-



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

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – Meeting Notice: Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will take place in the Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville at 7pm. The front office will remail open until 6:55pm.

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

Local #174/Michigan Pipe Trades Organizer Position: Local #174 in conjunction with the Michigan State Pipe Trades is seeking to hire a new organizer. If interested please email a resume to Business Manager Ryan Bennett at rbennett@ua174.org. We will accept resumes until April 8 and conduct interviews on April 14. Please find the job description below.

Michigan Pipe Trades Association, Organizing Position. The position of Michigan Pipe Trades Organizer requires organizing unrepresented pipe trades workers and non-signatory contractors in Michigan. You will be challenged both mentally and physically in accomplishing these goals.

Mentally you will be working long hours, many irregular hours, evening and weekends and often are away from home several nights a week. You must be able to speak in front of large or small groups of workers, contractors and at conventions. You will be met with rejection, disappointment and often hostility in most areas you attempt to organize. You will, with hard work, have successes but they are often few and far between and very short lived. You will need to understand and be able to articulate every aspect of your union, your contract, health plan, retirement plans and bylaws.

You will be tested physically in several ways. Your vehicle is your office, so we do many hours behind the wheel sitting for long hours is required. You will have times of standing for up to 4-6 hours at any given time while teaching one of our organizing programs. While doing job site visits which can be up to as many as 10 construction sites in a week you will be subject to tough terrain such as uneven ground, unstable concrete, wet conditions (which create mud and slippery conditions) and maneuvering around building materials and unsmooth conditions of construction sites.

working on setting up the reimbursement arrangement. Once that process is in place you will receive a letter with instruction on how to obtain reimbursement. You can order four free tests per household at www. covidtests.gov.

**New Contractor Seminar:** The Michigan Pipe Trades is hosting a New Contractor Seminar for any members interested in learning more about starting their own business. The seminar will take place on March 23 and March 24 at Local 98's office, 555 Horace Brown Dr #1 Madison Hts., MI 48071. There will also be a virtual option to attend remotely. The members voted to reimburse expenses (hotel, meals, mileage) for any Journeyman members who attend both days of the conference in person. There is no cost for the training, but space is limited. All attendees must prove that they are fully vaccinated. Please contact Cami at the Local for more info and to sign up.

**Retiree Breakfast:** The retiree breakfast will be held on April 7 at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

**COVID Vaccine Incentive:** Local #174 Health Fund will provide a \$50 Visa gift card for any member who gets their COIVD vaccine or provides a doctor's letter saying they cannot get the COVID vaccine. This is for working participants only, not family members. Please provide that information to Cami in person or via email to cburris@ua174.org. Cami will submit a list weekly to TIC and TIC will mail out the gift cards.

**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 or to verify your contact info 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.

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.

tively assisting with our organizing efforts.

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

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

 $Lake shore-3^{rd}\,Thursday\,of\,the\\month/CIO\,Hall\,490\,Western/6pm$ 

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

FRINGE PLAN THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (TIC). West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive. Lansing, MI 48917-9275 (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 num-

system. Brian, is currently in U of M Burn Unit. There is a Go Fund Me Page set up – please let's help Brian and his family our in supporting this GoFundMe.com effort. Search for the name Brian Mierendorf at the website.

**REMINDER:** Please email all sub pay requests to *subpay@pipefitters636.org* 

The Next Union Meeting will be held on March 15, 2022 at St. Georges Romanian Cultural Center, located at 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd. Southfield MI 48075. Meeting starts at 7:00pm.

Please contact Kim at the Pipefitters Local 636 Training Center 248-585-0636 for upcoming classes or look on their website www.pipefitters636tc.org for information.

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

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

Any member that is Retiring contact BeneSys at those numbers as well for your Retirement paperwork. Or if you want to meet with Theresa Danko, Financial Secretary Treasurer, please give her a 7-to-10-day notice so that he can get all of your paperwork in order.

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

**Defined Contribution Pension Plan:** For those members who use the Voice Response Unit, VRU to obtain balance information and transfers funds in your Defined Contribution Pension, the number has changed. The new number for the VRU is 877-410-9984. Plan provider number is 7526.

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

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

Consultations with Work Life Strategies are a service paid for by the Insurance Fund. Referrals to outside professionals, if needed, will be paid for according to the current health care plan benefits. CJ Harrison would like all our members to know that she is still available by phone during these uncertain times, she is working from home doing phone conferences which is still beneficial to all our members and their families. You can contact her @ 313-580-6887.

Reminder to all Local 636 Members- Local 636 does not have a sanctioned Facebook and/or any other social media sites. We are working on putting together a social media site. If you require information regarding Local 636, please refer to our website www.pipefitters636.org or any paid officer for further information.

"Better be despised for too anxious apprehensions, than ruined by too confident security."

-Edmund Burke (1729 - 1797)

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

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Battle Creek member Thomas Brown who passed away at the age of 72, February 22, 2022. Tom retired from the Local 333 in September 2012. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Our condolences to Jim Davis and his family on the loss of his mother, Bonnie Davis, who passed away February 27, 2022. Mrs. Davis, who was 98 years old, was born in the south and her "southern breakfasts" and had the best homemade biscuits and gravy ever made according to Jim. She was a wonderful lady and will be greatly missed by the family. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of them during this time of sorrow.

**NOTICE!!!** The Local 333 Retiree Breakfasts are back!!! The next breakfast will be Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is a new location. Restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center. There is plenty of parking and lots of room for the retirees to sit and enjoy visiting with each other as well as enjoying good food. If you have any questions or need directions just contact Joni at 517-784-1106 ext#4. Please pass the word to fellow retired members. See you all there Tuesday, March 15.

New hooded sweatshirts and knives are available at all three halls.

"There is no passion like that of a functionary for his function."

-Georges Clemenceau (1841 - 1929)

You will be climbing ladders, often multiple flights of stairs when no elevator is available, which on new construction is often the last necessity to be installed. You will have to climb ladders to reach workers on rooftops, so fear of heights is not an option. You will have to be physically fit enough to perform these tasks and stay that way throughout the course of your employment.

You must have moderate computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft word, Excel, Access and Power Point. Be able to send and receive e-mails and do simple

research using the Internet. **Contract Negotiations:** Our current CBA is set to expire June 30, 2022. Our bargaining committee will begin contract negotiations in the coming months. We will be gathering feedback on our current CBA at every monthly meeting from now until the new agreement is in place. Please attend the Union meetings and join in the discussions.

Wild Game Dinner: Hello brothers and sisters, it is once again time for the Wild Game Dinner. The event is being held at The Community Hub in Muskegon on May 5. Doors open at 6pm Sharp! We are in need of wild game donations. If you have any to game to donate please contact Jason Finch at the Union Hall. We have tickets available at the Hall. There will be gun raffles, outdoor camping equipment raffles, silent auction items and more. Come out have some great food and try to win one of our fabulous prizes.

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

Aetna/Trinity: Aetna and Trinity Health have reached a new multi-year agreement. Trinity will remain an "in network" provider with Aetna.

**Covid Test Reimbursement:** If you purchase an at home COVID Test please save your receipt. Effective Jan. 15 the health fund will reimburse the cost of up to 8 tests per month. We are still Medicare Retirees: Effective Jan. 1, 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are

### as follows: Single Medicare \$262.55

Retiree & 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 Sept. 30, 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 MedicareRetirees 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 ac**bers**: 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 ext.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 classes will be held Thursday, April 14, 2022 and Thursday, May 12, 2022.

WELDING: A Combo Welding class is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 28, 2022 @ 5:00pm. The class will run on Monday and Wednesday evenings and the class dates are as follows: 3/28, 3/30, 4/4, 4/6, 4/11, 4/13, 4/18, 4/20, 4/25, 4/27, 5/2, 5/ 4, 5/9 and 5/11 @ 5:00p – 9:00p.

The next weld test event will be Saturday, April 9, 2022 @ 8:00am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, April 7, 2022 @ 5-9p. Please call and sign up if you plan to test.

Open Welding on Wednesday nights is currently cancelled until further notice.

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

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

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





# Plumbers, Pipefitters & Hvac Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO – UNION **MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, April12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be Finance Committee at 4:30 and Executive Board at 5:30.

**UNION DUES REMIND-ERS:** Many members pay have paid their Union Dues through December 2021. This means that a lot of you will need to pay by the end of March 2022 in order to NOT GO DELINQUENT. Phone call reminders to pay your dues will not be made. Cash is now accepted at the Union Hall for any payments. You also have the option to pay your union dues through the Local 357 website @ www.ualocal357.com. Note that you must add a 4% fee for using this site.... so, if you are paying a month of dues at \$34.00... you need to pay \$35.36. Other ways to pay include sending a check, stopping by the Union Hall, dropping off a payment in the drop box outside the front door or calling Lori at (269) 679-3708 and paying with a credit card.

**PLUMBINGLICENSE:** Your Plumbing License needs to be renewed with the State of Michigan by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Union Hall needs a copy of your renewed license in order to keep the records up to date. Please get it to us as soon as you can.

TAX PREP INFORMA-TION: Dollar amounts are available for 2021 withholdings & dues paid. If you sign up for the e-mail on the website, you do not need to call the Hall for your deductions because you can view and print out your own information. The information that we have is what the contractors have reported on the fringes. If you think there is a discrepancy, then you should check your own pay stubs.

NOTE: HEALTH INSUR-ANCE IS PAID BY THE CON-TRACTORS AND IS NOT DE-DUCTIBLE.

**RETIREE MEETINGS (NO** MARCH): Traveler Café will be closed during the week of March 1st. There will be no Retiree Meet-



**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 111** UPPER PENINSULA-

MARQUETTE - The next Union Meeting will be in Marquette on March 31, 2022 @ 7:30 p.m. EST.

MRA CARD: Please note, after using your MRA card, you will still need to "substantiate" your claim by sending in your Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or an itemized bill with receipt of payment. Remember, when using your MRA card, your date of service must be within a year of the date you use your card. If you are having trouble, please call Zenith American at (866) 823-4730 ext. 1 and they will assist you.

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

Swag: Don't forget to pick up your Hoodies, T-shirts, hats, knife or flashlight in stock now at either hall.

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

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

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

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

Check your dues records! You are assessed a \$50 reinstatement once you become 3 months behind. You are automatically expelled once you are over 6 months behind. Safety Training on Local 111 Web Site: When taking the 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 2022 MSHA schedule is on our web site & our Facebook page. To register for an MSHA class please go to **Upconstruction.org** and go to the MSHA calendar to register. This website applies for cancelling classes also. MSHA expires in one year.



**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671** MONROE - The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2022 at 7 p.m. The **Executive Board will also meet** in person on April 8, at 5:00 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.

There will be a SPECIAL **ORDER of BUSINESS at the next** Union Meeting (April 8th, 2022) regarding the second reading of a potential By-Law change.

At the 40th UA Convention, a UA Constitution by-law was changed regarding dues for 40year members. If you have maintained membership in the United Association for 40 years, your dues will be reduced to \$10 per month starting January 1st, 2022. If you are still working then you will pay the full \$33.50 per month until your retirement.

Training: There will be UA New Business Seminar with Tom Bigley, the UA Director of Plumbing, hosted by Local 98 Detroit on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. If any member is considering opening your own business this class has a lot of great information on how to get started. If anyone is interested, please contact Mike or Vinnie at the Union Hall so we can get you signed up. All members attending this seminar MUST be fully vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated and still wish to participate, we are making arrangements to attend virtually.

Retirees: We still have ongoing issues with our new insurance. If you are a Medicare retiree and are having any issues with United Healthcare and its coverage; Please contact Mike or Carly at the Union Hall or Labor First on the help line (734-234-6496).

Hearing Aid benefits through our retiree's insurance must be redeemed through United Health Care. You cannot go just anywhere and expect the free hearing aid. If you have questions contact Labor First at 734-234-6496.

All retiree self-pays are due 1 month prior to the month you want coverage. This is the cause of some of our issues with cover-

DETROIT – Membership of Plumbers 98, Brothers and Sisters: Have you checked out our website? Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits the Training Center, and more can be found there. Go to UALOCAL98.COM to see what's happening.

Plumbing License. The State of Michigan renewal notices have gone out for Journeyman and Apprentices. It has moved to online for renewal, go to https:// aca3.accela.com/LARA - this site may not be compatible with some mobile devices. If needed you can receive help at the training center or the Union Hall (make sure to bring all your information).

**MEETINGS & Union Hall.** The next Union Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will take place indoors at our Union Hall and all Covid restrictions in place will be adhered to. We are currently reevaluating the mask requirements here at the hall.

Retiree Meetings. THE MARCH RETIREE MEETING IS CURRENTLY CANCELLED. Your Retiree Association Board has decided to restart Retiree Meetings, the next Retiree meeting will be Wednesday, April 13th from 12pm – 2pm at the hall. Please note, any existing Covid-19 protocols are still being adhered to for these meetings.

**Education Opportunities.** For continuing education opportunities or classes, you can contact Training Center Coordinator Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435.

**COVID-19 Information –** Vaccine - Tests. We thank all of you for helping each other out and doing the best you can. We have many, many companies outside of the healthcare industry who have implemented their own rules and guidelines that include vaccination. DTE has recently joined the fray with a hurdle to get on site. It is still your choice; all I can suggest is contact your doctor and educate yourself. I can assure you there will be another variant of this latest one so "we together" are in this for the long haul. The less this thing spreads the sooner it will stop mutating into new variants.

You can now get 4 free at home COVID-19 tests per residential address. Go to COVIDtests.gov to request yours today.

Please visit ualocal98.com/ covid-update-3 for the most cur-



questions or want to pay your dues by phone, please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 ext. 4.

NOTE ON DISABILITY/RE-**TIREMENT.** 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 June 9, 2022. The deadline for the Local 98 Scholarship is June 30, 2022, but it is best to get your application submitted sooner rather than later

In Memoriam. Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of Brother Clifford Board, Brother Edwin Tostige and Brother Robert E. Zube who all passed away on February 25, 2022. Brother Tostige was the father of Brother Thomas Tostige and Brother Zube was the son of Brother Robert D. Zube and brother to Brother Craig Zube.

Good/Welfare. 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 currently closed

The Training Center is open.

ASSE Tester (Full 40 hour): Fall Class: August 30th – November 8th Deadline is August 5th

ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification Fall Class: August 31st-October 5th, Deadline is August 12th \$75

\*OPEN WELDING\* - Our welding shop is currently closed for a new ventilation system. We are still available to help. Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext.146 for any welding related induiries.

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next

WELDING Tests will be pending until shop is complete. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the class. The next BRAZING Cert Session will be Friday, April 8, 2022. Please note: All members must be dressed appropriately to be in the shop area.

2022 Course Hour reimbursement forms are available at the Training Center. You must have 8 hours (approved hours credited may vary from actual hours attended) of verifiable approved classes/training from January 1 - December 31, 2022 to be eligible for the \$100.00 reimbursement. \*\*2021 forms must be submitted by deadline of March 31, 2022 for 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.

# You Are the **Missing Piece.**



ing Lunch for March and we will resume on April 1<sup>st</sup> and from then on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month. The lunches will commence at 11:30 am at Travelers Café located at 5225 Portage Rd, Portage, MI. The phone number for the location is (269) 775-1775.

MEDICAL CLAIMS IS-SUES: As a member, TIC International and Labor First provide a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at (888) 281-3461. For Medicare Retirees - Contact Labor First at (269) 218-3533 or (833) 933-0036.

WEBSITE INFORMATION -FRINGES-TIC: Check out the website at www.ualocal357.com and the FACEBOOK Page @ www.facebook.com/ UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the Member Resources, then click on MRA / TIC Intl Information and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email Address, UA Card # and create your own password.

Once you have completed all the information – click on the LARGE REGISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again – type in your email address and password – and all your information will be presented.

As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an email 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 CON-TRACTORS.

CHANGE OF STATUS: If you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, remarried, birth, death, workers (Continued next column)

# Local 357 cont'd

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).

### **CONDOLENCES:**

Condolences to Gary Pountain and his family on the recent passing of his brother.

Condolences to the family of retired brother, Ronald Hollister, on his recent passing.

Condolences to the family of retired brother, John Godush Jr., on his recent passing.

"All progress is precarious, and the solution of one problem brings us face to face with another problem."

-Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)

"One man that has a mind and knows it can always beat ten men who haven't and don't." -George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)

age being denied. For example, if you are paying for April, you now need to have that payment in at least by March 15. This will help avoid any disruptions in cover-

age Union Promotion: We now have Local 671 hats at the Hall for \$22. We also have Hi-Vis long and short sleeve shirts and black short sleeve shirts as well.

The 2022 UA National Softball Tournament is scheduled for June 24, 25 and 26 in Cincinnati Ohio. We traditionally send a team down every year and we hope to do that this year. If you are interested, please contact the Hall or Nate Schneider. This is a UA sanctioned event and you MUST BE FULLY VACCINATED to participate. I hope to see you in Cincinnati.

Condolences: Our condolences go out to the Family of Brother Tim Braunlich who passed on Feb. 23. Tim was extremely proud to be a member of Local 671 and will be missed dearly by all.

Condolences also go out to Brother John St. Bernard who lost his wife Nancy on March 3rd. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.

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

Congratulations: We would like to congratulate Jack Katz, Larry Lambert, and Larry Massamore on becoming Life Members of Local 671. Congratulations on this great accomplishment!

In Closing: After enjoying some warmer weather lately, excitement builds for our upcoming Spring and Summer. It feels good to think about a change in seasons, but let us all stay focused on our current jobs, especially at Fermi where we are still in an Outage. Let's finish strong by staying focused, and staying safe.

Mike Jewell: Cell (419) 262-8503 email: mike@ualocal671.com (Continued next column) rent COIVD-19 updates.

SUB Apps/OOW. You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App. Once you have proof of unemployment, please send that to the hall at SUB@ualocal98.org so we can set you up in the SUB system. We are now able to offer Direct Deposit on SUB Pay.

You should have received a letter in the mail with the form for Direct Deposit on SUB Pay. Please return that to the hall and note that it takes 30-60 days to set up. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. Make sure your contact information is up to date as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702 and hopefully they can help you get that resolved.

Benefits. We have exciting news as we now have a dedicated BeneSys employee at the Union Hall to help with benefit issues. His name is Andrew Hill and he will be at the hall daily. As we make this transition Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo will still be receiving the calls coming into the Union Hall benefits line and Andrew will be receiving the calls coming into the Local 98 dedicated number at BeneSys. That number is (248) 641-4988 for those members who may not have known.

Andrew and Jon will be working together to create a process that assures members issues get addressed quickly and properly. Jon will report this progress at the monthly Union Meetings.

**Dues.** You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also

# Local 671 cont'd

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

The mask mandate has been lifted. We are asking that people still practice social distancing while in the building. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have any questions.

STATE OF MICHIGAN PLUMBING LICENSE. The State of Michigan is sending out renewal notices. The renewal process is online. All State of Michigan plumbing licenses are renewable at this time without a code update. If any member needs help renewing, with the online system, please call the Training Center and we will assist you. There are not any code updates offered at this time. Once 2018 code update classes are available, we will offer them at the Training Center.

CALL THE TRAINING CEN-**TER TO REGISTER FOR ANY** OF THE FOLLOWING **CLASSES OFFERED IN 2022.** All classes are register and prepay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class

**6010 Medical Gas Installer** Recertification- \*All current Med Gas certification holders are required to take this update. \*\*Final class scheduled in April\*\* \$130.00

Medical Gas Installer (Full 40 hour): Fall Class: September 1st – November 10th Deadline is August 12th \$206

Monthly Code Class-Next class is March 16, 2022 at 4:30 pm. Open to any member looking to have discussions about the interpretation of the Michigan Plumbing Code. Great refresher for anyone wanting to take a state plumbing exam. Please call Paul at the Training Center at 248-585-1435 ext. 123 to register.

ASSE Backflow Tester Re-Certification: Please be sure to check your expiration date, it is now required that you complete your update class prior to your expiration. This class is offered quarterly. \$75

4 hour recert class April 26 & 27 Deadline is March 25th

4 hour recert class July 26th and 27th Deadline is June 24th

4 hour recert class October 25th and 26th Deadline is Septem-

"Always listen to experts. They'll tell you what can't be done and why. Then do it.'

-Robert Heinlein (1907 -1988)

"The moment we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life no longer flow into our souls.

-Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815 - 1902)

"The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak.

-Hans Hoffman

"Since we cannot know all that there is to be known about anything, we ought to know a little about everything."

-Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

"Never stand begging for that which you have the power to earn.'

-Miguel de Cervantes (1547 -1616)

"Truth has beauty, power and necessity.

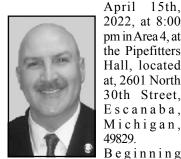
- Sylvia Ashton-Warner



**Plumbers Local 98** 



**Boilermakers Local 169** ALLEN PARK - The next Union meeting will be on Friday,



2022, at 8:00 pm in Area 4, at the Pipefitters Hall, located at, 2601 North 30th Street, Escanaba, Michigan, 49829. Beginning

BOB February 1st, 2022, union dues will be HUTSELL

\$52.35 in accordance with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Constitution. The Union Hall accepts, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union Hall and over the phone.

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

**Retirees:** Retiree luncheons have resumed. The Area One Retiree luncheon is held on the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am at the Brown Derby Bar, 10661 West Jefferson, River Rouge, Mi. The area four retirees' lunches have also resumed. They are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks Restaurant 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI.

Area four retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County Road 480.

The new date for the Boilermaker Dinner Dance is March 26th, 2022, at the Atheneum in Detroit, Michigan. I encourage every member to come out for a great night of dinner, drinks, live music, and fellowship with your brother and sister boilermakers.

A block of rooms has been reserved at a cost of \$199.00. To reserve a room, call 313-962-2323 or 1-800-772-2323. Valet parking is available for \$12.00. The cutoff date for room reservations is March 1, 2022. The dinner dance is available to all active members and retirees. To provide a head count for food and beverage. please send a \$50.00 check to the union hall. The check will be returned upon your arrival at the event. it's been far too long since we got together. I look forward to seeing you there. If you have not submitted your check yet, please do so ASAP! It is imperative to provide an ACCURATE amount of food and beverage for those attending Hoodies have been restocked and are available in sizes ranging from medium through 3XL. Cost is \$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. Due to continued demand, the Boilermakers Local 169 Welding Committee will be holding a stainless steel and Inconel weld certification test with B&G Processing. All carbon steel, certified tube welders are encouraged to participate. Boilermaker signatory contractors are seeing an increased demand for these welding skills as we continue working in emerging industries. As our industry changes, we must continue to develop the skills that make us the best choice for our owners and contractors, just as we have done for over 125 years. Further details will be forthcoming. We send our condolences to retired member, John Sendwak, who passed away.



# Laborers Local 1191

DETROIT - Monthly Membership Meetings: Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Union hall (except for holidays), the next membership meeting will on the April 1 2022.

Retirees: Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, 2161 W. Grand Blvd. Detroit, MI 48208.

Union Dues For 2022: Effective Jan. 1, 2022 regular monthly dues are \$35 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 De**posit**: 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 pavee 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 MI 48917.



# **Elevator Constructors Local 36**

DETROIT - ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting is planned for Monday, March 28, 2022 at 5:30 pm. The March Meeting will have nominations for Officers of the Local, per Article XI of the Locals Constitution and By-Laws. Keep watching your email for possible changes!

Local 36

Elevator

Constructors

Attention all Apprentices, monthly OJL forms are now online at NEIEP which **must** be completed before the 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

Reminder to All that the NEIEP website is available to all interested in Reviewing and Continuing Education. Any apprenticeship certifications missed, or non-current can be retaken if we can build a class as part of continuing education program through NEIEP. CPR

First-aid OSHA, Scaffolding, are available to all members though some classes may require fees. Go to the NEIEP website for the status of your apprenticeship. Continue to watch your NEIEP and personal emails for further information, this is a responsibility of your apprenticeship. The Local is seeking Instructors for NEIEP, anyone interested please contact the Hall.

Attention all Members, a Motion was made to have a picnic this summer at our October meeting and was passed by the body at the November meeting, save the date of July 30th, 2022. There is a need for members to assist with the Picnic from start to finish as this will help all enjoy the time with families and friends. The Local also has some committees that NEED members to run/assist. Safety, Organizing, Golf outing and Picnic, please call the hall! Local elections are coming this year, members participation keeps the Local moving in a positive direction.

The Locals Constitution and By-Laws has changes that will be read starting at our February meeting with 3 consecutive reading at Monthly meetings. The 2nd reading will be at our March meeting. Per Article XIX (Amendments) of the Locals Constitution and By-Laws.

All should have received there W2s from your companies, be advised the Local has sent out the Local's W2 statement and letter. Your next quarter card and W2s must be taken care of before the 1st day of the second quarter Per Article XIV in the Locals Constitution and By-laws.

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. When you need assistance, technical or for safety, request, receive and document. Check your paystubs weekly, are you getting what you put in? Paper copies can be requested as stated in Article XI, Par. 2. Forms are available at the Hall. Check your recent pay stubs for proper Holiday pay and hours.

All Members, Local 36, Local 85 and the EIWPF are holding outreach sessions on Monday nights, 6:00 - 8:00 pm. 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. We are holding code book layout sessions monthly, call the hall if interested. Maintenance Control Programs (MCP) reference the Codes, are you being Code compliant? Know what the MCP is referencing for you the Licensed Journeyperson. If anyone is interested in a class for QEI training, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list.

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. Cab work complete is the work of our Elevator Constructors, Article IV Par. 2(j), cross the threshold and it's our work! Keep the hall informed of all jobs and have permit as required before starting. Per Article X par. 2 of the NEBA agreement all jobs shall be manned in accordance with this Article, any discrepancies with this ratio you must inform the Hall immediately. These are violations of the NEBA Agreement and International Constitution and By-Laws. Inform the hall on any employment status changes as we need to inform the International. When your Company Assignment takes you outside our jurisdiction it is your responsibility to report in to that Local before you start, as stated in the International Constitution and By-Laws. All Members, you are obligated to keep current with the Local your contact information, including address, phone, and email information, notify any changes including company phone numbers. Your company should take care of all business during regular working hours, after hours phone calls are not acceptable. Get well wishes are extended to all our Brothers and Sisters who are on our sick list. Be Safe and Be Healthy!

March 11, 2022





# **Roofers Local 149**

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

Regular Membership Meeting. The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, April 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., March 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m

Condolences. It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of Brother Jerry "The Legend" Lynn. Brother Jerry Lynn was 73 years old and a 49-year member. Brother Lynn passed on 2/23/2022. Brother Lynn has been a Union Officer and Trustee. Rest in Peace Brother Lynn, thank you for your years of service.

Detroit Wage Allocation. During the April 5, Detroit membership meeting, proposals will be taken to determine what to do with this year's \$1.65 raise.

Union Dues. Make sure you pay your monthly dues before the end of every month to stay in good standings. You can pay dues at the Hall with a cash, money order, credit, or debit card. Union dues can be paid 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). 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 call the Hall at 313-961-6093.

Vacation and Holiday Check Direct Deposit. Members will have the option to have their Vacation and Holiday check direct deposited in their bank account starting with the April 2022 payout. This includes all contracted areas.

To get your Vacation check direct deposited, members will need to complete a direct deposit agreement. The form will be available at the Detroit and Mid-Michigan Union Hall. Member will need to know the following Financial Institution information, Routing No., Account No., name of Financial Institution, address, and telephone number.

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

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

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

SHAME ON THE CARPENTER'S UNION LEADERSHIP! The Carpenter's Union (UBC) has targeted the Roofer's & Waterproofer's Union and other union trades in an attempt to destabilize and bypass the jurisdiction of not just our industry, but other unionized construction trades as well, to raid our Pension Funds.

If you are on a jobsite and any RAT Carpenter Agent approaches you or anyone in your crew about monopolizing the Roofer's & Waterproofer's Union, PLEASE NOTIFY THE UNION IMMEDI-ATELY at 313-961-6093! Tell the RAT Carpenter to go out and organize the carpentry market that is currently unrepresented.

We stand in solidarity with all sincere Trade Unions and with the Rank and File members of the Carpenters Union, who should openly condemn these heinous actions by their leadership in their name.

Website for announcements, news, and updates: www.roofers local149.com

Moving? If you have a new address please make sure to let the Union Hall know. We will take care of your account with the Union Hall that includes the Building Tradesman Paper, International Union, and Trust Fund.

Reminder. Members please call the Hall when you see a roofing project whether it is one of our signatory companies or not. The Hall needs this information for recruitment purposes, and hopefully to get a picture of our members for Facebook.

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

MID-MICHIGAN AREA - Clio Office. The next Mid-Michigan

Retired member Bruce Sedich, father of Murray Sedich, passed away suddenly on February 23, 2022.

Retired member Herbert Sanford, father of Alonzo and Alyssa Sanford, passed away on February 13, 2022

Retired member Anthony (Tony) Marquette passed away in February.

Please keep these families in your thoughts at this difficult time.

"Always be a little kinder than necessary.'

-James M. Barrie (1860 1937)

**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.

NOTE: Classes & Certifications contractors have been asking for are: OSHA 30, Asbestos & Lead Awareness, Hoisting & Rigging, Pipeline Safety, Class (Continued next column)

# Local 1191 continued

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 (1st) five (5) days of the following months March, June, September and December. Your failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the referral list. \*Example: (Continued next column)

**BeneSys** 

regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., April 12, 2022 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Notice of Election – Mid-Michigan Negotiating Committee

The following members are running for the committee: Robert Coats, Jesse Wangler, Frank Ostrander, Douglas Heyd. Three to be elected.

The election will take place at the Mid-Michigan Union Hall, 810 Tacoma Ct., Clio, MI 48420, on April 12, 2022, from 4pm thru 6pm. You must be a member in good standing to cast a ballot.

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

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

If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368, or midmichroofers149@gmail.com to make arrangements.

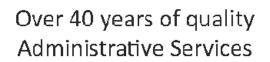
Notice. When contractors call the Union Hall for help, we need to know who is available, and have an up to date phone number. All Mid-Michigan Area members who are out of work need to call the Hall at (810) 687-1368 to be put on the out of work list.

The publication above is as 3/7/2022, 1:00p.m.

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

If your name is on the list in April and or May and you don't reregister 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.



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.

THE FULL SERVICE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR Health and Welfare Plans **Defined Benefit Pension Plans Defined Contribution Pension Plans** Claims Processing Supplemental Unemployment Plans HRA's, HSA's, FSA's Vacation Plans **Eligibility Processing** Trust Fund Accounting VEBA Administration Web Applications **COBRA** Administration **HIPAA Compliance** 

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Louisville, KY	Salt Lake City, UT	-

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### IBEW 58

DETROIT - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30. All COVID protocols will be in place. You must wear a mask and have your temperature taken. If you have not filled out a liability waiver form, you must fill one out to attend. Also, please be advised that there will be an opportunity to discuss the pension and annuity with Fund Administrator Craig Young and a representative from Morgan Stanley from 5:30 – 6:30 before the membership meeting. Please plan on staying for our membership meeting as well.

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 23, 2022. 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.

ATTENTION - TO UPDATE BANKING INFORMATION THE FUND OFFICE MUST RECEIVE CHANGES BY April 29, 2022.

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

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.

Local 58 Dues Information: Dues can be paid on the APP/ Website. If you have not enrolled in the new dues payment system you will need to do so before you can pay. You can call the hall and pay over the phone if you choose to or mail in a check. NOTE – If you are paying on the App and do not want to receive a Reinstatement fee for 1st quarter, you need to pay by March 29th. You can call the hall and pay by 3:00 pm on March 31st. If you mail a check it needs to be received in the office by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Local 58 Motorcycle Group: Group meetings have moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month @5pm in the basement classroom before the General Membership Mtg. Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. Visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Anthony Anderanin @ aanderanin@gmail.com or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join us at our upcoming meetings to plan for next year's events and rides.

Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund: The next Benevolent Fund meeting will be Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 5 p.m.

Local No. 58 Benevolent Fund's 19th Annual Ken Fitzhenry Party - The Benevolent fund would like to thank all the trades and brothers and sisters for their continued support. Unfortunately, we were unable to host our amazing Ken Fitzhenry party on Super Bowl Sunday but still had our raffle. We look forward to seeing everyone next year.

Look for more details on our upcoming events for the Walleye tournament Saturday May 7 and the Gaudi Golf Open Friday June 3.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 11, 2022 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



**IBEW 665** 

LANSING - WORK OUT-LOOK: Local 665 is expecting steady employment for our local members through most of the winter and we anticipate needing help on several projects from our travelling brothers and sisters.

For our travelling brothers and sisters, Local 665 is still accepting initial sign by fax or email from a member's home local.

Work is looking solid in 2022 we hope to have another great year in the Lansing area. **RETIREMENT SEMINAR:** 

The retirement seminar on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 was a wealth of information for those who attended. The business manager and representatives from the plan office went over information and answered any questions members had. If you missed this one, we are planning on hosting another one in the fall

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

To apply, go to www. lejatc.org and navigate to the application page on the website. Applications are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

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

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

DUES AND DEATH BEN-EFITS: First quarter dues should be paid by this time. We are currently at death benefit #325. Please check your dues receipt to ensure that you are current.

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

# **IBEW** 58, con't



**IBEW Local 131** 

KALAMAZOO - The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on April 4th, 2022 at 6 p.m.

Since 1916

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on March 21st, at 5 p.m.

Mark your calendars! The fifth year class of IBEW Local 131 is hosting a golf outing May 14th 2022 at Pine View golf course in Schoolcraft. More information to follow. Contact Eddie Leboeuf with any questions e.leboeuf.1985@gmail.com 269-580-0767

Work Outlook: The Pfizer Maps Project will begin to start having boots on the ground near the end of March to first part of April. Abbott Labs is seeking RFP's for a new dryer tower to be constructed sometime this year. We will need additional help from late spring into summer. If you are aware of interested electricians working in our jurisdiction, please have them visit www.powering kalamazoo.com or call the office.

The LMCC has launched a new website www.powering kalamazoo.com. This website will be used to highlight local signatory contractors and used as an organizing tool. Follow us on Facebook @poweringkalamazoo, @PoweringKzoo, Twitter @powering Instagram kalamazoo, and LinkedIn @poweringkalamazoo. Please 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@ibew 131.com

**Dues pricing -** The price for dues in 2022 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 Feb. 2022, your dues are not current; please contact the Hall.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in counter dues payments: Ethan Eberstein, Rusty Anthony Falvo, Schuiteboer, Dominic Brondi, Harland Haines, Easton Lovell, Nick McKenna, Jason Steit, Joe Zirkelbachll. 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. We have also now integrated **Death Benefit and Retirement** payments into the online portal. You should expect to start seeing them accounted for in your month dues payments, both at the window and in the form of online payments. 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.



# **IBEW Local 252**

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

TRAINING CLASSES 2022: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 P.M.

1. CPR/FIRST AID, Tuesdays, March 1 & 8; June 7 & 14.

2. Motor Control: Ten Weeks, Mondays, March 7 thru May 9.

3. OSHA 30: Mondays, March 21 thru May 16. GOOD FOR 30 BICSI CEU's!

There will not be a code update required in 2022. We will offer classes as soon as the state adopts a new NEC 2020 or 2023.

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

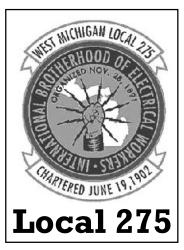
Retirees' Card Game: The first Thursday of every month Local 252 and UA 190 retirees meet at the Union Hall for card games and donuts. The games start at 9 a.m. Please come join the fun.

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

Easter Egg Hunt: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual IBEW RENEW Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 10th from 2 p.m.- 5 p.m. at the Union Hall. Activities include: Easter Egg Coloring Contest, Easter Egg Hunt with prizes for kids under 9, games for all ages, and visits from the Easter Bunny. The Egg Hunt will start at 3 p.m.

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



**IBEW 275** 

COOPERSVILLE - Dear Brothers and Sisters: Work in the Local has slowed somewhat as it usually does this time of year. However, we have some large projects slated to begin within the next few months. So rest up, because we are going to busy for quite some time!

We have been gathering negotiation suggestions over the last couple months and have a good list to work off. I have been in contact with NECA and we are tentatively scheduled to begin negotiations Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. I will keep you all informed of how it progresses.

We are currently about half way through this round of Foreman's classes. If you are interested in taking this class, please call me (Jonas Talbott) at the Hall to be added to the list for the next class. I am also taking names for Steward's class. We currently have nine names for that class and have room for a few more.

As you are all aware, we are rapidly approaching political season. Many labor-friendly candidates in west Michigan will be reaching out to the Local for support on their campaigns. Please try to find time to help if asked by the Local.

The following members are three or more months behind in dues: Robby Engelsman, Joanna Gunnett, Brandon Kiander and Antonio Zizumbo. If you haven't done so already, please bring your dues up to date.

2022 United The Sportsman's Wild Game Dinner has been scheduled for Thursday May, 5th at the Community Hub in Muskegon. If you are interested in getting tickets for this year's event, please reach out to Sue to reserve them before they're gone!

Also, if you have extra venison or other wild game in your freezers, please consider donating it for the dinner. You can contact Walt at the Hall if you have donations.

Please remember that re-sign is the 10<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month. If your re-sign is not in by the 16<sup>th</sup>, you will be rolled off the Book. You may contact Geoff at the Hall if you need assistance. Regular meetings for the EWMC and RENEW committees are every month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 6:00pm at the Union Hall in Coopersville and/or via zoom.

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.

Members of the Entertainment Committee - The next meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Tuesday, April 11, 2022, following the Community Service Committee meeting starting at 5:30 pm.

EWMC of Southeastern MI The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 21, 2022 at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option. Please make sure your cell phone number and your email address are up to date. The meeting information will be sent out as soon as available. If you are not receiving the notices, please make sure that your information is updated here at the hall. Please bring any suggestions that you have for EWMC involvement and engagement. What can we safely participate in that continues to promote the IBEW in the community?

Thank you to everyone who participated in the March Reading month project with DPSCD on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. Everyone got rave reviews for doing a great job connecting with the kids. These kids are our future and they need to know that we believe in them. All pictures and videos should have been forwarded to Nick Chapital. We will definitely touch back with all of the schools to be able to participate in any career day activities. Also, if you are a DPS/DPSCD alumni, please add your name to our list for future events. You can contact Byron Osbern or Felicia Wiseman with your information.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, March 14, 2022 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 first Wednesday of each month Via Zoom. To be added to our email list please contact Jeannette Bradshaw (313-408-1287). PAC contributions can be made through the APP, and at the Union Hall. You can contribute more than the \$4 dollars 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 Committee- Our next regular meeting is Thursday, March 24th at 5:30 pm at the hall and on zoom. Please watch for emails with further updates and zoom info. Coin number 3 in the "She needed a hero" set is now available. Hurry and get yours before they are all gone! They are \$25 a piece, funds raised are for the ARC Scholarship. PayPal, Venmo, and of course cash is available for payment. The 4th coin in the set will be released at a later date! 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.

IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association As things unfold, the local 58 staff are back full time in-person at the hall, and masks are optional for staff, and temperatures and signing in has been suspended. But, for job referrals, and other visitors, there is still a sign-in, and temperatures taken upon entry and masks are to be worn, any questions about these things, call the hall at 313 963-2150 for more information.

April 1<sup>st</sup> signals another look at protocol at the Hall. It's very likely that the retirees will be able to have a board meeting in April, (Continued next column)

but that final decision will be made the beginning of next month It's still appropriate to be cautious out and about. It may be practical to wear a mask in places that include large groups of people, like grocery stores.

As we return to a new normal, our comfort zones will definitely adjust accordingly. Continue with good hand hygiene, mask when appropriate, keep a safe and comfortable distance from others in public places, and remember to keep those clean hands out of our faces.

Also, if you haven't gotten fully vaccinated, it is never too late. Get that booster too! It is always a good day to reach out and communicate with fellow retirees, and family and friends. We are still in Covid mode, and it will probably be quite a few months before we see the end of the omicron variant. Let's hope it the last one we experience. Happy Spring!

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

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: Donald Brown, David Duquette, Allan Gillespie, Kevin Kopitz, Gary Morin, and Steven Sarate.

Members who have passed away: Ronald Allen, pension member, 37 year IBEW membership; Katherine Bailey, widow to the late pension member William Bailey; John Barrett, Father to JIW John P. Barrett; Wayne Corteville, pension member, 54 year IBEW membership; Ruth Fobare, Widow of the late pension member William Fobare, Mother to pension member Richard Fobare; Robert Humphrey, pension member, 55 year IBEW membership; Harold McCloud, pension member, 55 year IBEW membership, Father to pension member Tim McCloud and JIW Eric McCloud; Jack Watkins, pension member, 55 year IBEW membership. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.

All memorials (member's and member's families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the Memorials Tab.

FROM THE APPRENTICE-SHIP: \*\*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.\*\*

Drug Test Renewals: Please keep track of your drug test expiration date through www.safe2 work4you.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. office@kalamazoojatc.com.

Organizing: As much technology as we use to track nonunion electricians in our jurisdiction, often, our best resources are (Continued next column) you are signed up in the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer System. You must be signed up in ERTS before working outside of Local 252's jurisdiction or your benefits will not be transferred back.

Aflac Insurance: Aflac has teamed up with the IBEW to offer its members Aflac benefits at a reduced rate. Contact Representative Lisa Enerson for information about Accident, Cancer, Critical Care, Dental and Vision insurance from Aflac. Phone number: (517) 306-0144.

AT&T Discount: Union members can save up to 15% on the monthly service charges of qualified wireless plans, or unlimited calling for \$15/mo. for AT&T Wireless Home Phone plans. Visit UnionPlus.org/ATT with discount code 4924966.

Local 252 Website & App: The Local's website www.ibew 252.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.

**RETIREMENT:** The NEBF and IBEW Pension Benefit Fund applications can take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. (Continued next column)

# **IBEW 131, con't**

you, the members. If you see a non-signatory in the area working at a location, please let the Hall know.

Retirees: We are working on updating the Retirees' List for Julius, if you believe we do not have a good phone number for you please call the hall and contact us.

Retiree Lunches all start at 11 A.M. at the following Locations

March 16<sup>th</sup>, Buckey's Café, 8675 Portage Rd.

April 20th, La Rue's, 6375 Stadium Drive

### Brian O'Donnell

**Business Manager/Financial** Secretary

Both of these are great ways to get involved with the local as well as the community.

Dues for 2022 are \$42.90 per month. Please make adjustments when making payments through the mail and automatic bank payments.

# IBEW 252, con't

If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork AT LEAST 3 months before your planned retirement date.

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

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

**DUES PAYMENTS** – Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 12/ 2021, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$119.25 per quarter for 2022. "BA" members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2022. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January through March) are due now

**Payments for first quarter** dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Thursday, March 31, 2022.

"When we ask for advice, we are usually looking for an accomplice.

-Marquis de la Grange (1639 - 1692)

"When I was a kid my parents moved a lot, but I always found them."

-Rodney Dangerfield (1921 -2004)



# IBEW Local 498

TRAVERSE CITY – Meetings.

**Regular E Board-** The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Friday, April 8th, 2022 @ 6pm.

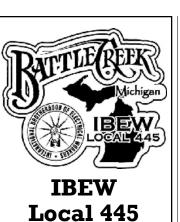
**Regular Meeting** – Schedule is 7pm Friday April 8th, 2022. Currently, the Solidarity Picnic before the Regular meeting is on hold for now due to Covid.

**Email** –We will be doing another mass email this week to see if we have everyone listed. Please check your email for a "TEST" email. If you didn't get one, check your SPAM folder. It may have ended up there. If you still have nothing then please call the hall and verify your email address that we have on file. You can email your address to the hall at ibew@local498.net. Please put your name in the subject.

**Negotiations** – We are still currently in negotiations and we have met two times and have a third meeting time scheduled. If and when we come to a tentative agreement we will call for a special called ratification meeting. The notice for this meeting will be the **LAST** postcard notification. All other notifications will be published in the *Tradesman* and by email. Please update your email if you haven't already done so.

**Resale Items** – A new order of Local 498 shirts are in now. Stop by to get one while we still have your size! We also have Local 498 Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing. I am working on getting challenge coins ordered that will also be available for resale when they get here.

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



**IBEW Local 445** BATTLE CREEK – **A Huge Thank You!** to all that participated in the move to the new Hall! We appreciate you all!!!

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

The March 14, 2022, Meeting will be held at the new building located at: 4071 W. Dickman Rd, Springfield, MI 49037.

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

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

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



# IBEW Local 948

FLINT – Our March Union Meeting will be held on Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 6:00pm.

Our March Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, March 28th, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

The Next Retiree Club Meeting will be Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 9:00am.

Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure to log in to see all the new content. www.local948.com.

You can pay over the phone with debit or credit card. You can also stop by the Hall during business hours (7am-noon/ 1-4pm) and pay by cash, check, debit or credit card. **Do not wait till you owe a reinstatement fee (4 months behind).** 2022 – Monthly Dues – Journeyman \$43.70 a month – Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$40.70 a month



# OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS MICHIGAN

### **IBEW Local 692**

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The April monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, April 4, 2022. Please be prepared to socially distance and also bring a mask.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The March Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on **Monday, March 21, 2022.** 

Message from the Business Manager. The retirement party has once again been rescheduled. The new date is Oct. 7, 2022. Please make all necessary arrangements to attend. There is nothing more important to the working men and women than celebrating this monumental event and I understand that. After rescheduling this event multiple times, President Nitschky and myself have decided we have rescheduled it for the last time. We will be celebrating this fall!

On Sunday, March 20 the local will once again be walking in the St. Patrick's Day Parade here in Bay City. We will be grilling Koegel hotdogs and passing out candy to the kids as we gather. I hope you all can come out and celebrate one of Bay City's oldest traditions with us.

Work Report. The jobs our signatory contractors are performing in our jurisdiction are as follows: Work on the two Bay City bridges is ongoing with a large-scale remodel of the Liberty bridge followed by the construction of a new Independence Bridge in the spring. Clements has secured the Liberty Bridge. Master Electric is finishing up the new Meijer store in West Branch and will begin the new Isabella County Jail located in Mt. Pleasant later this year. The new jail is seeing some delays, we will keep you posted. Master continues work at Wise guy Farms in Loomis. Ted's Electric was awarded the Beaverton Schools lighting retrofit project. John's Electric in Alpena has slowed considerably and is now waiting for summer school work. Countyline is continuing their work at the Cheboygan Wastewater Plant. Consumer's Energy has awarded the re-lighting project at the service center on Wilder Rd to Escon Group. Consumers is also continuing with some dam work. Northern Valley Electrical has the LaFarge PLC upgrade and will need manpower for a spring shutdown. J Ranck has also secured a nice project in the Lafarge cement plant. Nelson Electric out of Local 557 has secured a nice project at two of the high rises in Bay City. Wilkinson Mineral and SK Siltron both have large projects coming up in the local with J. Ranck securing a large portion of that work. Ranck is on site at SK Siltron with rumors that Escon may also have a piece of work out there. As soon as we have an update on manpower for these projects, we will let you know.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Detroit is the place to be in the state right now if you are looking to travel. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

In Solidarity, Ryan Charney

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

**Organizers Report.** 692's Organizing team continues to reach out to unrepresented workers in our jurisdiction about the benefits of joining the IBEW. Zone 2 continues to be a priority as we anticipate larger-scale projects coming to the area over the next few years. The ability to provide adequate manpower to these projects will only strengthen our contractors' chances of securing this work.

Bay City commissioners recently adopted a Responsible Contracting ordinance that will ensure projects funded by taxpayers are completed by reputable firms. Responsible Contracting language prioritizes criteria such as workplace safety, the utilization of a local workforce, and adhering to licensing and permitting requirements when awarding contracts on larger-scale construction projects and city contracts. No longer will cost be the only criteria when considering contractors looking to secure work in the city.

IBEW organizers in the State of Michigan are currently involved in a campaign against United Electrical Contractors, a large merit shop based in Lansing. A Federal EEOC lawsuit has been filed by six former United employees due to the unfair treatment, discriminatory and blatantly racist behavior they experienced at the hands of management. The IBEW stands in solidarity with the United Six and all other working people who demand accountability from employers who fail to respect their human rights. Local 692 led a protest at the Associated Builders and Contractors training facility in Midland to





# **IBEW Local 557**

SAGINAW – Union News – Brothers and sisters! Just a quick reminder, apprenticeship applications have a deadline of March 18th. If you know of anyone looking to apply, please have them do so then. Apprentices should be on the lookout for new policy changes. Apprentices will need to buckle down on their school work and have all book payments and homework done and abide by all school policies. Other than that – it's a light week.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS** – Our next meeting will be April 5th at 5:30pm. Masks are suggested but not required. We would like to send out a friendly reminder that **If you are feeling ill, please keep your brothers and sisters safe and stay home. It seems a gentle reminder is in need to those members who are experiencing symptoms.** We have recently had to make some changes to our attendance policy for apprentices. Meetings are no longer required, so we can help stop the spread of Covid. This is an effort to keep our membership healthy since now there is no fear of discipline on the part of the apprentices.

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

**UNION HALL OPERATIONS-** If you have any questions or issues, our Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm.

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

**WORK OUTLOOK-** Nothing much new this week ladies and gentlemen. Currently Leddy Electric is the low bidder for the first phase of work on Swan Valley schools. Van Herweg Electric is the low bidder on the new Handley school, which is the first big piece of the city of Saginaw to bid. Our local will work hard to secure the rest of the projects. Thanks to all those making an effort to secure Saginaw Schools work!

**ELECTIONS-** 2022 brings with it Election time! If you would like to stay informed and contribute to labor friendly candidates, please visit www.ibew.org/IBEWPAC. It's going to take all of us to contribute to labor friendly candidates so please do your part to ensure our future yields labor positive results.

HEALTH CARE- We would like to inform our members that Any purchased at-home Covid test is now reimbursable through the Health Plan and Blue Cross. 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. Also, if you used Express-scripts for your RX needs, BCBS has opted to use Optum RX in its place. This mainly applies to members who have their RX delivered to their homes. You may need to contact Optum to make sure the change is seamless. This is also part of the reason we were issued new BCBS cards in January.

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. **WEXAPP-** 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. **JOB CALLS-** Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK don't forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3. STAY CURRENT ON DUES -Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current. **CONTACT NUMBERS-** Michigan Electrical Employee Pension fund and Michigan Health Plan (517) 321-7502 or (855) 633-4584. Fax (517) 321-7508, website mielectricalhealth.org In Solidarity,

his generosity and being a great union member.

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

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

**Email Addresses -** Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward 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!

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#

"Skeptical scrutiny is the means, in both science and religion, by which deep insights can be winnowed from deep nonsense."

-Carl Sagan (1934 - 1996)

2021 – 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.

"Nothing fixes a thing so intensely in the memory as the wish to forget it."

–Michel de Montaigne (1533 - 1592)

"If you have accomplished all that you planned for yourself, you have not planned enough." -Edward Everett Hale (1822 - 1909)

"Only passions, great passions, can elevate the soul to great things."

-Denis Diderot (1713 - 1784)

"The most wasted of all days is one without laughter." -e e cummings (1894 - 1962)

"For what I have received, may the Lord make me truly thankful. And more truly for what I have not received."

– Storm Jameson

"When the gods wish to punish us, they answer our prayers."

–Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900)

"It has been said that man is a rational animal. All my life I have been searching for evidence which could support this." – Bertrand Russell (1872 -1970) demand contractor accountability and promote dignity for all working people within our industry. Please follow the Justice for the United Six campaign on Facebook, and do everything in your power to keep our jobsites safe, inclusive, and free from discrimination.

Brothers Baranek and Klele recently spent a week attending IBEW 6<sup>th</sup> District Organizers "Boot Camp" in Madison, Wisconsin. Over the course of the week, they learned and focused on how to be better organizers. From organizing new members and contractors, basic labor law and much more. They plan on bringing that new found knowledge back home and putting it to use immediately.

Please continue to let us know if you have any questions about upcoming work or if you notice any projects that you think we should be aware of.

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.* 

**2022 Dues.** \* Monthly \$41.20 \* Quarterly \$123.60 \* 6 months \$247.20 \* Yearly \$494.40

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

**Death Benefits.** We regret to inform you of the death of retired Brother Walter Krupa, Card No. C89810, who passed away on Feb. 28, 2022. Brother Krupa was born on June 30, 1925 (96 years old). He was initiated on Oct. 8, 1952. Walter resided in Auburn, Michigan.

**#333.** Local death fund assessment **\$5.00 each** (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692, 1300 W. Thomas, Bay City, MI 48706.

Local 692 Retirement Party. This year's party scheduled for Friday, March 11, 2022 has been rescheduled to Friday, Oct. 7, 2022. It 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.** The next retiree's lunch will be held on **Thursday, March 17, 2022** at 1:00 PM at Beer and Brats located at 4562 N. Eastman Road in Midland.

**Renew.** On Saturday, Feb. 12 Local 692 RENEW held the first annual Brotherhood on the Bay ice fishing tournament. Roughly 30 brothers from several locals around the state came up to enjoy a day of brotherhood and tight lines. Bo Brady took first place with the largest walleye and brothers Jim Cerva and Glen Markel tied for largest perch. We would like to thank everyone who came out and made this event a success, we're already looking forward to next year's outing.

It is the goal of the RENEW committee to increase younger members' involvement in their local union. If you are a member in good standing, 35 years old or younger and would like to participate in 692's RENEW committee, please contact Jacob (989.316.6811) or Cody (989.600.4643) for more information. RENEW meetings are held once a month following our general membership meeting.

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

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

**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

### Breanna DePottey Press Secretary

"The aging process has you firmly in its grasp if you never get the urge to throw a snowball."

- Doug Larson

"I was always looking outside myself for strength and confidence, but it comes from within. It is there all the time." –Anna Freud (1895 - 1982)

"Nothing's so apt to undermine your confidence in a product as knowing that the commercial selling it has been approved by the company that make it."

- Franklin P. Jones

"The meek shall inherit the earth? Well... I don't think so. If by meek you mean friendly and introverted, okay maybe, but if by meek you mean unwilling to take a chance, then never. If I was a betting man and I had to wager on who I thought would inherit the earth, my money would be on the curious."

- Jim Coudal

*"Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art."* 

-Eleanor Roosevelt (1884 - 1962)

"Personality can open doors, but only character can keep them open."

-Elmer G. Letterman

"You are young, my son, and, as the years go by, time will change and even reverse many of your present opinions. Refrain therefore awhile from setting yourself up as a judge of the highest matters."

-Plato (427 BC - 347 BC)

"If you can give your son or daughter only one gift, let it be enthusiasm."

# -Bruce Barton

"The greatest danger to our future is apathy."

- Jane Goodall (1934 - )



# Local 514 **Cement Masons** & Plasterers

**Operative Plasterers and Cement** Masons' Local 514

DETROIT-The next membership meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2022 at 7 p.m. We will practice social distancing for everybody's safety. Masks will be required.

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

Our deepest condolences go out to Bro. Terrence Nicholson family. He passed away on Jan. 5, 2022. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

### Membership gold cards-Congratulations! Vincent Broughton-25 Years Mark Reich-30 Years

Please Welcome Parrish Hill our new Business Representative! His number is 313-220-7840 and he can be reached by email: parrishhill514@yahooo.com

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.micement plasterer 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. Please call (248) 548-0800.

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

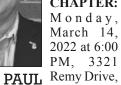
O.P.C.M.I.A. Local 514 has a satellite office in Flint. We welcome Member and Contractors in the Flint area to handle their business transactions at: 2630 Grand Traverse, Flint, MI 48503. Appointments may be made by con-



# BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING-**MARCH 2022 CHAPTER MEETINGS:**

**HOUGHTON CHAPTER:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 7:00

PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MÍ 49965 LANSING **CHAPTER:** 



Lansing, MI DUNFORD 48906

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, March 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**SAGINAW CHAPTER:** Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 1300 W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

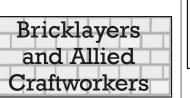
TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

**DEATH REPORTED:** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Ronald Fantin (Tile Layer) who passed away on Jan. 23, 2022. Brother Fantin had been a member for 60 years.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION. Congratulations to Tim Etter and Brian Lantto, who both received honorable mentions at the 2020-2021 U.P. Apprentice of the Year event that was held Jan. 8, 2022.

2022 - BAC LOCAL 2SCHOLARSHIP. The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 2 Mich. is proud to announce the 2022 BAC Local 2 Scholarship. This scholarship is open to ALL dependents of good standing members, statewide, from all of the trades. In order to be eligible, the following information must be submitted to the **BAC Local 2 WARREN office** located at 21031 Ryan Rd., Warren MI 48091 and received by 12 pm Friday, March 18, 2022:

1. Applicant must be a legal dependent of a good standing **ACTIVE** member. The member must have their dues paid up to date. They may also be a dependent of a recently deceased, formally working member, who has passed away after Jan. 1, 2020. A dependent will be defined according to the guidelines of that member's insurance fund summary plan description.



ments are received by 12:00pm on Friday, March 18, 2022.

The winners will be selected by the BAC Local 2 Management Committee and announced at the April 2022 Detroit Chapter Meeting.

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

SIGNING BONUS FOR SKILLED CRAFTWORKERS. Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a Signing Bonus for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors. Also, Local 2 members working with the tools and nonsupervisory 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 injured. Let's keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

\*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. Please contact our Training Centers at the numbers listed below for an appointment for annual RESPIRATOR FIT TESTS and other services.

**DETROIT IMI TRAINING CENTER.** To schedule appointments at the Metro Detroit Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.



Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

Our next scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday April 4th, 2022 at 6pm. Please attend.

We will also be holding a lift class in April, or May. Details coming soon.

Apprentice School classes have resumed. If you have a question on a class night, or an assignment please contact your instructor.

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

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

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

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

The Fund Office address is Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; 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.



WARREN - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 5 at



# **Michigan Painters District Council**

Painters DC 1M 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 card, or if you have dues inquiries or have not received a card please contact the DC1M offices at: ROBERT

Warren Office: GONZALEZ (586)552-4474 extension 100

Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888 **PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 1M SMART PHONE APP.** Painters District Council 1M is pleased to announce its all new APP. For IPHONE go to IOS store,

For ANDROID got to Google Playstore

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

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

# GET INVOLVED AND PAR-**TICIPATE 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.

"Fortune does not change men. it unmasks them.' -Suzanne Necker (1739 -

1794)



Sign Pictorial & Display 591

# District Council 1M

Business Manager: Robert Gonzalez

Meeting date: 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., with the Executive Board meeting at 6 p.m. Place: 14587 Barber Ave, Warren MI 48088 & 419 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48933 Local Union 312 Business Rep: Tim Schwerin Meeting date: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: 1473 N. 30th St., Galesburg, MI 49053

Local Union 514 Business Rep: Scott Mikulen Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI. Web site: www.iupat-local514.org.

Local Union 826 Business Rep: Rocky Ackerman Meeting date: 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Place: 3115 Joyce St. Burton, MI 48529

# Local Union 845

Business Rep – Fred Frederickson Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Place: 419 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933 Local Union 1052 Business Rep – Jake Fluty Meeting date: The Fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton MI 48529

# Local Union 1803

Business Rep: Josh Ovalle Meeting date: 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Place: 7677 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623.

Local Union 2352 Business Rep: Jeremy Haviland Meeting Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave., Warren, MI.

Local Union 2353 Business Rep: Keith Anderson Meeting date: 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Place: District Council 1M, 14587 Barber Ave, Warren, MI.





-Business Rep. Don Stepp Sign,

Participation is very important to keep our union strong, so try to make it to a meeting.

tacting Business Agent Mike Stanfield at (517) 719-2316, or the Business Manager Henry Williams at (313) 215-5063.

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

If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, ROAD BUILDERS can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. PLASTERERS'AND COMMERCIAL CEMENT MA-SONS can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All Plasterers and Cement Masons can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

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

3. Applicant must be a fulltime student, enrolled in 12 or more credits, during the Winter 2022 Semester. A copy of the Class Schedule showing full time status must be submitted.

**NOTE:** Classes listed on the Official Transcript will not be considered as a class schedule. A class schedule lists the classes, dates, times, instructor and location where the class meets. Student's name, semester and the name of the college/university must be on the schedule.

4. Applicant must submit an Official Transcript, showing their grades from the Fall 2021 Semester. An Official Transcript comes directly from the registrar's office in a sealed en*velope.* Please allow ample time for the registrar's office to prepare and mail the official transcript; to be received at BAC Local 2 by March 18, 2022. If your institution participates with the National Student Clearinghouse Transcript service, transcripts may be sent to: colleen @bricklayers.org.

5. Applicant must submit a typed information sheet which will include: Applicant's name, applicant's address, applicant's email address and telephone number, college/university attending, course of study - major & minor and anticipated graduation date of applicant. They must also include the name of the member, members I.U. number, relationship to member, address and telephone number of member and members branch of trade.

6. All information must be submitted by 12:00pm on Friday, March 18, 2022 to the BAC Local 2 Warren office: 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091.

7. Incomplete or late applications will **not** be considered for this scholarship. We are not responsible for late, missing or lost documents. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all docu-

TMT RTI CLASSES. To register visit detroittrowel trades.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: Feb: 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Mar: 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Apr: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> May: 14th & 28th

Jun: 4th & 11th

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

Feel free to contact your BAC field representative or the Statewide Apprentice Director, Howard Hipes, should you have any questions.

**METRO DETROIT AP-PRENTICE WORKSHEETS** AVAILABLE FOR DOWN-LOAD: Turning in monthly 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 Howard Hipes at (517) 749-1102 to request them by mail. For more information on the Detroit Training Center visit: detroittrowel trades.org

LANSING TRAINING CEN-TER: To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR 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.michigan bricklayers.org to view the Lansing Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2021 online training classes.

**MEMBERSHIP ASSIS-TANCE:** During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free (Continued on Page 13) 6:30p.m. Trustees and uniards meet at 6:20 p.m.

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

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

Any questions on local union issues, please call Jeremy Haviland at 586-899-0183, or Keith Anderson at 586-899-7958, your Business Representatives.

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

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

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

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

Our Members who refer these new members will get the same bonus as well!

Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$35.54 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



Iron Workers Local 25 NOVI-MANDATORYAP-

PRENTICE MEETING ON Saturday, March 12, 2022 @ 10:00 am at the Novi union hall.

March's Union meeting will be Monday March 28, 2022 at 7:00 pm. (in-person & via Zoom). There were no By-Laws were submitted for this year.

MANPOWER NEED: Looking for man-power for a huge shut-down at the end of the month (March). Eight employers will need for 1st & 2nd shift and 7-10's. Local men ready to work with MUST drug test current, and 18 Safety MODS completed. Boomers need to have OSHA 30. We will also need your email address. If interested call Doug Washburn 248-508-5193 during business hours or call dispatch 248-305-9282 during the hours of M-F 7:00 am to 10:00 am.

Steward meeting(s): The Flint Hall Steward Meeting IS CANCELLED FOR MARCH. The Saginaw Hall Steward Meeting will be March 24, 2022 at 6 pm. The Lansing Hall Steward Meeting will be Monday, April 11, 2022 at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.

Stewards' Notes: 1) The link for Online Steward Report forms is found in the upper right-hand corner of our website www. ironworkers25.org LOG-IN DI-RECTIONS 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 yet done so. 2) 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. 3) All members please be sure to keep your Union dues paid up to date as it is criteria for working. You can be asked to leave the jobsite if your dues are not current. 4) Doby/Travel Service Dues are \$10.00 per week.

Ironworkers Local 25 APP -Sign up for our Alerts & E-mails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NO-TIFICATIONS – download the APP if you haven't done so yet!

# Local 25 **Iron Workers**

24/7 CREDIT-DEBIT CARD processing for Union Dues: Pay via our APP or website www.ironworkers25.org. The phone number is 866-635-2826.

Pay union dues with personal check or money order and mail to: Iron Workers Local 25 -P.O. Box 965 – Novi, MI 48376-0965. Pay union dues in person at the Novi Union Hall (M-F) from 8 am to 3 pm (NO Cash).

WEARE STILL TRYING TO BE SAFE & A FACE MASK IS NECESSARY IF YOU ARE STILL NOT VACCINATED & VISIT ANY UNION OFFICE OR UNION HALL.

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

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

BENEFIT FOR LIFE CHANGE: Any member experiencing a divorce or a new spouse MUST NOTIFY the Fringe Benefit Office within 31 days; otherwise wait until the next openenrollment period (April 1-April 30).

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

MANDATORY APPREN-TICE MEETING ON Saturday, March 12, 2022 @ 10:00 am at the Novi union hall.

**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 for your pay raise slips.

To view classes at the Local 25 Apprenticeship School, please go the ironworkers25.org to view the block schedule. The 2022 Raising Gang Training schedule has been added to the website. Please call the school to make up days .... Do not just show up and expect to be allowed to stay.

The 2022 John H. Lyons Sr. Scholarship and/or The Eric S. Waterman Scholarship is available online from the International Website www.ironworkers.org Complete information & rules online and the deadline is May 15,2022.

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Novi Chapter Retirees meeting will be Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 10:00 am in Novi. The Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 9:00 am. All are welcome.

The Retiree Club Scholarship Fund applications are available. Contact John Miller for rules, application, and deadline 734-812-8036 or email ilmillertime 50@yahoo.com

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. Future meeting scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

The Bay City Chapter Retirees quarterly meeting will be Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 1:00 pm at the Bay City American Legion Post 18, 700 Adams Street, Bay City, Michigan 48708. All are welcome.

The Downriver Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Friday March 18, 2022 at 9:00 am at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, Michigan, 48183. Future meetings scheduled for the third Friday of each month. All are wel-(Continued next column)



# New work on old bridge

A FROZEN ROUGE RIVER halts freighter traffic in February – and that made the month-long, wintertime project the best season for Iron Workers Local 25 members employed by the Ruhlin Co. to successfully replace some key components of the 100-year-old Norfolk Southern bridge. Originally built by American Bridge for the Wabash Railroad, the span is one of three lift bridges along the Rouge River devoted to rail traffic, and all raise during the warmer months when lake freighter traffic moves materials in and out of the Ford Rouge/ Cleveland-Cliffs steel works on site.

# **BAC Local 2, continued**

(Continued from Page 12) 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.

# Local 25 cont'd come

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.

In Memory: Joyce (Simpson) Bocxlaer passed away February 16, 2022 at the age of 87. She was the mother of Local 25's former Reinforcing Business Agent Joe Simpson #1146642. Albert Gwitt #1111734 passed away February 21, 2022 at the age of 61. He was a 36-year member. Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of vour dear loved one(s)!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (March 7, 2022 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

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

**BAC 2 MI TEXTING PRO-**GRAM. 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

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**

BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund – (248) 828-6000

Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) - (800) 531-2244 Metro Detroit Bricklayers

Pension & Vacation Fund -(248)813-9800

Cement Pension & Holiday Funds-(248) 645-6550

CALL-A-DOC-(800) 835-2362

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

"You may delay, but time will not

-Benjamin Franklin (1706 -1790)

"The man who insists on seeing with perfect clearness before he decides, never decides."

-Henri-Frédéric Amiel (1821-1881)

# FROM OUR CORNER.

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**By Sierra Williams Michigan Department of Natural Resources** 

Michigan's shortest fishing season keeps getting shorter and shorter as this year's Black Lake sturgeon harvest concluded after 36 minutes.

While anglers set up their ice shanties on Black Lake (in Cheboygan and Presque Isle counties) in hopes of being one of the few who catch a lake sturgeon, the set-up might often take longer than the actual season.

The season opened and closed the morning of Feb. 5.

Over 550 anglers registered for the 2022 Black Lake sturgeon season. Most were from Michigan, but registrations also came in from Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas. Participants ranged from solo-anglers and small groups to those who make the season a family affair as a good number of supervised youths participated.

Lake sturgeon, which can weigh up to 200 pounds and live to be 100 years old, are fished in Michigan under strict regulations.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has worked closely with other agencies to restore lake sturgeon populations to their native Great Lakes tributaries at several places in the state.

Anglers were initially allocated a season quota of seven sturgeon, but the Michigan Natural Resources Commission set the harvest limit at six fish, at the recommendation of the DNR.

This action helps prevent inadvertent overharvesting by accommodating the expected high number of anglers and anticipates the possibility of near-simultaneous harvest of more than one fish

Successful anglers. The first fish caught during the short sturgeon season on Black Lake was a 59.5-inch female that weighed 48 pounds and was caught by Scott Ash of Onaway. Fish number two, the largest fish, was a 62-inch male that weighed 67 pounds, caught by Matt Barber of Cheboygan.



A LAKE STURGEON caught by Matt Barber of Cheboygan at the 2022 Black Lake sturgeon harvestthe largest fish of the day caught on Feb. 5, a 62-inch male weighing 67 pounds. Photo credits: MDNR

Fish No. 3 was a 47-inch male that was checked in at 25 pounds male that weighed 23 pounds and and was caught by Jerry Perrin of Augres. Fish four was a 57-inch male that weighed 45 pounds, caught by Doug Blaskowski.

For 19 years, Blaskowski of Brutus has participated in the Black Lake sturgeon season. This was the third year he's harvested a lake sturgeon out of Black Lake.

Sturgeon fishing is by far my favorite thing to do," he said. "This year was special; I had my 3-year-old son with me. He was ready to leave after about two minutes, but I was able to convince him to stay until about 8:23 when we got our fish.

The fifth fish was a 46-inch was caught by Scott Williams of Millersburg.

The sixth fish was a 56-inch male weighing 35 pounds harvested by youth angler, Andrew Maltby who was fishing with his father, Aaron Maltby of Cheboygan.

"I love to fish for sturgeon, especially because it's something fun to do with my dad," Andrew Maltby said.

"As soon as the season began the harvest texts were rolling in – fish 1, 2, 3, 4," said Aaron Maltby. "While talking with Andrew and answering all his ques-

tions I noticed a sturgeon coming in right down the middle of ready and he was able to successfully spear the sturgeon. It will be something I will never forget, and it was more fun watching him spear the sturgeon than if I did it myself."

Black Lake tradition. The lake sturgeon fishing harvest at Black Lake is deeply rooted in the local culture, going back several decades. In 1997, the lake sturgeon population in Black Lake was determined to be well below historical levels, yet still at a level that could withstand a limited

annual harvest.

The DNR and multiple partners are striving to rehabilitate the sturgeon population in the entire Inland Waterway through protection, research, education and supplemental stocking. The DNR and local Black Lake chapter of Sturgeon for Tomorrow work together to administer this sturgeon fishery, which helps raise awareness and knowledge of the special management needs of the species.

Due to the popularity of the season, extra precautions are taken to prevent illegal fishing activity. DNR conservation officers patrol the ice well in advance to ensure anglers are not fishing for sturgeon before the season begins.

Direct communication with participants is also key to ensure that the season does not go over the set quota. In 2019, the DNR began using a text messaging system so anglers would receive a text when the season began, when each fish was harvested and when the season closed. This helped spread communication in a quick and efficient manner to all anglers and event staff.

Additional efforts are made the hole. I told Andrew to get to restore sturgeon populations and reclaim the historic connection between this fish and people. For more than 20 years, the local Black Lake chapter of Sturgeon for Tomorrow has facilitated the annual sturgeon guardian program, which helps protect the fish from being illegally harvested during the sixweek spawning season from mid-April to June.

people serving as sturgeon guards watching over the river have helped eliminate poaching, while helping to ensure the protection and reproductive success of the species. Volunteers are assigned shifts along the river to stand watch and report suspicious activity to the DNR conservation officers who also are patrolling the river. The program also uses aerial surveillance to monitor the area.

Lake sturgeon rehabilitation has seen ongoing efforts at federal, state, tribal and local levels since the late 1900s, a past century when the species dramatically declined statewide with overharvest, habitat degradation and loss of wild adult populations due to natural causes.

Monitoring of harvesting practices, along with rearing and stocking efforts in selected lakes and rivers, have headlined restoration efforts across the state.

DNR rehabilitation efforts of lake sturgeon in the Cheboygan River watershed, which includes Black Lake, are a cooperative effort involving the DNR, the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Black Lake Chapter of Sturgeon for Tomorrow, Michigan State University and the Tower-Kleber Limited Partnership.

For more information on lake sturgeon in Michigan, visit The program has proven that Michigan.gov/Sturgeon.



"chrome torpedoes" from the DNR Outdoor Skills Academy's prostaff with upcoming steelhead fishing clinics March 19-20 and April 2-3 at Mitchell State Park in Cadillac.

This two-day clinic will run 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to noon Sunday. The classroom portion will be at the park's Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center, and then Sunday morning the class will hit the water for instructors to show students how to fish and what to look for on the beautiful Manistee River.

Feel free to bring your own gear, if possible, or if you're new to steelheading, some equipment is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The Tuesday prior to the class, we will have a Zoom meeting to go over gear and how to rig.

Cost for the class is \$30, which includes lunch on Saturday. A Recreation Passport is required for entry into Mitchell State Park. To register, go to Michigan.gov/DNRLicenses and click on the "Purchase a license" button. Sign in (using either a username and password or your ID and birthdate), and find the class under the Outdoor Skills Academy tab. For more information, contact Edward Shaw at 231-779-1321 or ShawE@Michigan.gov.



THE 2022 BLACK LAKE sturgeon season began at 8 a.m. on Black Lake in Cheboygan and Presque Isle counties. It ended 36 minutes later.

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-Widow of Chrysler Engineer

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