

## SHORT CUTS

#### **Primary election set** for Tuesday, Aug. 2

The state's Tuesday, Aug. 2, primary election is just a few days away.



affiliated local councils have compiled on Candidate endorsements: Page 4 a limited list of endorsed See Page 4 candidates for

Trades

the primary.

When you go to cast your ballot either absentee or at your local polling place, remember that in a primary election in Michigan you can only vote straight Democrat or Republican - cross-over voting will spoil your ballot.

#### ABC-MI seeks to halt state wage decree

LANSING - It took nine months longer than expected, but the Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan finally filed legal action with the state Court of Claims on July 21, arguing that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer had no right to reinstate the state's prevailing wage law.

Last October, Whitmer announced that the State of Michigan would once again require contractors to pay the prevailing wage on many statesponsored, taxpayer-funded construction projects. The move reinstated the prevailing wage requirement for government contractors, which was repealed in June 2018 by votes of Republican majorities in the state Legislature.

"By reinstating prevailing wage, we are ensuring that



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, but a common lawn sprinkler – with no soap, and no chemicals – is being used to effectively clean the limestone surfaces of Detroit's historic Hurlbut Gate. Here a lawn sprinkler spraying the underside of an arch is adjusted by Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 foreman Robert Woods. Employed by Ram Construction Services, Woods said the gentle streaming water cleaning process is ideal for the old limestone.

Masons shower Hurlbut Gate with TLC - and no detergent

## **Going with the flow: Streaming water** works wonders on limestone's grime

#### **By Marty Mulcahy** Editor

DETROIT – When the Hurlbut Memorial Gate along East Jefferson Avenue was com- erected simply to beautify the pleted in 1894, the limestone area, and never had a practical monument became the ornate, public-facing tribute to a new resource – a water treatment and delivery system that contributed enormously to better health in the city and an improved quality of life.

Located along a wrought iron fence line on East Jefferson Avenue that protects the city's massive Water Works Park, the Hurlbut Gate was a product of the City Beautiful Movement, which flourished in the 1890s

as public parks, gardens and statuary

The Hurlbut Gate was use, except maybe to provide drinking water troughs for horses passing by. Today, the monument is on its way to looking like it did back in 1894. The Great Lakes Water Authority has hired Ram Construction Services employing Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 masons to give the limestone gate a top-tobottom cleaning and restoration.

"Just look at what we've been able to do," said Ram Foreman Robert Woods, who was and promoted the construc- working on the project earlier this

tion of such monuments, as well month along with apprentice Theodore Ravetta. "Ram is all about doing what's appropriate on a project, and here I thought we needed a gentle system to clean this stone, and we're being given the time and materials to do that. This is working

> incredibly well." What the two masons are doing to clean the Hurlbut Gate's limestone is actually jawdroppingly simple, gentle - and effective. They're employing both common lawn sprinklers and an improvised, garden hosepressure water jet system to spray water - but no soap or chemical cleaner - on the limestone surfaces. Turns out water (Continued on Page 2)

## **Union representation** efforts show a wide, but not deep trend

#### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

Two of the major "canary-in the-coal-mine" markers to measure worker sentiment in the United States showed a significant recent increase in employee actions taken with the National Labor Relations Board

On July 15, the NLRB released their latest update of workers seeking union representation - and the numbers showed that during the first nine months of fiscal year 2022 (through June 30), the number of union workplace petitions were up a whopping 58 percent, to 1,182, compared to the same period a year ago.

"There is a surge in labor activity nationwide, with workers organizing and filing petitions for more union elections than they have in the last 10 years," said NLRB General Counsel Jennifer Abruzzo.

Moreover, workers, perhaps emboldened by highly publicized worker job actions, filed 16 percent more unfair labor practice charges-from 11,082 last year to 12,819.

"We've now got hard data to back up a trend we've talked a lot number of workplaces trying to

Upward momentum, unfilled jobs, uncertainty mark **U.S. construction industry** 

By Marty Mulcahy Editor

The U.S. construction industry is a bit fidgety these days, weighed on by the inflationary cost of goods and services, labor business and consumer confi-

Still, 'there is indeed a tidal wave of union organizing occurring across a wide spectrum of workplaces...'

#### - The National Law Review

unionize is on the rise," Marketplace subsequently reported.

Said the National Law Review: "This data confirms what many in labor circles have been facing for months - there is indeed a tidal wave of union organizing occurring across a wide spectrum of workplaces, with much of it coming in the retail space and progressive-leaning workplaces, where workers have increasingly perceived a disconnect between the stated values of their employers and the various decisions their employers are actually making.'

Union organizing drives and worker-led actions at companies like Starbucks, Amazon and Apple have gained notoriabout on 'Marketplace': The ety in recent months, with the (Continued on Page 3)

## Richard Branch, chief economist

for Dodge Construction Network. "However, this sentiment will be tested in the months to come as higher interest rates eat away at

working people get treated with dignity and respect, which starts with a fair wage,' Whitmer said when the new policy was issued. Her support of the state's building trades unions was made implicit as she made the announcement at Lansing Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 333's Training Center. "As governor, I am proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with working people and unions who built the middle class. By reinstating prevailing wage, we are ensuring working people can earn a decent standard of living, saving taxpayers money and time on crucial infrastructure proects, and offering Michigan a highly-trained workforce to rely on as we build up our roads and bridges, replace lead pipes, install high-speed internet, and more."

On July 21, the anti-union Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan argued that Whitmer could not re-implement prevailing wage because she was ignoring state law.

"The governor has seemingly revived this repealed procedure, but has not done so by either enforcing legislation or through the procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act," wrote ABC of Michigan, represented by the Mackinac Center Legal Foundation. "The policy has been implemented by unilateral edict from the governor's office. This is not a proper method of governance and is not binding on plaintiff.'

The biggest surprise in the ABC's legal action is that it took the group nine months to attempt to overturn Whitmer's pro-union decree. ABC of Michigan President Jimmy Greene told The Detroit News that his members will have to 'change their entire cost structure" to accommodate the change in state policy.

#### Quotable

"Some people will never learn anything because they understand everything too soon." -Alexander Pope (1688 1744)



THE HURLBUT GATE, located along East Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, is a 132-foot-wide by 50foot-tall limestone structure that sits at the entrance of the city's 110-acre Water Works site, now operated by the Great Lakes Water Authority. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it is named for Chauncey Hurlbut, a 19th Century president of the city's Board of Water Commissioners. A wholesale cleaning/rehabilitation of its granite exterior is being undertaken by Ram Construction Services and its Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2 employees. A decorative eagle atop the monument that fell after being struck by lightning will be replicated and replaced.

shortages in some areas, and fears of a recession among owners paying the bills.

That's all reflected in the midyear construction economic updates, which reveal a generally upward trend for building prospects, along with causes for some unease.

Happily, the Dodge Construction Network's "Momentum Index" for U.S. construction rose 4.1 percent in June, and was 9 percent higher than in June 2021, Dodge reported on July 11. The Momentum Index is a monthly measure of the initial report for nonresidential building projects in planning.

"A new cyclical high in the Momentum Index is a sign that developers feel that projects still have hope of moving forward, despite concerns of an impending economic slowdown," said

initiatives is now restored and

goes into full effect as it should

ture in 2018 pulled off some un-

precedented shenanigans to

usurp the successful petition

drive, which would have placed

the higher minimum wage and

sick leave time on the November

(Continued on Page 4)

The Republican-led Legisla-

have back in 2018."

2018 ballot.

dence." Just nine days later, Dodge and Branch expanded on the "however" part of his statement.

Reporting on July 20 that total U.S. construction fell 5 percent from May to June, Branch changed his tune a bit, and said (Continued on Page 3)

#### Construction material prices may be on path to moderation

Construction material costs overall are still at historic highs. But a welcome dip in prices may be coming.

The Associated General Contractors reported July 14 that the overall price of materials and services used in nonresidential construction jumped 1.1 percent last month, which is a modest increase compared to recent history. But the prices in June were still up 16.8 percent compared to June 2021.

"Some materials prices have fallen recently but others appear headed for further increases," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "Since these prices were collected, producers of gypsum, concrete, and other products have announced or implemented new increases. In addition, the supply chain remains fragile and persistent difficulties filling job openings mean construction (Continued on Page 3)

## Ruling could hike minimum wage, set paid sick leave

#### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

LANSING-Michigan workers at the low end of the wage scale could be getting a raise, and paid sick leave.

State Court of Claims Judge Douglas Shapiro on July 19 ruled that two voter-initiated laws adopted in 2018 to increase the state's minimum wage as well as set new paid sick leave requirements for small employers trump the Republican-led state

Legislature's end-around effort huge victory for Michigan's workthat year to usurp both efforts by citizen petitioners.

The ruling, which will certainly be appealed and whose enforcement depends upon yetto-be decided actions by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, initiates a \$12 per hour minimum wage (it is currently \$9.87) and requires thousands of businesses to provide paid sick leave to workers.

"Today's announcement is a will expressed in these citizens'

ing families and every working person in our great state," said Ron Bieber, president of the Michigan AFL-CIO. "The shameful actions of the 2018 Republican state legislative majorities and then-Attorney General Bill Schuette showed complete disregard for our state's Constitution – with the sole purpose of taking rights away from working people. With this decision, the people's

The petition by Michigan One Fair Wage would have

## Follies and foibles of workers featured in plumber's book

#### By Marty Mulcahy Editor

Lots of people who have worked construction or any other job for any length of time have an entertaining story or two to tell, stemming from incidents they have seen or from working with interesting characters.

Daren Peel has 50 stories to tell – and they're contained in a book that he has recently revised and re-released, The Blue Collar Follies. The Plumbers Local 98 member calls it a "collection of 50 of the funniest true short stories from real working people in all kinds of jobs, in all walks of life."

The 55-year-old refers to himself as a "semi-retired" plumber, and he decided that a book with the same title that he published in 2000 as a first-time author was worthy of a re-boot.

"I wanted to update it to make it more professional," he said. "I'm a plumber, not a writer. It's been a fun project, but I decided to approach it this time as more of a business, and I think the work that we put into it makes it a much better book. I'm grateful to be able to work with a great writer and illustrator, who are both

talented professionals."

Peel, who launched the second edition of the book on July 1, worked with Tex Ragsdale, a longtime writer for advertising, commercial fiction and independent feature films; and illustrator B.K. Taylor, whose resume includes work with the Muppets, National Lampoon and Walt Disney.

The first edition of his book sold 6,000 copies, and in this updated edition, Peel said he removed two stories, added five, and added color on the back and front covers. He even started his (Continued on Page 3)

**PLUMBERS** LOCAL 98 member Daren Peel has rereleased his book, The Blue Collar *Follies*, which features lighthearted, workerbased stories and anecdotes.



July 29, 2022

## Viewpoints

#### Union-busters' bag o' tricks

You as a worker have a legal right to join a union, but there are many ways big corporations are skirting the law to stop you from getting your fair share. You could be working for a union-buster and not even know it.

Here are four of the biggest union-busting tricks to look out for:

One: Anti-Union Propaganda. Employers turn workers into a captive audience for false or misleading claims about unions. In 2019 Delta distributed pamphlets to flight attendants and ramp service workers warning that union fees would cost \$700 per year. But here's what they didn't mention: unionized workers earn \$700 more per month. Weird how they left that part out, isn't it?

Amazon wallpapered its warehouses with anti-union ads. Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz claimed he had no choice but to exclude workers at unionizing stores from new employee benefits. Apparently when you're the boss you can just make stuff up.

Two: Your employer hires fancy anti-union firms, lawyers, and consultants. The company claims it can't afford to raise workers' pay but spends millions on anti-union consultants. You might hear your bosses call this "Union Avoidance," but it basically just means "Union busting, in a suit."

Three: Delay, delay, delay. It's illegal for employers to cancel a vote on whether to unionize. But they skirt the law to keep that vote from happening as long as possible.

And while they're delaying, they play dirty tricks to stop a union's momentum. Before a recent labor election in Buffalo, Starbucks flooded stores with managers to pressure workers. One Starbucks employee reported he was told to go to a meeting, only to be greeted by six managers pressuring him to reject the union.

So that's how many managers it takes to screw over an employee.

Four: If none of these union-busting tactics work, your employer might just break the law. Starbucks recently fired more than 20 union leaders. Amazon fired a union leader for missing work – even though he was on leave to care for a COVID-stricken family member. U.S. employers are charged with violating federal law in over 40 percent of all union election campaigns.

I'm sorry, I just have to pause for a second here. 40 percent of the time? Really? If I broke the law 40 percent of the time, I'd be in jail quicker than you can say "Pinkerton!"

Are companies allowed to skirt the law like this? No! But labor laws take a long time to enforce – if they're enforced at all. And the worst that can happen is a corporation has to rehire a worker who it illegally fired and provide back pay. No wonder some companies decide that breaking the law is cheaper than following it. It's simply a "cost of doing business" for a giant corporation like Amazon.

But here's some good news: A bill called "The PRO Act" would strengthen protections for union organizers and make many kinds of "union avoidance" illegal. Call your lawmakers and ask them to support it today.

They won't just be on the right side of history. They'll be on the right side of public opinion. A majority of Americans, including 77 percent of young people, support the right to join a union. Workers at Starbucks and Amazon have refused to be intimidated and have started to unionize. All over the country, American workers are growing wise to corporate union-busting tricks.

Big corporations are fighting dirty to keep their workers from organizing - and they're still losing. Imagine what could happen if they had to fight fair.

> **Robert Reich Professor of Public Policy** University of California-Berkeley

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

## Water works wonders cleaning Hurlbut Gate

(Continued from Page 1)

on its own does an amazing job of cleaning away the soot and grime that have accumulated on the porous limestone.

Woods said he is using streaming water as a cleaner for the first time, but the system has been around for decades, and it has to be employed under the right circumstances. At Woods' request, Ram's system was fabricated using existing parts at their shop for this project by equipment manager Marty Papcun. The system employs two sets of sprinklers with 10 nozzles each, plus two garden sprinklers.

Access to the Hurlbut Gate is fenced off from the public, and helpfully the monument has four water spigots in the basement. So the water can stream unimpeded, even doing the dirty work overnight on the limestone. The streaming system is also ergonomically helpful, since water nozzles can be set and left to spray for hours at a time on areas overhead or hard to reach.

While working during the day, since there are only two masons on the project, they can set the nozzles to clean a specific area, and then work on the opposite side to stay relatively dry. Some areas are completely clean after only four hours of streaming water, other areas take longer. If other tradespeople were on site, they might not appreciate the constant shower, even in the summer.

"The Great Lakes Water Authority has been working to document and execute repairs to the Hurlbut Memorial Gate, located at the entrance to Water Works Park, following major damage caused by a lightning strike in 2019," said Douglas Atkinson, AIA, Management Professional, GLWA Facilities. "As part of our commitment to the restoration of the monument, we are working closely with Quinn Evans Architects and Ram Construction to repair, replace portions of and clean the monument, using pres-

ervation standards. Our goal is



BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED Craftworkers Loca 2 apprentice Theodore Ravetta works on the limestone in the upper reaches of the ornate Hurlbut Gate. He's employed by Ram Construction Services.

to ensure the 128-year-old monument is preserved for future generations as a thank you to the City of Detroit and Chauncey Hurlbut for creating this monumental entrance to Water Works Park. We are grateful to our community and our design and construction partners, and are excited to see the monument completed later this year."

An account by Dan Austin's *Historic Detroit* website said that when Chauncey Hurlbut died Sept. 9, 1885, "he left his hefty estate to beautify his beloved Water Works Park. And one of the first things the city did with that fortune was build a monument to Hurlbut, a city water commissioner and civic benefactor who had been instrumental in creating the park. The monument opened in 1894 and would serve as the park's grand entrance, carved from stone and loaded with oodles of arches and stairways."

During this two-month rehabilitation project, the pair of masons have also used steam cleaning equipment to clean some areas of the monument, in the few heavily soiled areas where the



water nozzle system is ineffective. They're also performing some physical repairs to the limestone, including patching, joint

work and stone replacement. The project includes the replacement of a masonry eagle at the top of the gate, which was struck by lightning in August 2019. It fell and damaged other parts of the structure on the way down, and the eagle and those areas will also be restored.

"When we came on site, in many areas it was a very black, dirty monument," Wood said. "We have already completed quite a few areas with just the soaker hoses, and no detergent, and it's amazing how the system works. It takes more time than other methods, but we are able to use low manpower because of the system. And what we're doing is what's best for the monument. I am as happy as can be about how this is turning out."

The Hurlbut Gate has been rehabilitated in the past, most recently in 2007.

Woods added: "The Hurlbut Gate is an amazing piece of architecture and craftsmanship that can't be replaced or duplicated. I am honored to be chosen to work on it. I am proud to represent Ram Construction and have the opportunity to be a part of restoring something for the public to enjoy for a long time to come.'

"When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember that virtue is not hereditary." -Thomas Paine (1737 - 1809)

"I have discovered that all human evil comes from this, man's being unable to sit still in a room." -Blaise Pascal (1623 - 1662)

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#### **Dems' worst ememy: Dems**

#### **By Jim Hightower**

"It's over." "Biden's numbers are in the ditch." "Democrats are doomed." "Call the priest."

These are Democrats talking! Even before November's congressional elections are run, many conventional-thinking Democratic operatives are surrendering to a presumed Republican sweep. You don't need a political science degree to know that if you start out announcing that you'll lose, chances are you will - after all, who



wants to vote for a party that shows no fighting spirit, no confidence in the appeal of its own ideas?

What's happening here is that the party's top leaders have decided their candidates can't win in rural areas and smaller factory cities - so they've quit trying. Worse, they blame the voters, claiming that Trumpism, Fox News BS, and culture war nonsense have poisoned the minds of people "out there." Thus, party leaders have retreated from the countryside to focus entirely on big urban areas. Democratic Congressional

leaders even killed their rural outreach programs, and the party's chairman in 2018 meekly declared: "You can't door-knock in rural America.'

Actually, sir, you can. And if you choose to abandon this whole working-class constituency - surprise! - it will abandon you. Worse, than failing to campaign along America's dirt roads and factory streets, national Democrats have actively been pushing corporate policies that have ravaged families living there - including trade scams that sucking out union jobs; shamefully bailing out Wall Street bankers who crashed our real economy (while ignoring millions of devastated workaday people); and doing nothing about the corporate-caused farm depression still ripping across our land. Washington Democrats have largely betrayed this vital, FDRish constituency of millions that they now blithely dismiss as irredeemable.

Did Party poohbahs think voters wouldn't notice or care how they're being treated? If we want them back on our side, then let's go to them... and get back on their side!

A SET AND FORGET system of nozzles tashioned by Ram Construction Services shoots water into the ceiling of the interior of the Hurlbut Gate, and can clean the limestone for hours at a time without supervision.



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THE KALAMAZOO BUILDING, the city's first "skyscraper," is shown under construction in 1908, which established some bragging rights. The Kalamazoo Gazette wrote of the eight-story building: "It is just this kind of a building that Kalamazoo has needed for a long time, something which is possessed in hundreds of other cities this size." The following day the Gazette editorialized that the existing lowrise buildings in the business district were "not in keeping with the spirit of Kalamazoo."

The Kalamazoo Building was the city's first "skyscraper." Plus it has had that simple, highly visible sign that has welcomed eastbound motorists to the city for some eight decades.

And the "American National Bank Building" was, for decades, Kalamazoo's tallest building. Today the home of a Fifth Third Bank, it is an unmatched icon in the city – a tall, art deco classic that would add dignity to any city's downtown.

Only a half-block away from each other, the two buildings don't look alike, and they were built 23 years apart. But together, the two buildings have anchored the south side of Michigan Avenue for more than 90 years. They were built to stand among the city's core symbols of prominence, permanence and community identity, and with many historic structures around them demolished over the ensuing years, their role is as important as ever.

"At the turn of the twentieth century skyscrapers were still a relatively recent development," says a history written by David Kohrman for the Kalamazoo Public Library. "The desire to build taller had historically been thwarted by the number of stairs people were willing to climb and how much weight masonry could support. But the industrial age solved these problems with the invention of elevators and the use of structural steel." For centuries, low-rise wood or masonry buildings of two or three stories were what builders built in American cities. The availability of structural steel in the 1890s changed everything. Kohrman continued: "As the building boom spread, any city that fancied itself progressive and prosperous had, or aspired to have, at least one skyscraper. Many people in Kalamazoo were disheartened that no such structure yet existed in the business district. The 24 January 1906 announcement that an eight-story skyscraper was planned generated considerable buzz and excitement." The contractor selected for the Kalamazoo Building was Henry L. Vanderhorst, who had significant experience in building such an unprecedented structure (at least for Kalamazoo). 'Plans called for a tower that rose an astounding eight stories over the business district, making it the tallest building in town and the city's first recipient of the term 'skyscraper," said the Kalamazoo Public Library's history. The lower two floors, which formed the base, were faced with carved stone. The five middle floors featured vertical piers and large windows to allow ample light into the offices. The top floor featured a projecting decorative cornices. *Emporis* refers to the style of the eight-story building as "neoclassical." While businesses were displaced to build the new skyscraper, tenants were clamoring to secure a spot in the new building. "Fortunately, business relocation proved to be the greatest obstacle the builders would face, the library account said. "The process of clearing the site and actual construction proceeded rather uneventfully. There were no accidents. The only delays reported by the *Kalamazoo Gazette* were due to

THIS SIMPLE black sign with yellow letters atop the historic Kalamazoo Building is a bit of an icon, greeting eastbound drivers along Michigan Avenue into downtown since the 1940s. The sign has since been partially obscured by



tardy shipments of materials."

tant."

The first of the building's tenants began moving into the upper floors by August 1907. It was a sensation. Numerous period postcards couldn't wait for the completed building, and depicted the construction.

Kohrman noted that as work progressed "the citizens of Kalamazoo marveled at the sight of a black steel skeleton rising over Main and Burdick. But for many, impressing outsiders was

more impor-Noting the building's progress, the Kalamazoo Gazette wrote on Nov. 24, 1906: "Nothing advertises a city to strangers more than the impressions they get when going through the place on a train." The writers, Kohrman said. expressed relief that the

building's THE STILL-STANDING Kalamazoo Building, just frame had after its completion in 1908. It houses a first floor reached a bank and office space above. height to be visible from passing trains on the Michigan Central tracks, and mentioned hopes that the skyscraper would serve to overshadow Kalamazoo's less impressive aspects.

(Continued from Page 1) lingering pandemic one factor in seemingly bringing about a reboot of the traditional workeremployer dynamic.

A major cautionary note in the numbers is that the organizing drives are often happening at workplace locations that are fairly small. Of the union representation petitions, some 16 percent, or 320 filings, came from individual Starbucks locations. In addition, the UAW has a miserable organizing record among plants in the South, and an organizing drive at an Amazon facility in Bessemer, Ala. failed in two separate votes the past two years. Although a union has filed charges – with the NLRB - alleging Amazon corporate interference in the balloting.

"Some of what's in this count is a large number of relatively small workplaces," said Rebecca Givan, a professor of labor studies at Rutgers, to Marketplace. "A Starbucks coffee shop with maybe 20 workers and

June

May

200

an Amazon warehouse with 6,000 workers. Each of those is just one election.'

The NLRB said a representation petition is filed by employees, unions, or employers with an NLRB field office, intending to "have the NLRB conduct an election to determine if employees wish to be represented by a union. The field office investigates the petitions and, if meritorious, conducts an election to allow employees to decide whether or not they wish to be represented by a union."

The federal agency said an unfair labor practice charge "is filed by any member of the public with an NLRB field office if they believe an employer or union has violated the National Labor Relations Act. The field office will then investigate the charge and issue a complaint, absent settlement, if the regional director determines the charge has merit."

The NLRB took the occasion to point out that the increase in

cases comes during "a period of critical funding and staffing shortages for the agency." President Biden's FY 2023 budget would bring a 16 percent increase in funding for the agency, whose budget has dropped 25 percent since 2010. The NLRB said overall agency staffing levels have dropped 39 percent and field

> since 2002. "The NLRB is processing the most cases it has seen in years with the lowest staffing levels in the past six decades. Our dedicated staff, especially in our 48 field offices, are handling unsustainable caseloads. The Agency urgently needs more resources to process petitions and conduct elections, investigate unfair labor practice charges, and obtain full remedies for workers whose labor rights have been violated," said Abruzzo. "We need Congress to help us restore the capacity that we have lost after years of underfunding."

staffing has shrunk by 50 percent

#### Construction material prices may be on path to moderation

(Continued from Page 1) costs are likely to remain elevated despite declines in some prices."

Similarly, the index for new nonresidential building construction - a measure of what contractors calculate they would charge to erect five types of nonresidential buildings - climbed by 0.5 percent from May to June and 19.8 percent over 12 months.

There were mostly modest one-month decreases in June in the index for copper and brass mill shapes (-1.6 percent); steel mill products (-1.8 percent) and aluminum mill shapes (-5.2 percent). There was a more significant drop for lumber and plywood (-14.7 percent).

The price index for diesel fuel soared 14.1 percent in June and more than doubled over 12 months, rising 111.1 percent since June 2021. But motorists have seen steadily lower prices at the pump in recent weeks.

A diverse mix of inputs accounted for the increase in the cost index even as prices for several metal and wood products



Dodge Index

for U.S. construction activity

198

208

#### (Continued from Page 1)

"construction markets are getting jittery as the odds of recession increase. While projects are still moving through the planning process, the velocity has downshifted, reflecting uncertainties over how rising interest rates will impact the economy, construction material prices, and ultimately, construction starts. Over the short-term, construction-facing indicators are likely to be more volatile than normal, particularly in the commercial sector."

Longer term, for the 12 months ending June 2022, total U.S. construction starts were 7 percent above the 12 months ending June 2021

Meanwhile, the Associated General Contractors reported on July 8 that the construction industry added 13,000 jobs in June, "as the number of jobseekers with construction experience plunged to a record low for the month." The AGC said the industry would likely have added even more jobs in June had it not been for the shortage of available workers. The unemployment rate among U.S. jobseekers with construction experience tumbled from 7.5 percent in June 2021 to 3.7 percent last month, the lowest rate for June in the 23-year history of the data, the AGC said. The number of unemployed construction workers fell by 345,000, or 47 percent, to 385,000, suggesting there are few experienced jobseekers left to hire. Conversely, there were 466,000 construction-industry job openings at the end of May, a jump of 130,000 or 39 percent from a year earlier and the largest May total since similar records were kept beginning in 2000. "Although nonresidential contractors were able to add employees in June, the industry needs more as demand for projects is outpacing the supply of workers," said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "With industry unemployment at a record low for June and openings at an all-time high for May, it is clear contractors can't fill all the positions they would like to.'

The Gazette concluded, "The long line of low buildings on North Burdick Street is anything but impressive. The new structure, however, looming up so prominently may in a measure take the attention away from the poorer built up part of the city."

"Kalamazoo's first skyscraper was built in 1907 and was originally the Kalamazoo National Bank Building since the bank was the primary tenant," says Discover Kalamazoo. "The upper floors housed a variety of small businesses. Kalamazoo National Bank moved out in 1929 and thereafter has been called the Kalamazoo Building."

eight-story building a "skyscraper" had long become passe.

The golden era of modern skyscrapers had arrived, and Kalamazoo's tallest downtown commercial tower – then and now-was erected between 1928-29. What is today called the Fifth Third Bank Building was built just a half-block east of the Kalamazoo Building along Michigan Avenue.

The 15-story Art Deco tower was originally built for the Bank of Kalamazoo, but its failure led to the building having the name American National Bank Building from 1933-1987.

"This building is Kalamazoo's best example of Art Deco Architecture," says KalamazooMI, "and at the time it was built it was our tallest. It caused quite a stir in the community when it was constructed."

The new tower, built in the Chicago style of architecture, was the first example in the city of a modern tower that looked like tall buildings in major cities across the country.

"The American National Bank **Building demon**strates the fine capabilities of the Chi-

By the 1920s, calling an ion," says the building's National Register of Historic Places application. "Using granite, limestone and lead, the structure features an unusually fine ornamented exterior. Bas relief carved geometric figures mark its irregular outline and the large arched entranceway features elaborate geometric and floral-like detailing. The exterior is further ornamented by the use of ornate Art Deco light fixtures. The interior of the bank building is equally fine. The lobby is richly detailed in stone and bronze and features handpainted walls and ceilings in an Egyptian motif."



cago firm of Weary KALAMAZOO'S American National Bank and Alford to pro- Building on Michigan Avenue in 1938. Then duce fine buildings and now, the 15-story Art Deco tower is a main the Art Deco fash- jor part of the streetscape.

## Follies and foibles of workers featured in plumber's book

#### (Continued from Page 1)

own company, Sand River Publishing, and placed the 102-page book for sale on several online platforms to give it maximum exposure. The stories were collected from others in all walks of life who shared their anecdotes with him, as well as from his own experiences. He began taking notes when he decided that he might have the makings of a book

"The stories are short and easy to read, and if I can get people to crack a smile, then the book will have served its purpose," Peel said.

A native of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Peel has been a Local 98 member since 1998, and worked out of the Soo Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 508 for about a decade before that. But the master plumber had his hands in a variety of jobs before that, working as a handyman, in lumber mills, making car batteries, and as a security guard.

Peel said he is donating a small portion of the proceeds of the book to charity.

A Kindle version of the book is available for \$7.99 from Amazon. A version of the soft-cover book is also available at his website: www.thebluecollarfollies.com for \$21.99.

This book, he said, took "a pile of work to get to press, and maybe hundreds of hours to tweak." Peel said for anyone else thinking of publishing a book, "it needs to be a labor of love, and it helps to associate with people who know what they're doing. But in the end, if you get a smile or a laugh out of somebody who reads it, it's worth it."

"The squeaking wheel doesn't always get the grease. Sometimes it gets replaced."

-Vic Gold

"The greatest justice in life is that your vision and looks tend to go simultaneously.

- Kevin Bacon

"Time does not change us. It just unfolds us." -Max Frisch

declined, the AGC said. They only moved up a bit, led by asphalt and roofing products (up 3.2 percent). Insulation, plastic materials and concrete products each rose less than 2 percent for the month.

These small increases or declining prices suggest the nation may have overall reached peak inflation, analysts say.

The Federal Reserve reported on July 13 that "substantial price increases were reported across all districts, at all stages of consumption, though three quarters noted moderation in prices for construction inputs such as lumber and steel. In addition, there were several reports that price increases for food, commodities and energy "had slowed compared with recent months but remained historically elevated."

## Just joking

In church one Sunday morning, a preacher called out to the congregation, "Anyone with special needs who



wants to be prayed over, please come forward to the front by the altar!"

With that, Leroy got in line,

and when it was his turn, the preacher asked, "Leroy, what do you want me to pray about for you?"

Leroy replied, "Preacher, I need you to pray for help with my hearing!

The preacher put one finger of one hand in Leroy's ear, placed his other hand on top of Leroy's head, and then prayed loudly, so Leroy and everyone else could hear what he was saying to God. As he prayed, the entire congregation joined in with great enthusiasm.

After a minute, the preacher removed his hands, stood back and asked, "Leroy, how is your hearing now?"

Leroy answered, "I don't know, preacher. My hearing ain't 'til Thursday!'

July 29, 2022



<u>Local</u> 25 **IronWorkers** 

#### Iron Workers 25

NOVI – Awards Night will be held on Monday, Aug. 29, 2022 at the Novi Union Hall. Eligible members have been mailed a letter which should have been received by now. We will have a social hour with snacks/beverages starting at 5pm. Awards ceremony starts at 7pm. Then at around 8:30pm the Retiree Club will raffle off the Ironworkers Commemorative shotgun. All are welcome. (Awards Night supersedes the August Union Meeting).

The 38th Annual International Iron Workers Festival will be held Aug. 12-14, 2022 in Mackinaw City MI. Please plan ahead and reserve your hotel room(s). For more information, please go to www.mackinawchamber.com or contact Mike Christensen 989-751-5082.

The Next Novi Union meeting will be Monday, Sept. 26, 2022 at 7:00 pm. (in-person and ZOOM). All union halls will be open to host in-person union meetings for September. Come out to see your fellow brothers & sisters in person, enjoy some food & drink with us!

Steward meeting(s): The Lansing Hall Steward Meeting will be Monday Aug. 8, 2022 at 6:30 pm. NO Flint Hall Steward Meeting in August. The Saginaw Hall Steward Meeting will be Aug. 25, 2022 at 6:00 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 DIRECTIONS will follow once you click the link that reads "Electronic Steward Reports." These forms are much easier than the paper forms, we encourage you to give it a try if you have not yet done so.

2) PLEASE be sure to check dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED BOTH THE RECIP-ROCALAND 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.

Doby/Travel Service Dues are \$10.00 per week.

Save the Date: Saturday Oct. 8, 2022 - The Annual ICIF Fundraiser will be held at the Novi Union Hall 4 pm. Tickets will be \$25 each once they are available. Join us for food, drink and comraderie. We will also raffle some great prizes as we've done in the past!

The Ironworkers Local 25 APP & Website is in process of being revised, thus we cannot add new members to the log-in section just yet. All members can however, Sign up for our Alerts & E-mails via our website (www.ironworkers25.org). We continue to communicate through the PUSH NOTIFICATIONS.

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).

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

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

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

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



#### Laborers 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 September, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022.

Retirees: Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11:00 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, 2161 West Grand Boulevard Detroit Michigan 48208.

Union Dues For 2022: Effective January 1, 2022 regular monthly dues are \$35.00 for active members. Retiree monthly dues will remain the same \$8.00.

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

Members can now Pay Dues online 24/7 on our website at www.laborerslocal1191.org!!! Upper right-hand corner Pay Dues tab, and follow the instructions... Please also check out our website and "Laborers' Local 1191" Facebook page for important information about your Local Union.

NOTICE: The Uniform Local Union Constitution Article VIII sec. 4. The monthly dues are due on the first day of the month and unless paid on or before the last day of the following month, the member shall be deemed suspended by the International Union without notice.

Save Time & Money: We urge members to make their payments timely to avoid additional costs! Monthly dues can be deducted from your vacation check and sent directly to the Local Union. Please stop by the Local Union office to get one of the "Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction" forms or you may call the Local Union office at (313)-894-2241 to have one mailed to you.

Members who sign up for Vacation monthly dues deduction and pay (6) months at a time will receive a 1-month rebate! To better serve our membership, we are accepting Credit & Debit payments.

Vacation Monthly Dues Deduction Authorization: Members may revoke vacation monthly dues authorization at any time by signing a vacation deduction cancellation form. This cancellation form must be sent to the Local Union 1191 office, however, understand that Local 1191 needs to have this form on file at least 60 days before the next vacation checks are distributed for the months of May or November.

Vacation Check Direct Deposit: If your mail delivery is slow or your mail is getting lost, then it is highly recommended to get your vacation check direct deposited into your bank checkings or savings account. A Payee Deposit Agreement must be completed and signed, and the member must return the payee deposit agreement at least 60 days before the following vacation distribution for the month of May, or November to Michigan Laborers Vacation Fund, 6525 Centurion Dr. Lansing, MI 48917.

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



#### **Tuesday, August 2**

Vote in the statewide

**Oakland County Circuit Court Judge** 

6th District: Amanda Shelton

#### **District Judges**

45th District (Huntington Woods): Michelle Friedman Appel 52-4 District (Troy): Kirsten Nielson Hartig

#### **Oakland County**

Macomb County

Commission 9th District: Angela Powell 14th District: William Miller 17th District: Yolanda S. Charles

**Macomb County Commission** 

District): Richard Caretti

Washtenaw County

Allegan County

5th

**Calhoun County** 

Marsman

Matuzak

Peterson

4th District: Gary Cynowa

**5th District:** Pashko Ujkic

7th District: James Perna

11th District: Harold Haugh

Circuit Court Judge (16th

Clinton Twp. Trustee: Julie

Washtenaw County Commission

West and Southwest Michigan

**Building Trades Councils:** 

**Allegan County Commission** 

**Calhoun County Commission** 

5th District: Ronnie

District: Austin

8th District (Saginaw/ Bay

11th District (Pontiac/ Birmingham/ Bloomfield Hills): Haley Stevens

(Grosse pte. communities, St.

14th District (Ann Arbor/

19th District (Kalamazoo

27th District (Flint): John

28th District (Clinton/ Shiawasee/ Ingham counties): Sam Singh

Terry Sabo

land, McDonald Rivet

#### Michigan House of Representatives

44th District (Battle Creek): Jim Haadsma

46th District: (Jackson/Ann Arbor): Maurice Imhoff

47th District (West. Washtenaw, SE Jackson counties): James Johnson Jr.

77th District (Lansing/ Grand Ledge): John Horford

80th District (East Grand Rapids): Phil Skaggs

83rd District (Wyoming/ Grand Rapids): John Fitzgerald

92nd District (Isabella Co./ Gratiot Co.): Anthony Feig

93rd District (Ionia/ Montcalm counties: Jeff Lockwood

94th District (Saginaw/ Zilwaukee): Amos O'Neil

96th District (Bay City): Kim Coonan

2nd District: Monique French Kalamazoo County

Kalamazoo County Commission 2nd District: Brian Johnson 5th District: John Taylor 7th District: Luke Howell

8th District: Stephanie Willoughby

9th District: Dale Deluuw

#### Kent County Kent County Commission

16th District: Melissa LaGrand

District: Dave 19th Bulkowski

Muskegon County **Muskegon County Commission** 5th District: Charles Nash

Northern Michigan Building Trades Council **Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners** 4th District: David Fashbaugh

Michigan Primary Election. **Building Trades Endorsements** Following are candidates endorsed by the Michigan Building



Gretchen Whitmer Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson

#### **U.S.** Congress

**Michigan Governor** 

3rd District (Grand Rapids/ Battle Creek): Hillary Scholten

and Construction Trades Coun-

cil and its local affiliate councils

for the statewide Aug. 2 primary.

6th District (Ann Arbor/ Plymouth): Debbie Dingell

7th District (Lansing): Elissa Slotkin

City/Midland): Dan Kildee

#### Michigan Senate

12th District: Kevin Hertel Clair Shores

Jackson): Kelsey Heck Wood

County): Sean McCann

Cherry

32nd District (Muskegon):

35th District (Bay City, Mid-Saginaw): Kristen

32nd District (Ypsilanti): Jimmy Wilson

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 is one the website. Please call the school to make up days .... Do not just show up and expect to be allowed to stay.

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Novi Chapter Board of Directors will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2022 at 9:00 am. The Retirees meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 10:00 am in Novi. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 9:00 am at Red Rock Grille & Café, 228 N. Ball Creek Rd, NW, Kent City, Michigan 49330. Future meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

The **Bay City Chapter**: The next quarterly meeting will be Oct. 20, 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, Oct. 21, 2022 at 9 am at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI, 48183. Future meetings scheduled every quarter going forward. All are welcome

The Retirees' Club Scholarship Fund Golf Outing will be held on Thursday July 21, 2022. Location: Green Hills Golf Course in Pinconning, MI. Contact Dallas Compeau 989-737-5518 if interested.

(NEW) Dial 988 for help in a Time of Crisis. Call 988 if you or someone you know is in danger of suicide or experiencing a mental health crisis. 988 connects cell phones & land lines to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 24/7. Whatever you are struggling with, help is available - its free & confidential. Alternately 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255).

In Memory: Gordon Free #468683 passed away Saturday July 9, 2022 at the age of 88 in Florida. He was a 71-year member. David Stroia #689388 passed away July 15, 2022 at the age of 80. He was a 60-year member. Dave was predeceased by his wife Jean in April 2022. He was also predeceased by his brothers, Simon (Sy) Stroia #660771 and Richard (Dick) Stroia #673273. He is survived by his ironworker son Craig Stroia #1154879 and his brother Daniel Stroia #824778. Our deep condolences to all of the family and friends as you mourn the loss of your dear loved one(s)!

This information is as of Submission Time for this Article (July 25, 2022 12:00 pm E.S.T.).

"Yes, if we were prepared to be honest we might rid ourselves of much self deception.

-Moliere (1622 - 1673)

"True role models don't stand on a pedestal and tell you how to climb up; they jump down and help push you up. -Carl Polloi

"Too many of us are not living our dreams because we are living our fears.

-Les Brown (1945-)

"Indifference and neglect often do much more damage than outright dislike.

– J. K. Rowling

**Referral List:** Every member who is looking for work must call, or come to the Local Union Office on Mondays between 1-4 pm and put their name on the out-of-work list. You must have an out-of-work skills sheet filled out and on file in order to be referred out for work by the Local Union. Also be sure to Check & Update your Skills regularly.

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

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

**CONTACT NUMBERS** 

Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Insurance, Pension & Vacation)

Telephone: (877) 645-2267 • Fax: (517) 321-7508 Website: Www.michiganlaborers.org Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Pension) Telephone: (248) 641-4942 • Fax: (248) 813-9898 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Healthcare) (800) 228 0048 Metropolitan Detroit Laborers' (Vacation) Phone: (877) 645-2267 Web Site: Www.metro detroit laborers.org

**BENEFICIARY REMINDER:** Please remember to designate or update your beneficiary choice especially after a divorce on all of your LIUNA Local 1191, American Income Life Accidental Benefit, Pension and Healthcare funds. The law requires that in the event of an untimely death your benefits go to your estate and may be taxable. Each individual benefit needs to have a designated beneficiary.

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

Scholarships. LIUNA members can apply for scholarships for university, college, trade school and technical trainings through Union Plus. Learn more information about Union Plus scholarships at www.unionplus .org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships.

**University Boards** 

**Michigan State University Board of Trustees:** Dennis Denno, Renee Knake Jefferson

Wayne State University Board of Governors: Marilyn Kelly, Danielle Atkinson

University of Michigan Board of Regents: Mike Behm, Kathy White

#### **Michigan Judges**

**Court of Appeals Judge** District 2: Sima Patel

**Circuit Courts** 

**Ingham County Circuit** Court Judge: Morgan Elizabeth Cole **District Court Judge** 54-A District (Lansing): Kristen Simmons

56th District (Eaton Co.): Julie O'Neil

#### Wayne County

**3rd Circuit Court Judge** (non-incumbent): John Gillis Wayne County Commission 1st District: Tim Killeen 5th District: Irma Clark

10th District: Melissa Daub

**11th District:** Al Haidous **District Judges** 

- 36th District (Detroit): Tenisha Yancey
- 36th District (non-incumbent): Adam Sebree

**Tri-County Building Trades** Council

**Bay County** 

**Board of Commissioners** 1st District: Marie Fox 5th District: Thomas Herek 6th District: Kaysey Radtke

**Bav County** Clerk: Katie Zanotti

#### **Saginaw County**

**Board of Commissioners** 1st District: Cynthia Winiecke 3rd District: Tarsha Works 4th District: Sheldon Mathews **10th District:** Lisa Coney

Saginaw Mayor Brenda Moore

Genesee- Lapeer- Shiawasee **Building Trades Council Genesse County Board of Commissioners** 

7th District: Wayne Coffell

**Genesee County** 

Circuit Court Judge: Dawn Weier



## Ruling could hike minimum wage, set paid sick leave

#### (Continued from Page 1)

gradually raised the minimum wage to \$12 by 2022, and importantly, would have tied future automatic increases to the inflation rate.

However, prior to Election Day, the Republican-controlled Legislature actually adopted the two initiatives into law - preventing the measures from seeing statewide votes. Then, after Election Day, during the Lame Duck session that year, the GOP changed the law they had just adopted. They approved the minimum wage to increase gradually to \$12.05, but that rate would only take effect in 2030. The GOP also removed the automatic yearly increase in the rate for inflation.

The GOP lawmakers also altered the paid sick-leave law, effectively exempting small businesses from the law. Republican lawmakers called it an "adopt and amend" strategy. Democratic lawmakers referred to it as "review and screw."

Mark Brewer, who represented the committees that backed the citizens petition proposals, called the decision a "tremendous victory for working people and the initiative process."

The response from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, which hates the ballot measures: "Unless a stay is granted and the decision is ultimately reversed by a higher court, the ruling states the law would immediately revert back to the 2018 ballot language. This means Michigan's paid medical leave law will require virtually every size and type of business, and class of employee, to receive 72 hours per year of paid sick leave and the state's minimum wage will increase to \$12 an hour (and a large increase for tipped employees)."

Michigan Chamber of Commerce Vice President of Business Advocacy Wendy Block issued a statement that said: "We are incredibly concerned about the crippling effect this ruling could have on Michigan employers and employees alike. While we are still sorting through the details, we are stunned by this determination and its many varied implications.'

In making his 25-page ruling, Shipiro, appointed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm, wrote: "Once the Legislature adopted the Earned Sick Time Act and the Improved Workforce Opportunity Act, it could not amend the laws within the same (two-year) legislative session. To hold otherwise would effectively thwart the power of the People to initiate laws and then vote on those same laws – a power expressly reserved to the people in the Michigan Constitution."

Coleman



#### 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, August 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. \*Zone 1 September 8<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 September 20th-6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 September 14<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. (Saginaw)

\*Zone 3 September 15<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

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

\*Zone 5 August 4<sup>th</sup> -6:00 p.m.

A Special Called Meeting has been scheduled for the purpose of nominating an officer for the upcoming vacancy of Local 7-Zone 4 (Flint) Business Representative and any other offices that become vacant with this procedure for SMART Local Union No. 7-SM on, Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at 4931 Contec Drive / Lansing, Michigan. Watch your mail for the "official" election notice.



**UPCOMING EVENTS:** \*Registration open now\* The Annual "DAD's" Day Golf Outing (September 10, 2022) event will be held at The Emerald Golf course in St. Johns, Please contact your Business Representative or visit www.sheetmetal7 @smw7.org for the registration form.

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.

SAM

Please register on our website at FULLER www.sheetmetal7.org for the most up to date infor-

mation 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.

SMART Members Assistance Program provides counselors to speak with members experiencing crisis. Call (877) 884-6227 for 24/7 assistance with Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

ZONE 1 Info. Work continues to remain steady and should stay steady into the fall. Please contact James or Eric with your employment status should you become unemployed. Apprentices, please inform Ryan at the Training Center of your employment status as well. If you are experiencing any problems with unemployment or health insurance would like further information regarding retirement, please contact James or Eric for further assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for more information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the level of interest).

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.

2 nd Wednesday 12:00 noon at The Beamery 879 E. Michigan Ave, Battle Creek 49014

In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington.

ZONE 2 Info: Work in Zone 2 remains busy and looks good through the rest of summer and into the fall. I would like to take the time to thank everyone that came out to the Local 7 picnic. It was a great time and also, thank you to everyone who helped. Don't forget about the Local 7 golf outing it will be held September 10th in St. Johns, MI at The Emerald golf course. If you're interested call me for details. Work safe and Thank You, Mike Adams

ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw) Work in the Saginaw area remains steady with only a few members not working. If anyone hasn't received their information from Delta dental or EyeMed please contact me and I will see that you get it. If anybody would like to take upgrading classes please contact the training center and they will add your name to the list. Don't forget about the Local 7 golf outing September 10 at the Emerald golf course in Saint John's hope to see you there. Have a safe rest of your summer. Thank you, Joe Dotson



#### 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 August 23, 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 Aug. 16, 2022 at 5 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield.

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

**RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE:** The 2022 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: August 15, 2022, October 17, 2022 (annual party) and December 19, 2022. At the August 15, 2022 meeting representatives from BCBS and your fund professionals will be in attendance.

> They will be discussing retiree health benefits and will answer any questions or concerns you may have. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593

**RETIREE NEWS**: Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of the Local 80 retirees' association. They will be avail-

TIM able to all retiree association members at our gen-MULLIGAN eral membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

Effective immediately you will need to start

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

PICNIC: Please join us on August 13th for our annual picnic. The picnic will be held at the Knights of Columbus Park 11541 21 Mile Rd. Shelby Township. Gates open at 11 am with activities from 12 pm to 5pm. Come enjoy food, ice cream, sweet corn and great company. There will also be bingo, bike raffles, games for the kids, face painting and a petting farm. To enter into the member car & motorcycle show please call Dave Hartsuck at 586-559-9099

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

CONDOLENCES: Our condolences go out to the family of retired member Melvin G Nelson. Melvin passed away on July 11, 2022. Mel was a member of Local 80 for 71 years. Steven Piwko passed away on July 12, 2022 at the age of 51. Steven was a current member at the time her passed away, Our thoughts go out to his family.

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES AYEAR IN ADVANCE: Richard E. Domanski, Joshua Taulbee, Ray Keskeny, Remus Koroi, Frank Baran, Charles Taormina, Anthony Pliva & Duane Nadea.

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 your spouse or children. As always seek the advice of an attorney. ADDRESS CHANGES: If you have a new address please make sure to let the hall know. We will take care of your account with the union hall which includes the Tradesman paper. You will need to call Benesys at 800-400-7710 and update your address with them as well, that is not done through the hall. ACCIDENTAL DEATH and DISMEMBERMENT 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 member's name and obtain a form for signatures. Each member must sign the form along with the number of hours they worked. The completed form must be sent back to by hall by the end of the day on the following Monday. Weekend work assignments must be called or emailed into the hall prior to 3:00 pm on Friday.

July 29, 2022



#### THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 5

<u>Local 292</u> **Sheet Metal Workers** 

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

TROY – MEETING NOTICE: Due to a scheduling conflict, the next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 17, 2022. Meetings will resume to the regular schedule in September.

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 set for Aug. 23, 2022, at 6 pm at the Union Hall.

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

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

**RETIREES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALEN-**DARS: The 2022 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree luncheon are as follows: 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 via www.sheetmetal292.com, click

on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be PAUL added to the retiree email list.

**GUALDONI** 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).



Zone 3 Retiree meetings - (Saginaw) Tuesday June 28 and Tuesday Sept 27 at Ponderosa located at 2861 Wilder Rd, Bay city Retirees and spouses welcome to join.

ZONE 3 Info: (Traverse City). If any member knows of anyone with adobe in-design or Photoshop experience, we are looking for an original design for our t-shirt logo. Thanks to all of the volunteers and the Double JJ resort, this year's picnic was a great time had by everyone! At this time, everyone is working that wants to work in our area with a few traveling out of zone. Anyone with less than 600 hours worked from January to June, contact me to discuss SASMI eligibility. Please go to www.sheetmetal-iti.org for any class registration, and then contact me for Total Track registration. Also, get a hold of me with any H & W help or EAP assistance (231) 590-1112. In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

ZONE 4 Info: Work in Zone 4 is steady with a lot of school work this summer and multiple projects around our area. The Local 7 picnic is coming up at the end of July, check the website for more information. Have a great summer. Your Brother, Larry Kinzie

ZONE 5 Info: Congratulations to Jon Peterson on his retirement, Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Josh (Paige) Shaw on their recent wedding and Congratulations to Micah and Carly Johnson on the birth of their second child. The next Zone 5 Retirees meeting will be August 10, 2022 10 am at the Dry Dock in Harvey. Work in the U.P. is good we have a few travelers in and will be looking for many more in the upcoming months so if you are interested please contact your local Business Representative as I will keep them informed as I receive starting dates for this work. Respectfully, 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.

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.

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

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 14 days after receiving an assignment. It is very important to report to the union hall immediately after your layoff. Members get confused because the S.U.B. Fund allows you a period of up to seven days to apply for S.U.B. benefits after lay-off.

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

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

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

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

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.

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 Aug. 6, Aug. 20, Aug. 27. 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 Picnic – August 13th

Labor Day Parade – September 5th

#### **Training Center News.**

Full Time Teaching Position: The Trustees of the Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee are now accepting resumes for a full-time teaching position. All resumes must be submitted in person at the Local 80 Training Center or by email to td@smw80jac.org by Aug. 12, 2022.

Upgrading Classes: Registration for the Fall 2022 term of upgrading classes begins on Monday Aug. 8, 2022 for all Local 80 Journeymen, Indentured Apprentices & eligible Production Workers. Probationary Apprentices can register starting Monday Aug. 15. Call the Local 80 Training Center at (586) 979-5190, from 7:30am-(Continued next column) 3pm, to sign up. Classes begin the week of September 12, 2022.



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & HVAC Service

FLINT - The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday Aug. 9, 2022 at 7:00pm.

Local 370 2022 Golf outing. Another successful outing in the books. Thanks to all who attended.

**Upcoming Night Class** Schedule. 2018 Plumbing Code Update Class. Will be held at the Local 370 Training Center on Aug. 8, 2022 from 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm. To register for the class call and sign up with Kaytlin at the Training Center, 1-810-720-5243 ext. 15 Be ready to give your plumbing license number when you call and sign up

CPR/FIRST AID. September 22, 2022 @ 4:30 pm. Sign up with Kaytlin

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, July 12, 2022, at 4:00pm

- FMR Committee Tuesday July 12, 2022, at 4:00pm
- PAC committee Tuesday July 12, 2022, at 5:00pm
- Executive Board -Tuesday July 12, 2022, at 5:00pm
- Building Committee Tues-
- day July 12, 2022, at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday
- July 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 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 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 Members in Good Standing. The Joint Apprentice and Training Committee voted to reimburse any active member of Local 370 that takes and passes any training, testing or certification that may be required to perform their work. This includes Rigging, Med-Gas, Back flow or any work-related training or certification expense. Members will be reimbursed after successful completion and verification of the cost. Lost wages will not be covered by the JATC. Plumbing license renewal is still the responsibility of the member. If you have any questions, please contact local 370 JATC. Mobile App. Our mobile app. is now available for download on your cell phone. Go to the app store and search UA Local 370. Download the app and sign in. You can read the latest Building Trades article, see upcoming meeting dates, or pay your dues. This is a work in progress, and we will add more content to the site as we move forward.



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671

MONROE - The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for August 4th, 2022. There will also be an E-Board meeting at 5pm on August 4th. If any member would like to attend, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

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

Also, please refer to our website https://www.united associationlocal671.com/ and its calendar for the latest updates.

**Retirees:** To all retirees, we are having retiree luncheons once again. The last Thursday of the month at 12 noon. This next luncheon is September 29th. We will not have one for the month of August because of the picnic. Please come out and enjoy lunch with all of your fellow retirees and widows. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sick Committee: Brother Shannon Casto fell off a ladder while on the job. He suffered a compound fracture to the leg and a broken shoulder. Brother Harlan Langenderfer suffered a stroke and is home recovering. Brother Don Boucher fell and suffered a brain bleed. He is currently in a rehab facility. To all of our Brothers and their families, We wish you a speedy recovery and our thoughts and prayers are with you.

**Entertainment Commit**tee: Local 671 will be out at the Monroe County Fair this year. If you are interested in helping, please contact Mike, Vinnie or Justin at the Union Hall. Make sure you stop by and see us and pick up some Local 671 swag. We look forward to seeing you out at the fair.

The Local 671 Annual Picnic will be held on August 27, **2022**. It is also a great time and a good opportunity to catch up with old friends. We are always looking for new volunteers to ensure that it is a success. Please contact Vinnie if you would like to help out!

WE NEED NEW PEOPLE TO



Plumbers, Pipefitters & Hvac Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO - UNION MEETING: The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, Aug. 9 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be Finance Committee at 4:30 and Executive Board at 5:30.

MILEAGE INCREASE: Asof July 1st, 2022, the IRS Mileage rate will increase from 58.5 cents per mile to 62.5 cents per mile.

**UNION DUES REMIND-ERS:** 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.

**RETIREE MEETINGS: Re**tiree lunch meetings are on the 1s 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/UALocal 357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website. To gain access, click on the 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 REG-ISTER button that is surrounded by a Blue Box. Your User Access will be granted the next business day. To access your account, once it is set up, all you need to do is access the Membership Button again - type in your email address and password - and all your information will be presented. As a member via the website, you will be able to keep track of all your hours and receive an e-mail when hours are posted to your account. This is very important as it is up to you to keep up to date on the hours being paid on your behalf by ANY CONTRACTORS. **CHANGE OF STATUS: If** you have a change of status for example: married, divorced, remarried, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call TIC at the phone number above and Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep all our records up to date. There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents. (See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification). **CONGRATULATIONS:** 



#### Plumbers 98

DETROIT - Membership of Plumbers Local 98.

Brothers and Sisters, Local 98 supports our Sister Local 636 in their efforts to better themselves in negotiations and get through this strike. If any issues arise, please check in with an agent.

Plumbers

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 .

When you leave 98 for a non-fringe paying contractor or an automotive plant, you will be immediately losing your Insurance and HRA as well as other benefits. Your decision for greener pastures is no longer at the expense of our funds and your Brothers and Sisters.

SCHOLARSHIP. We were able to expand our Scholarships to 5 this year due to donations and Golf outing success. The winners of Local 98s Scholarships are as follows: Olivia Sizeland, May Gulley, McKenzie Cools, Gage Slagor and Rufus Hamilton II. please bring your future Rocket Scientist to our Union meeting on Aug. 11 at 6:45 pm.

Meetings & Union Hall. The next Union Meeting will be held-on Thursday, August 11th at 7:00 pm. There will be a reading of the proposed BY-LAWS at this meeting, no votes will be taken. That will be at a special called meeting sometime in September. Also prior to the meeting Chef Wade will cooking BBQ starting at 5:00 pm. The meeting will take place at our Union Hall.

Retiree Meetings. The next Retiree Meeting is Wednesday, August 10th from 12 pm - 2 pm.

PAC Updates. For candidates your PAC committee has endorsed, we have finalized our endorsements and have sent two each to your address on file, we have also updated the website. Your voice, your vote! Do not wait for the last minute to know your candidate. GET **REGISTERED TO VOTE!!** 

SUB Apps/OOW. SUB pay is stopped due to travelers in town. You have 48 hours to report being out of work and to fill out a SUB App. It is your responsibility to check your location on the Out of Work List. Make sure your contact information is up to date as well as MUST and other certifications. If you have any problems with state agencies involving unemployment, or questions on MUST models and staying current, please contact Gary Glaser at 313-580-0148 or Dan Nixon at 248-752-3702.

Benefits. We have exciting news as we now have a dedicated BeneSys employee at the Union Hall to help with the following issues: Health Insurance, HRA, SUB, Short Term Disability, Eligibility, and Claims. His name is Andrew Hill and he is the Local 98 Health Insurance Specialist. Andrew will be receiving the calls coming into Local 98. In order for us to best track all issues please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 and select option #2 for Andrew. If Andrew is on the other line please leave him a message and he will get back to you promptly. We are currently working with BeneSys to place a Local 98 Pension Specialist at the hall as well. Until this position is filled please select option #4 for Financial Secretary Jon DeRoo for all Pension issues. If you are looking to retire please set a meeting up with Jon so he can pull your numbers and go over all the paperwork with you. We recommend doing this at least 6 months from retirement.

**Dues.** The online dues payment option will be coming back online soon, for now dues can be paid over the phone or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto payments by calling the hall at (248) 307-9800. The following members are delinquent on dues and are working for our contractors, if you are working with these members push them to get with the hall and get caught up. Mike Hofer, James Moore, Justin Willard, Adam Atkinson, Irvin Tyson, Ken Stone, Jesse Nowak, Garrett Cebalt, David Campbell, Michael Cruder, Steven Hawes, Jonathan Henzi, Clifford Jewell, Troy Kosiba, Joshua Lynn, Shane McCleary, Anthony Perdue, Matthew Vardy, Tyler Jester. Or if you know they have left 98 please let us know. Thank you.

In Memoriam. It's with a heavy heart we say goodbye to Brothers Paul Bentley, 40-year member initiated 1972, and Mark E Doyle, 18 year member initiated 2004 at Local 190, then transferred to 98 in 2018. Our condolences go out to their families.

Retirees. Congratulations to Brothers Mark Teets & Mark Mirzoian on their well-deserved retirement.

Good/Welfare. Back by popular demand the "Labor Day Parade"! v tuned for more inform



Sprinkler Fitters Local 704

DETROIT - The next regular business meeting will be held Wednesday, September 14, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

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

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

It is the member's responsibility to notify the Union Hall when they return to work.

Mark your calendars for the Sprinkler Fitters Local 704 Golf Outing which will be held Saturday, August 20th. This year's outing will be held at Maple Lanes located at 33203 Maple Lane Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48312. The cost is \$85.00 which includes golf, cart, lunch at the turn and dinner. This year will be a scramble format. Tickets are on sale at the hall now. Any questions please call Greg Herman.

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

Phone numbers to remem**ber**: 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 auestions.

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

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

#### Local 98, con't

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

6010 Medical Gas Installer Recertification-\*All current 2018 Medical Gas Installer certification holders are required to take this update to 2021. \$130.00 **OPEN WELDING** – Our welding shop is open! The new ventilation system has been installed. Please call Chris Opalka 248-585-1435 ext. 146 for any welding related inquiries and to check on booth availability.

Our web site is up and run-Check it out at ning. ualocal370.org

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

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

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

(Continued next column)

HELP MAKE THE EVENT A SUCCESS! THE HANDFUL OF **RETIREES WHO HAVE HELPED EVERY YEAR ARE GETTING** TIRED!

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.

In Closing: If you have the ability to make someone's life better, you have the responsibility to do so. It doesn't take much effort to make someone's life better. Give your friend a hand with a project, volunteer at a soup kitchen or do something as simple as saying a kind word. Let's all make an effort to make it a little better for someone.

God bless Local 671 and Union Labor.

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

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

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

Local 671 Fax: (734) 242-4692

#### Local 370, con't

ments 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, Zack Desrochers for application and testing dates.

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

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

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

Congratulations to David Brigman on his recent marriage to Shelby.

Congratulations to Lance Owen on his recent marriage to Taylor.

Congratulations to Damon Kroschel on the birth of a son, Finley.

**GOLF OUTING:** Mark your calendars for Local 357's Annual Golf Outing on Saturday, September 17th at Pineview Golf Course.

"War is a cowardly escape from the problems of peace."

-Thomas Mann (1875 - 1955) "Conceit is God's gift to

little men." -Bruce Barton

FAMILY PICNIC. Will be held on Saturday, August 27 from 10 am - 6 pm at Lower Huron Metro Park, 40151 East Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI 48111. We will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, soft drinks and free admission, including water park. Please visit ualocal98.com/family-picnic-2022 for more information or contact Jim Cools at (734)307-9841 or jcools78@yahoo.com or contact Jon DeRoo.

ATTN: HOCKEY PLAYERS! Plumbers Local 98 is looking into forming a hockey team to play league and tournament hockey. Any member interested in playing hockey for Local 98 please contact BA Dan Nixon. Call or text 248-752-3702 or email dnixon98@ualocal98.org for more information.

Time to get on the field and play some softball. If you are interested in playing for the Local 98 Softball Team, please contact Manager Jeremy Pitts at (586) 405-9425.

ATTN: All Golfers! Join us for the 44th Annual Detroit Plumbers Local 98 Scholarship Fund Golf Outing on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022. Sponsorships and Foursomes are now available. Please visit ualocal98.com/44th-golf for more information or call Jon DeRoo at (248)762-9238 to sign up.

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.Plumbers98tc.org The Apprenticeship Application process is now open. The process will be open 4/1/22 and will close 7/31/22. Applications are submitted online at our website.

The Training Center is open. 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 2018 Michigan Plumbing Code Update class has been approved. Please call the Training Center, 248-585-1435 to sign up. Currently, all updates need to be completed by September 15th of this year. There are also several classes offered online. To find the online classes, go to cebroker.com and select "Find CE/CME", then choose Michigan and Plumbing Journey to see a list of approved courses.

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

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

Monthly Code Class - Next class is September 14, 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 fee

4 hour recert class October 25th and 26th Deadline is September 23rd

ASSE Tester (Full 40 hour): Fall Class: August 30th - November 8th Deadline is August 5th -\$229.76 fee

(Continued next column)

\*\*Orbital Welding Class-September 12, 13 & 14 - Call the school to register - \$100 fee, check or money order required minimal seats available

If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next WELDING Test session will be September 10, 2022. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. The next BRAZING Cert Session will be Friday, September 9, 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.

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.

"Do thou restrain the haughty spirit in thy breast, for *better far is gentle courtesy.* -Homer (800 BC - 700 BC)



#### **Local 636** Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters,

Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

**Pipefitters 636** DETROIT – With the ongoing labor dispute, the week of June 20, 2022 started the PLDF payments. They are as follows:

\$140 for Journeymen/\$70 apprentice, Service Graduates and MES members

There is a separate email address for the PLDF-pldf@ pipefitters636.org questions and where to send a copy of your paystub.

If you wish to send in a check or money order directly to the hall: Pipefitters Local 636, 30100 Northwestern Hwy., Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

Please make the Checks/ Money orders out to Pipefitters Local 636 PLDF or see below on how to set up automatic withdrawal from your bank account. https://portal.icheckgateway .com/Gen/Default.aspx?P= 579a6c64395e4ceaaa5d

#### THIS IS FOR PLDF ONLY NOT FOR DUES.

This system will be shut off the day that the dispute is over to prevent any more unnecessary transactions going through. The Gateway system will email you and Local 636 automatically when every transaction goes through.

The office staff is doing their best to answer any and all emails that are being sent to PLDF @pipefitters636.org but there's a very high volume. We appreciate your patience; we are trying to answer them in a timely fashion.

If you have any questions pertaining to the Labor Dispute; please reach out to any of the Local 636 Officers.

The following Local 636 Signatory Contractors have signed the Interim Agreement as of July 20, 2022: Johnson and Wood, Coastline Mechanical, Hussman Services, Miller-Bolt, VRF Technologies, PPP Inc., John Darr Mechanical, Lincoln Manufacturing, Climate Pros, Dual Temp Clauger, Watson Brothers Service, Macomb Mechanical, Goyette Mechanical, De-Cal Inc., Bumler Mechanical, Systemp, Western Mechanical, Limbach, Conti, FM Sylvan, Superior Fluid Systems, William E Walter, Metro Controls, Syenergy Engineering, Complete Mechanical Contracting, Danboise, Delta Temp, RW Mead & Sons, Alliance Mechanical, Blue Water Boiler, Dickerson Mechanical, Metro Piping, UPI, Andy J Egan Co., Janssen Refrigeration Co., Seaway, WJ O'Neil, Reagan Mechanical, K&S Mechanical. Several members have reached out to the officers and the office staff for an update and status of Brother Brian Mierendorf's recovery. Brian is home, doing therapy 5 days a week and will be undergoing another set of surgeries on each hand, the first one of the series of surgeries took place July 14, 2022. He still has a long road ahead of him. The GoFundMe for Coach Brian is still active, but if anyone wishes to send donations to the hall for Brian, you can make checks out to Brian or Heather Mierendorf and we will make sure that Brian and Heather Mierendorf receive your donations. They are very grateful for all the support that they have been receiving, but their road is far from over. Mark your calendars for the Local 636 Picnic, which will be held August 27, 2022 at Willow Metropark, I-275 and Exit 11A for South Huron Rd- Washago Pond Pavilion Picnic area. The picnic will be held from 11-4pm-Please contact Business Agent Larry Krisniski @ 248-939-7636 if you are interested in helping out. The next union meeting will be August 16, 2022 at 7pm at George Romanian St. Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48075. The Retiree Meetings are up and running again. The Retirees will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. The next Retiree meeting will be August 18, 2022. Retiree Clarence Harding passed away June 16, 2022. Retiree Lavern Kleam passed away June 9, 2022, Lionell Joseph passed away on June 29, 2022, and Retiree Joseph Stefani passed away July 19, 2022. Our Deepest Sympathy goes to Retiree Richard Capra on the passing of his wife, Karen. Ann. Also, to Retiree Brian Volente on the passing of his Mother, Roselyn. Mrs. Volante, was the wife of deceased member Frank and grandmother to Apprentice Nicholas Buckalew and Camille

Schneider, the wife of deceased Retiree, Richard Schneider.

May they all rest in Peace. Make sure you inform the Union Hall when you have a change of address, phone number and/or email address. Also, we are asking all members to please inform the Union Hall on a timely basis of any passing of a member and/or their spouse so, Local 636 can properly pay our respects to the family. Thank you in advance for your help with these matters.

We are now in the 3rd Quarter of 2022. 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 an "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.

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.

Health Plan Advocate, Robert Watson, has been replaced with Kim Johnson. Kim can be reached at 866-575-0211 extension 207. Providers looking for pre-certifications will still continue to go through Mr. Watson, with the contact information listed on your insurance benefit card.

Any member who 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 she 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 no. is 7526.

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Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333 LANSING – August's union meeting will be held Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing, MI. 48911 at 7:30pm.

September's union meeting will be held Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI 48906. Dinner and refreshments will be at 6pm.

Scholarship awards for the 2022-2023 year will be sent to the applicants during the first two weeks in August. If your student has not received his/her award by August 20, 2022, please call Joni at 517-784-1106 ext. #4.

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

Masters test prep is Mondays and Wednesdays every week at the Lansing Training Center.

CSD-1 class will be held Saturday, August 24, 2022, at 8am (8 hour class) located at the Lansing Training Center. Please sign up online or call Diana at (517)323-0333.

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 updated within 120 days of their expiration date, or you will lose your certifications. Check the date(s) of your Certifications, if they have expired please contact Diana at 517.323.0333. Though we send out everyone's continuities to be renewed; between changes in addresses and the Post Office, there is plenty of room for error. Ultimately it's the member's responsibility to make sure their certification(s) are current and updated

**NOTICE**!!! The Jackson area Retiree Breakfasts are



July 29, 2022

ASCENDING A LADDER to install hot water heat piping at the Caro Psychiatric Hospital project is Jason Golden of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 85. He's employed by Remer Plumbing and Heating.



p.m. Anyone interested in one day shutdowns, please contact Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott Pendergraft in the Escanaba

office. **MRA CARD**: Please note, after using your MRA card, you will still need to "substantiate" your claim by sending in your Explanation of Benefits (EOB) or an itemized bill 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,** 

## Michigan jobless rate remains consistent

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

Z

The Michigan unemployment rate in June was 4.3 percent, and has sat at that number since since April, according to data released July 20 by the state Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB).

The overall U.S. employment rate was 3.6 percent, a number that has not moved in four months, according to the U.S. Labor Department.

"Michigan's labor market continued to remain stable in June," said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "Both employment and payroll jobs edged up slightly over the month, while the unemployment rate was unchanged."

Michigan's construction employment, the DTMB reported, barely budged from May to June, and at 175,000 is employing 0.7 percent fewer workers than a year ago.

The state's professional and business services sector, and manufacturing sector saw the largest growth in June, while government saw the largest decrease in employment as schools and universities closed for the summer.

"I love the deep quiet in which I live and grow against the world and harvest what they cannot take from me by fire or sword." – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749 - 1832)

"And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same."

– Marianne Williamson

"I myself am made entirely of flaws, stitched together with good intentions."

-Augusten Burroughs (1965-)



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.

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 CUR-RENT WITH YOUR SAFETY MODULES, DRUG TEST AND FIRST AID, YOU WILL QUALIFY FOR FUTURE BO-NUS PAYMENT'S.

STEAMFITTER APPREN-TICESHIP Local #636 application process was completed on July 14, 2022 and the application process is currently closed. For more information regarding the training center and next application date, please visit the Local 636 Training Center web site at: www.pipefitters 636tc.org. back!!! The next breakfast will be Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. **PLEASE NOTE:** This is a new location. The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center. 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.

Lansing Area Retirees Breakfast: With the Lansing Hall renovations finally behind us, we are going to host a breakfast at the Lansing Hall for ALL retirees who would like to make the trip. It will be held on August 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the Lansing Hall. Please call Debra if you are able to attend so that we can plan the food quantities accurately. Thanks and we hope to see you there

Attention: If you have made any changes with your address, email address, phone number, or there is a birth, death, married, divorce, remarried or to change your beneficiaries. Please contact the Lansing office to give the update and have the necessary documents processed to make the changes.

A Celebration of Life for Michael Arbour will be held August 13, 2022 at 1pm, at 1319 W. Saginaw Hwy. East Lansing MI. 48823. Please go to EVER LOVED OBITUARIES.COM to RSVP. This will help the family prepare accordingly.

Sincere condolences to Betty Thompson, wife of John B. Thompson who passed away July 19, 2022. Mike was initiated into the Local February 1968 and retired January 2004. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your loved ones during this very difficult time.

Deepest sympathies to Edwin Arbour on the loss of his lovely bride of 62 years Della Joy. We are so very sorry for your loss.

"Easy enough to dismiss others' problems when you had none of your own."

- Elizabeth Aston

or death. Please call April or Ann to have your information updated.

**Training news:** Open welding class with David Pedersen is occurring on Tuesdays at 5 pm, on a week to week basis pending interest. To be added to the notification list or to register, contact John Antoncew. A spot in the class is not confirmed until you receive a response.

**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 four 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.

"There's a difference between a philosophy and a bumper sticker." –Charles M. Schulz (1922 -

2000)

## 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



Plumbers and Steamfitters 85

SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be on Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2022 at the Union Hall at 3535 Bay Rd. starting at 7 PM.

The next Northern Informational Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2022 at 7 PM at the Northern Facility, at 2476 Industrial Dr. in Grayling, MI.

Ladies Auxiliary: We are always looking for new members for our Ladies Auxiliary. If you or a family member are interested in joining, please contract Sue Najawicz at (989) 781-4277.

The Annual Picnic will be held on Saturday, Aug. 13 at the Clare County Fairgrounds in Harrison, MI from 10 am to 6 pm. After being postponed for the past two years during covid, I look forward to getting together for this great event. Volunteers are needed! Please call the hall at (989) 799-5261 ext. 8510.

The Annual Golf Outing will be held on Sunday, August 7, at the Tamaracks Golf Course in Harrison, MI with a shotgun start at 8 am. This event requires preregistration and is limited in space. No walk-ons allowed.

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

#### **Contact Information:**

Justin Pomerville, Business Manager (989) 799-5261 x 8513 jpomerville@ualocal85.org

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

Tim Danielak, Business Agent (989) 799-5261 x 8514 tdanielak@ualocal85.org Clint Steele, Business Agent (231) 499-7330

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



Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 190 ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING (AUGUST): A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, August 8th 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 MEETING (SEP-TEMBER): Please be informed the *awards banquet* will take place on Monday, Sept. 12 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. All members are invited to attend this wonderful event. Due to this event, normal business will be suspended. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

**UA LOCAL 190 PICNIC:** The UA Local 190 picnic is back!! This years' picnic will be held at Hudson Mills Metro Park, at 8801 N. Territorial Rd. Dexter, MI 48130 on Saturday, Aug. 27 from 12 to 4 p.m. The menu will include hot dogs, cheeseburger/hamburgers, sides and desserts. Beer, pop and water will be provided. Lunch will be from 12-3:30 p.m. Children's activities: giant slide, obstacle course, inflatable castle, face painting etc. Other activities include: bingo, euchre tournament and cornhole tournament. Invitations will be mailed soon and RSVP to be returned by August 8<sup>th</sup>

UNION HALL CLOSING FOR AN UP COMING HOLI-DAY: Our office will be closing at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 2 and will be closed all day on Monday, Sept. 5 to observe Labor Day. Wishing you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

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

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

#### Local 85, con't

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

#### Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, **Local 190** Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

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

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

**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 RE-MINDER TO ALL MEMBERS: All members who get laid off or report back to work please immediately contact Karen (734) 424-0962 Ext. #210. 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

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FRINGE BENEFIT OF- 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. It will run for 8 weeks from 5pm-9pm. Class size is limited to 8 participants. Please call Retha to be put on the list, so we can schedule the class days.

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 5:00 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: Next course starts on Aug 23, 2022, at 5:00 pm. Course will run for 5 weeks on Tue and Thu. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call Retha to secure your spot.

Med Gas Installer Up-Date (8hrs): Call Retha to be put into the next class. 2022 Schedule: Next course Sept 27 & 29 at 5:00 pm. Course is 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 (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). This class is scheduled for Mondays and Thursdays. The class is currently full but call Retha to be put on the call list, in case someone backs out of the class. Class size is limited to 8.

**EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs):** *This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal* 



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

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE – **MEM-BERSHIP MEETING:** The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 2 at 7pm at the Assembly Hall, at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The Union office will be open until 6:55 for the purpose of collecting dues.

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

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

The only language change is adding essential workers to the 10% hazard pay language. Thank you to the bargaining committee for their work on negotiations and to the members of Local #174 for continuing to prove their value day in and day out.

Dave Reynolds Memorial Golf Outing: The Local 174 Golf Outing will take place on Saturday, Aug. 6 at the Falls at Barber Creek. The format will be a four person scramble. Each team must have two Local 174 members. Registration at 8am and shotgun start at 8:30am. The cost is \$65 per person. Contact Cami to sign up. Money must be paid by July 29.

Muskegon Labor Day Parade: The parade will start at 11am downtown Muskegon. You can pick up your t-shirt and hat starting at 9am in the parking lot across from the CIO Hall on Western. After the parade there will be a community picnic at Hackley Park.

West Michigan Labor Fest 2022: This year's Labor Fest will be held Downtown Grand Rapids from 11am – 5pm at Rosa Parks Circle, 135 Monroe Center Street NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Event details can be found at *westmichiganlaborfest.com*. We will be meeting at Local 174's booth at 11am for shirts and hats and will be available from 11am – 1pm. Volunteers are still needed to help make this event a success, contact Nathan Phillips for more details.

**Organizing Update**: Brothers and Sisters, if anyone has any information about jobsites with non-union plumbing or mechanical contractors, please reach out to me 616-307-8551. I strongly feel

YOUR CHECK. When you sign the PAC card it allows us to move money from your working dues over to our PAC. Please call Cami today and find out if you have current PAC card on file.

Medicare Retirees: Effective Jan. 1, 2021 your insurance premiums will be reduced by approximately 12.5%. New rates are as follows:

Single Medicare \$262.55

Retiree and Spouse Medicare \$525.09

Retiree and Non-Medicare Spouse \$677.55

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

New insurance carriers: Active and NON Medicare Retirees

Aetna: (888)290-7241 Save-Rx: (800)228-3108 Medicare Retirees Labor First: (616)345-0788

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

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

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

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

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:**

Congratulations to our newest Journeymen Quinton Smith and Ryan Wrzesinski!

Plumbing Code Updates: UA Local 85 JATC will be holding the 2018 Michigan Plumbing Code Update on July 30<sup>th</sup>, August 20<sup>th</sup> and August 27<sup>th</sup> at Local 85 Meeting Hall located at 3535 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48603 at 7:00 am.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS **REQUIRED**. To register visit: www.ualocal85.org. Click on Local 85 Members. Log in with your username (first initial last name) and password (two zeros followed by your card number). After logged, in navigate to the Training page under Local 85 Members and click on the MPC Update class you are interested in taking. You will need the following information to sign up: Email address, Name as it appears on your plumbing license, UA ID Number (Card No.), MI Plumbing license number, mailing address.

There is no cost for this class. However, if you are interested in purchasing the new 2018 Michigan Plumbing Code Book it will be available at a cost of \$89 (cash, check or money order made out to UA Local 85 JAC. No credit or debit cards.)

SUB Fund: Print Unemployment Payment History located underneath the Certification Tab when logged into your (Continued next column) moved up to Wednesday by noon.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Website Address: Please visit www.ualocal85.org.

**Insurance:** When you are working out of another Local's jurisdiction it may take up to 90 days for your Insurance and Pension to be reciprocated back to Local 85, which may cause problems with your Health Insurance.

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

**RETIREE LUNCHEON:** 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 Scott A. Hanson who passed away on July 13, 2022. Fraternally, Justin M. Pomerville Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Local Union 85

FICE 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!

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

Michigan Plumbing Code update classes: An update class must be done BEFORE SEP-TEMBER 15, 2022! If an update class is not taken before this date, you will not be able to renew your plumbing license in 2023. The last date is Aug 11, 2022. This class will start at 5:00 pm and be held at the Union Hall. Please call Retha to sign up for one of these classes.

Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2022 Schedule - Monday -The last class of the year will be Oct 3, 2022, starting at 5:00pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2022 Schedule – Monday – The last class of the year will be Oct 17, 2022, starting at 5pm.

Welding Lab: The welding lab will reopen on Wednesday, September 7, 2022. The schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm-8:30pm, until Thursday, December 15, 2022. The welding lab will be closed on Union meeting days. Weld tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors.

**Pipefitter Class (32hrs):** This class will show participants person certification. Class will be 2 days. This class will be scheduled for mid-to-late March 2023. Call Retha to register for this class.

**CSD-1 (12hrs):** This class will run Tuesday, Oct.  $3^{rd}$ , Wednesday, Oct. 4th, and Thursday, Oct.  $5^{th}$ , from 5:00 pm - 9:00pm. Code, hands on training and combustion testing will be covered. Call Retha to be put in this class.

**Orbital Welding (UA-18a)** (24hrs): We will be running multiple classes on this training. As the course meets the 4-person limit, the class will be scheduled. The next available class will run in late Sept / early Oct. It will on Mondays and Tuesdays for three weeks. Call Retha to be put on the list as space is limited to 4 per course.

**Pipe Fusing Class (PE Certifications) (16hrs):** This is a building trades course set up for plumbers and pipefitters to learn how to properly butt fuse plastic pipe, using hydraulic and manual machines. This class will start Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> and will run 4 days, through Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. It will run from 5pm – 9pm. Class size is limited to 6. Call Retha to be put on the list for this class.

**Pipe Fusing Upgrade (PE Certification) (8hrs):** This course will run Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> and Thursday, Sept. 1. This will be a two-day class to get those that have the PE-1 and PE-3 to test for the PE-4. Successfully passing the PE-4 will qualify those individuals up to 16" HDPE. Only those individuals who have other PE certifications will be admitted to this class.

**RETIREE MEETINGS** – **PLEASE JOIN US:** Our next Spades meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Aug. 4 at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries and a warm cup of coffee.

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

that communication from the work force, those in the trenches, is essential for successful Organizing. You may be working on jobsites with non-union employees and more often than not they're curious about our pay or "scale" to us.

With our recent July 2022 contract we are at \$39.89/HR on the check, and our total package with benefits is \$64.41 Typically this is the attention getter for the non-union worker, my hopes are to get them in contact with me so I can further elaborate on the benefits of being a Union member beyond the wages, the training, benefit breakdown and representation. The best salespeople for Unions are our members. *Thank you -Brother Johnny Ortiz LU 174 Organizer* 

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.

**Retiree Breakfast:** The retiree breakfast will be held on Thursday, Aug. 4 at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

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

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

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 (517) 321-7502 Phone (855) 40-PLUMB Toll Free (517) 321-7508 Fax

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

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

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

Out of work list: Please remember to call extension 17 when you are laid off. You must call line 17 to be put on the available to work list. When you leave a mes (Continued on Page 9)







#### Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

#### BAC Local 2

WARREN/LANSING-The SEMI-ANNUAL UNION MEETING will be held on Saturday, August 06, 2022 at 10:00 AM at BAC Local 2's Lansing office at 3321 Remy Drive, Lansing, MI 48906.



ALL CHAPTER MEETINGSARE CAN-CELLED (EXCEPT FOR THE MARQUETTE **CHAPTER MEETING LISTED BELOW) FOR** THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2022 DUE TO THE SEMIANNUALMEETING AUGUST 2022 CHAPTER MEETINGS:

MARQUETTE CHAPTER: Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855. BBQ Dinner served from 5-6 PM

PAUL DUNFORD

**DEATHS REPORTED.** Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Ronald Darga (Bricklayer & Cement Mason) who passed away on June 29, 2022. Brother Darga had been a member for 64 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Norbert Poltorak (Bricklayer) who passed away on November 16, 2021. Brother Poltorak had been a member for 74 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Donald Sullivan (Bricklayer, Cement Mason & Stone Mason) who passed away on June 27, 2022. Brother Sullivan had been a member for 45 years.

WEBSITE UPDATES. Be sure to check out our new website at https://www.bricklayers.org and our app, which can be found in the IOS and Andriod app stores by searching for Bricklayers Local 2.

MEMBERSHIP GOLF OUTING. Local 2's 9th Annual Membership Golf outing will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2022 at Hawk Meadows Golf Course in Howel, MI.

Registration is based on a first come, first serve basis. Payment MUST be submitted with registration, otherwise we reserve the right to cancel your team if we are overbooked. One person on each team MUST be a current, good standing BAC Local 2 member.

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 non-supervisory members can get the same amount as a Finders Referral Bonus for each new skilled craftworker who they refer, if they work for at least a month for our Union Contractors. For more details and information, call your Field Representative or either the Warren office (586) 754-0888 or the Lansing office (517) 886-9781. You can view the full Signing Bonus policy on our website.



**Elevator Constructors Local 36** 

DETROIT-ALL MEMBERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular Membership Meeting for Monday, Aug. 22, 2022, will be cancelled. Our next scheduled Membership meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 25, 2022 at 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI. Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building Trades Article or sent via email

Local 36

Elevator

Constructors

Reminder to all Members, the Labor Day Parade is scheduled for Sept. 5, 2022. Please arrive early as some roads will be closed down because of the parade.

Sept. 17 we will be having a golf outing at Bay Pointe Golf course in Commerce Township, if interested check your email for contact info or call the Hall for more info.

We have the new Constitution and By-Laws (revised edition October 2021) along with the new NEBA Agreement July 9, 2022 to July 8, 2027 books at the Hall.

Attention All Apprentices, Orientation will be held on Monday August 1,2022 and Wednesday August 3, 2022 as the fall semester classes will be starting. Check your NEIEP emails for additional information frequently. OJT forms need to be completed by the 9th day of the following month. July forms to be completed by August 9, 2022.

Check your pay stubs every week to make sure they are correct, we have been having a lot of complaints from or members regarding payroll and vacation check issues.

Attention All Temporary Mechanics, your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement MUST be signed by the end of each month. If vou can't make the union meeting to sign your agreement then come down to the hall the next day.

Attention All Members, All testing must be done according to Michigan State Code and your company's MCP, remember YOUR license is being put on the forms so do the test correctly no matter how long it takes !!

Local 36 is working with Local 85, Lansing and the EIWPF on holding Code Outreach classes 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 and the link will be sent for online or phone participation. We are also holding code book layout sessions monthly, this is a great class for all members so you can reference the codes easily for testing, maintenance, construction or studying/taking the State/City tests

Check your pay stubs every week to make sure they are correct, we have been having a lot of complaints from or members regarding payroll and vacation check issues.

If anyone is interested in QEI training, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list.

We wish to extend a get well to all Brothers and Sisters on our list





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

DETROIT - The next membership meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2022 at 7pm. There will be a BBQ cookout before the meeting starting at 5pm. Come and fellowship with your brothers and sisters

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the retirees that you all are safe and well. Membership gold cards-Congratulations!

Joseph Damron-25 Years

James Miller-25 Years

Jose Salinas-25 Years

Congratulations: To Business Manager Henry Williams on his appointment to the position of Deputy International Representative of the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association.

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

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.micementplasterertraining.com to enter your work hours. When you get to the website click the link "About" and then click on "Apprentice monthly work form instructions."

You will be able to put in your hours so Larry can keep track for your raises. Any questions please feel free to contact Larry with any questions you might have.

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

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

Please refer to website for updated information.

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

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

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

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PLASTERERS AND DETROIT COMMERCIAL CEMENT MASONS: You 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 CEMENT MASONS: It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local

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!!

BAC LOCAL 2'S TRAINING CENTERS. Both Local 2 Training Centers are open to our members. To make your appointment for your annual RESPIRATOR FIT TEST or for other scheduled appointments at the Warren or Lansing Training Center, please contact Howard Hipes directly at (517) 749-1102.

Go to https://www.michiganbricklayers.org to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2022 online training classes.

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

**APPRENTICE WORKSHEETS.** Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice Worksheets (Continued next column)

#### **Plumbers and Pipe Fitters** 174, continued

#### (Continued from Page 8)

sage, 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.

#### 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, August 11, 2022, and Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The Training Center will be **closed** to daytime classes the month of August beginning Monday, August 1st and will reopen Tuesday September 6th.

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

Union Hall extension numbers: Ryan Bennett Business Manager ext: 12, Nathan Phillips Assistant Business Manager ext. 13, Jason Finch Business Agent ext. 14, Johnny Ortiz Organizer ext. 15, Lisa Johnson Accounting Manager ext.11, Cami Burris Administrative Assistant ext. 10, Training Dept: Jeff Rumsey ext. 16, Nicole Schumaker ext. 30.

Be safe and stay healthy!

#### **BAC Local 2 continued**

MUST be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at https://www.michiganbricklayers.org/member-resources. For more information on the Training Centers visit: https:// www.michiganbricklayers.org

MEMBERSHIPASSISTANCE. During this COVID-19 pandemic, the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at http://bit.ly/ MAP-BAC and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for membership assistance Monday - Friday 8 am - 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

E-MAIL ADDRESS. Local #2 wants to use every means possible to communicate with you. Sometimes we have time sensitive information (such as job openings, picket lines, funeral arrangements and other such communications) that would be most efficiently done via e-mail.

Please submit your address by sending an e-mail to information@bricklayers.org and in the subject line place "Local #2 e-mail address" then type your name, phone number and e-mail address in the body of the communication. We appreciate your time and effort in helping us accomplish this task.

BAC 2 MI TEXTING PROGRAM. We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership lately. We (Continued next column)

**>BeneSys** 

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 MASONS can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357.

All Plasterers and Cement Masons can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. For the INTER-NATIONAL PENSION Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.

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)

"If you have accomplished all that you planned for yourself, you have not planned enough.

- Edward Everett Hale (1822 - 1909)

"Adversity causes some men to break; others to break records." -William Arthur Ward



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

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ANN ARBOR - ELECTRI-CAL VEHICLE INFRA-STRUCTRUE TRAINING PRO-**GRAM (EVITP).** The \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment Act passed last year will provide millions of labor hours for the IBEW! We need to be ready for the installation of upcoming electric vehicle charging stations. This training is critical to securing this work. Please call the JATC and get on the list to get the EVITP training.

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

TRAINING CLASSES 2022: ALL CLASSES START AT 5:00 PM

1. CPR/FIRST AID: Tuesdays, Sept. 6 & 13, Dec. 6 & 13. 2. BISCI IN101 Installer 1:

Mondays, Aug. 29 thru Dec. 5. GOOD FOR 35 BICSI CEU's!

EVITP Electric Vehicle: Mondays, Aug. 15th, 22nd & 29th 4. EVITP Electric Vehicle:

Mondays, Sept. 12, 26 & Oct. 10. 5. Journeyman License Prep:

Thursdays, September 15th, 22nd, 29th, October 13th & 20th 6. Conduit Bending: Wednesdays, September 21st,

28th, October 5th, 19th & 26th 7. Instrumentation Part A:

Mondays, Oct. 3 thru Dec. 19. 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. 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



## Local 445

#### **IBEW Local 445**

BATTLE CREEK - IBEW Local 445 Annual Golf Outing. The Annual Golf Outing was held on July 16, 2022 and we had a wonderful turn-out. It is a huge blessing for our Local 445's Food Pantry! Thank you to all that donated and participated. An extra shout-out to All-Phase Electric and Milwaukee tools for the generous prize donations and the Bloody Mary Bar at Hole 2. We appreciate you all!

Local 445's Annual Picnic The Local 445's Annual Picnic will be held at the Hall on Sept. 10, 2022. If you haven't been able to stop by the new Hall, this is your opportunity to see how the Local is growing. Watch your mailboxes for additional information. Also, this is when we give out the Service Pins, so please plan on attending.

Christmas at the Hall: The date has been set for the Christmas at the Hall. It will be held on Dec. 10, 2022 at 9am at the Hall. Please add this to your calendar and watch for mailings in a few months

**General Membership Meet**ing is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5 p.m. at the Hall.

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

Retiree Breakfast: The monthly breakfast at 9am at Lux Café, 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.

#### Local 252, con't

drug testing is current as you cannot work on a U of M project or several other projects in the jurisdiction without being current. Local 252 has a zero tolerance for alcohol or drug use.

ERTS: Please make sure that you are signed up in the Electronic Reciprocity Transfer Sys-



Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

#### **IBEW Local 131**

KALAMAZOO - The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on August 1st, 2022, at 6 p.m.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on August 15th, at 5 p.m.

Local Union Leadership Training will be held on August 17, at 1:00 p.m.

President Leroy Crabtree is looking for members who are interested in serving on Committees. Please send an email to leroycrabtree@yahoo.com or mapplebey92@gmail.com.

The Picnic was a great success. Thank you, Jon, Christine, Ryan, Leroy, Chris Harvey, Shane Howe and everyone else that help. You did a great job. Next year it will be on July 22, 2023, let's do it again.

If you believe we do not have your email address or correct cell phone number, please email Jonathon at jcurrent@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 Jon. If your dues ticket reads paid through July 2022, your dues are not current; please contact the Hall. We have finalized our automated dues reminders; these reminders will be sent ahead of possible late dues. You may receive a message via text or email if you have not tendered your most current I.O.

#### Dues payments.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in counter dues payments: Kyle Barga, Christopher Conforti, Brian Ellis, Anthony Falvo, Tyler Hall, Marcus Mays, Russell McBride, Mark Melching, Nic McKenna, Jason Streit, Christopher Shell, Jason Tiefenthal, William Wolgast, Joseph Zirkelbach

Local Website. Check out the Local 131 website. Christine has done a fantastic job organizing it. Under Members Login we have integrated Death Benefit and Retirement payments into the online portal-you should expect to start seeing them accounted for in your monthly dues' payments, both at the window and in the form of online payments. There are links for Benefit Information Wage sheets, the Agreement, and Job listings. All Memorials (members and members families) and full obituaries can be viewed on the website under the Memorials Tab. If you hear of anyone's passing, please notify the Hall.

## **IBEW LOCAL 58**

#### IBEW 58

DETROIT - The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

There will be a Special Meeting to discuss the Tentative Inside Agreement Contract that did not pass on July 15th between NECA and IBEW Local 58 on Wednesday, August 3rd at 6:00 PM at the Local 58 Union Hall.

**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-

**Local 58 Dues Information:** PLEASE NOTE: You can now pay dues to the end of the year. It takes 24 hours for processing of your payment if you pay 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. If you forget your login ID or Password, you can request it through the APP/Website on the Existing Users Login Page. You can call the hall and pay over the phone if you choose to or mail in a check. If you have lapsed, you will not be able to pay on the APP/ Website. You will need to call and talk to a Business Agent.

**REMINDER** - When registering, please use your legal name as it appears on your dues receipt. i.e., Kenneth not Kenny. If your number starts with a letter, use a capital letter. Thank You!

Local 58 Motorcycle Group: Group meetings have moved to Sundays at different restaurants before a ride. Open to everyone and all riders are encouraged to join us! Requirements need to be met for patched membership. For more information please visit our Facebook page for planned rides and updates @ IBEW Local 58 Motorcycle Group. Contact Anthony Anderanin @ aanderanin @gmail.com or Grace Trudell @ 517-715-7563 for more info. Join

#### 5964 or Felicia Wiseman at 313-963-2130 ext. 3044.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Local 58 Poker Run is back and will be held Saturday, September 10, 2022 honoring Rod Durham. This year will be a new route starting downtown Detroit following a Downriver loop and ending at the Local 58 Union Hall. All are welcome to participate. This event is made possible by the great volunteers of Local 58. All proceeds go to the Benevolent Fund. For more information contact Mike Bellhorn 586-612-5964.

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 9, 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 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 Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916. 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, August 9, 2022, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 pm. Join us on Saturday, August 6th at 11:00am at Camp Dearborn in Milford for the annual family picnic. If you have not received a flier in the mail, they are available at the hall.

**EWMC of Southeastern MI-**The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 15, 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? Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future.



ship. PayPal, Venmo, and of course cash is available for payment. The 4th coin in the set will be released at a later date!

Applications for the ARC Scholarship are now available! If you have a dependent who is heading to or enrolled in college have them, try for this Scholarship! We also award a scholarship for a whole year of school to one of our apprentices! The due date will be the end of May. Applications are available at the hall and on the website. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call. You can Email us at: 58Womenscommittee @ibewlocal58.org, or call committee chairs Angela Panicucci (586) 291-8014 or Kayla Pauli with any questions. Follow us on Instagram @ibewomen58; Check us out on Facebook Local 58 Women's Committee.

Local 58 Senior 55+ Soft**ball Team** – Games will be played again at Shelby Twp Ford Fields on 23 Mile Rd just west of Van Dyke. 10:00am is the game times. If you have any questions or want more information, please call Joe Schraufnagel at 586-255-1205 or Gerry Cassani at 586-804-8026

Wiremen's Golf Association (WGA) Members: This year the 2022 Wiremen's Golf Association Tournament will be hosted by Local 481, Indianapolis, IN on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18th, and 19th 2022, with the optional scramble being held on Tuesday, August 16th. The golf courses being utilized for the tournament are Trophy Club (Lebanon, IN), Ulen Country Club (Lebanon, IN), Purgatory Golf Club (Noblesville, IN), and the optional scramble will be played at Eagle Creek Golf Club (Indianapolis, IN). The host hotel/tournament headquarters for this year is the Sheraton Keystone @ Keystone Crossing, 8787 Keystone Crossing, Indianapolis, IN 46240 - phone: 317.846.2700.

Local 58 IBEW Senior Golf Outings 2022- September 15, 2022, Rouge Park Golf Course, 11701 Burt Rd, Detroit, MI 48228 tee time 9:30; October 6, 2022, Tanglewood Golf Course, 22805 Country Club Dr, South Lyon, MI 48178, tee time 9:30 am, \$30.00. Call Art DeCoste at 248-887-3396, two weeks in advance for a headcount due to the security deposit at most of the golf courses. Remember, All IBEW Local 58 members are welcome to participate!! Call Art for questions or concerns. **IBEW Local 58 Retirees Association of Retirees Wives** and Widows: Board meetings have begun again, the next one being Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at 10 a.m. at the local union hall in the Bill Rushford Room in the lower level of the building. This meeting is open to all members, please come and join us. We are always happy to welcome visitors and possible new members to our Board of Directors. Come to a meeting and see what we are all about. The more the merrier! And, of course, come join us at our monthly luncheons too

front and rear of the restaurant.

Annual Picnic: This year's picnic will be at 12 p.m. on August 20, 2022 at Apple Creek Campground, 11185 Orban Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240. Campsites are available. Contact Travis Stachlewitz to reserve (734) 985-8025. Volunteers are needed for set up, clean up, and to help during the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Union Hall (734) 424-0978 or Dan Beck (810) 858-0033.

**Union 4 Life Charity Golf Outing:** This year's golf outing will be on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at Stonebridge Golf Club, 1825 Clubhouse Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 and is open to all union members and others. Registration 8 a.m., Tee-off at 9 a.m. Entry fee is \$100 per player, \$400 per team. Includes green fees, cart, lunch, dinner, and two drink tickets. Tournament will be played in scramble with 4-person teams. If you do not enter a team list, you will be placed with others. Contact Hope Salyer with any questions at hopes@aaejatec.org or (734) 475-1180. Register online at union4lifecharity.com or make checks payable to "Union 4 Life" and mail to 13400 Luick Drive, Chelsea, MI 48118

Retirees' Night: This year's retirees' night will be celebrated on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. Please make every effort to attend. This meeting is in honor of our retired members who have worked so hard to make the Local what it is today. Members receiving their 50 year pins are: Ernest Aldrich, Richard Aseltine, John Briston, Cecil Coronado, Richard Cunkle, Gary Kittel, Dale Nowak, Jimmie Snyder, and Thomas Squires. Members receiving their 55 year pins are: Robert Hendricks, Tommie Hutchins, Stanley Kasprzycki, Larry Lange, David Ollila, Richard Peruski, Terry Phillips, Rodolfo Rodriguez, and Keith Vandenbosch. David G. Alstrom is receiving his 60 year pin. Gerald Brittain is receiving his 65 year pin.

M.U.S.T DRUG TESTING: Please make sure your MUST (Continued next column) tem. 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, and **Facebook Under Construction:** More updates to follow.

**RETIREMENT: NEBF and** applications take 3 months to process but can be filled out as early as 6 months before your planned retirement effective date. IBEW PBF applications usually take 3 months to process but are running a couple months behind. IBEW PBF applications can be filled out 6 months before your planned retirement date. If you are nearing retirement, please contact Alana at the Union Hall to start your paperwork at least 3-6 months before your planned retirement date.

**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 6/ 2022, 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 third quarter dues (July through September) are due now. Payments for third quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. Friday, Sept. 30, 2022.

William Minshall, a 67-year member, passed on June 29, 2022 (94). There will be a service on August 8, 2022, 11:00 at Hartford United Methodist Church.

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.

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.

LMCC: The LMCC has launched a new website www.poweringkalamazoo.com. This website will be used to highlight local signatory contractors and used as an organizing tool. Follow us on Facebook @poweringkalamazoo, Twitter @PoweringKzoo, Instagram @poweringkalamazoo, and LinkedIn @poweringkalamazoo. Please feel free to share the wage calculator feature of this site.

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: (Continued next column)

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, August 2, 2022 at 5:00. The Brad Ballard Memorial Golf Outing is scheduled for September 23, 2022 at Timberwood Golf Course. Registration will be open for that event on June 20, 2022

Benevolent Fund and Women's Committee are hosting The Brad Ballard Memorial East Side Golf Outing on September 23, 2022 at Timberwood Golf Course in Ray Township. Shotgun start at 10AM. \$500 for Foursome, Limited to 160 Golfers pre-registration required. Sponsorship Opportunities are also available. For more information contact Mike Bellhorn at 586-612-



#### Local 131, con't

August 17<sup>th</sup> McGonigle's Irish Pub, 3512 East Main Street, Kalamazoo, MI. 49048

September 21<sup>st</sup> Main Street Pub, 5462 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI. 49048

October 19<sup>th</sup> Nob Hill Bar & Grill, 4218 S. Sprinkle Road, Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

Every Tuesday, a smaller group of Retirees meets at Uncle Ernie's Pancake House, 4005 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 the time for this breakfast is at 10 a.m.

Morris Applebey **Business Manager**  Join us for "Friday Night

Live" at the Detroit Pizza Bar (located at 7316 W. McNichols in Detroit) on Friday, July 29 at 5:00pm. Be one of the first to taste "The 58er" pizza as we network and socialize together. We are planning on selling the tie-dye shirts that we created at our Annual Family Picnic. Volunteers will be needed to help out. Solidarity Forever.

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, August 8, 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.

**Union Sportsman's Alliance** Wild Game Dinner will be held at IBEW Local 58 on Friday, August 26, 2022. \*This is an alltrades Event\* sponsored by IBEW Local 58 and SMART Local 80. Single tickets and tables are still available. Contact Kim L'Heureux 586-243-0559 or Bryan McConnell 586-405-0377 for more information.

**The Political Action Com**mittee (PAC) meets the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Com**mittee-** Our next regular meeting is Thursday, August 25, 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 Scholar**Our Annual Summer Picnic** 

will be held on August 24, 2022 at Rotary Park. 32184 Six Mile Road, Livonia, 48152. Come join us for coffee and donuts at 10 a.m., and then lunch, at noon. Send your reservations with your checks for \$20 per person, to Ray Owen, 428 Welch Road, Northville, 48167, or call Ray at (248) 348-3626 with your questions. We look forward to seeing all of you there! Stay healthy, keep up with the hand hygiene, and be aware that covid is still swirling around us!

**Electrical Workers Credit** Union - Looking for a Recreational (Boat, ATV, Snowmobile, tractor, RV) loan? Call the EWCU at 313-963-6060 for a payment quote & same day approval.

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: Patrick Cotter, Daniel Lombardo, Thomas McGrail, and James Vecore.

Members that have Passed Away: Loris Anttila, Widow of the late pension member Douglas Anttila, Mother to pension member Cathy Brown; Timothy Hedges, pension member, 24 year IBEW membership; and Stephen Lawrence, JIW, 26 year IBEW membership. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their loss.



IBEW Local 557

SAGINAW-Union News-Hello Brothers and Sisters! Lots of goodies this week. Don't forget Aug. 12 is Union night at the Great Lakes Loons! The local purchased and gave away tickets for the game but sorry guysthey're all gone. You can still purchase tickets on the Loons website. Make sure you wear your union swag and represent!

Also, the IBEW is making a big push to get more of our members certified through the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP). Please contact the Hall, or JATC, or visit www.evitp.org/training for more details.

Lastly, on a sad note, donations can be made to the unfortunate victims of the Swan Valley Condo's fire through the Thomas Township Business Association. If you wish to donate, contact the Hall to make arrangements.

Apprentices, the Service Learning Policy was reinstated at the March 21 JATC meeting. You'll need to start attending union meetings again or make up the absence. Just attend guys, it's easier.

Sadly, retired member James Curran passed away on July 12th. Brother Curran was born December 3, 1944, initiated into the IBEW on March 1, 1969, and retired December 1, 2006. He will be greatly missed and please keep his friends and family in your thoughts and prayers.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS-**Our next meeting will be Aug. 2 at 5:30pm. This meeting we will be swearing in our new apprentices. Congrats to the new blood!

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 OPERA-TIONS- 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-oftown 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. WORKOUTLOOK- Sorry guys-same as last week. Hemlock Semi Conductor work looks very promising in the near future. Background checks are mandatory for these calls. J. Ranck will be working on two large solar farms on the western end of the jurisdiction later this year/early next year. Van Herweg should ramp up Handly Schools in the coming weeks. Thiel hopes to ramp up at the new Saginaw United High School later this month. Leddy Electric and Nelson Electric has started work on the St. Louis schools and had a couple calls for the project. Pierce Power has a job at the CMU Health building at Covenant. Bender is doing the Isabella Bank on State St. **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. Don't forget Aug. 2 is Election Day! Go ahead and visit saginaw countyvotes.com for a great spreadsheet on who's running for which district. HEALTH CARE- 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 (Continued next column)



**IBEW Local 906** UPPER PENINSULA-MEETINGS

MARQUETTE UNIT-First Tuesday

IRON MOUNTAIN UNIT-Second Tuesday

ESCANABA UNIT-Second Wednesday

The U.P. Building Trades golf outing will be held July 30th in Newberry, Mi. This will be a shotgun start beginning at 9:00 a.m. We wish the IBEW 906 teams the best of skill (luck).

The IBEW Summer picnic will be held Aug. 13 beginning at 1 p.m. We will be at the Pioneer Trail Park, at 6822 U.S. HWY 2/41 M35, Gladstone, Mi Come join in the fun and Brotherhood. Food, games and prizes. A nice picnic with beverages for all. Bring a dish to pass if you wish. TRAVELERS ARE WELCOME. Please pass the word to any of our Brothers working on your jobsite.

IBEW 906 will host a meeting in Hancock at Nutini's restaurant beginning at 7 p.m. on Aug. 12, 2022. The newest apprentice from the Copper Country will be sworn in. There will be Service Pins handed out to some of our retirees from that area. If you are in the neighborhood please stop by and have some pizza with the Brothers and Sisters.

Work continues to be strong across the U.P. Several of the larger projects are off to a slow start but will be requesting manpower in the near future. All apprentices are working including the 12 new ones slated to start in September. Currently we are in a shutdown mode with time being worked on some projects.

A reminder that the monthly dues are \$40.00. We have received some at the old rate of \$39.00 and a few members are overpaying. This makes the bookwork difficult. Please if you have a service that pays your dues monthly inform them of the correct amount. Please remember that address changes and phone changes along with new additions to the families need to be passed on to the Hall and the Pension and Health Plans. If you have any information you would like to see noted in this article or something you believe should be published please email the Hall with your request. Ibew906@gmail.com



TRAVERSE CITY - Meet-

**IBEW Local 498** ings. 8.2022 @ 6pm.

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board

meeting is set for Monday, Aug Regular Meeting - The next meeting is Scheduled for 7pm Friday Aug 8, 2022. Currently, the Solidarity Picnic before the Regular meeting is on hold for now due Property Company - There

will be a Property Company Meeting prior to the Regular Union Meeting on Sep 12, 2022.

to Covid.

Meeting- Date Change- At the last regular meeting held on July 8, 2022, a motion was made, supported and carried to move the regular membership meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at 7:00p.m. The Executive Board already made an accommodation for the regular executive board meeting to be always held immediately before the regular meeting at 6:00p.m.in a special called Executive Board meeting earlier this spring.

Work Outlook – We currently at this time of printing have two open calls. One for Newkirk Electric at St Mary's Cement and one for Alpine Electric for a service truck position in Gaylord. Please call the hall if you are interested in either of these calls.

Resale Items - Local 498 Challenge Coins are in the hall for your purchase. They are \$10 each. We also have Local 498 tshirt, and Beanie Hats for resale. Proud Union Home signs are in and available at the hall. Free to members in good standing.

EVITP – There is coming to a local near you. Please monitor for more info soon.

Service Pins - Service Pins are still available at the union hall for those members who have not received them. Stop by and get vours 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 mem-

July 29, 2022

THE BUILDING TRADESMAN

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD BAY CITY OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS MICHIGAN

Organizers Report. 692's

Organizing team continues to

reach out to unrepresented work-

ers in our jurisdiction about the

benefits of joining the IBEW. The

third quarter of 2022 will see de-

mand for local manpower in-

crease considerably. Sister Local

498 also expects to need help

manning projects in their south-

eastern region, which provide

opportunities to 692 members re-

siding in Isabella, Clare, and

equate manpower to larger-scale

projects will only strengthen our

contractors' chances of continu-

ally securing this type of work. If

you'd like to register on any other

IBEW out-of-work lists, please

reach out to the hall for details

on which locals accept fax regis-

City commissioners recently

adopted a Responsible Contract-

ing ordinance that will ensure

projects funded by taxpayers are

language prioritizes criteria such

as workplace safety, the utiliza-

tion of a local workforce, and ad-

hering to licensing and permit-

ting requirements when awarding

contracts on larger-scale con-

struction projects and city con-

tracts. No longer will cost be the

only criteria when considering

contractors looking to secure

work in the city. As with any new

process, there will undoubtably

be some growing pains. Meet-

ings have been scheduled to out-

line new details of the ordinance,

which 692 agents will attend in

an effort to assist our signatory

contractors in navigating the

tending mandatory pre-bid meet-

ings on multiple projects. Attend-

ing these meetings is a great way

to build relationships with gen-

eral contracting firms and devel-

opers but also keep a watchful

eye on merit shops who are bid-

ding projects within our jurisdic-

tion. Organizers also continually

search for bidding opportunities,

utilizing online project reporting

researching county, city, town-

ship, and local school district

websites, forwarding resulting

Jobs are also identified by

portals.

Organizers have been at-

new bidding process.

**Responsible Contracting** 

completed by reputable firms.

As you may be aware, Bay

The ability to provide ad-

Gladwin counties.

tration.

#### **IBEW Local 692**

BAY CITY – Union Meeting. The August monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, Aug. 1, 2022. Hopefully we will see everyone there.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The July Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, August 15, 2022.

Message from the Business Manager. First and foremost, I would like to thank our membership on my re-election. There is no greater honor to me than having the opportunity to represent the membership each and every day. One thing I can promise is you will always get my personal best. THANK YOU!

I also congratulate Brother Brian Walker on being elected our President. This is a huge job with immense responsibilities. Thank you, brother, for stepping up!

Congratulations also to our new Vice President Gus Voisine, Recording Secretary Kevin Klapish, Treasurer Don Morse, Eboard Members Todd Aultman, Chris Carriveau, Sam Malone, Derek Simms, Nick Tobolski and Art Voisine, and also Examining Board Members Brendon Baranek, Nick Calkins, Alek Poirier and Kevin Shooltz.

Message from the Presi**dent.** Just a reminder that we have a block of rooms at the Doubletree set aside for the Oct. 7 retirement party. These rooms must be reserved one month prior to the party (by Sept. 7) or the rooms will be released. Reservations can be made by calling the Doubletree Hotel directly, (989) 891-6000.

Work Report. Work continues to evolve in the Local. Our signatory contractors continue to do a nice job both bidding and securing work for the Local Membership. This is a true testament to the level of skill our local possesses. Contractors know that they can bid a job in our local and our membership will deliver the craftsmanship and timeline the customer is looking for. Thank you, Brothers and Sisters, for all of your hard work.

First, we will start with some good news. It sounds like Karn 3 & 4 may not close now until 2031. If this news holds true, that may lead to more future work this Fall.

Clements Electric has secured the Bay City Schools Projects along with the new Air Hanger for Kilita Air in Oscoda. Conti Electric has secured the bonding and grounding on the De-sugarization Project at Monitor Sugar in Bay County. Conti has also secured some very nice projects inside the I Park in Midland. There have been several calls for manpower for Conti in the last month with possibly more to come. At this time the Frito Distribution Center has not been awarded, however it looks good for our signatory contractors. Brendon continues to work hard on securing the North Peak Brewing facility in Bay City for our membership. Changes continue to occur on the planning for the Independence Bridge but one of our signatories will be doing that work when the time comes. Swan Electric has secured a nice project in our Zone 2 at several DTE pumping stations. Several calls will be coming for this project in the coming weeks. Projects that are currently bidding include the following: East Tawas Wastewater, Midland City Hall, Isabella County re-lighting, DNR Mio Field Office, and the Oscoda Holiday Inn. Ranck is obviously onsite at SK Siltron. Ranck has hired some JIWs out of the hall with more to come. Good news is another \$300 million is headed towards this project late this fall with the next phase to begin in January of 23'. Gage Grow has seen some issues with Clements Electric temporarily pulling off of site. Liberty Bridge, Cheboygan Wastewater and both Goyette Mechanical Projects (Hale Schools and the Ground Water filtration system at the old Wurtsmith) may also hire in the near future. Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing are 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



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**IBEW Local 948** 

FLINT - Our August Union Meeting will be held on Monday August 8th, 2022, at 6:00pm.

Our August Executive Board Meeting will be held on Monday, August 22nd, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

The Next Retiree Club Meeting will be Tuesday, August 2nd, at 9:00am then Tuesday, August 16th, 2022, at 8:00am.

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).

2023 - Monthly Dues - Journeyman \$45.70 a month - Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$42.70 a month

2022 - 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.

#### Local 692, con't

(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. RE-MINDER: if you have recently been married, divorced, had chil-



#### ber 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

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

#### **IBEW 557, continued**

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 mielectrical health.org In Solidarity, Breanna DePottey, Press Secretary/Registrar

information to signatory contractors for their consideration. It is important that our contractors bid as many jobs as possible and feel comfortable knowing that Local 692 will provide them with assistance whenever possible.

Please continue to let us know if you have any questions about upcoming work or if you notice any under-the-radar projects that we should be made 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.

Local 692 Retirement Party. This year's party will be held on 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!

RENEW. Our annual Bags for Brotherhood event will take place on Sept. 17, 2022. Please come out and support us!

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

(Continued next column)



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

"I always wanted to be somebody, but I should have been more specific. Jane Wagner

Beware of no man more than yourself; we carry our worst enemies within us.

-G. K. Chesterton (1874 -1936)

"If you find serenity and happiness, some people may be jealous. Be happy anyway. -Mother Teresa (1910 - 1997)

"The one thing more diffi-

cult than following a regimen is not imposing it on others.'

-Marcel Proust (1871 - 1922)

"Do not listen to those who weep and complain, for their disease is contagious.

-Og Mandino (1923 - 1996)





Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47

LANSING – The next Union Meeting will be held Friday, Aug. 12, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the JATC 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, you can do so by calling or texting the office at (517) 708-0665 with your layoff date and the name of the Contractor you were laid off from

Members must notify the office before ANY overtime is worked

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 vour contact information is always update with Local 47.



Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 SOUTHFIELD-UNION MEETING - The next scheduled

Membership Meeting will take place Thursday, August 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge Street, Southfield, MI 48033.

**ANNUAL PICNIC:** Heat & Frost Insulators Local 25 Annual Picnic will take place on Saturday, August 6, 2022. The festivities will take place at Willow

Metropark, New Boston. As more details become available, we will be sure to notify the membership. Anyone with questions or interested in vol-CURT unteering,

McGLONE please call the Union Office

and we can put you in touch with the Picnic Chairperson, Trevor Presnell.

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

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

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

LAY OFF/HIRE: Please be reminded, all members shall notify the Business Manager within 48 hours after accepting a job or upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic fifty dollar fine.

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

SUB FUND TIME LIMITA-TION: Please be reminded, per the Plan Document: Each time a



CONGRATULATIONS TO 2022 Roofers Union Local 149/RIPF/SMRCA Scholarship Winners pictured left to right: Tessa Horon, Hector Molina, Dominique Ladouceur and Anthony Ascencio.

Local 149

Roofers &

Waterproofers



#### **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, Aug. 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Aug. 30, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

September Regular Membership Meeting. The regular membership meeting scheduled for Sept. 6, 2022 is cancelled.

Condolences. It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of the following Brother: Brother James Spiot, he was 73 years old and a 48-year member. James Spiot past on 6/29/2022. Rest in Peace Brother.

Scholarship Winners. The Scholarship Grant Committee awarded four Scholarship Grants to a college bound students in June 2022. This year's winners are: Anthony Ascencio, Tessa Horon, Dominique Ladouceur, and Hector Molina.

Detroit Labor Day Picnic and Parade. The annual Detroit Labor Day picnic and Parade is Monday, September 5, 2022, at 1640 Porter St, Detroit, MI 48216. Additional information to follow in the next paper.

#### **Election Results.**

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Brian Gregg Business Agents: Joe Gilliam and Gary Johnsen Executive Board: Tim Sampson, Joe Zsembery, Robert Colston,

Luke Brown, Don Watkins III, and Alternate Joe Precourt President: John Johnson

Vice President: Rick Baird

Recording Secretary: Tom Jaranowski

Sergeant at Arms: Dennis Mehler

Trustees: Lee Bruner, Jim Micovich, Walt Connell

Pension Trustee: Lee Bruner

Health & Welfare Trustee: Gary Johnsen.

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

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.

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

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

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.

### **Roofers 149** scholarship winners announced

The Governors for the Scholarship Grant Committee awarded four Scholarship Grants to a college bound students in June 2022. Commercial Roofing Con-

tractors of Southeastern Michigan, through the Southeastern Michigan Roofing Contractors Association (SMRCA), along with the Roofers Union Local 149 annually award college scholarships to dependents of employees of member roofing contractors

This year's winners are: Anthony Ascencio - Detroit, MI; Tessa Horon - Emmett, MI; Dominique Ladouceur - Harrison Twp., MI; and Hector Molina -Detroit, MI.

Applicants were asked to submit an essay by selecting one or more of the following topics: Roofing Technology, Roofing Safety, Roofing Impact or Roofing Ethics to the Joint Union/ Contractor Scholarship Committee. Winners receive Scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00 contributed by the SMRCA, Roofers Union Local #149 and the Contractor Employer.

Initiated over 20 years ago, this program is an example of the SMRCA/Roofers Union Local #149 and SMRCA Member Contractors working to promote continued education and to encourage industry dependents to attend college.

#### Local 149 cont'd

Labor Day picnic and Parade is Monday, September 5, 2022, at 810 Tacoma Ct., Clio, MI 48420. Additional information to follow in the next paper.

**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.



Boilermakers Local 169

ALLEN PARK - Our next membership meeting will take place on August 12 at 8:00 pm. It will be in Area

1 at the Boilermaker Union Hall, located at 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI 48101. Current Union



are \$52.35 in  $BOB\ accordance$ HUTSELL with the Inter-

national 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.

Area 1 Picnic was a huge success. A great time was had by all. A huge thank you to Pat Rose, Jamie Ratliff, Don Schultz, the apprentice volunteers and everyone that showed up to make this year's picnic a success.

#### Save the dates:

Area 3 Annual Picnic will be August 27 at Lake of Dreams Campground, 1000 South Fenmore Road, Merrill, MI 48637

Labor Day: This year's Labor Day Parade is currently scheduled to take place on September 5, 2022. It's been two years since we've been able to represent our local on Labor Day. Please make every effort to attend the parade and lunch at the Union Hall following the parade. Further information to follow.

**Retirees:** Retiree luncheons have resumed. The Area 1 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.

Area 2 Retirees are holding luncheons on the first Thursday of every month at 11am at Whitlow's Forerunner Restaurant located at 4610 Airline Rd, Muskegon MI. All retirees and members from all areas are welcome to attend. Area 3 retirees' lunches are on the third Wednesday of every month. Next luncheon is July 20 at 11am. the luncheon will be at the 702 Bar located at 702 Jefferson Avenue, Midland, MI 48640 The Area 4 retirees' lunches are on the first Tuesday of the month at 11am in Rapid River at Jacks Restaurant 7898 S. Main Street, Rapid River, MI. Area 4 retirees also meet in Marquette on the second Tuesday of the month at 11am at Crossroads Bar on the corner of County Rd 553 and County Road 480. Hoodies have 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. Our two week apprenticeship training session will be this August. The Commonarc test will follow. Apprentices should plan accordingly. Apprentices will be notified of times and dates. CommonArc testing will be taking place this year on August 15-August 17, 2022, at the Training Center. Any journeyman interested in testing should contact B&G Processing at 586-477-1562. 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.

Local 47's Annual Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2022. The cost will be \$75/ person or \$300/team. If you wish to participate, please call the office with the names of your team members, and you can either pay by check or Venmo.

If any Fourth or Fifth year Apprentices are interested in attending the Central States Conference Breath of Life Golf Outing in September located out at Roanoke, WV, please contact Patrick Welch.

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

Allied Workers' Local 47 6525 Fringe Benefit Funds, Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275

Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 Telephone: (517) 321-7502 Fax: (517) 321-7508

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

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

(Continued next column)

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

NOTICE TO ALL: When you move into the Medicare Advantage Program, your deductible balance for the year, is supposed to carry over. Whatever you have paid toward your annual deductible, prior to changing over to Medicare Advantage Program, should follow you. As with any system, there can be flaws. Please keep an eye out for any charges, related to your deductible balance not being carried over, when you move into the Medicare Advantage Program. If you receive a charge that should have been covered by your deductible, please contact the Fund Office.

**BENESYS**: When calling the Fund Office, Benesys, please be sure to get the name of the person providing you information. Lately, we have been experiencing some incorrect information being provided to our members. In order to make sure the correct information is provided, it helps to have a name so the Union Office can call Benesys, correct the person providing incorrect information and find out why they are providing our members with incorrect information.

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

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

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

Detroit Training Center Information. The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows:

Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1- Monday, July 18, 2022 Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2- Tuesday, July 19, 2022 BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1- Wednesday July 20, 2022

BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2- Thursday, July 21, 2022

Apprentice 7 & 8 Hands On + Safety & Health- Thursday, July 21,2022

All classes begin at 6:30pm

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 or Dean Kucharski at the Training Center, 248-543-3847, or TJaranowski@De-troitRoofers.org to make arrangements.

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

MID-MICHIGANAREA-Clio Office.

**2022 Contract.** The Mid-Michigan members have spoken loud and clear by ratifying a one-year contract.

1. One (1) year contract

2. Wage Rate - \$2.50 per hour

3. Wage Rate for Foreman \$3.00 over Journeyman scale (up from \$2.50)

4. Transportation, Travel, and Out-Of-Town Expenses;

a. When working in Ingham, Clinton, and Isabella counties the travel pay will be \$25.00 per day (from \$20).

b. When working in the third county or farther from the Genesee/ Saginaw County line the Employee shall receive \$80.00 dollars per day (from \$70).

5. Starting pay for Apprentice One's (new employees) \$17.00 (from \$13.89)

6. \$2.00 per hour wage increase when applying coal tar pitch.

7. Retro pay back to July 3, 2022

Allocations for the monies are as follows:

\$1.45 on the Check

\$1.00 in the Health & Welfare

\$0.05 Hourly Dues

Please, let us know if you require additional information or further clarification regarding this matter. (810) 687-1368 or (313) 961-6093

Mid-Michigan Labor Day Picnic. The annual Mid-Michigan

Local 47 continued

onto their Website: www. heatfrostlocal47benefits.org:

Please complete and return the working spousal forms to TIC.

**JATC Coordinator Phil** Wilson (616-466-8736)

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

Under Duties of Apprenticeship, Section 5.3 part L, page 4 of

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

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

"The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom."

-H. L. Mencken (1880 - 1956)

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 7/25/2022, 1:30 p.m.

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

#### Inflation eating minimum wage value

The value of the federal minimum wage has reached its lowest point in 66 years, according to an Economic Policy Institute analysis of recently released Consumer Price Index data. Accounting for price increases in June, the current federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour is now worth less than at any point since February 1956.

At that time, the federal minimum wage was 75 cents per hour, or \$7.19 in June 2022 dollars.

"Last July marked the longest period without a minimum wage increase since Congress established the federal minimum wage in 1938, and continued inaction on the federal minimum wage over the past year has only further eroded the minimum wage's value," the EPI said.

A worker paid the current \$7.25 federal minimum wage earns 27.4 percent less in inflation-adjusted terms than what their counterpart was paid in July 2009 when the minimum wage was last increased, and 40.2 prcent less than a minimum wage worker in February 1968, the historical high point of the minimum wage's value.

There are 15 states with a minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour. Michigan's minimum wage is \$9.87.

Further details will be forthcoming

(Continued next column)

#### 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 www.iupatsite: 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.

## District Council

#### Michigan Painters District Council

Painters District Council 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 cards, or 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.

\*LABOR DAY PARADE IS BACK ON SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH\*</sup> Members mark your calendars. Labor Day Parade 2022 will take place on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Our staging area will be in the parking lot of IBEW Local 58.

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.



Glaziers & Glassworkers 357

WARREN – Monday July 4th was a paid holiday. We hope that everyone had a safe, enjoyable long holiday weekend

Our next scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday Aug. 1, 2022 at 6pm. Please attend.

The F.T.I. of The Great Lakes District Council 1 Michigan is looking for a full time glazier apprenticeship teaching instructor for the Warren, Mi training center.

Interested candidates must be a member with a minimum of five years in the union, must also have an extensive background in the glass, and glazing industry.

If you believe that you possess the skills to prepare the next generation please send your resume to the Director of Training Shawn O'Neill dot@iupat dc1m .org

We will be accepting resumes now until July 22,2022 with interviews following.

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-(Continued next column) July 29, 2022 THE BUILDING TRADESMAN 13



MUDDINGA PATIENT ROOM wall at the Caro Psychiatric Hospital project is Nathan Phillips of Michigan Painters District Council Local 18023. He's employed by Commercial Contracting Corp.

#### District Council M MICHIGAN Local 591 Sign, Pictorial & Display

Sign Pictorial & Display 591

WARREN – There will be no August meeting, the next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday Sept. 6, at 6:30p.m. Trustees and union stewards meet at 6:20 p.m.

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

Anyone possessing a union membership and 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

"When life hands you a lemon, say 'Yeah, I like lemons. What else ya got?""

-Henry Rollins

*"It is easier to resist at the beginning than at the end."* –Leonardo da Vinci (1452 - 1519)

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WHICH COLOR GOES

WHERE? That's being deter-

mined by Sam Thibeault of

Michigan Painters District

Council Local 1052. He's em-

ployed by Hock Painting, work-

ing on the first floor of the Caro

Psychiatric Hospital project.

Local 357, con't

If you are in need of safety

modules, please contact your

employer if you are employed or

the union office @ 586-552-4478,

if you're not. Any questions call

the hall or call the Council @ 586-

552-4474. Participation is very im-

portant to keep our union strong,

-Business Rep- Don Stepp

so try to make it to a meeting.

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July 29, 2022



## A Lake Superior egg hunt

<u>Outdoors</u>

#### **By Shawn Sitar Michigan Department of** Natural Resources

Fisheries researchers go to great lengths, or sometimes deep waters, to seek answers to their questions. Recently, an interdisciplinary team of scientists aboard the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' research vessel Lake Char discovered the deepest occurrence of lake char (or lake trout) spawning in the Great Lakes at a depth of over 400 feet off the north side of Isle Royale in Lake Superior.

Until this study, the spawning location and habitat of the deep-water lake trout was a mysterv. Lake Superior is the last lake to retain the deep-water subspecies of lake trout, the siscowet, which is also the most abundant type found here due to the lake's vast depth. This diehard animal can be found at depths starting around 130 feet out to the deepest location in the entire Great Lakes -1,320 feet - which was documented first by this research team back in 2006.

However, where these fish spawn and lay their eggs was a mystery until this recent discovery

Lake trout, the top native predator in the deeper waters of the Great Lakes, play a critical role in the stability of the ecosystem by helping to "manage" the prey species.

Lake Superior was the only Great Lake not to suffer extinc-



A SISCOWET LAKE TROUT, released from the research vessel Lake Char with a surgically implanted acoustic transmitter, is shown near Hawk Island at Isle Royale National Park in 2018. Photo credit: Andrew Muir, Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

tion of lake trout and today likely ter drone technologies to track. has the most abundant native locate, identify and verify where lake trout population in the world, serving as a learning ground to help recover the species in the other lakes.

ery Commission-funded study, an interagency team of researchers from the GLFC, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the Great Lakes Acoustic Telemetry Observing System, Michigan State University, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service and the DNR Marquette Fisheries Research Station embarked on a labor-intensive project in 2018. The team deployed advanced the scientists returned to Isle

siscowets spawned in the far-off reaches of Lake Superior at Isle Royale National Park.

First, the mission was to find As part of a Great Lakes Fish- a spawning population of siscowets

> Lake trout typically spawn in the fall on rocky lake bottoms; however, the research vessel Lake Char team had discovered a spring-spawning group of siscowets (the first and only documented population in the Great Lakes) at Isle Royale back in 2008.

Based on this information, acoustic telemetry and underwa- Royale in 2018, where they cap-

tured both spring- and fall-spawning siscowets, fitting fish with acoustic telemetry - or tracking tags, and simultaneously the team deployed an array of about 90 acoustic receivers. This array recorded the positions of the fish and was the deepest-ever deployment of acoustic technology in the Great Lakes, at depths over 325 feet. The idea was that the tagged spawners would reveal to the researchers where the tagged fish congregated to lay their eggs

Deploying the array in deep water was no easy task, requiring the team to collect and transport over 28,000 pounds of boulders to Isle Royale to anchor the deep underwater receivers. Receivers are signaled to release and float to the surface for recovery, but because they had to be in the water over the winter, a surface buoy could not be used as an anchor. Since the anchors had to be abandoned, Lake Char Captain Chris Little came up with the simple solution of using rocks, as they are environmentally safe.

Fortunately, the National Park Service had the vessel Angelique – a former military landing craft that has the lift capacity to handle such a heavy payload – to assist with moving the rocks.

After tagging the fish and

getting the tracking array set, the team had to patiently wait. The unattended receivers collected information to pinpoint the exact locations where the tagged fish were spawning. They collected data on the positions of the fish through the end of 2020, and once analyzed, the data pinpointed target locations for the next phase of the study.

A deep-water remotely operated vehicle, or ROV, was deployed from the Lake Char to seek evidence of spawning. The telemetry data revealed a few very pinpointed concentrations of spawning fish at around 330 feet for the spring siscowets and at about 90 feet for the fall spawners.

In June of 2021, the team deployed the ROV at the target sites, and for the first time in history, found the deepest lake trout eggs ever recorded in all of the Great Lakes. The team also deployed nets, capturing sculpins (small, bottom-dwelling fish) and small lake trout with siscowets' eggs in their stomachs, further verifying these deep-water spawning sites.

The mystery of where deepwater lake trout spawn was solved! Further research is necessary to understand the adaptations and factors necessary for young lake trout to survive in such a harsh environment, which will help those in the lower Great Lakes seeking to fully restore the abyssal areas of their ecosystems.

Lake trout are highly adaptive cold-water fish that have di-

versified into numerous ecotypes to adapt to the key habitat variable of the Great Lakes – depth. Historically, deep-water ecotypes existed in all the Great Lakes, but they were driven to extinction in the late 1940s due to the combined effects of excess commercial fishing and the invasion of the parasitic sea lamprey.

The extinction of lake trout in the four lower Great Lakes led to the historic, disastrous changes in the food webs, requiring the intervention of stocking non-native salmon to control the invasive alewife that permeated the lower lakes. Subsequently, natural resource agencies began an international, collaborative effort to restore lake trout by regulating commercial fishing, managing sea lampreys and stocking hatchery fish.

In recent years, these efforts have finally borne fruit, with some natural reproduction of lake trout occurring first in Lake Huron and now in Lake Michigan. Lake Erie and Lake Ontario are further behind in the process.

The fishery management plans in all of these lakes call for stocking deep-water forms of lake trout in deep-water areas, and that's where this project comes into play. The findings of this study will help fisheries managers know where best to stock and what is needed for success.

Learn more about DNR research that provides crucial information on how to manage Michigan's fisheries at Michigan.gov/FishResearch.



**RESEARCHERS ABOARD the vessel Lake Char deploy an ROV** for a dive mission to search for deep-water lake trout eggs in Lake Superior on the north side of Isle Royale.



## CALL THE LAW OFFICES OF **MESOTHELIOMA · LUNG CANCER**



SUTURING A SISCOWET Lake Trout is Tom Binder of Michigan State University. He was surgically implanting the trout with an acoustic transmitter aboard the research vessel Lake Char in 2018. Photo credit: Andrew Muir, Great Lakes Fishery Commission

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