January 13, 2023

## **SHORT** CUTS

#### **U.S.** construction stays steady, overall

Total U.S. construction spending increased by 0.2 percent in November, dragged down by a continuing slide in homebuilding, according to a Jan. 3 report by the Associated General Contractors of America.

"A variety of private nonresidential categories, as well as multifamily projects, posted solid spending gains in November,' said Ken Simonson, the AGC's chief economist. "Many of these segments should continue to do well in 2023. But the timing of public construction, while well-funded, remains unclear.' Billions in federal infrastructure dollars have yet to be spent.

Construction spending totaled \$1.8 trillion in November, 0.2 percent above the October rate and 8.5 percent above the November 2021 rate. Spending on private residential construction declined for the sixth consecutive month in November, by 0.5 percent. Spending on private nonresidential construction rose 1.7 percent in November.

#### Oversight lacking on road gravel quality

LANSING - Why are Michigan's roads consistently among the worst in the nation? There is likely an aggregation of reasons.

Chronic under-funding, harsh winters, overuse of road salt, the freeze-thaw cycle – all are contributors to the consistent emergence of Michigan's late-winter "pothole season." But now we get word that one major road-building material gravel quality - may also be a significant contributing factor.

A state Office of the Auditor General report released Dec. 22 found significant quality control problems in the way the Michigan Department of Transportation inspects road-building aggregate.

Titled "Aggregate Quality Process," the audit said that there were zero state inspections for quality control of laboratories used to test the gravel for 36 of 40 (90 percent) of pre-qualified aggregate suppliers in a recent 21-month period. And in 10 of 17 quality assurance laboratories, MDOT did not have the required biennial inspections. The labs were not inspected at the required frequency during the span of time between Oct. 1, 2018 and June 30, 2021.

MDOT, for the most part did not contest the Auditor General's report, but noted that some findings are "outdated." "MDOT is confident that the aggregate used in construction meets MDOT's specifications,' said Dan Weingarten, MDOT's communications representative for the Superior Region.

As of Jan. 28, 2021, MDOT had 613 aggregate suppliers. Aggregate, comprised of mineral crystals or mineral rock fragments, is a key ingredient in pavement building. According to Concrete Network, aggregates comprise 60-80 percent of a concrete mix. The group said the use of larger pieces of coarse aggregate can save contractors money by lowering the amount of cement used – the most costly ingredient in the mix. And while larger pieces of aggregate can increase the compressive strength of the concrete - there are limits - and the wrong mix can weaken the structure.

#### Quotable

"A worthy New Year's resolution, perhaps, is to take no hatred into the New Year without requiring it to restate its purpose.

-Robert Brault (1938-)



THERE'S A NEW EVENT to watch at the site of the demolished Joe Louis Arena in Detroit - construction of a 25-story apartment building. It's expected to be the first of three towers constructed at the riverfront location. Colasanti Construction Services is managing the project.

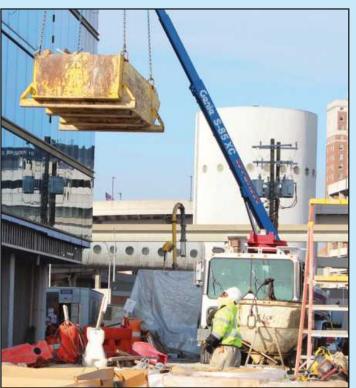
## New tower rises on Joe Louis Arena site

By Marty Mulcahy **Editor** 

DETROIT - On April 9, 2017, the Detroit Red Wings played their final game at Joe Louis Arena, when they beat the New Jersey Devils, 4-1.

Since then, the Joe Louis site has seen the razing of the stadium in 2019-20, and now the start of construction of what is expected to be a trio of buildings. Going up first at the site is a 25-story, 290-foot-tall, 500unit apartment tower with work led by Colasanti Construction Services.

The developer, Detroitbased Sterling Group, and its LLC, 600 Associates, have been remarkably mum on specifics for the site. Their most recent media release came last July with the disclosure of an artist's rendering for first tower. Additional buildings at the site are expected to house a 40-story hotel and 19-story office build-



AWAITING THE ARRIVAL of a bin of refuse materials being ing, although the heights of Joe Louis Arena site is Andre Andrews of Laborers Local 1191. (Continued on Page 2) He's employed by Colansanti.

### **More new** money OK'd in Congress for new lock at the Soo

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

SAULT STE. MARIE - The actual construction of a new Soo lock is becoming more and more of a sure thing.

Periodically, Congress doles out money for federally funded construction projects, large and small. Multi-year projects get funded in stages, and for the new Soo Lock, the House and Senate last month approved the latest

major chunk of money to build the entire \$3.2 billion project.

That increment of federal money, \$922 million, was announced Dec. 15 with the passage of the annual National Defense Authorization Act. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has jurisdiction over the project, had requested the authorization. The project's price tag is now triple initial estimates because of overruns attributed to design

modifications, labor shortages and inflation as well as other factors. Congress still has to appropriate funding for each phase of the project going forward.

ers made their voices heard at the

ballot box" in support of labor

rights, among other issues "but

electing new progressive lead-

"In Michigan, we know how vital the (Soo) Locks are to our economy and national defense," said U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), who helped lead the fight to secure the authorization. "We also know that we are on (Continued on Page 5)

#### Funding the NLRB fights the union-busters... cap break the law, workers rely on activity, force companies to barreceived a major boost in fund-

By Tom Conway **United Steelworkers** 

Last year, lid manufacturer Tecnocap illegally slashed health benefits for workers at its Glen Dale, West Virginia plant.

Workers began delaying doctor's appointments. Others were forced to delve deeply into their pockets – one even put thousands of dollars of chemotherapy charges on credit cards to save his

United Steelworkers Local 152M, a tremendous difference in the assured her colleagues that the lives of working families across company would be held accountable. And it was. This past August, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) ordered Tecnocap to reinstate the old health plan and reimburse workers, with interest, for all expenses they incurred.

who toiled to rehabilitate the

Liberty Bridge over the Saginaw

River received a nice bit of recog-

nition last month on the Bay City

Bridge Partners Facebook page.

Bridge today at 2 p.m.," the page said on Dec. 23, "we want to

thank the AMAZING crew of

local union workers who clocked

more than 120,000 man-hours,

working in all kinds of extreme

weather, during some of the most

(Continued on Page 13)

"As we prepare to celebrate the grand opening of Liberty

When employers like Tecno-

the NLRB to enforce their rights. But a funding crisis imperils that mission at a time more and more Americans need the agency's The NLRB hasn't gotten a

budget increase since 2014, even though its workload skyrocketed in the wake of the pandemic. (It

ing, see the article below). Union drives, overseen by the NLRB, increased 53 percent in 2022 as workers banded together for higher wages, affordable health care, and paid sick leave.

Along the way, the NLRB has stepped in to save the jobs of workers illegally fired for union

demeaning workers. "There is no way to put into words the value and importance of the NLRB," explained Wilds, who stands to recoup about \$7,000 in medical

gain in good faith, and prohibit

employers from spying on and

(Continued on Page 3)

#### ...And Congress comes through with \$25M for NLRB "On Dec. 23 Congress passed

Lisa Wilds, president of a spending package that will make

"For the first time in nearly 10 years, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) will finally receive a desperately needed boost in funding. Across this country, workers workplaces with renewed vigor in the face of employers' unionbusting tactics and harassment. This critical funding will help ensure that the NLRB can do its job by protecting workers' fundamental right to form or join a union.

"In 2022, the NLRB's caseload grew by 23 percent, the single largest increase in 46 years. are organizing within their It could not be clearer that this

agency needs a boost in resources to match the demand.

"This \$25 million increase will do much to alleviate the funding crisis – allowing the NLRB to avert staffing furloughs, hold union-busting corporations accountable and protect workers' rights. We appreciate Congress' decisive action." -Statement from Liz Shuler,

AFL-CIO President.

## repeal is labor's top priority in '23 Will unions get

an 'amen' from

Michigan Dems?

News from Lansing

ers was only the first step. I am

confident that those women from

Michigan and our newly elected

legislative majorities will show

up and deliver on their promises

to Michigan voters, and I look

forward to everything we'll ac-

complish together in the new year

RTW "divisive," GOP Gov. Rick

Snyder signed the right-to-work

law in late 2012 after it was ad-

opted by the Republican majority

in the state Legislature's lame

duck session with zero public

debate. Michigan thus became

Ready for reform?

Lousy service at

(Continued on Page 3)

Despite previously calling

and beyond."

By Marty Mulcahy **Editor** 

**Right-to-work** 

LANSING - The state Legislature has had many new members sworn into office this month following a landmark election in November that changed the power structure in Michigan's Capitol.

For the first time in 40 years, Democrats - albeit with razorthin majorities - will have combined control the state House, Senate and governor's office. And repealing the state's decade-old right-to-work law will be the top priority of many in organized labor during the Legislature's first few months in office. The question is when (or if?) lawmakers take up right-to-work repeal.

A statewide poll of 763 respondents conducted by Public Policy Polling released on Dec. 9 indicates that there is a healthy level of support for repealing right to work in Michigan – along with a significant number of undecideds. The poll found that 42 percent of respondents either "strongly" or "somewhat" support right to work repeal, while 26 percent either "strongly" or "somewhat" oppose repealing the law. Nearly one-third (31 percent) of respondents indicated they were "not sure."

"For the 15 years Progress Michigan has existed, we've spent our time and resources doing everything we could to prevent the Republican legislative majority from taking our state backwards - but now, we finally have a chance to make real progress on the issues voters care about," said Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan. "This November, vot-

state's jobless agency: 'That's ending now,' new chief says By Julia Dale, Director Michigan Unemployment **Insurance Agency** 

LANSING - The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency has had 11 directors in as many years over multiple administrations, each with their own priorities. Add to that a global pandemic forcing 3.5 million hard-hit Michigan workers to file nearly 6 million jobless claims and you can see why the agency is too often defined by the word "embattled."

Let's be honest: the UIA historically has not delivered topshelf service. That's ending now.

To better serve Michigan workers, the UIA is boldly being transformed to create a national model for fast, fair, and fraudfree service. October marked my first year as UIA's director and in that time the agency has made substantial gains, including announcing Deloitte as the firm that will install our next-generation computer system.

Deloitte's system will be modern, innovative, and userfocused. It will replace the aging system installed a decade ago under Gov. Rick Snyder and will ensure the timely payment of benefits as well as a robust fraud detection program.

Still, there is more work to be done – starting with ensuring that everyone affected by shifting, unclear federal pandemic guidelines gets the relief they deserve.

In 2022, UIA waived \$555 million in overpayments on more than 76,000 claims to Michiganders unjustly caught in the bureaucratic maze caused by COVID-19. That includes more than more than \$17.9 million in refunds to people who had paid (Continued on Page 3)

#### **kudos to the Liberty Bridge construction team** mazing' BAY CITY - Tradespeople



BAY CITY BRIDGE PARTNERS gave a positive shout-out to the tradespeople who worked on the rehabilitation of the Liberty Bridge over the Saginaw River. This group was present at the job's completion.

Photo credit: Bay City Bridge Partners

## **Viewpoints**



#### Right to work must go

without public input or support, because they were never doing it to help working Michigan residents. Legislators pushed this anti-worker bill to benefit billionaire donors.

"Right to work" was never about jobs, the economy or freedom but about keeping workers down to raise donors up and killing off the best ally workers have their unions. We now have the chance to reverse this injustice, and we must do it now.

Union representation and collective bargaining are the greatest protections employees have at their disposal. Through unions, workers can negotiate fair wages, better benefits and safer working conditions. Collective bargaining has proven time and again to be the greatest way to ensure workplace equity and protect against racism and sexism in employer conduct. A union is the best way for workers to protect their livelihoods, their families' futures and themselves.

That is why the federal government has codified workers' right to unionize for almost 100 years, and why a recent Gallup poll showed 71 percent of Americans now favor unions, the highest rate in more than 50 years.

Aiming to weaken and even eliminate unions, so-called "rightto-work" laws are popular among corporate special interests, who balk that union employees earn 19 percent more than their non-union counterparts, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In the construction industry a recent Illinois Economic Policy Institute report found that union worksites are 19 percent less likely to violate Occupational Safety and Health Administration rules and had 34 percent fewer violations per OSHA inspection than non-union worksites.

Corporate special interests don't like workers having contracts that guarantee fair treatment and wages. They don't like employers being held accountable for safety. So, they lobby for laws that allow and encourage workers to opt out of their union dues and membership. Under federal law, a union bor Voices," Dec. 7, 2022)

Ten years ago, the Repub- must still represent a worker, even lican-controlled Michigan Leg- if that worker has opted not to pay islature, backed by then-Gov. union dues in a so-called "right-Rick Snyder, rammed through a to-work" state. That means that so-called "right-to-work" law in the worker benefits from all of a lame-duck session. They did it the often-expensive work a union does to represent them without contributing. These corporate special interests' goal seems to be: financially cripple unions so they won't be able to provide quality representation for workers.

Their hope may be that workers will leave unions, weakening them until unions disappear altogether, leaving workers without an advocate and at the mercy of employers. Imagine a business trying to join a chamber of commerce, refusing to pay membership dues, yet expecting all the benefits and perks a dues-paying member gets. That chamber would fold, which is why that would never happen. Yet this is exactly what "rightto-work" laws force on unions.

Now, groups like the Mackinac Center cite statistics showing how Michigan's economic recovery seemingly occurred alongside the passage of "right-to-work" laws. These statistics are misleading. In 2012, Michigan was climbing out of the worst recession in modern times. The automakers had declared bankruptcy. Detroit was in receivership. In our state's lowest moment, Michigan had no place to go but up.

We have made a great recovery since then, due in large part to the leadership we've had these past four years. Equating that recovery to the stifling of worker voices is not only wrong, but also offensive. The real question that should be asked is how much better Michigan's economy might be today if Michigan had never become a "right-to-work" state in the first place.

For a decade, anti-worker laws have held our state back. Now is the time to restore real rights to Michigan workers – the right to collectively bargain and not have their voices, or their unions, weakened by politicians and special interests – because "right to work" is the failure the public has always known it to be. Douglas Stockwell

Business Manager, Operating **Engineers Local 324** (From The Detroit News "La-

## New tower rises on Joe Louis site

(Continued from Page 1) those future structures could not be confirmed.

Last May, the City of Detroit issued a construction permit for the building, which has an estimated cost of \$40 million. Plans submitted said the tower will include about 500 studio and one-bedroom apartments. Construction has been underway for much of the past year, and the Sterling Group said the first tower is expected to open in 2024.

The placement of the stadium on the five-acre riverfront site – the arena opened in December 1979 - never really made much sense. Hastily designed on a budget, the city-owned arena was built and then managed with a sweet team-friendly rent deal in order to entice the Red Wings organization to stay in Detroit – and not move to Pontiac, as was planned.

Built almost windowless, the arena and a parking deck were wedged into a site that made ingress and egress a challenge, took up valuable riverfront property, and did little to spawn nearby development.

With the Red Wings now ensconsed in their new home at Little Caesars Arena, the former Joe Louis Arena site in a few years is expected to be much more in line with what modern urban planners would have suggested – a walkable and livable community with views of and access to the riverfront.

"The good neighbor looks beyond the external accidents and discerns those inner qualities that make all men human and, therefore, brothers.

-Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968)



A RENDERING OF the completed 25-story apartment tower at the Joe Louis Arena site on the Detroit River. Plans (not depicted here) call for the site to include a 40-story hotel and 19-story office building,

#### Let's call 2022 'the year of the worker'

By Jim Hightower

December was the season of gift giving - including Time magazine handing out its somewhat pompous "Person of the Year" award.

My beef with this gift is that it perpetuates the fallacy that social prog-



(and even the "greatness" of any one person) comes from the extended family – the group, the movement, the many – who sustain the alleged

Person of the Year.

then, that I suggest 2022 as THE YEAR OF THE WORKERS.

Hardly a week has gone by without another group of employees daring to rise up here, there, and everywhere to fight for union representation, family-sustaining wages, basic health care, rational work schedules, safe workplaces ... and, well, respect for the fundamental American values of fairness and justice.

Grassroots organizing has swept across most economic sectors this year, from teaching to railroads, but also in corporate workplaces previously assumed to be un-unionizable, like Amazon, Apple, Chipotle, Dollar General, Starbucks, Trader Joe's, and Uber.

What makes this rebellion even more worthy of recogni-It's in that democratic spirit, tion is that it signifies a tectonic democratic shift in our nation's zeitgeist. For half a century, America's dominant social/economic ethic has empowered elite corporate bosses to rule, decreeing that the mass of people who actually produce goods and

But what if very large numbers of non-elites suddenly started choosing "or else" - saying "We're not going to take it anymore... we demand fairness, or we quit"? That's what ordinary workers have done in 2022, providing new possibilities for creating a fairer, more dynamic

services must obey... or else.

No one person could possibly have done this. So, with apologies to the "deciders" of Time magazine, I designate this as "The Year (maybe the Era) of The Workers.'

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# BUILDING MICHIGAN: Grindstone City HISTORY IN THE MAKING By Marty Mulcally



ROUND AND ROUND – angular brick and block are certainly easier for masons to work with, but this group of Grindstone City stone masons had to form their products into a perfect circle every time. This undated photo of masons "turning" a large grindstone is likely from the 1890s. By 1888, Grindstone City, Mich. had a population of about 1,500, and the two companies present employed about 200 men, making the town and the operation a major center for the sharpening stones.

Detroit was given that name before it earned the nickname, the "Motor City." As was the case with Grand Rapids, before it became "Furniture City."

As for Grindstone City? Well, no nicknames here. As the saying goes, it is what it is.

Today Grindstone City is a tiny speck on the map at the tip of the Thumb, in Huron County, population 660 or so. But it was once the home of a small but thriving community of masons and laborers more than a century ago who fashioned some of the most soughtafter grindstones in the country.

**Grindstones** – when properly shaped into a disk that could be turned on a center axis - were coveted for their ability to hone and sharpen metal tools. Farm implements, blacksmith tools, knives and even swords could be sharpened on grindstones. The stone disks could be cut and ground in sizes from about 2-1/2 pounds to behemoths weighing more than two tons, ranging from about 6 inches in diameter to those as great as 6 feet. The largest grindstone turned at **Grindstone City weighed more** than 6,660 pounds.

"The history of Grindstone City starts with a ship seeking shelter from a Lake Huron storm," writes Michael Hardy in History of Grindstone City -Home to the Michigan Thumb's First Industry. "The schooner Rip Van Winkle, captained by Aaron Peer, came into a natural harbor west of the Pointe Aux Barques Lighthouse in 1834. After anchoring and securing his ship, the crew explored the dense virgin forest and rocky beach for shelter and firewood. This was a wilderness of cedar, pine, beech, ash, and maple. The men came across huge flat rocks lying about the shore and forests."

Hardy wrote that Captain Peer took some of the flat sandstone pieces to Detroit, and they "found the samples to be impeccably suited for paving streets, replacing Ohio flagstone as the preferred surface. The sandstone was also later used as foundation material on several buildings in Port Huron."

Turns out, turning the stone slabs and shaping them into disks proved even more lucrative. Grindstones had been around for centuries – but they're not very portable.

"Within a couple of years, Captain Peer and his crew took advantage of the stone to sharpen their tools and began shaping them into grindstones," Hardy wrote. "Shortly thereafter a small port grew from the natural harbor as his men worked inland bringing the sandy abrasive stone out of the forest."

The Marshall Sandstone formation underlies much of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. But it became an economic boon to the tip of the Thumb because the sandstone was conveniently located near the surface at Grindstone City. The stone was easy to work with, ideal for shaping and a good natural harbor nearby facilitated shipping the product.

In 1836, Captain Peer purchased 400 acres of land to establish a grindstone quarrying and manufacturing operation. Horsepower, then water power, turned the stones as the masons carved them.

"The industry was carried on here for a century by Captain Peer and several



A GAGGLE OF GRINDSTONES await shipment from the Grindstone City works in 1907. The porous sandstones were aired out and dried before shipment because customers paid by the pound.

other people and companies," says An Abbreviated History of Grindstone City by Dorothy Mitts. "Grindstone City received its name in 1870. It happened in this way. Mr. James Wallace, one of the owners of the quarry at that time was talking to Mrs. Sam Kinch Sr., when she remarked that the village was growing so fast that it ought to have a name. They were discussing Stonington as a name when Mrs. Kinch suggested Grindstone and Mr. Wallace added City and from then on, the village has been known as Grindstone City."

The stone would be mined and "turned" at the site for about a century.

"Demand for the large sharpening stone soon earned the Upper Thumb the nickname of Grindstone Capital of the World," Hardy wrote. "The company town started with a stone-cutter grist mill and grew with a wharf out into Lake Huron, two quarries, a company store, and offices. A salt block was built to extract salty brine and evaporate it.

The operation produced 125 barrels of salt each day. By the 1870s the first railroad moved into Grindstone City to offer less reliance on ships. From the 1830s until the 1910s, Grindstone City produced the premier grinding wheels in the United States."

In 1888, The Cleveland Stone Co. purchased all the properties and quarries around Grindstone City and became sole proprietors of the industry. Routinely working with materials that weigh in tonnage requires some formidable planning, ingenuity and machinery

According to An Abbreviated History of Grindstone City, the first step in quarrying the stone was stripping the field to be worked. This was done by removing all the brush, top soil and shale rock near the top of the ground. The rock lies in layers, these varying in thickness from a few inches to a foot or more. The stone was dynamited and then cut with a steam or gasoline operated drill into square blocks of approximately the size wanted.

Then the blocks were loosened by picks, bars, wedges, etc., after which a hoist lifted them to the top of the ground. The heavy rock was cut in the same manner, but often had to be loosened by charges of dynamite strategically placed so as not to damage the stone.

Steam drills were used to cut the stone in squares. Flat on the ground, the stones were shaped by masons with picks who trimmed off the corners and then picked a square hole in the center. Then the men put the grappling hooks on the stone and an engine operator lifted it on to a flat car.

The stone was transported to a mill to be finished. A steam engine would place the upright stone and move it to a mandrill, where the masons cut and shaped and turned the piece into a perfectly weighted disk.

The porous sandstones were soaked to soften them before turning, then dried before shipment because the quarry charged by the pound. The stones were transported to customers via a long dock at the site to Great Lakes ships or later by rail.

"Grindstones from Grindstone City, Michigan, found a ready market in Canada, Germany, Russia, Africa, here in the United States, and many other places throughout the world," said *An Abbreviated History*. Wrote Hardy: "Grindstone City became a fast-growing industry that produced the largest and finest grindstones, scythestones, and honestones in the world."

The stock market crashed in 1929 – and soon after so did the fortunes of Grindstone City. The market for sandstones as grinding implements was steadily being replaced during that decade by "carborundum" a silicon carbide stone economical to produce that was found to be a superior stone for sharpening, cutting and grinding. The Grindstone City quarry was no longer profitable.

"Grindstone City stumbled into swift decline, and all quarrying and production operations ceased in 1930," Hardy wrote. "Most of the machinery was shipped to Cleveland, Ohio. A steel cutter who came here from Detroit broke up the worn-out materials. This steel and iron were sold as scrap."

Today Grindstone City is a vacation destination and retirement community. Remnants of the old town are still visible.



A GROUP OF GRINDSTONE CITY quarreymen, date unknown.

# Right-to-work repeal is labor's top priority in '23

(Continued from Page 1)

the nation's 24th right-to-work state, which permits workers in a bargaining group to enjoy the benefits of union membership without the burden of paying dues.

Wages for workers in RTW states are typically 3.1 percent lower than in non-RTW states, according to the Economic Policy Institute. And while the GOP and their donors maintain that RTW laws are all about workplace "fairness" and helping attract business to the state, there's little doubt that the real goal is to weaken unions in the workplace.

Indeed, one of the most significant conservative think-tanks in the nation – Michigan's Mackinac Center for Public Policy – released a report last

#### Lousy service at state's jobless agency: 'That's ending now,' new chief says

(Continued from Page 1) back or begun paying back these

When federal money is involved, the UIA is required by law to collect overpayments, unless specific suspensions are obtained from the federal government. We fought for those suspensions and won, persuading the U.S. Department of Labor to suspend collections from nearly 400,000 Michiganders who were told they had to repay jobless benefits they received under federal programs. This puts money back in Michigan workers' pockets to put food on the table and pay the bills and ends the stress that the overpayment process caused.

While unburdening innocent taxpayers, UIA is pursuing thieves and fraudsters who thought they could exploit the surge of unemployment benefits. Working closely with the state Attorney General's office, federal prosecutors, and local law enforcement, the UIA has helped bring charges against 90 people accused of stealing taxpayer money. It's not just outsiders: last month a former UIA staffer was arrested in connection with a scheme to bilk the agency out of more than \$1 million. This past summer, a former UIA staffer was sentenced to two years in federal prison after being found guilty of defrauding Michigan's jobless program of \$1.5 million.

If you steal money that should go to deserving Michiganders, we will come after you. It does not matter if the accused worked for the UIA or filed a fraudulent claim using a stolen identity. We will find you and prosecute you to the fullest extent of the law.

There is a lot more happening, too, in our reform of the agency:

•Our website was overhauled to make it more mobile-friendly and easy to access.

•We hired an administrator for customer service and have seen our approval ratings for those who contact us over the phone increase to 90 percent.

•We have received a \$6.8 million equity grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to ensure underserved communities across the state are able to apply for benefits.

•The UI Trust Fund that pays out benefits to workers has been rebuilt to nearly \$1.8 billion (and counting).

•Staff and resources have been reassigned to address the agency's COVID-19 case backlog.

•Employees and contractors must abide by new, strictly enforced ethics and security clearance policies.

The UIA's goal is to help people survive their hardest days, and to provide relief free of complications, opaque guidelines, and unfair penalties. The reforms that have been implemented are strides in that direction, offering real relief for Michigan families.

It will take effort and time to right past wrongs and rebuild trust. However, we refuse at UIA to accept anything less than excellence in service and accountability.

This is UIA's promise: If you steal from taxpayers, we'll track you down. If you need help, we'll lift you up

month that said our state's union membership dropped from 16.3 percent in 2013 to 13.3 percent today, a loss of 143,000 workers.

Drops in union membership are another hallmark of the passage of statewide right-to-work laws. Of the four states with the largest drop in union membership since 2012, three have adopted right-to-work laws: Michigan (2012), Wisconsin (2015) and Iowa (1947).

Newly elected Michigan Democrat lawmakers mostly haven't given a definitive statement on how RTW repeal fits into their legislative agenda in 2023.

One exception: when it became apparent after the election that Dems would control state government, State Sen. Dayna Polhanki (D-Livonia) tweeted "Good news labor. Union busting 'Right to Work' is gonna go bye-bye."

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, who as a state senator allowed the use of her office as the head-quarters to fight the right-to-work effort in 2012, is expected to sign RTW repeal legislation whenever it hits her desk.

Right-to-Work has "negatively impacted the state," said newly sworn-in House Speaker Joe Tate (D-Detroit).

Said newly elected Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids) to *Bridge Magazine*: "It would be unrealistic to think that we're not going to be talking about right-to-work. If you know anything about Michigan and Democratic politics for the last 10 years, you know that's

true. So that doesn't surprise anyone. But again, I want to be thoughtful and deliberative about this. And that's how you're going to see us start."

With only a 20-18 state Senate majority and a 56-54 state House majority for Dems, passage of RTW repeal isn't a slam dunk. Many state Republicans and their backers are cautioning that Dems should not repeal the law because of all the economic progress Michigan has made since RTW was introduced – conveniently omitting the fact that the state and the rest of the nation was emerging from the Great Recession when the law was implemented.

And then there's this bit of irony from Michigan Small Business Association President and CEO Brian Calley, Snyder's lieutenant governor. He cautioned against RTW repeal, perhaps forgetting his former boss's use of the term "divisive." "Pursuing a deeply divisive agenda right away creates the risk of stalling progress on important work." Calley said.

Organized labor is expected to get a fair hearing on RTW – which is more than they received during the time the GOP controlled the Legislature.

"Michigan's labor movement helped elect an unprecedented wave of pro-labor leaders on Election Day. Voters sent a clear message that Michigan is a union state, and we ensured victory for legislators who will support working people," said Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber.

## Fight union-bustinglet's fund the NLRB

(Continued from Page 1)

This was just one of numerous times she and her co-workers turned to the NLRB. In 2018, for example, Tecnocap illegally locked out workers for nine days during contract negotiations. The NLRB ruled the lockout illegal and ordered Tecnocap to pay the workers lost wages, plus interest.

Victories like these benefit workers across the country because they warn employers to toe the line. If one employer gets away with breaking the law, Wilds noted, others will attempt shenanigans of their own. "It spreads like a disease," noted Wilds, who worries that cost-cutting at the NLRB will give unscrupulous employers an advantage.

The NLRB warned of these very risks in a recent letter calling on Congress to address its "urgent funding needs." The agency had more than 1,700 employees in 2010, but that's fallen to about 1,200. That means slower investigations, delayed relief for workers, and eventually higher penalties for employers, the NLRB warns, as "as interest, backpay, and other harms continue to accrue."

Workers need a strong NLRB now more than ever. In recent months, workers filed dozens of unfair labor practice charges about employers who illegally subcontracted work to avoid unions or shut down stores, restaurants, factories, and other workplaces when workers began exercising their labor rights.

Members of USW Local 4040 at HCL, a Google contractor, experienced a similar form of retaliation in 2019.

While in negotiations for a first contract, workers noticed that the company failed to fill vacancies on Pittsburgh-based work teams even while it kept adding similar positions in Poland. "It started looking pretty fishy to us," recalled Local 4040 President Stefan Sidelnick.

The union filed unfair labor practice charges with the NLRB, which demanded that the com-

"The fragrance always remains in the hand that gives the rose."

e. –Heda Bejar

"Man does not live by words alone, despite the fact that sometimes he has to eat them."

-Adlai E. Stevenson Jr. (1900 - 1965)

"We thought, because we had power, we had wisdom."

-Stephen Vincent Benet (1898 - 1943)

"The time you enjoy wasting

is not wasted time."
-Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

pany restore the work shifted overseas and negotiate in good faith. "It kind of lit a fire under the company's feet," Sidelnick said. Union members and HCL ultimately reached a contract that protects staffing levels at the Pittsburgh location.

Only a robustly funded and staffed NLRB can continue to protect workers' livelihoods. Wilds said her co-workers have peace of mind just knowing the agency is standing watch for them. "Are you going to go into battle with a tank or are you going into battle with a stick?" she asked. "That's the difference."

(The writer is president of the United Steelworkers. The article is via otherwords.org)

#### Just joking

A lady is throwing a party for her young daughter, and had gone all out... a caterer, a DJ, a magician and a clown



were hired. Just before the party started, two men down on their luck showed up looking for a handout.

Feeling sorry for them, the woman told them that she would give them a meal if they would chop some wood for her out back. She gave them both axes, and gratefully, they headed to the rear of the house to work.

The guests arrived at the party, and all was going well with the children having a wonderful time. But the clown hadn't shown up. The clown finally called to report that he was stuck in traffic, and would probably not make the party at all.

The woman was very disappointed and unsuccessfully tried to entertain the children herself. She happened to look out the window and saw one of the wood-cutters doing backflips across the lawn. She watched in awe as he swung from tree branches, did mid-air flips, and leaped high in the air, howling all the time.

She spoke to the other man and said, "What your friend is doing is very entertaining! I have never seen such acrobatics! Do you think your friend would consider repeating this performance for the children at the party? I would pay him \$50!"

The guy puts down his axe and says "Well, I dunno. Let me ask him. 'HEY WILLIE! FOR 50 BUCKS, WOULD YOU CHOP OFF ANOTHER TOE?"

Local 671

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 671 MONROE-The next Regular Union meeting is scheduled for Feb. 2, 2023. There will also be an Executive Board meeting

at 5pm on Feb. 2, 2023. If any member would like to attend the Executive Board Meeting, please contact the Union Hall prior to the meeting.

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

Also, please refer to our website https://www.unitedassociationlocal671.com/ and its calendar for the latest updates.

Health & Welfare: You may have received a notice from Express Scripts, our RX provider regarding Kroger pharmacies and that there is no longer prescription coverage. This is not a change made by the Trustees of Local 671. Currently, Express Scripts and Kroger Pharmacies are in contract negotiations and they have not been able to come to an agreement. Therefore, you may need to use another pharmacy until further notice. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please feel free to contact the Union Hall for direction.

I highly recommend signing up for mail order prescriptions for your monthly medicines through Express Scripts. It will save your family money as well as the plan.

Condolences: We were sad to hear that Brothers Paul and Jim Padot's sister Diane Michaud passed away December 27th. Please keep the Padot family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

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

2018 Michigan Plumbing Code Update: We held a Michigan Plumbing Code update course on Saturday, Sept. 17 at the Union Hall. If you were unable to attend, we do have information available for an online update. Contact the Hall for details. In order to maintain your plumbing license, you must do a code update by March 31, 2023.

Michigan Plumbing Exam Prep Class: We will also be holding classes to prepare Members who will be taking their Michigan Journeyman Plumbing Test. If you have any questions, or are curious about your Plumbing hours with the State, contact Justin for

Save the Date (Benefit Dinner): We will be holding a benefit dinner for Brother Mike Pete here at the Hall on February 4th from 1-5 p.m. We will be accepting donations and looking for help with the event. Please contact Vinnie or Mike if you are able to help out! Mike is currently undergoing treatment and is unable to work.

**Open Weld Shop Nights:** We will be holding open weld shop nights on Thursday nights from 6pm- 10pm. Weld Shop nights would not be held on Union meeting nights or when we hold a UA weld test session. You would need to reserve a booth by noon on the Wednesday prior to the practice night. If we have 3 or more signed up, we will hold the practice night. Booths will be first come, first served with whoever is practicing for a UA test getting priority.

Dates: Thursday, Jan. 12th at

Thursday, Jan. 19 at 6pm. Thursday Jan. 26 at 5p WELD TEST SESSION

(No Practice) Thursday, Feb. 9 at 6pm. Thursday, Feb. 16 at 6pm. Thursday, Feb. 23 at 5pm

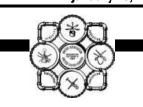
WELD TEST SESSION (No Practice)

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

**In Closing:** A new year and a new start. It is always nice to start from fresh, and a new year is a good time to do that. This year let's work harder at being

a better husband, wife, brother,

(Continued next column)



#### Local 357

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & **HVAC Service** 

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service Local 357

KALAMAZOO - UNION **MEETING:** The next regular Union Meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 6:30 pm. Other meetings that day will be Finance Committee at 4:30 and Executive Board at 5:30.

UNION DUES REMIND-**ERS:** 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:** Retiree lunch meetings are on the 1st 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 ISSUES: As a member, TIC International and Labor First provide a dedicated team of member advocates to assist with the resolution of any and all medical claims issues. If at any time you experience an issue with your claims being processed and paid correctly, please contact TIC international at (888) 281-3461. For Medicare Retirees – Contact Labor First at (269) 218-3533 or (833) 933-0036.

WEBSITE INFORMA-TION - FRINGES - TIC: Check out the website at www. ualocal357.com and the FACE-BOOK Page @ www.facebook. com/UALocal357/. You should sign up for access to your fringe reporting done by TIC via the Union website.

To gain access, click on the Member Resources, then click on MRA / TIC Intl Information and then Register. This is where you will type in your Name, Email 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, re-married, birth, death, workers comp, address change, etc., please call Lori at the Union Hall. It is very important that we keep

all our records up to date. There seems to be a continuing problem regarding notification of divorces. Note that you, the member, will be responsible for any bills incurred and paid on claims of an ex-spouse or dependents.

(See Pages 6 and 27 in the Summary Plan Description Booklet for clarification).

**CONGRATULATIONS:**. Congratulations to Bill Caulder on his recent marriage.

#### Local 671, con't

friend and most of all a better Union member. Take the time to be there for who ever may need it. Be a mentor for an apprentice or a leader on the job. Take pride in being a Local 671 member and let's continue to set the standard on and off the job. May you all have a blessed and prosperous New Year.

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

Vinnie Fenech: Cell (734) 693-4082 email: vinnie@ualocal671.com



#### Plumbers & Pipe Fitters

Plumbers and Pipe Fitters 333

LANSING - January's union meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023, at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911.

February's union meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023 at the Lansing Hall, 5405 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing, MI. 48911. 7:30pm

Dues: As of January 1, 2023 dues will not increase. Active Members will pay \$28.00 a month, Retired Members will continue to pay \$10.00. Members will be receiving their new membership card in the mail.

FINAL MICHIGAN PLUMBING CODE UPDATE CLASS WILL BE THURS-DAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023 AT 4:30PM, LOCATED AT THE LANSING TRAINING CEN-

WELD CLASSES: Winter weld classes will start January 10, 2023, and will be held for 10 weeks. Please go online to sign up at www.ua333.org. There is a \$25.00 fee; please call your respective hall to pay for the class.

Lansing: January 10, 2023 (Tuesday's & Thursday's) 4pm-8pm, Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, MI. 48906.

Jackson: January 10, 2023 (Tuesday's & Thursday's) 4pm-8pm, Jackson Training Center, 3101 Allied Industrial Dr. Jackson, MI. 49201.

Battle Creek: January 9, 2023 (Monday's & Thursday's) 4pm-8pm, (KCC) RMTC, 405 Hill Brady Rd. Battle Creek, MI.

Rigging re-certification class will start Monday, January 23, 2023, from 5pm-8pm. Class will be at the Lansing Training Center, 16180 National Parkway, Lansing, 48906. Please go onto the website for details and to sign-up

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

If you are interested in signing up for classes please go to our website at www.ua333.org or call the Training Center (517)

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.

Retiree's Breakfast in Jackson: The next breakfast will be Tuesday, January 17, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Alpha Coney Island at 1188 Jackson Crossing, Jackson, MI. PLEASE NOTE: The restaurant is located at the west end of the Jackson Crossing shopping center. 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 **Attention:** Local 333 has signed a new drain cleaning company. The owner is Matt Ellis who is a UA Local 333 member. Matt owns Ellis Services, LLC. The company is able to do drain cleaning, camera work, locating and will very soon have a new jet on board. If you, a friend or family member need drain cleaning work, please call Matt at 517-974-3458. If you are working for a UA signatory contractor and have a nonunion sub-contractor on your site doing this work, please call your Regional Business Agent immediately.\_

**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.

The new GM plant work is requiring MUST MODs completed and a current drug test. Make sure you are current.

> Deepest sympathy to our (Continued next column)



Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Service Technicians, Gas Distribution

ANN ARBOR – UNION MEETING: A monthly union meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Members are urged to attend and take an active part in the proceedings.

APPRENTICESHIP OP-**PORTUNITY:** Applications will be available for the Plumber/ Pipefitter Apprenticeship Programs for Greater Michigan UA Local 190 JTC. Applicants may apply online, starting Jan. 2, 2023, or in-person, at the Local 190 Union Hall, starting Jan. 3, 2023. Applications will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 27, 2023.

Qualifications required to apply:

Applicant must be at least 18 years of age, at the time of acceptance into the program

Applicant must have a high school diploma or GED

Applicant must have a valid, unrestricted Michigan driver's license

Applicant must be a resident of the County of Washtenaw or the Townships of Green Oak or Hamburg in Livingston County, or the Townships of Clinton, Tecumseh or Macon in Lenawee

Must be able to pass a drug test.

The Local 190 Union Hall is located at 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Applications are available at 7920 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI during office hours. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Online applications are available at www.

To be assigned a test date, all required documents and a \$50 testing fee must be at the Local 190 Union Hall before the close of the applications, on Friday, Jan. 27, 2023.

Required Documents: Valid, unrestricted Michigan driver's license

High school diploma or GED or college/university degree

High school or college tran-

Social Security Card, Birth Certificate or valid UA Passport Copy of DD-214 form (if

from the military) Documentation of any work

Applications are available to all who are interested without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, age (18 and above), height, weight, marital status,

genetic information or disability. GAS DISTRIBUTION APPRENTICES DOWN HILL WELDING SCHOOL & HELPER SCHOOL: Will begin Tuesday, Jan. 3 and run for 2 months. This class will be held at the training center Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In order to take the journeyman gas distribution weld test, you must attend this school as a prerequisite. Please note that 4th and 5th year gas apprentices have preference to sign up for this welding school.

Limited space is available so please contact Pat Duffy 734-368-4423, Roy Musgrove 734-646-8838 or Ralph Booth at 734-369-1432.

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

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

MICHIGAN LICENSE **RENEWAL:** Plumbing license

#### Local 333, con't

Business Agent Chris Keck on the loss of his father, retired Lansing member Richard Keck who passed away December 25, 2022. Wishing you strength and comfort through this difficult

Condolences to Jeff Samon and family on the loss of his son, Drew, who passed away recently. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow.

Our sincere condolences to the family of Lansing member Donald Patterson, who passed away December 9, 2022 at the age of 90. We are so very sorry for your loss.

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

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

LAID OFF OR BACK TO WORK - IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL MEM-**BERS:** 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 vou 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

INFORMATION -FRINGE BENEFIT OFFICE: **2022 HEALTH COSTS:** Just a reminder to all members if you have paid 2022 health costs personally, you must submit information to our fringe benefit office by Feb. 15, 2022. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Bernadette at 1-888-390-7473.

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

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

The Training Center is open to members wishing to update any certifications, licenses, or qualifications. We are following CDC, OSHA, MiOSHA, MD-HHS, and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines. Check your Certifications to make sure that you are current! Please submit all certifications and licenses to the Training Center, so we can keep your profiles up to date.

Lead/Asbestos/Bloodborne Pathogens Training (4 hrs): 2023 Schedule - Mon- $\textbf{days} - Jan~16^{th},~April~3^{rd},~July$ 17th, and Oct 2nd. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.

First Aid/CPR Training (4 hrs): 2023 Schedule - Mondays - Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup>, July 24<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 16th. Each class will start at 5:00 pm.

Welding Lab: The welding lab is open. The schedule is Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:30pm-8:30pm. The welding lab will be closed for Union Meetings and Holidays. Weld tests will be scheduled after participants are approved by welding instructors.

ASSE Backflow Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become an ASSE Certified Backflow Tester (5110). **2023** Schedule: First course starts on Jan 10. Second course starts Sept 12. Courses run on Tue and Wed for 5 weeks and are limited to 8 participants. Call the Training Center to secure your spot.

ASSE Backflow Re-Certification (8hrs): ASSE PRICE **INCREASE** ASSE has increased the retesting fee to \$85 for this recertification. Re-certification for the ASSE Backflow Tester (5110). **2023 Schedule:** First course starts Feb 14. Second course starts Oct 17. Courses are on Tue and Wed and start at 5:00 pm. Each course is limited to 8. Call the Training Center to sign up for one of these courses.

(Continued next column)



#### DETROIT

Sprinkler Fitters Local 704 DETROIT - The next regu-

lar business meeting will be held Wednesday, February 15, at 5:30 P.M. at the Union Hall. The Executive Board will meet the same evening at 4:30 P.M.

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

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

It is the members responsibility to notify the Union Hall when they return to work.

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

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

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

A reminder to please update any change of address or phone number changes with the Local

A speedy recovery to all our sick and injured members.

#### Local 190, con't

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.

2023 Schedule: First course starts March 14. Second course starts Aug 22. Courses will run for 5 weeks, Tue and Thur. These courses are limited to 16 participants. Call the Training Center

to sign up for the course. Med Gas Installer Up-**Date (8hrs):** This is a two-day course. 2023 Schedule: First course starts April 18th. Second course starts Sept 26th. Courses will be on Tue and Thu and are limited to 24 participants, per course. Call the Training Center to be put on the list for the next

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Certification (40hrs): This is a 40-hour class, to become Certified in Rigging and Crane Signaling. Must have 5 years of experience or have gone through Rigging Technologies (Apprenticeship Rigging). Next class will be late spring. Class size is limited to 8.

EPRI Rigging and Signal Person Re-certification (8hrs): This rigging re-certification will now include the EPRI Signal person certification. Class will be 2 days. This class will be scheduled for mid-to-late March 2023. Call the Training Center to register for this class.

CONDOLENCES: Our lifetime member Arthur Williams Jr. passed away Dec. 20. Arthur initiated on Oct. 23, 1967, retired on Oct. 1, 2002 and became a lifetime member Oct. 1, 2017. To all family members and friends, we are deeply saddened by your loss. We send our most sincere condolences.

Our lifetime member Gray Jarvis passed away Jan. 1. Gray initiated April 14, 1969, retired April 1, 2005 and became a lifetime member April 1, 2019. May our sincere condolences bring comfort to all family members and friends.

RETIREE MEETINGS -PLEASE JOIN US: Our next Spades meeting will start at 9 a.m. and be held on Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Union Hall. Come and join us for card games, pastries and a warm cup of coffee.

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

"The way to procure insults is to submit to them: a man meets with no more respect than he

–William Hazlitt (1778 -



#### Local 370

Plumbers, **Pipe Fitters** and HVAC Service

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC Service 370

FLINT - The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023 at 7:00

Happy New Year!! **Upcoming Night Class** Schedule:

**CSD-1** January 17<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm- 9:00pm

Med Gas January 9th thru March 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays and Thursdays at 4:30

Book Fee is \$110 first day of class.

Night Welding: February 20<sup>th</sup> thru March 22<sup>nd</sup> Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:30pm

All classes can be signed up with Kaytlin at 810-720-5243 ext

**Condolences** to the families and friends of James D Banks, Robert G Robinson and Bruce W Shook. Brother Banks passed away on Aug. 31 at the age of 83. Brother Robinson passed away Oct. 23 at the age of 91. Brother Shook passed away Nov. 21 at the age of 78. Rest in peace brothers.

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,

February 14, 2023, at 4:00pm FMR Committee – Tuesday February 14, 2023, at 4:00pm PAC committee - Tuesday

February 14, 2023, at 5:00pm Executive Board -Tuesday February 14, 2023, at 5:00pm

Building Committee - Tuesday February 14, 2023, at 6:00pm Finance Committee -Tuesday February 14, 2023, at 6:15pm JATC Committee – TBD

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

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

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

Attendance award drawing for membership meeting information. 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.

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

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

(Continued next column)

#### Local 85 Plumbers & Steam Fitters

Plumbers and Steamfitters 85 SAGINAW – The next Union Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at the Union

Hall located at 3535 Bay Road

starting at 7:00 PM. The next Zone 2 Union Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2023.

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 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 Journeyman Brad Kingry!

GOD BLESS ORGA-NIZED LABOR AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

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

Where to submit documents: Address: UA Local Union 85 SUB, 3535 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48603 Fax: (989) 791-3468 Email: SUB@ualocal85.org **SUB Application for Benefits:** Must be on file in order to receive SUB Check. Available at the Hall. 90 Day Rule: The weeks you are claiming must be submitted within 90 days of the first Monday following the week in which you are eligible to receive a State benefit per the Plan Documents.

**Taxes:** There are no taxes taken out of SUB Fund Checks,

#### Local 370, con't

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 increments according to our bylaws. Dues will be accepted up to 6:45 on union meeting nights.

Members wishing to take the U.A. welding certification test contact business agent, 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 1-888-797however they are taxable wages and you will receive a W-2 at the end of the year. If you want taxes withheld from your SUB Fund Check, please indicate the dollar amount for Federal and State on each SUB submittal.

NOTE TO ALL MEM-

**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. Fraternally,

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

Plumbers, Pipe

Fitters & HVAC

Service

Local 111

Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and HVAC

next Union Meeting will be in

Escanaba, January 26th 2023

membership cards are currently

being produced and will be

shipped to your local by year's

day shutdowns, please contact

Business Agent/Dispatcher, Scott

Pendergraft in the Escanaba of-

tice application period is cur-

rently closed. We will be ac-

cepting applications from March

6-March 31st, the job posting

will go up at UP Michigan Works

February 1st. Applications are

being accepted for HVAC/R Ap-

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

records and contact the hall with

any changes to the following:

Reminder: Check your

MRA CARD: Please note,

prentices.

assist you.

UPPER PENINSULA-The

**UA News:** The 2023-2025

Anyone interested in one-

Plumber/Pipefitter Appren-

Service 111

@ 7:30 p.m.



by the contracting team of Kokosing Alberici Traylor LLC, joint venture, in preparation for work to start in the springtime. Photo credit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

#### More new money approved in **Congress for new lock at the Soo**

(Continued from Page 1) borrowed time until something happens and shuts them down. ... There is full commitment from Congress, the Army Corps of Engineers and the administration to finish the job we started."

U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Midland) who is a member of the House Appropriations Committee and who voted for the defense authorization bill when it passed the House, said he would be working to make sure that Congress uses that authorization and includes money for lock construction in future funding bills. The Soo Locks are vital to the

E-Mail, home address, phone

number, a new birth, marriage,

divorce, or death. Please call

April or Ann to have your infor-

ing class with David Pedersen is

occurring on Tuesdays at 5 pm,

on a week to week basis pending

interest. To be added to the noti-

fication list or to register, contact

John Antoncew. A spot in the

class is not confirmed until you

sibility 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

you must attend 4 union meetings

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 weld-

certifications (Plumbing Li-

cense, MUST, OSHA-30, MSHA

etc.) by sending a copy of your

You are assessed a \$50 reinstate-

ment once you become 3 months

behind. You are automatically

expelled once you are over 6

111 Web Site: When taking the

on-line safety training, go to our

web site ualll.com and click on

Safety Links. Members must take

these safety trainings for each site

to work at each mill. Please take

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 Training: The 2022

note they are valid for 1 year.

Safety Training on Local

months behind.

certification to the Union Hall

Please update all Non-UA

Check your dues records!

ing forms turned in on time.

Reminder to all apprentices,

Reminder to Welders/

Reminder: It is your respon-

Training news: Open weld-

mation updated.

receive a response.

referred to work.

per year.

American economy, and I will be working to make sure the Army Corps of Engineers finishes this critical infrastructure project."

Carrie Fox, spokeswoman for the Army Corps' Detroit District, said the project, which has already seen significant preliminary work paid for by funding of more than \$1 billion, is still on schedule to be completed by 2030 given the continued availability of funding.

The new lock would twin the longest lock at the Soo, the aging Poe Lock, which opened in 1969 and is the only conduit for the longest 1,000-foot ore carriers to pass to and from Lake Superior to the lower Great Lakes. A mechanical breakdown or sabotage of the Poe Lock leading to its closure for a lengthy period would be catastrophic to the domestic steel industry and the greater U.S. economy.

Over the past two years work at the site focused on deepening the upstream channel with dredging by Local 324 operating engineers.

The next, third phase of work at the Soo will be undertaken by Kokosing Alberici Traylor, LLC (KAT), a joint venture headquartered in Westerville, Ohio. They began moving major equipment to the site via a barge in the Poe Lock on Nov. 3 in between shipping traffic. Mobilization of equipment for Phase 3 marks a big milestone for the project.

The Soo Locks will remain operational during construction of the new lock and without interruptions to shipping traffic, although the locks will close beginning Jan. 15 for annual wintertime maintenance.

"KAT started their major mobilization (the first week of November) with moving project trailers to the site," said New Lock at the Soo Supervisory Civil Engineer Rachel Miller. "They previously moved smaller pieces of equipment and have worked over the summer preparing the grounds for upcoming work."

KAT is setting up the trailers in preparation for the coming winter season. No major construction for Phase 3 will take place until spring due to the harsh winter climate in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Phase 3 construction includes demolishing the existing Sabin Lock, infilling the Davis Lock, constructing a new pump well, rehabilitating the downstream approach walls, and constructing the New Lock at the Soo chamber.

The Soo Locks are situated on the St. Marvs River at Sault Ste. Marie, and allow vessels to transit the 21-foot elevation change at the St. Marys Falls Canal. More than 88 percent of commodity tonnage traveling through the Soo Locks is restricted by vessel size to the Poe Lock. The New Lock at the Soo project is constructing a second Poe-sized lock (110 feet by 1,200 feet) on the existing decommissioned Davis and Sabin locks

"We begin to see that the completion of an important project has every right to be dignified by a natural grieving process. Something that required the best of you has ended. You will miss it. Anne Wilson Schaef

"Get the facts, or the facts will get you. And when you get them, get them right, or they will get you wrong.

–Dr. Thomas Fuller (1654 -

"Charm is a way of getting the answer yes without asking a clear question.

-Albert Camus (1913 -

"Every increased possession loads us with new weariness." –John Ruskin (1819 - 1900)

"Difficulties are meant to rouse, not discourage. The human spirit is to grow strong by conflict.'

-William Ellery Channing (1780 - 1842)

"The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom. - H. L. Mencken (1880 -

1956)

"To do anything in this world worth doing, we must not stand back shivering and thinking of the cold and danger, but jump in, and scramble through as well as we can." -Sydney Smith (1771 -

1845)

#### **CA\$H FOR \$CRAP META** Aluminum - Copper - Brass Nickel - Alloys - Carbide Radiators - Lead - Batteries McNichols

Scrap Iron & Metal Co. 6500 E. McNichols (near Mt. Elliott) mcnicholsscrap.com (313) 365-6100

Detroit Iron & Metal Co. 8300 Dix (corner Lonyo) detroitironandmetal.com (313) 841-5100



Over 40 years of quality Administrative Services

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

THE FULL SERVICE BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

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

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#### <u>Plumbers</u> Local 98

DETROIT - Membership of Plumbers Local 98, Announcements, information on meetings, links to your benefits, the Training Center, and more can be found there. Go to UALOCAL98.COM.

Meetings & Union Hall. The next Union Meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7:00 pm at the Union Hall.

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

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

Retiree Meetings. The next Retiree Meeting is Wednesday, January 11th from 12 pm - 2 pm.

SUB Apps/OOW. SUB 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 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.

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 him. We recommend doing this at least 6 months from retirement.

Dues. You can pay your dues online, over the phone, or by mailing in a check. You can also set up auto payments. If you have questions or want to pay your dues by phone, please call the hall at (248) 307-9800 ext. 3. "The following members" are delinquent on dues and are working for our contractors. If you are working with these EXPELLED MEMBERS, please push them to get with the hall and get caught up. Thomas Mann, Steven Hawes, Thomas McGowan, Shane McCleary, Ian McCullough, Nicholas Mc-Cambell, Brandon Foy, Derek Hardoin, Mike Hofer, Justin Willard, Adam Atkinson, Ken Stone, Jesse Nowak. If you know they have left 98 please let us know.

Good/Welfare. In an effort to raise money for our PAC fund, we are raffling off a Savage Arms 2 XP 6.5 Creedmoore Bolt-Action Rifle with a 3x9 Bushnell Scope. Tickets will be drawn Feb 9 you do not need to be present. Contact your area rep or get them at the hall.

In Memoriam: Our sympathies to family and friends of Brother's William Jung 45 year member initiated 11-11-1976. Jeff Morin 50 year member Initiated 10-23-1969. Edward Vandyke 55 year member initiated 5-28-1964.

We are currently looking for Industrial, Residential and Service Plumbers. This is a great opportunity to expand and grow, as many members are looking to retire. If you know anyone working nonunion or is a past member that may be interested, have them call Organizer Rob Moses, 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 currently open. The application deadline for the next class is Friday, July 28th, 2023. Applications are submitted online. Go to our website and read all requirements for the application process.

The Training Center is open for normal business 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call Ryan Lyle at 248-585-1435 ext. 122 if you have questions.

\*\*STATE OF MICHIGAN PLUMBING LICENSE\*\*

2018 Michigan Plumbing Code Update- Deadline for taking the update is March 31st, 2023. There are 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. There is also an online course put together by UA Local 370 that can be found

at cetsource.com. CALL THE TRAINING CENTER TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OFFERED IN 2023. All classes are register and prepay by check or money order only. Deadlines for registration and prices are listed with each class.

Monthly Code Class - Next class is January 17th 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.

Steam Fundamentals for the Repair Plumber- 40 hour class-\$100 fee

Spring: March 6 to May 8. Deadline to register Feb. 24 Fall: Sept. 18 to Nov.20. Deadline to register Sept. 1

Hydronic Heating and Cooling – 40 hour class - \$100

Spring: March 9 to May 11. Deadline to register Feb. 24

Fall: Sept. 18 to Nov. 20. Deadline to register Sept. 1 **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. \$100

4 hour recert class April 18 & 19 Deadline is March 17

4 hour recert class July 25 & 26 Deadline is June 23

4 hour recert class October 24 & 25 Deadline is Sept. 22 **ASSE Backflow Tester** 

(Full 40 hour): Spring: March 6 – May 15

Deadline is February 3 -\$200 Fall: Sept. 18 - Nov. 27 Deadline is August 11-\$200 ASSE Repairer: \*\*\* Pre-

requisite: Must hold a current 5110 Tester Certification Spring: March 9 – April 13. Deadline is February 10 -\$100 Fall: September 21 - October 26,

Deadline is August 11 -\$100 **ICRA** and Water Quality: \*\*\* Prerequisite: Must Have OSHA 10 or 30

Spring: March 7 to May 9. Deadline is February 3 -\$200 Fall: September 19 to October

28, Deadline is August 11 -\$200 6010 Medical Gas Installer Recertification- \*All current Med Gas certification holders are required to take this update. \*\*Final class \*\* February 28 & March 2 - Deadline to register is February 2 - \$200

Medical Gas Installer (Full

Spring: March 8 – May 17 Deadline is February 24 -\$200

**Fall**: Sept. 20 – Nov. 29 Deadline to register Sept. 1 -\$200

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

the month, call to get a booth. 2023 brazing and welding sessions will be scheduled on the 1st Saturday of the month. If your brazing or welding certs are ready to expire, call to schedule an appointment. The next Welding and Brazing session will be Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023. You must call to schedule your welding tests at least 3 days prior to the test. 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 Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2022 to be eligible for the \$100.00 reimbursement. Deadline to submit 2022 reimbursement forms is March 31, 2023.

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

(Continued next column)



#### Local 636

Pipe Fitters, Steam Fitters, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service

**Pipe Fitters 636** 

DETROIT - There will be a special-called union meeting and nominations, on January 17, 2023, for the open Trustee Position due to the passing of Trustee Brother Arie Moskovitz. The election will take place on February 21, 2023 with the polls open from 3-7p.m. prior to the union meeting. Both events will take place at St. George Romanian Cultural Center, 18405 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48075.

There will be a Stewards meeting at the union hall on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023 at 5 p.m. This is for current Stewards and those that attended the stewards training during last year. Please R.S.V.P.by Feb. 13, 2023.

Also prior to the Feb. 21, 2023 union meeting, there will be a presentation and discussion at 6 p.m., concerning the new NON-Medicare "pre 65" retiree insurance plan for this year, conducted by Shane Olsen from Humana.

Eligibility for Office in Local Unions SEC. 121. No member shall be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union unless he shall be a Journeyman member and shall have been a member of the United Association and the Local Union in good standing for at least a period of two years immediately prior to the election.

Any journeyman member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of two years immediately prior to the date of the election shall not be eligible to be nominated for office in any Local Union.

A member who is not attending the nominations meeting for any reason shall be permitted to accept a nomination by submitting a written notification identifying the office for which a nomination is accepted to the person or persons designated by the Local Union's By-Laws or, if no person is designated by the Local Union's By Laws, to the Business Manager, President, or Recording Secretary. Local Unions may accept such written notification up until the start of the nominations meeting or within a short period of time after the nominations meeting determined by the Local Union.

Self-nominations shall be permitted. See Section 160(c) regarding eligibility of contractor members to

run for or hold union office. Eligibility to Nominate and Vote in Local Union Elections. SEC. 124.(a). No member shall nominate candidates for or vote in any election of any description unless he has been a member in good standing in the Local Union where the vote is being taken for a period one year immediately prior to the date of election.

Any member who owes or has paid a reinstatement fee within a period of one year immediately prior to the date of election shall not be eligible to nominate candidates for or vote in any Local Union election. See Section 160(a) regarding eligibility of contractor members to vote.

The General Secretary-Treasurer will upon request of the Business Manager or the Financial Secretary of a Local Union furnish an eligibility list indicating those members eligible to nominate, vote and seek office in Local Union elections.

The request for such list should be made at least 30 days prior to nominations in the Local Union.

CALLING ALL RETIR-**EES!** The Retiree Association is (Continued on Page 7)

#### Local 98, con't

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.



## Local 174

#### Plumbers, Pipe Fitters & Service Trades

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Local 174

COOPERSVILLE - MEM-**BERSHIP MEETING:** \* Please note change: The February meeting will take place on Tuesday Jan. 31, 2023 at 7 pm in our Assembly Hall at 1008 O'Malley Dr in Coopersville. The front office will remain open until 7pm.

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

CHANGE OF THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR: (SOLXSYS): The Boards of Trustees of the West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters, and Service Trades Local Union No. 174 Pension Plan, Health and Welfare Plan, and 401(K) Retirement Savings Plan (collectively, "Plans") are pleased to announce that Solxsys Administrative Solutions is now the Plans' NEW Third Party Administrator effective November 1, 2022.

WEX DEBIT CARD: If you have not received your new Wex card please contact SOLX-SYS at 855-407-5862.

Website: www.ua174.org We have recently changed our website vendor and will no longer be utilizing the Member Info section of our website. If you are unable to find what you are looking for please call Cami @ ext. 10 and she will help you. You are still able to pay dues online.

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 3 years. 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.

**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.

Wild Game Dinner: It's that time of year again. The Wild Game Dinner will be held on **4-20-2023** this year. Donations of wild game are needed. If you donate any game there are specific raffles you will be entered into, based on .lbs donated and type of game. The more you donate = the more chances you have to win. The more varieties of game you donate the more raffles you will be put into. For those volunteering at the dinner, you will be put into a separate raffle as well.

Please help out with some wild game donations and/or volunteer work and have a chance to win some great prizes and have some really good food. See you

Retiree Breakfast: Will be held on Thursday Feb. 9, 2023 at 9am at New Beginnings Restaurant in Coopersville.

Nonunion Worker Open **House:** We will be hosting an Open House on Feb. 22 from 5pm-7pm at the Union Hall. We need your help in spreading the word on this event to all Non-Union Workers in the Plumbing, Pipefitting, HVACR and Welding Industry. We will have fliers at the Hall, the event posted on our Facebook page and UA174.ORG. Please take the time to speak with workers on the job sites, share the event on social media and spread the word at the supply houses. Every worker Deserves the right to join and form a UNION where they work!

Contact Information: If you need to change or verify your contact information, PLEASE CONTACT CAMI as soon as possible so we can keep our system up to date.

Organizing Update: I hope everyone had an amazing Christmas and a safe New Year. Just a heads up, I will be attending a "Train the Trainer" COMET class in late January with the intention of teaching a COMET class soon. Construction Organizing Membership Education Training educates the members on why organizing is needed and the different ways to approach a non-union worker. An eye-opening fact is that when a member retires, he/ she gets the same insurance coverage at a discounted rate which is almost cut in half! Just another benefit of being a Union member!

If you're working on a job site that has non-union employees/contractors, shoot me a text, 616-307-8551, I'd love to speak to them about union benefits. Our biggest voice is our workers in the field. Work safe, Brother Johnny Ortiz LU 174 Organizer

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

**Health Insurance Contact** 

**Active and NON Medicare** Retirees

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

Health insurance pre**mium decrease:** Effective Jan. 1, 2023 the Local 174 health insurance premiums will be as follows:

•Active Member/Working Retiree: \$1,233.70 (current); \$1,110.33 (1/1/23)

•Non-working Pre Medicare Retiree: \$879(current); \$791.10 (1/1/23)• Medicare Sin-

gle \$262.55 (current); \$123.63 (1/1/23)

•Medicare Couple \$525.09 (current); \$247.26 (1/1/23)

•Medicare with Pre-Medicare Spouse: \$677.55 (current); \$497.13 (1/1/23)

•Medicare Surviving Spouse: \$269 (current); \$126.67 (1/1/23).

Solxsys, 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.

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.

**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.

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

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

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

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:** (SOLXSYS)

West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters and Service Trades Local No.174 Fringe Benefit Funds

5600 New King St, Suite 330, Troy, MI 48098 (517) 321-7502 Phone

(855) 40-PLUMB Toll

**BENEFITS WEBSITE:** Soon after the transition to SOLXSYS is complete, we will be rolling out a Participant Portal. The easy to use portal will allow you to see your personal benefits information, access Plan information and forms, view all contributions made to Plans on your behalf, and contact the Benefits Office after hours, and much more. Members will be notified when access to Participant Portal is available.

**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 the out of work list when you are laid off. You will be placed on the list based off the date you call in your layoff. When you leave a message, please speak clearly. Any member who goes to work without a referral is in violation of our Collective Bargaining Agreement and Article XXXI of our Constitution and By-Laws. Please contact the Union Hall to find out your position on the out of work list.

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, Jan. 12, 2023 and Thursday, Feb. 9, 2023.

PLUMBING CODE UP-**DATE:** Class is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023 @ 5p-8p in the assembly hall. The last class that will be offered will be on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023 @ 5p-8p, also in the assembly hall. Please bring your plumbing license or license # with you to class. The deadline to complete the code update is March 31, 2023. There is no charge to attend the class. 2018 Michigan Plumbing Code books will be available for purchase for \$70.00.

ASSE BACKFLOW TES-**TER:** Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, Jan. 23, 2023 @ 5p-9p. The class dates are as follows: Jan 23, 25, 30, Feb 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22 and 23 (Exam).

ASSE BACKFLOW RE-**PAIRER:** Class is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 6, 2023 @ 5p-9p. The class dates are as follows: March 6, 8, 13, 15, 20

and 22(Exam). WCP: The next weld test event will be Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023 @ 8:00am. The capability demonstration will be on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023 @ 5:00p - 9:00p. Please call/text and sign up if you plan to test.

**COMBO WELDING:** Class is scheduled to begin on Tuesday Jan 17 2023 @ 5p-The class dates are as follows: January 17, 18, 24, 25, 31, Feb 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 21, 22, 28, March 1, 6 and 8(Exam). If you're ready to take a weld test after, the March weld test event is scheduled for Saturday, March 11 @ 8am.

CSD-1: Class dates will be posted soon. If you're interested in taking a CSD-1 class please call/text to be placed on the list. Once dates are scheduled, you'll be notified of them via text.

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.

The mind of a bigot is like the pupil of the eye. The more light you shine on it, the more it will contract."

-Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841 - 1935)

"Regret for the things we did can be tempered by time; it is regret for the things we did not do that is inconsolable.

Sidney J. Harris

"If your success is not on your own terms, if it looks good to the world but does not feel good in your heart, it is not success at

- Anna Quindlen (1953 - )

"Unfortunately sometimes one can't do what one thinks is right without making someone else unhappy."

-W. Somerset Maugham (1874 - 1965),

# 636

(Continued from Page 6) is looking to recruit more retirees to their meetings. The meetings are a great place to catch up, find out helpful information and enjoy very informative guest speakers. The Retirees will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 11am at Local 636 Union Hall. The next retiree meeting will be held Jan. 19.

PLDF update- For the members who have not paid their PLDF see the information below. Remember, dues cannot be accepted until the ten-week assessment beginning the week of June 20 through Aug. 28, 2022, is paid. \$140 for Journeymen/\$70 apprentice, Service Graduates and MES members.

For those claiming vacation, it is necessary to send the week before and after paystubs for verification. There is a separate email address for the PLDF, pldf@ pipefitters636.org to send a copy of your paystubs. If you wish to send in a check or money order made out to Pipefitters Local **636 PLDF** directly to the hall-Please send to: Pipefitters Local 636, 30100 Northwestern Hwy., Farmington Hills, MI 48334

You may contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall if you wish to pay the PLDF assessment by phone, she will be more than happy to help you with payment made by credit card or bank account.

The following changes to our Local 636 insurance policies are effective as of Jan. 1, 2023.

**Active Participants:** We are pleased to announce that Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) will be your preferred provider network for medical claims and your prescription drugs will be processed through BCBSM. This means BCBSM will be replacing Health Alliance Plan (HAP) as the in-network provider for your medical claims, and BCBSM (in partnership with Optum) will also be replacing Express Scripts (ESI) for prescription drug processing. We believe this change will provide our participants greater access to in-network providers locally and throughout the United States, as well as reduce costs.

You should have received new insurance cards to be used on or after Jan. 1, 2023. If you have not received your new ID cards, please contact the fund office at 248-641-4936. You can also download the BCBSM app on your smart phone and access your ID card information from there. You may also register your account on the BCBSM website to help manage your costs and care.

We believe the vast majority of your providers are in the BCBSM network. A list of innetwork providers can be found at www.bcbsm.com. Instructions to navigate the site are:

1. Select "Find a Doctor" on the left hand side of the page,

2. Click "Search Without

Logging In", 3. Enter ZIP CODE and

select "PPO". From there you can search

by provider category, provider name or specialty.

Please contact the fund office with any questions.

**NON-Medicare Retirees:** Medical and prescription drug coverage for NON-Medicare retirees will be provided through a fully insured policy issued by HUMANA. This means HU-MANA will be replacing Health Alliance Plan (HAP) as the in-network provider for your medical claims, and HUMANA will also be replacing Express Scripts (ESI) for prescription drug processing.

You should have received new insurance cards to be used on or after Jan. 1, 2023. Due to a coding error, some members and dependents may have received a second ID card from HUMANA. Please use this ID card and destroy the one received previously. Please contact the fund office with any questions regarding eligibility or ID cards at 248-641-4936.

We believe the majority of your providers are in the HUMA-NA network. A list of in-network providers can be found at www. humana.com. Instructions to navigate the site are:

1. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select "Find a Doctor", 2. Enter ZIP CODE and select "Insurance Through Your Employer".

3. Select network "HUMA-NA/Choice Care Network PPO". From there you can search by provider category, provider name or specialty. Any questions you have in regards to the provider (Continued next column)



**Heat & Frost Insulators 25** SOUTHFIELD-UNIONMEETING - The next sched-



ship Meeting will take place Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Union Hall, 21353 Bridge St., Southfield, MI 48033.

uled Member-

**CURT** JOHN McGLONE RICHARDS **MEMORIAL FUNDRAIS-**

ER: There will be a John Richards Memorial Fundraiser held Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, from 5-10 p.m. at The Prestige, 6600 Allen Road, Allen Park, MI. There will be a pasta buffet, open bar, raffles and music. Advance cash tickets are \$20.00, advance online or credit card tickets are \$22.00 and tickets at the door night of the event is \$25.00. See the notice below. John Richards was a 10-year member and the father of two sons, Cam and Sean. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be going to the future needs of the boys. John was shot and killed in the city during a robbery attempt of himself and his girlfriend.

M.U.S.T. SAFETY MOD-**ULES:** In order to be eligible for the safety module stipend, you must contact the Union Office PRIOR to

taking the safety modules. 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

upon termination of employment. Failure to report will result in an automatic \$50 fine.

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

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

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

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





**Abatement** Workers Local 207

Abatement Workers Local 207

TAYLOR - There are a lot of upcoming projects slated for early Spring so be prepared for work. When you do return to work,



that may be in place for certain sites. Remember to call in if you are unemployed for help with future place-

follow all

required Co-

vid guidelines

KEVIN **MEAGHER** 

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

Work in other areas of the region will be picking up in Tennessee's and OHIO as well as Kentucky. Winter outages in all areas in the region are on the horizon so make sure if you can travel that you make sure to get licensed as soon as possible. With most state agencies working from home during this pandemic filling out on-line renewals is the way to go. They are processing much quicker than traditional mail in applications.

If you have any questions about on-line applications or what states, you may want to get a license for do not hesitate to call the office or my cell. If you can recommend anyone that you know can handle this work have them, call the office to get an application filled out and sent in so we can get them into the next class. You can also fill out application on our website www.local207.org

Next Union Meeting. April 18th 2023 7pm at the union hall. **UPCOMING ASBESTOS** TRAINING CLASS. Asbestos Worker Refresher Saturday Jan.

14th at the Taylor Office. Asbestos Supervisor Refresher Sunday Jan. 15 at the Taylor office. New Initial 40-hour Supervisor Class Jan. 23-Jan. 27 at the hall. We do have spots open for the new class so have people call the office if interested 1-800-

207-5622. Check with the Office to ensure the classes will occur as scheduled.

--- All classes will be held at Local 207's office @ 26453 North-

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

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

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

#### Pipe Fitters 636, continued

network, pharmacy Rx or claims, vou can call HUMANA Customer Service at 800-448-6262.

Dues. Local 636 has set up an auto-pay system for your dues so you will never miss a payment. Please contact Kim Kavanaugh at the union hall, she will be happy to help you with payment made by credit card or bank account.

S.U.B. Please send all requests for payment to wautrey@ pipefitters636.org to be processed.

Our deepest condolences go out to the following members and their families:

Lifetime Retired Member Charles Knott, on the passing of his wife, Dorothy, on Nov. 20, 2022; Retired Member Richard Schafer, on the passing of his wife, Enid "Mary", on Dec. 2, 2022; Lifetime Retired Member Curtis Wilson, on the passing of his wife, Deloris, on Dec. 19, 2022. Mrs. Wilson was also the mother of Journeyman Steve Wilson, and sister-in-law to Lifetime Retired Member Robert Wilson; and to Lifetime Retired Member Steve Wallace, on the passing of his mother, Florine "Flo" Wallace, on Dec. 24, 2022.

May they Rest in Peace.

Members continue to ask about the status and recovery of Brother Brian Mierendorf, Brian is doing therapy 5 days a week. He will be undergoing several more surgeries on each hand after the first of the year. He still has a long road ahead of him. 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

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

Any member 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 number is 7526.

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

Benesys.

Worker Assistance Pro**gram:** 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.

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

January 13, 2023

#### Local 47 **Heat and Frost Insulators**

Heat and Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 47 LANSING – The next Notified Union Meeting will be held on Friday, Jan. 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the J.A.T.C. Training center located at 906 Terminal Rd., Lansing, MI 48933. Please note that this is a Mandatory Meeting for all Local 47 Apprentices. The purpose of this meeting is for the Installation of New Officers.

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.

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 your contact information is always update with Local 47.

Congratulations to the newly elected Officers!

Pension and Health Welfare: Joshua Kroell (989) 385-2671 Allied Workers' Local 47 Fringe Benefit Funds, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917-9275. Toll Free: (800) 323-8079 • Telephone: (517) 321-7502 • Fax: (517) 321-7508

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY**

REPRESENTING BUILDING TRADES **BROTHERS & SISTERS OVER 35 YEARS** 

#### **BIESKE & ASSOCIATES**

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.

Many people are wrongly



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS **MICHIGAN** 

**IBEW 692** BAY CITY -

Union Meeting. The February monthly membership meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, February 6, 2023.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The January Executive Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, January 16, 2023.

Message from the Business **Manager.** You have my sincere wishes, Brothers and Sisters, for a Happy New Year! It is my hope that 2023 brings you and your family all unfound prosperity.

Work Report. The first and most important thing I am going to say about the work outlook is supply issues continue to slow or stall projects. This is our work outlook to the best of my knowledge.

Ongoing projects in our jurisdiction that may require additional manpower include: Nelson Electric – GM Powertrain work started on Oct. 3 and will run through the first quarter of 2023. Swan Electric – Multiple DTE natural gas pumping stations throughout Zones 1 and 2. This project just as many others have seen delays due to supply issues. J.Ranck Electric - continuing work on phase 1 of the SK Siltron semi-conductor chip manufacturing facility, the second phase of which is valued at over \$300 million and slated to kick off in January 2023. Ranck Electric has also secured the Balance of System work on a Solar Farm in Gladwin County.

Newkirk Electric also has a solar project near Mio. They should be hiring for this project either this week or soon.

Countyline Power has secured upcoming wastewater treatment facility work at Sagining Eagles Landing in Standish, multiple pump stations in the Mt. Pleasant and Clare areas, MDOT Welcome Center remodel in Clare, and runway lighting at Gladwin Airport.

Bay City's Karn 3 & 4 seems to be remaining operational until 2031, which will likely lead to multiple electrical projects this Fall. Robinson Industries in Coleman plans to rebuild facilities damaged in their recent fire, our contractors are expected to secure that work and hire late this year. Northpointe Distribution Center (Frito Lay) has been secured by Clements Electric. You have been seeing both concrete walls and iron being moved on this project.

Rest assured both organizers and myself are working very diligently to secure whatever work is being bid in our jurisdiction for our membership. Detroit, Traverse City and Lansing may soon have calls getting into Book II if you are looking to travel. Please contact the hall if you would like to sign any books.

In Solidarity, Ryan Charney Business Manager / Financial Secretary

Organizers Report. Laborendorsed candidates were very successful in gaining the electorate's trust through the ballot box. Although we may like to take a break from politics and enjoy the victory, the real work starts now. Democrats will control the Governorship, the Secretary of State, Attorney General's office, represent a majority on the Michigan Supreme Court, and for the first time in nearly forty years both branches of the state legislature. This is a big deal.

Rest assured that union officials will demand action on legislation that matters most to organized labor, the building trades, and working families. Right-to-Work will be repealed. An unequivocal reinstatement of Prevailing Wage on all state funded projects over \$50k is expected, as is a repeal of the pension tax (all union-killing measures enacted by past Republican legislatures and administrations).

Holding our political leaders accountable on these legislative priorities will allow our contractors to secure more work and put money in our members' pockets. That is the sole reason we are so involved in the political arena, to secure the financial security of working men and women and strengthen our communities.

We also expect our elected officials to deal with issues such as combatting inflation, increasing unemployment compensation, continued investments with infrastructure improvements, supporting our public schools, and population retention by providing jobs that pay a livable wage. We must ensure that

our political leaders deliver for Michigan workers. If you voted in the midterms or volunteered for candidates, thank you.

If you'd like to register on any other IBEW Local out-ofwork lists, please reach out to the hall for details on which locals accept fax or email registration. There are currently nearly 250 open calls throughout the Sixth District (Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin) and an additional 1,300 unfilled calls for manpower elsewhere nationwide.

692 Organizers continue to visit jobsites within our jurisdiction to speak with unrepresented electricians, building relationships and discussing the opportunities that exist by joining our Brotherhood. We should never lose sight of the organizing mission that guided the birth and growth of the IBEW. Our founders built a strong union by organizing all qualified workers, which allows us to build a higher union density and ultimately increases our bargaining power during negotiations.

Brian Klele 989.252.9225 Brendon Baranek 989.327.4131

Union Dues. PLEASE NOTE: The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention held in May approved a per capita increase of \$2.00 as well as a \$2.00 increase paid into the Pension Benefit Fund (PBF).

Therefore, effective Jan. 1, 2023, monthly dues will increase to \$45.20 per month.

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

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

2023 Dues Monthly \$45.20 • Quarterly \$135.60 • 6 months \$271.20 • Yearly \$542.40

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

Death Benefits: We regret to inform you of the recent death of two retired Brothers:

Lloyd (Buck) Goss, Card No. C89889, passed away on Dec. 9, 2022. Brother Goss was born on April 19, 1927 (95 years old). He was initiated on Nov. 12, 1956. Lloyd resided in Lakeland, Florida. A memorial service has been scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 28 in Lakeland.

Michael A. McIntosh, Card Number D320120, passed away on Dec. 26, 2022. Brother McIntosh was born on Nov. 5, 1946 (76 years old). He was initiated on Feb. 16, 1970. Michael resided in Freeland. A celebration of life will take place in the spring of 2023.

Please note effective Jan. 1, death benefits have increased from \$5.00 to \$10.00 For deaths occurring in 2022 (including the ones above), the rate of \$5.00 will still be applied.

#338 and #339. Local death fund assessment \$5.00 each (due within 30 days) payable to: IBEW Local 692, ,Bay City, MI 48706

Retirees Lunch. The next retiree lunch is scheduled for 1 PM on Thursday, Jan. 19 at Antonio's Restaurant and Bar, at 1716 W. Wackerly Street in Midland.

**RENEW.** 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 RE-NEW committee, please contact Cody (989.600.4643) for more information. RENEW meetings are held once a month following our general membership meeting.

The Renew committee will be having their second annual Brotherhood on the Bay Ice fishing tournament on Saturday, Feb. 25. The cost of the event is a \$20 entry fee which includes a fish dinner at the hall that evening. Registration is 5:30am to 6:30am at the hall the morning of, or you can pre-register by contacting Cody Raymond. Dinner at 5:30pm final weigh in at 6:30pm. Cash prizes for heaviest perch and walleye along with pull tabs and door prizes. All IBEW members are welcome. Hope to see you all on the hard water for some great brotherhood and tight lines.

Fringe Benefits. REMIND-ER: if you have recently been married, divorced, had children, etc. make sure your beneficiaries have been updated accordingly. Beneficiary forms can be ob-(Continued next column)

4300



**IBEW Local 252** 

ANN ARBOR - ELEC-TRICAL VEHICLE INFRA-STRUCTRUE TRAINING PROGRAM (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. Call the JATC and get on the list to get the EVITP training.

BE SURE TO KEEP BEN-EFICIARY FORM UPDAT-ED: 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 2023: ALL CLASSES START AT 5 PM

1. CPR/FIRST AID- Tuesdays: March 7 & 14th, June 6 & 13, Sept. 5 & 12th, Dec. 5 & 12. 2. BISCI IN201- TBD

3. EVITP Electric Vehicle-Mondays Jan. 23, Feb. 6th & 20th. 4. Solar- TBD

5. Master License Prep-Tuesdays: January 24th & 31st, February 7th, 21st, & 28th.

6. Conduit Bending- Thursdays: January 26th, February 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & March 2nd.

7. Instrumentation Part B-Tuesdays: February 14th, 21st, 28th, March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, April 4th, 11th, 18th.

**8.** OSHA 30- Wednesdays: March 15th, 22nd, 29th, April 5th, 19th, 26th, May 3rd, 17th & 24th.

Will there be a code update required in 2023? 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.

Residential Apprenticeship Committee: The Committee has an opening. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact the Union Hall, (734) 424-0978.

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

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

Union 4 Life Gun Calendar: Purchase your 2023 USA Union Sportsmen Calendar and enter the USA's 2023 2-Guns-A-Week Sweepstakes for 104 chances to win a firearm in 2022! Beginning Monday, Jan. 3, 2023, prize winners will be drawn each week for 52 weeks. Sweepstakes entrants are eligible to win multiple prizes! These calendars make great gifts for the hunters/ gun enthusiasts in your life, or just treat yourself for a chance to win! Online calendar registration is available until April 15, 2023. Only mail-in registrations will be accepted after that date. Entries registered after Jan. 1 will only be included in drawings that occur after the registration date. Calendars are \$35.00 and can be purchased from an apprentice, at the Training Center, or online at www.union4lifecharity.com.

Pheasant for Life Hunt: There will be a Pheasant Hunt

#### Local 692, con't

tained from the hall.

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

Important links & num-

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-

IO Pension: 202-833-7000

#### **IBEW LOCAL 252**

on March 11, 2023 at Ringneck Ranch, 14904 Hanover Rd., Hanover, MI 49241 beginning between 8-9 a.m. Cost is \$150 per person. If a dog is needed the cost is \$80 plus guide tip. Bird cleaning is \$3 per bird if desired. Deposit of \$50 is due by Feb. 15. Deposits can be accepted via cash, check (made out to Joseph Jarecki), or Venmo (@Joseph-Jarecki-2). Cash and checks can be dropped off at the Union Hall or JATC. Food, pop, and water will be provided, along with one raffle ticket for each hunter. BYOB, no alcohol can be consumed or out until all firearms are put away. Equipment needed is orange vest, proper clothing for the weather, and boots. Steel shot is preferred, but lead is allowed. Contact Joe Jarecki for more information at (734) 770-5114 or joejarecki4@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

contact the Union Hall. THANK YOU: Thank you to the RENEW Committee for all of their hard work organizing the annual Christmas Party. Once again it was a successful party.

MISSING ITEMS: A lantern that was on the window sill went missing after the Christmas Party. The person was seen walking out with it. Please return it to the hall.

Condolences: The Local sends our sincere condolences to Keith Vandenbosch and family for the recent passing of his brother, David Vandenbosch on December 11, 2022.

ANNUAL RETIREES **GATHERING:** Annual Florida Winter Gathering will meet Monday March 13th at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral, 4705 US Highway 98 N. Any questions call Ed Allen 734-883-9429.

**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%.

**UNION DUES FOR 2023:** Effective Jan. 1, 2023, union dues for "A" members will increase to \$131.25 per quarter. Union dues for "BA" members will remain \$61.80 per quarter for 2023.

DUES PAYMENTS

Please look at your dues receipt. If your dues paid through date shows 12/2022, your dues are not current. "A" members pay \$131.25 per quarter for 2023. "BA" members pay \$61.80 per quarter for 2023. Please mail your check to 7920 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Your first quarter dues (January thru March) are due now. Payments for first quarter dues will be accepted no later than 11:30 A.M. on Friday, March 31, 2023.



### **IBEW** LOCAL 557

**IBEW 557** 

SAGINAW - Union News. Good afternoon brothers and sisters! Hope the new year finds you all healthier, wealthier and

If anyone is interested in going on a Detroit Tigers Game Bus Trip on July 8th in Detroit, please contact the Hall to be put on the list. Family members are welcome! Cost is \$57.50 which includes the ticket and buffet. The bus fare is an additional cost based on participa-

We are looking to put on a Financial Seminar in February with the Hantz Group to discuss Retirement and Financial Planning. They are a fiduciary and are required to look out for their clients best interest. The Hantz group has several great reviews from our Members. Anyone that is interested in attending please contact the Hall to sign

Last but certainly not least, if anyone is interested in a poker night at the Hall, please contact the Hall for more information.

At the IBEW Convention in May, a resolution was passed by the delegates to increase International dues. Effective January 1, member's s I.O. dues portion will increase by \$4 per month. This will also include an increase to each member's PBF pension benefit going forward from January 1, 2023. Members will now see a bump to \$5.50 per year of service until retirement.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS-** Our next meeting is February 7th at 5:30pm. Should be a hoot, they always are.

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

UNION HALL OPERATIONS- We're back to our regularly scheduled program. If you have any questions or issues, our Business Hours are M-F 7-4:30pm.

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

WORK OUTLOOK- Work on the Animal Shelter is chugging along. Work at Handley School is going slow. Pierce Power was able to nab some schools down in Detroit and also got the Saginaw High remodel. Douglas and Crew are still working steady for Master at the Caro Mental Hospital. Master also has work coming up in the Freeland Prison. Conti will get some HSC work coming up.

**HEALTH CARE**- The completion of the Optum pharmacy services transition is now taking place. Members who did not receive a new Blue Cross card last year will get one this year. Keep an eye out for these new cards in the mail don't throw them away. If you used Express-scripts for your RX needs, BCBS has opted to use Optum Rx in its place. The main changes apply to members who have their Rx delivered to their homes. Action is necessary to not see a break in your service.

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. EOBs can be downloaded to smart phones or computers and used to substantiate WEX receipt requests.

WEX APP- Search for the "TIC HRA" app in Google or Apple and download it today. Utilization of this app will give you access to account balances, receipt reviews and submittals, barcode scanning for covered items, other helpful services. This is a great tool to accompany your Health Care benefits.

JOB CALLS- Please stay vigilant checking the Job Line if you are seeking work. All work calls for the day will be available on the Job Line after 4:30 pm. IF YOU ARE SEEKING WORK don't forget to CALL 989-781-0516, option 3

STAY CURRENT ON DUES Please check to see if you are current. The Hall has the ability to accept credit cards and also E-checks. The credit card service can accept payments for dues, merchandise, apprentice book payments and other purchases. There is a convenience fee to use either service. Both payment methods to pay dues can also be accomplished over the phone to ensure you are current.

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

**Breanna DePottey** Press Secretary/Registrar

"One of the lessons of history is that nothing is often a good thing to do and always a clever thing to say.

–Will Durant (1885 - 1981)

"Today's scientists have substituted mathematics for experiments, and they wander off through equation after equation, and eventually build a structure which has no relation to reality.'

–Nikola Tesla (1857 - 1943)

"Not to be absolutely certain is, I think, one of the essential things in rationality.

-Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

"The world stands aside to let anyone pass who knows where he is going.' –David Starr Jordan (1851 - 1931)

"It's odd that you can get so anesthetized by your own pain or your own problem that you don't quite fully share the hell of someone close to you."

-Lady Bird Johnson (1912 - 2007)

"There is no nonsense so gross that society will not, at some time, make a doctrine of it and defend it with every weapon of communal stupidity.

Robertson Davies

"The number of guests at dinner should not be less than the number of the Graces nor exceed that of the Muses, i.e., it should begin with three and stop at nine.'

-Marcus Terentius Varro (116 BC - 27 BC)

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IBEW Local 131's column -

See Page 10



### **IBEW** LOCAL 58

IBEW 58

DETROIT - The next General Membership Meeting the Next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. Dinner begins at 5:30 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

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

Happy New Year from the Dues Department! If you have not enrolled in the dues' payment system – you will need to do so before you can pay (or you can make a guest payment). 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 for the APP/Website, 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

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 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 on February 7, 2023, at 5:30pm at the Union Hall. Our next event will be the Ken Fitzhenry Super Bowl Event, Sunday February 12, 2023. We look forward to getting back together after a 2-year absence! Super Bowl Raffle Tickets are now available at the Union Hall. All prizes from the Super Bowl event are provided by ABC Warehouse in Canton. For a discounted price call Ryan Heinrich at (734) 981-7780. All Tradesmen and families are welcome to receive this Building Trade discount. The Local 58 Commemorative Quilt Raffle tickets are now available at the Hall, \$10 each or 3 for \$20, please contact Kelly Lynch to purchase. There will be an Ugly Sweater Contest at the December Membership Meeting on December 20th, \$5 entry fee, all proceeds donated to the Benevolent Fund. \$100 to the Winner! Hope to see you all there!

Members of the Community Service Committee: The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 5:30 pm. The Wobbly Kitchen (Sundays in the Park) will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, starting at the union hall and then traveling to Cass Park. We are asking volunteers to show up at the hall at 8:00 am to help with food prep, organization, and loading. Questions can be directed to Ray Kujawski at (248) 496-1916 (call, text, leave a voicemail). Local 58 is very active with community service in the Metro Detroit area and has a variety of upcoming projects that require the help of volunteers and helping hands. Contact the Union Hall (313) 963-2130 or Ray Kujawski (number above) for further information to volunteer or participate.

Members of the Entertainment Committee: The next committee meeting of the Entertainment Committee will be Tuesday, January 10, 2023, following the Community Service Committee meeting that starts at 5:30 PM.

EWMC of Southeastern MI- The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 20, 2022 at 6:00 pm. 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. Stay tuned for more volunteer opportunities in the near future. We will be creating more tie-dye t-shirts in the coming weeks. Volunteers will be needed as we continue with this fundraiser and the Lottery Raffle. Stay tuned for more information. Solidarity Forever

The RENEW Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

The Safety Committee meeting will be on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

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

The Political Action Committee (PAC)- If you have any questions or concerns or would like to attend our next PAC meeting you can reach out to our registrars at registrar@ibewlocal58.org. Political Action Committee Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month via Zoom and in person at the hall at 5:30 PM.

Local 58's Women's Committee- Our next regular meeting is Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 5:30 pm at the hall and on zoom. Please watch for emails with further updates and zoom info. This meeting will be hosted on Zoom ONLY. Information will be emailed out closer to the meeting date. If you have any questions, please contact committee chair Angela Panicucci (586-291-8014) or Co-chair Liz Gorski. Email at 58womenscommittee@ibewlocal58.org

IBEW LOCAL 58 Retirees Association: Our next board meeting will be February 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the local union hall in the Bill Rushford Room in the lower level of the building. Our January Luncheon is taking place at Corsi's Banquet Center, 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia on January 25, 2023. To reserve your spot for the luncheon, send your checks, made payable to the "Retirees Association," \$20 per person to IBEW local 58, P.O. Box 32756, Detroit, MI 448232-0756. For reservation questions call Elaine Crawford, 313 408-5885. Mark this on your calendar and make plans to join us. This is always a wonderful time with lots of visiting. We kicked off the Local Union's ORAL HISTORY PROJECT at the Christmas Luncheon. If you are willing to be interviewed for this collection, please contact Kim L'Heureux, (President of local 58) and her team at 313 963-2130 ext. 3022 or 586 556-3007 to set up an appointment. Please leave a message, a member of this committee will return your call, to set up a future appointment. Thank you all for your participation in this project.

The Retirees Annual Florida Luncheon will be on February 15, 2023 (Wednesday). Arrival time is 11:30 and Lunch will be served at12:00. The location is at Austin's Olde World Restaurant, 14415 Tamiami Trail, North Port, FL 34287. The Menu to choose from is: Caesar salad w/ rolls, Chicken Cordon Bleu w/ baked potato; Broiled Cod w/ baked potato or Pot Roast w/ mashed potatoes. Ice tea, coffee and dessert are included. The Cost is \$27.00. Please make your selection and mail with a check to: Syl Ludwic, 3491 Capland Ave, Clermont, FL 34711. For Reservations or questions please call or email Syl Ludwic at cell 352-250-1178 or sludwic@gmail.com.

Electrical Workers Credit Union - Not A Member? Stop by Monday-Friday 9am-4pm or give us a call at (313) 963-6060 and we can mail you an application to join packet. You can also check us out at WWW.EWCU. NET. We are located right across the street from the union hall.

Be sure to keep the Union Hall updated with any changes to

your phone number, address, and email.

As of 12/31/2022, the following members have lapsed membership: Ahmeti, Gentian; Alicea, Steven M.; Anderson, Jordan W.; Brown, Kristopher L.; Convery Sr, Paul B.; Gibson, Thomas W.; Gray, Tyjuan D.; Hardy, Andre F.; Howell, Jeremiah J.; Jewett, Richard L.; Kimble, Andrew S.; Meagher, Brian J.; Mercier, Michael J.; New Jr, John A.; Obeng, Billy M.; Sonsara, Christopher N.; Swanson, Michael (Continued next column)



Since 1949' IBEW Local 498 TRAVERSE CITY - Meet-

Regular E Board- The next regularly scheduled E-Board meeting is set for Monday, February 13th, 2023 @ 6pm.

Regular Meeting - The next regularly scheduled membership meeting is Scheduled for 7pm Monday, February 13th, 2022.

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 - Please call the JATC and get signed up for your EVITP training. There are state and federal requirements for all workers that are on Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure projects to have this training. Tim will get you set up if you call him, it is an online class and a proctored exam at the hall when completing the class. There is \$100 deposit for the class refunded on completion. So far we have two Journeyman that have completed the training. Please consider getting this important training if you want to be eligible to work on these projects when they are available.

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

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

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

free 1-800-723-5384. Email Addresses - Any member that would like to have Local 498 forward communication to them from the International, Local 498, AFL-CIO or the Building Trades, to help stay informed to current events, politics, contracts, work, etc. Please call or email your current email address to Local 498 at 1bew(alocal498.net Thank you!

Important numbers for you to write in your address book: MEEHP (Health) 1-855-633-4584 or 1-517-321-7502 Fax# 1-517-321-7508

MEEPP (MI Pension) 1-517-321-7502 (New address Michigan Pension/Health Plan) TIC International Corporation, 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, MI 48917

NEBF 1-301-556-4300 NEAP 1-301-556-4300 IO Pension 1-202-833-7000 **DUES RATES** 

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

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

Please remember it is your responsibility to pay your dues

Remember to check the hall recorder at night after 4:00pm for any jobs that might be available. 231-943-4980 ext. 2#

#### IBEW 58, con't

G.; Tetreault, Eugene J.; Torres, Enriquee; Townsel, Shawn D.; Wasilewski, Christopher R.; Wilhelm, Donald J.; Williams Jr, Michael B. Winczner, Edward V.

**IBEW Pension:** Congratulations to the following members who have been placed on International Pension: David Bludworth, Matthew Czerkis, John Gessler, Roy Jeffery, Kurt Mead, and Eric Schultz.

Members that have Passed Away: Clyde Corbiere, pension member, 55 year IBEW membership; Ronald Fowler, pension member, 58 year IBEW membership; Arthur Lavallee Jr., pension member, 66 year IBEW membership; Mark Newkirk, pension member, 63 IBEW membership; Michael Rose, pension member, 23 year IBEW membership; Matthew Stewart, pension member, 22 year IBEW membership; Charlotte Warner, pension member, 33 year IBEW membership

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families on their



IBEW 665

MOVED! Local 665 has moved locations. We are currently located at 5710 Ivan Dr. Lansing,

Google maps had been up-

WORK OUTLOOK: Local 665 is expecting good employment for our local members and needing help from our traveling brothers. The GM Ultium 3 battery Plant will be adding additional manpower this winter and

Work is looking steady this

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

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

the date for the next retiree dinner scheduled for May 21st, 2023! More details to follow.

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

To apply, go to www.lejatc. org and navigate to the application page on the website. Appli-

First Aid CPR class is to be held on Thursday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023 at 5:00pm here at the hall. Contact the JATC for information and to sign up.

DRUG TEST / MUST MODS: If you are planning on working the shutdowns or at the Ultium Battery plant, please make sure you are current on your must mods/ OSHA 30 and your drug test. Contact the hall if you need your annual drug test or your

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

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

**DUES AND DEATH BEN-**

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

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

Cole 09/07/2021, Keith Reimel 03/09/2022

our abilities.

"I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.'

"Honesty may be the best policy, but it's important to remember that apparently, by elimination, dishonesty is the second-best policy."

-George Carlin (1937 -

2008)



### Local 665

LANSING - WE HAVE MI 48917

dated. Google search IBEW local 665 if you are looking for directions.

early next spring.

winter and beyond.

how to sign up.

to complete it.

**RETIREE DINNER:** Save

apprenticeship program.

cations are accepted on the first Monday of each month.

FIRST AID/CPR: The next

18 must mods.

GENERAL MEMBER-

**EFITS:** The new year is here please look at your dues receipt. We are on death benefit #333. Please check your dues receipt to ensure that you are current.

the hall.

Thomas Jones 1/02/2023, James Love 12/11/2022, Larry Wisner 11/09/2022, John Freshwater 7/26/2022, Dale 05/04/2022, Elden Rockafellow 02/11/2022, Victor St Clair

"It is our choices...that show what we truly are, far more than

–J. K. Rowling

Noel Coward (1899 -1973)

# **IBEW LOCAL 948**

IBEW Local 948

January 13, 2023

FLINT - Our February Union Meeting will be held on Monday, February 13th, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Board Meeting will be held on Monday January 30th, 2023, at 4:30 pm. The Next Retiree Club Meet-

Our January Executive

at 9:00am. Do not forget to check our website for new content. Be sure

ing will be Tuesday, February 7th,

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 \$47.70 a month Apprentices, CE, Sound Tech \$44.70 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



IBEW Local 445

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

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

First Aid/CPR class. There is a class scheduled for Monday, March 13, 2023, after the Union Meeting. We will be providing food at the meeting. Please add this to your phone's calendar. We plan on having an annual class in March of each year, so if your card is going to expire after March 2023, you will want to plan on attending this class.

Dues Increases. Over the next four and a half years, the dues increase voted on at the International Convention in 2022 are as follows, "A" and "BA" membership dues will increase \$2.00 per month effective January 1, 2023, \$1.00 per month effective July 1, 2024, and \$1.00 per month effective July 1, 2025.

Also "A" Member Pension Benefit Fund dues will increase \$2.00 per month effective Jan. 1, 2023, and \$2.00 per month effective Jan. 1, 2025. The PBF increases are to ensure the I.O. retirement remains strong for our members and our members of the future and to assist in a larger premium at retirement for our Members.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, JIW rate is \$57.00/month and \$171.00/ quarter, AP rate is \$46.00/month and \$138.00/quarter. If you have already paid dues past January 2023, you will be able to make up your Difference in Dues when you make your next payment in 2023.

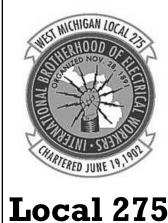
General Membership **Meeting** is the second Monday of each month and starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Hall.

Local Website - Please check the Local 445 website for the latest information, including job postings. The Local 445 web address is IBEW445.com. Respectfully Submitted, Wanda Secrest Recording Secretary

"There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged to find the ways in which you yourself have al-

Local 80 family member

- Nelson Mandela (1918 -



**IBEW 275** 

the Hall.

COOPERSVILLE - Dear Sisters and Brothers: The work outlook remains the same as it has been with some recent layoffs and jobs that are looking to start soon. We are seeing signs for a potentially busy year in 2023 if the projected projects are awarded to signatory contractors and start as anticipated. If you are interested in traveling for work in the meantime, please call the Hall for up to date traveling info. If you are interested in salting, contact Geoff or Walt for more

The annual West Michigan United Labor Wild Game Dinner has been scheduled for April 20th at the Barclay Place in Muskegon. Please get that on your calendar if you plan to make it this year. We will be voting soon at upcoming Union meetings to secure tickets for our members. If you have any venison, fish, or any other wild game meat that you would like to donate, let Walter at the Hall know and he can

point you in the right direction. Please remember that re-sign is the 10<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month. If your re-sign is not in by the 16th, you will be rolled off the Book. You may contact Geoff at

the Hall if you need assistance. The next regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17th, 6:00pm at the Union Hall. We anticipate having new solidarity shirts this month or next. You can get one for attending a Union meeting or giving your time for one of the many volunteer opportunities that present themselves through-

out the year. Dues have increased for 2023 to \$46.90 per month. Please adjust when making payments through the mail and automatic

bank payments. At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in dues: Nathan Dyer, Adam Freeman, Gregory Greiner, Brian Kelly, Nicholas Petznik, Aric Todd, Jeffrey Vandewater, Andrew Wohlfert, and Fred Wohlfert. Please make every effort to get caught up.

**BUILDERS LICENSE TRAINING** 

MIDDLETON







Local 131 Serving Southwest Michigan Since 1916

**IBEW Local 131** 

KALAMAZOO – The next **General Membership Meeting** will be held on Jan. 9, at 6 p.m.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on Dec. 19, at 5 p.m.

I took office on July 11, 2022, and it has been quite a learning experience. We started with the annual picnic. We had a very good time. The BBQ was excellent, and the bounce house was a success for all the kids. We are already planning next year's, mark your calendar July 22, 2023. In October, we had a Halloween Party. The costumes were wonderful. Mr. T and all the princesses looked great. It was a fun evening, good pizza, drinks, and games. I would like to start an entertainment committee. Help us plan and organize different events for the benefit of our members.

The work picture has been very steady this year. We have had full employment for most of the year. It looks like next year will be another steady employment year. Organizing was very successful. Ryan is doing a really good job. We organized into membership 10 new members. We signed up one new contractor, Atlas Electric.

Jon guided us through an exciting political cycle. He worked with the AFL-CIO, made many phone calls. Door knocking kept him very busy. A blue wave in Michigan ensures us that for the first time in 40 years, the Democrats have control of the State House and Senate. Now, let's get rid of Right-to-Work laws. Increase Prevailing Wage rules by removing exceptions. Jon has done a very good job.

In the hall, Christine has been steady. She knows more information about IBEW procedures, medical, and the pension plans. This is a benefit for all of us. Christine continues to guide many members through the challenges of retirement. I have heard from many retirees how grateful they are for Christine, and so am I.

I have worked on improveents for the union hall building. The apprenticeship has moved out, so we have space. We have moved Ryan into his own office. The treasurer has his office with a window. I moved Jon closer to the window to help with his role as dispatcher. We have added cameras to help improve security and awareness. We plan to add a new drinking fountain, along with a counter for the coffee. Doors are being added or moved to new locations to help with the traffic flow.

We should congratulate the following members for 60 years' service; David Wilder and Robert Oliver, 55 years of service; Charles Krull, Doyal Northrup, Jerry Ptacek, and Russel Sandefur. 50 years of service; Marvin Akerson, William Decker, James Meech, Joseph Orr, Steven Pierce, Steven Shirk, John VanDyke and Mitchell Vankruiningen. It seems like they were telling me what to do yesterday.

Let's remember those members who we lost this year Clifford Ransler (64), Michael Slater (51), William Minshall (67), Richard Olson(53), Walter Ward (1), Rodney Leversee (52), and Charles Roberts (48). All these men made the IBEW a better Union, and a better local. I will miss them all.

In 2023, I see many good things for the IBEW in Kalamazoo. The work picture continues to be positive. I believe we will continue to see full employment on many projects including Pfizer, MAPS, Zoetis, Gun Lake Casino, Bronson Surgery Center, and many more projects. I would like to continue improvements to the union hall, including adding a solar power carport, and purchasing an electric vehicle (EV) for the hall's use. I would like to change the front of the building style and update the 1980's appearance. I am looking for your suggestions on what we should do. This is your union hall; I want it accessible to everyone. Help me make improvements and changes which benefits everyone.

Thank you to the membership for all your support. Thank (Continued next column)

## Feel the Power **Local 1191**

**Laborers Local 1191** 

DETROIT - Monthly Membership Meetings: Union meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Union hall (except for holidays), next membership meeting will the Feb. 3, 2023.

Retirees: Retiree Council's meetings are the last Friday of the month. The meetings are held 11 a.m. at the Local Union Hall, t 2161 W. Grand Blvd. in Detroit.

Union Dues For 2023: Effective Jan. 1, 2023 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.

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.

**MUST Safety Awareness** Training: Please check the MUST website at www.mustbsafe.com to see how many modules you have.

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.

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. 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.

Vacation Fund. WPAS 7525 SE 24<sup>TH</sup> Street, Suite 200, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Telephone: (833) 389-0025 Extension 3359 - Direct Number Fax: (206) 505 9727

Website: Www.wpas-inc.com (Continued next column)

### Local 25 Iron Workers

**Iron Workers 25** 

NOVI - January's Union meeting will be Monday, January 30, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

be due in the Novi Union Hall ON OR BEFORE 4:00 pm Jan. 30, 2023. This meeting will be the first reading of any proposed by law(s). If you plan to mail in a proposal, please make sure it arrives several days earlier than Monday 1/30/2023. We've noticed mail has been slow in Michigan, so please be aware!

February's Union meeting will be Monday Feb. 27, 2023 at 7 pm. This union meeting will be the second Reading of any proposed by law(s). The third Reading will be during March's Union meeting Monday March 27, 2023, with the Vote date TBD.

Steward meeting(s): The Flint Jan. 18, 5:30 pm. The Saginaw stew-

Stewards' Notes: 1) The link

2) PLEASE be sure to check **BOOMERS HAVE SIGNED** TARGETING.

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.

are \$10.00 per week.

The 2023 Dennis O'Dowd SCHOLARSHIP Rules & Application form is available. All COMPLETED applications must be turned in by March 15. 2023. Call the Novi Union Hall 248-344-9494 to get one mailed or E-mailed to you. These are for sons/daughters of full dues paying active/working members of Ironworkers Local 25 who are in their senior year of High School. The member must have a minimum of five years continuous membership to be eligible.

NO INCREASE in the Per Capita Tax for year 2023. Your monthly union dues rate

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

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.

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

BENEFIT FOR NEW CHILD: Any member who has a newborn 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).

The Iron Workers' Local 25 Retirees' Club: The Novi Chapter Retirees meeting/luncheon will be Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023 at 10 am in Novi. The Board of Directors will meet Tuesday Feb. 7, 2023 at 8:30 am. All are welcome.

The West Michigan Chapter Retirees breakfast will meet Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023 at 9 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 1:00 pm on Jan. 19, 2023 at the Bay City American Legion Post 18, 700 Adams St., Bay City, MI 48708. All are welcome.

The **Downriver Chap**ter The next quarterly Retirees breakfast will be Jan. 20, 2023 at 9 am at Mom's Restaurant, 2691 Fort St., Trenton, MI 48183. All are welcome.

Local 25 Retirees' Club Scholarship available. Eligibility Requirements: child or grandchild of a retired Local 25 member. Applicant must be in their Senior year of high school. Retiree must have a minimum of five years continuous Local union membership and be a member of the Iron Workers' Local 25 Retiree' Club as of the prior year and must be current on their an*nual* club dues to be eligible and apply. Contact John Miller: text/ call (734) 812-8036 or email

jlmillertime50@yahoo.com. (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 avail-

# **GONZALEZ**

Freeland Office: (989) 695-6888

INSTRUCTOR POSITION. FTI of the Great Lakes is looking for a part time Glazing instructor at our Lansing Training Center. Anyone interested should submit their resume to Shawn O'Neill at dot@iupatdcm.org or (517) 304-

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 Al-

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

The FTI of the Great Lakes

GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE IN YOUR **UNION!** 

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

Warren office# is 586-552-4474 or Freeland office# is 989-695-6888. New job starts should be reported to the Union office,

Work safe.

#### Local 25 cont'd

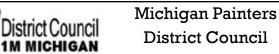
able - its free & confidential. Alternately 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255).

tion Resources on IMPACT: http://www.impact-net.org/ safety/suicide-prevention-resources. US Crisis Text Line: Text **HOME** to 741741 from anywhere in the U.S., anytime, about any type of crisis.

In Memory: Edward Owczarzak Jr #642955 passed away Dec. 16, 2022 at the age of 83. He was a 63-year member survived by his wife Mary Jane. His IW sons are Monte Owczarzak #1165362 and Wade Owczarzak #1220094. Survived by his brother in-law Bob Rase #1058889, Nephews Brian Rase #1348448 and William Borch #1160957. A nephew Larry Tomczak #125217 is deceased.

Connie Breasbois passed away Dec. 7, 2022 at the age of 69. She was the mother of IW Troy Breasbois #1308215. James Arquette #1605622 passed away Dec. 17, 2022 at the age of 47. He was a member for approximately 17 years. James leave behind a loving family and many friends in the ironworking industry. Glenn Garrison #1112213 passed away Dec. 29, 2022 at the age of 62. He was a 37-year member. He is survived by his Father Gerald L. Garrison #827374, and his brother Gerald H. Garrison #986082. Kenneth Kollek passed away Jan. 1, 2023 at the age of 72. He was the father of Journeyman SBE Andrew Kollek #1352846. Edward Sturgeon III Book # 665739 passed away Dec. 30, 2022 at the age of 82. He was a 62-year member. He is survived

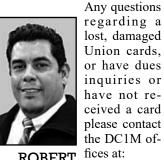
Submission Time for this Article (Jan. 5, 2023 12:00 pm E.S.T.).-



PDC 1M

WARREN – Dear Members, DC1M WEBSITE: www.iupatdc1michigan.org

DC1M FACEBOOK: www. facebook.com/iupat1m DC 1M UNION CARDS\*



4474 extension 100

Warren Office:

(586)552-

FTI of the GREAT LAKES

lied Trades" download APP

Username: your member id# Password: painters

your Union, etc.

will be offering a Lead Worker class on Jan. 21 at our Lansing Training Center and Jan. 28 at our Warren Training Center. Both Classes start at 9am. Please contact Shawn O'Neill To register for the class 586-552-4481 or dot@ iupatdc1m.org

Get involved. Work smart.

**Check out Suicide Preven-**

by his wife Sharon.

George Wright #1515824 passed away Jan. 3, 2023 at the age of 50. A member for 6 years, he is survived by his mother Ludine. 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

**District Council 1M** 

**District Council** 

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

Business Manager: Robert

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., Gales-

burg, MI 49053 Local Union 514 Business Rep: Scott Mikulen Meeting dates: 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Place: 7920 Jackson Road, Ann

Arbor, MI. Web site: www.iupat-local514.

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 Freder-

ickson Meeting date: 1st Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Place: 419 S. Washington Av-

enue, Lansing, MI 48933 Local Union 1052 **Business Rep** – Jake Fluty

Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m Place: 3115 Joyce St., Burton

Meeting date: The Fourth

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.



Glassworkers Local 357

Glaziers & Glassworkers 357 WARREN – We had a terrific turn out to the local 357 December union meeting. Well over 100 members show up, and had terrific conversations, food and drink.

Our next scheduled union meeting will be held on Monday Feb. 6, 2023 at 6pm. Please attend.

We hope that all 357 members, and our families had a happy, and healthy holiday season!

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

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

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

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

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

Michigan Glass and Glazing Joint Funds, P.O. Box 966, Troy, MI 48098-066; phone number: 248-641-4957; fax 248-813-9898.

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

so try to make it to a meeting. - Business Rep. Don Stepp



BY-LAW(S) Proposals will

steward meeting will be Wednesday, ard meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 26 at 6 pm. All are welcome.

for Online Steward Report forms is found in the upper right-hand corner of our website www.ironworkers25.org LOG-IN DIREC-TIONS 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.

dues for members and boomers too AND BE SURE ALL BOTH THE RECIPROCAL AND THE ASSESSMENT-3) All members please be

4) Doby/Travel Service Dues

Christmas pictures are ready for pickup at the Novi Union Hall

remains the same. ers25.org, print the applica-

**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"

#### Laborers 1191, continued

CONTACT NUMBERS Michigan Laborers' Fringe Benefits Funds (Annuity, Healthcare

& Pension) Telephone: (877) 645-2267 Website:www.michiganlaborers.org Delta Dental: (800) 524-0149 Detroit and Vicinity Pension Fund, Metropolitan Detroit La-

#### borers' (Pension) IBEW Local 131 continued

you to Brian O'Donnell for beginning so many good and worthwhile projects. Thank you to President Leroy for his wise counsel. Thank you to Christine, Jon, and Ryan, who have made my job easier. Thank you to my wife, Karen, for supporting me in my decisions.

We had a good time at the retirees' Christmas Luncheon. Thank you to everyone that came. I had a lot of fun seeing everyone. Retiree Lunches at the following

January 18, 2023, Fletchers Pub. 3013 Oakland Drive Kalamazoo, MI. @11:00

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

On the last Friday of each month a group of retirees meet at Brewster's, 5135 Portage Road, Kalamazoo, MI. 49009 @11:30.

At the time of this writing, the following members are three months or more behind in counter dues payments: Jarred Allen, Nicholas Blaskie, Peter Carlson, Joshua Chopp, Cameron Clemons, Christopher Conforti, Steven Gay, Taylor Grose-Thompson, Easton Lovell, Marty Maher, Logan McFadden, Nic McKenna, Mark Melching, Thomas Pickett, Christopher Shell, Cody Stokan, Jason Streit, and William Wolgast Stewards training is scheduled for February 15, 2023. Everyone is welcome. Call the hall and register. 269-382-1762

Morris Applebey **Business Manager** 

Telephone: (248) 641-4942 Fax: (248) 813-9898

(Healthcare)

Website: Www.ourbenefitoffice. com

Metropolitan Detroit Laborers'

\*Telephone: (877) 645 2267 BENEFICIARY RE-**MINDER:** 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, www.mi-laborers.org



BAC Local 2 WARREN/LANSING -JANUARY 2023 CHAPTER

**MEETINGS** \*DATE CHANGED\* HOUGHTON CHAPTER: Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 37737 Highway 26, Toivola, MI 49965

MARQUETTE CHAP-



DUNFORD

day, Jan. 16, 2023 at 7 PM, 119 S Front St., Marquette, MI 49855 **SAGINAW** CHAPTER:

TER: Mon-

Tuesday, PAUL January 24, 2023 at 7 PM, 1300

W. Thomas Street, Bay City, MI 48706

TRAVERSE CITY CHAP-TER: Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM, 1231 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

The SEMI-ANNUAL UNION MEETING will be held on Saturday, Feb. 04, 2023 at 10 am at BAC Local #2, 21031 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48091.

ALL CHAPTER MEET-INGS ARE CANCELLED (EXCEPT FOR THE MAR-**OUETTE CHAPTER MEET-**ING LISTED BELOW) FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRU-ARY 2023 DUE TO THE SEMI ANNUAL MEETING.

MARQUETTE CHAP-**TER:** Monday, Feb. 20, 2023 at 7 PM, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI 49855

ATTENTION: ALL BAC LOCAL 2 MI UPPER PEN-**INSULA MEMBERS.** A postholiday get-together has been set for all BAC Local 2 Upper Peninsula members.

Please join us for drinks, hors d'oeuvres and fellowship. Info is below: **Time:** 6:00 PM • **Date:** Friday, Feb. 03, 2023 • **Place:** The Vierling Restaurant - Sampling Room, 119 S Front Street, Marquette, MI • Purpose:

To connect and socialize! This special event is for members only -Please RSVP by Jan. 30! Feel free to contact Adam Saari with any questions: 906.250.6971 or by email adam.saari@brick-

DEATHS REPORTED. Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother **Richard Brooks** (Bricklayer) who passed away on Dec. 18, 2022. Brother Brooks had been a member for 6 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Rannie Bruce Jr (Bricklayer) who passed away on Sept. 26, 2022. Brother Bruce had been a member for 55 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Harold Canfield (Bricklayer) who passed away on Dec. 02, 2022. Brother Brooks had been a member for 48 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Brother Vincent Mangiapane (Chemical Products Worker & Terrazzo Worker) who passed away on Dec. 08, 2022. Brother Mangiapane had been a member for 49 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Sergio Pandori (Tile Layer) who passed away on Dec. 15, 2022. Brother Pandori had been a member for 55 years.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Brother** Richard Wyss (Cement Mason & Bricklayer) who passed away on Dec. 28, 2022. Brother Wyss had been a member for 37 years.

MARK YOUR CALEN-**DAR.** BAC Local 2 and Motor City Cruise have partnered up to offer a discount on their upcoming games. Tickets are \$5 each but the first is free. Members can purchase up to 4 tickets total. Use the link below and be sure to use BAC as the discount

code. https://fevo.me/bac2 WEBSITE UPDATES. Be sure to check out our new website at <a href="https://www.bricklayers.org">https://www.bricklayers.org</a> and our app, which can be found in the IOS and Android app stores by searching for Bricklayers Local 2.

CRAFTWORKERS NEED-**ED.** 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.

#### Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

SIGNING BONUS FOR

SKILLED CRAFTWORK-ERS. Local 2 will pay up to \$2,000 as a **Signing Bonus** for skilled Journey Level craftworkers who come to work for one of our Union Contractors. 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.

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

Go to https://www.michiganbricklayers.org to view the Apprenticeship and Training website and register for future 2023 online training classes.

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

APPRENTICE WORK-SHEETS. Turning in monthly worksheets is a requirement of your apprenticeship. Apprentice Worksheets MUST be filled out completely and submitted online. They can be found at https:// www.michiganbricklayers.org/ resources. For more information on the Training Centers visit: https://www.michiganbricklay-

MEMBERSHIP ASSIS-**TANCE.** During this COVID-19 nandemic the IUBAC Member Assistance Program has a number of services available for free or at a discounted rate to BAC members and their families. These confidential services can be seen at https://bacweb.org/ member-service/member-assistance-program-map and are also available via telephone at (888) 880-8222 and ask for Membership Assistance Monday - Friday 8 am – 8 pm. These services were established and are intended to help get us through difficult life situations.

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

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

BAC 2 MI TEXTING PROGRAM. We have been communicating by text message more frequently with our membership. We encourage our members to sign up to receive our 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 INFORMA-**TION.** BAC of Michigan Health & Welfare Fund - (248) 828-

Michigan BAC Pension Fund (Outstate) - (800) 531-2244Metro Detroit Bricklayers Pension & Vacation Fund – (248)

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



#### Local 514 **Cement Masons** & Plasterers

Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Local 514

DETROIT - The next membership meeting has been moved to Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 7:00 pm. Please make every effort to come fellowship with your brothers and sisters.

"It is ever thus. Unions have been under attack by business moguls in the United States since their inception, for no other reason than that they deliver higher pay and benefits so working people can sustain a family."-JOHN

We are happy and proud to announce the 14th Annual Patrick D. Finley Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship application form that needs to be submitted applicants can be picked up at the local.

The official Scholarship Application Form can be found on the OPCMIA website www. opemia.org for qualified applicants to apply. The completed form should be returned to the International Headquarters no later than April 1, 2023

Membership gold cards-Congratulations! January.

George Berry-25 Years Parrish Hill-25 Years Rolando Perez-25 Years Juan Saenz-25 Years 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. 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.

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PLASTERERS AND DE-TROIT COMMERCIAL CE-**MENT MASONS:** You are able to find out more about Fund investments, change your investments, obtain your balances, and, during regular business hours, speak to a representative by contacting Principal either via its website, www. Principal.com or by telephone, 800-547-7754. Access and make changes to your account two easy ways: Go online: Principal.com

If you are a first-time user, go to Principal.com/Welcome Select Get Started. Enter your first name, last name, date of birth, mobile phone no. (this is the quickest way to verify your identify), and your ID no. (this is either you Social Security number or a specific ID provided by your employer) or ZIP code.

Agree to do business electronically and click Continue.

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

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

Select and answer three security questions to use if you need

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

The first time you log in, you'll need to choose where we send you verification codes (text message, voice call, or authentication app) and how often you want to use them.

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

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

PLASTERERS AND CE-MENT MASONS It is your responsibility to fill out reciprocity forms if you plan on working out of the local 514 area. This will ensure that your hours are sent back to your home fund. If you have any questions, or need any forms, please contact the Local. Please make sure your beneficiary information is up to date. Any changes to your beneficiaries can be made at the Local. If you have questions concerning your pension benefits, ROAD BUILDERS can call: Toll Free at 1-877-876-9357 or (517) 321-7502. PLASTERERS' AND **COMMERCIAL CEMENT** MASONS can call: (248) 645-6550 for pension and annuity, and Toll Free 1-877-876-9357. All Plasterers and Cement Masons can contact (517) 321-7502 for health & welfare information now through Outstate Michigan Trowel Trades Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. For the INTERNATIONAL PENSION Call 1-888-880-8222 Toll Free or (202) 638-1996.



#### Local 36 **Elevator Constructors**

Elevator Constructors Local 36 DETROIT- ALL MEM-BERS ARE INFORMED that our next regular MEMBERSHIP **MEETING IS ON MONDAY** JAN. 23, 2023, AT 5:30pm at 1640 Porter St. Detroit, MI. This will be a special called meeting to vote on having a picnic July 29, **2023.** Any changes to this schedule or venue will be in the Building

Trades Article or sent via email. ATTENTION, Applications for the International Union of Elevator Constructors Local #36 Joint Apprenticeship Training Program for Detroit will be accepted from 1/2/23 at 12 am through 1/16/23 at 11:59 pm. All applications must be completed online by visiting: www. neieprecruitment.com. For more information email the Local Area Coordinator at JLMiller@neiep.org.

Attention all Mechanics, if you are doing service work, testing, starting a MOD or taking a callback on another member's route during the day, give them a call and let them know you are on the job and when you leave the job. This is a MAJOR safety issue, when a customer calls in that an elevator is down not knowing a team is working on that elevator, and the route Mechanic shows up on the job unaware there are other members working on the elevator this can create an unsafe situation. Also, if you take a night call on another member's route, call them the next day, and inform them of the problem with the elevator. Remember it is State and City code to sign the check charts anytime

you do work on an elevator. Once again, I can't stress enough how important it is to have get your licenses once you are eligible to take the test. Michigan is one of very few states that have licensing to be able to work on elevators and without that any Joe Blow could do our jobs. Getting your licenses, following the codes, and doing it the right way helps preserve our work.

Attention all members who took advantage of the Code Outreach classes and Code Tabbing classes, Brother Scott Hultstrom is tentatively planning on retiring in March, he has been instrumental in helping all of you take and pass the State of Michigan test with these classes and we would like to show our appreciation from Local 36. We would like

to get a collection together to give him a nice retirement gift for all his hard work and dedication putting on all these classes. You can drop off any donations to the Hall.

If anyone is interested in QEI training, please call the Hall so we can build a potential class list, we need a few more guys to host it locally. Call the hall if you need more information.

Anyone interested in getting certified in Welding, sign up with NEIEP @Local 85 or call Mike Janca.

ATTENTION ALL RETIR-EES, if you requested an Honorary Card in the past year, please contact the Hall. We have multiple cards at the Hall, but we don't have updated numbers or emails to be able to contact you. We can make arrangements to get it to you if you can't make it to a meeting.

Attention All Apprentices, we would like to thank all Apprentices for their hard work and turning in your OJTs in a timely manner, attendance in class and doing make up classes. This has NOT gone unrecognized. The school semester has come to an end, check your NEIEP emails frequently for next semesters class assignment and any additional information. OJT forms need to be filled out COM-PLETELY by the 9th day of the following month. There is NO excuse for these to be late!

Attention All Temporary Mechanics, your Temporary Mechanic's Agreement MUST be signed by the end of each month. If you 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 these forms so do the test correctly no matter how long it takes!

If you are NOT receiving my emails, contact the Hall so I can get you on the email list. I would like to extend our condolences to Brother Scott Kraft on the passing of his son, the Malecki family on the Passing of Honorary Brother Bob Malecki and Honorary Brother Mark McMillan and Brother Mark McMillan Jr on the passing of Alan "Buzz" McMillan. We extend get well wishes to all Brothers and Sisters on our sick list. Be safe and stay healthy!



## **Register NOW for Fall Labor Classes! Scholarships Available!**

#### **Labor School**

- The online leadership certificate program consists of ten, 5-week courses.
- Basic Grievance Handling, Your Rights in the Workplace and Building the Union.

### Advanced Labor Leadership Academy

- Fully online and consists of five, 5-week courses.
- Transformational Leadership, Strategic Planning, Media Matters, Advanced Grievance Handling and Powerful Presentations.

#### For More Information and to Register

Follow the QR code or register directly at go.wayne.edu/LaborSchoolreg. Call the Labor Studies Center office for more information 313-577-2191.



#### **■WARRIOR STRONG**

labor.wayne.edu



#### 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 Jan. 24, 2023 at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at the union hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile Rd. Southfield, 48076. You will be voting for the position of Fund Trustees at this meeting.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Jan 17, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Executive Board meetings are held at the Local 80 Hall, 17100 W. 12 Mile, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southfield, MI.

UNION HALL REGULAR HOURS Monday through Friday

7:30-4:00, unless otherwise indicated in holiday hours. FUND TRUSTEE VOTE: OFFICIAL NOTICE: At the Jan.

24, 2023 meeting you will vote on 4 positions: Health and Welfare, Pension and Annuity, Sub Fund and JATC. Trust-



TIM **MULLIGAN** 

ees will serve a 3-year term from January 2023 through January 2026. Your dues must be current if you would like to vote. **RETIREE MEETING SCHEDULE:** The

2023 retiree meeting schedule is as follows: Feb. 20, April 17, June 19, Aug. 21, Oct. 16, (Holiday Party) and Dec. 18. All membership meetings will be held at the Local 80 hall. Please enter the hall through the ramp entrance. All meetings will start at 12:30 pm. Any questions regarding joining the Retirees Association please contact Steve Murzen at 248-652-0593

**RETIREE NEWS**: Retiree lapel pins with the SMWIA logo are available to all members of

the local 80 retirees' association. They will be available to all retiree association members at our general membership meetings. Please see the general membership meeting schedule above.

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

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

Training Center News.

Apprenticeship Entrance Exam. The Entrance Exam for the April 2023 Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Building Trades Apprenticeship class is scheduled for the fourth week of January, 2023 The deadline to apply is Jan. 20. Requirements include a high school diploma or GED, a valid driver's license and applicants must be 18 years old by April 3, 2023. Applications must be submitted in person and are accepted by appointment only. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Local 80 Training Center @ (586) 979-5190.

**Upgrading Classes.** Upgrading Classes for the Winter 2023 term begin the week of Jan. 16. To view the most up-to-date schedule, go to https://www.smw80jac.org/Upgrading Class Schedule. To enroll in a class, call the training center at 586-979-5190

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES A YEAR IN ADVANCE: Richard Abrams, Harold G. Adams Jr., Edmund Ajlouny, Brian Arndt, David Baker, William Bauer, Mike Bayus, John Beaudrie, Rainer Becker, George Bell, Richard Beres Mark Billings, Daniel Bleyaert, James Bono, Michael Bono, Joel Borgula, Will Bradfield, Frank Bruneel, Arthur Campbell, Richard Capek, David Capps, James Caris, Dan Caverly, Alexander Chambo, Patrick Cregeur, Joe Czarnecki, Darren Davidson, Harley W. Dennis, Brian Depew, Thomas Donahue, Dale Dunlap, Cayman Eller, Gerald Fecteau, David Fields, Steve Flora, John Foley, Giovanni Froio, Stephen Gardiner, Jamie Gay, Ethan Gehm, Richard Gerjekian, Richard Gilbert, John Good, Harry Green, Edward Guirey, Todd Haller, Joel Hanson, Randy Harding, Mark Harper, Nathaniel Hawk, Jonathan Heath, Jeffery Hellings, Steven Herr, Charles Holsing, George Huyghe, John Hyatt, Anthony Iapalucci, Kenneth Imhoff, Harold T. Ingalls, Jeremy Jondro, Ron Jones, James Jorah, Jason Kaczmarek, Ronald Kelpin, Randy Klein, Chester Klos, Stephen Korbiak, Joseph Laird, Charles LaTour, Michael Lemieux, Ralph MacFarland, James Manor, Leo Matusik, Eric McPherson, Keith McVettie, Larry Morris, Michael Morris, William Mozurkewich, Sean Mulligan, Tharon Neil. Tim Nester, Victor Nieves, Daniel Niska, Gary Norrow, Paul Parpart, Robert Peraino, Anthony Pernicano, Jay Petit II, Lucy Petrykowski. Anthony Pichette, Eric Powers, Dan Quinn, Robert Rajter, Gerald Rajter, Gary Reichold, Kenneth Robins, Tyler Robinson, Larry Robinson Jr., Steven Roth, Jeffrey Roth, Joseph Roth, William Ryan, David Sarney, Willard Sarrach Jr., Rob Schleicher, Dale Schmidt, Rudolph Schniers, Michael Seecombe, Tom Seibert, Patrick Sementkowski, Lloyd Sherman, Ronald Stark, Robert Stark, Steven Stefan, Matthew Stevenson, Daniel Stoyka, Shawn Talaski, Terry Taulbee, Matthew Theisen, Matthew Theriault, David Tims, Doug Trelfa, Michael Trelfa, Allen Tremberth, Mark Vella, Mike Vinch, Eric Waldrop, Jeffrey Waldrop, Matthew Wardrop, Rik Watson, Matthew Whiteford, Tom Wiedling, John Willcocks, Steven Wiseman, James Woodruff, David Yelencich, Tim Young, Steve Zabik and Jeff Zygila.

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

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

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

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

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

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 (Continued next column)



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

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 292** 

TROY – **MEETING NOTICE:** The next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

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 will be held on January 24, **2023,** at 6:00 pm at the Union Hall

ATTENTION DEER HUNTERS: Please submit your successful Deer Hunting pictures. We would like to post them on our Facebook page to share with the

membership! SHEET METAL SCHOLARSHIP **PROGRAM:** Applications are being accepted for the Sheet Metal Scholarship program. Eligibility requires that an applicant be an active member, a covered employee, or a dependent spouse or child under the age of 25 of a member or covered employee. The applicant must also be a full-time student or be accepted to be a full-time student PAUL at an accredited college or university. Obtain an GUALDONI "Application Request Form" by visiting https://

or artwork changes.

smart-union.org/why-join-smart/scholarships/ sheet-metal-scholarship-programs/ click on the "Sheet Metal Scholarships" tab to download the form or call 202-662-

0858 to request the application form by mail. LOCAL 292 ONLINE STORE: Check out the online store to purchase Local 292 shirts and jackets. Purchased items will be shipped directly to you. Access through Sheetmetal292.com at the online store tab or https://sheetmetalworkers292.itemorder.com/ sale. Contact Paul or Tony if you have any suggestions for new items

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

RETIREES NOTICE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The 2023 schedule for the Local 292 Retiree luncheon are as follows: April 6, June 1, Aug. 3, Oct. 5, and Dec. 7.

The retirees luncheon will be held 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 the union hall via our website www.sheetmetal292. com, click on the "Contact Us" page if you would like to be added to the retiree email list.

Please join us for lunch, great conversations and story telling. Looking forward to seeing all retirees, new and old!!

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

**CONSTITUTION AND RITUAL:** The Constitution and Ritual of the 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: Please remember, Local 292 partners 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 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 p.m. on the last business day of the month. Payments received after 4 p.m. on the last business day of the month will not be processed and you WILL go suspended. All members are responsible for making sure any required fees, i.e. late fees or service fees, are included if paying online (sheetmetal292.com).

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

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

Attention all Welders! We are looking for any member interested in a Saturday welding class on January 14 & 21st.

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

**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

#### **Local 80 continued**

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.

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



#### Local 7 **Sheet Metal Workers**

**Sheet Metal Workers Local 7** 

LANSING – NOTICE. This Newspaper Article shall serve as Official Notice of ALL meetings for Local 7!

The next Statewide Meeting will be, February 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 1 January 12th 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 2 January 17th 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

\*Zone 3 January 11th 2023 at 6:00 p.m. (Saginaw) \*Zone 3 March 16th 2023 at 6:00 p.m. (Traverse City)

\*Zone 4 January 10th 2023 at 6:00 p.m. \*Zone 5 February 2nd 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

**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.



**FULLER** 

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 has been steady as we head into winter and looks to remain this way as we go into spring. If you become unemployed, please update your status with James or Eric (Apprentices please notify Ryan as well). If you are experiencing any difficulties with unemployment or insurance, please contact Eric or James for any additional assistance. Any Journeypersons interested in upgrade classes, please contact Ryan at the Training Center for additional information (269) 781-7183 (class availability depends on the number of individuals interested).

**ZONE 1 Monthly Retiree Meetings:** 

1st Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am located at Bob Evans 1725 N W Ave, Jackson, MI 49202

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1:00 pm located at Rocky Top

1900 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 12:00 noon located at The

Beamery 879 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49014 (Retirees, please notify James or Eric of any changes or additions you would like)

- In Solidarity, James Callahan and Eric Farrington

**ZONE 2 Info:** Work in Zone 2 remains steady with some big projects starting soon. I hope everybody had a safe and good holiday. Please keep me informed of any address changes or phone number changes. The next Zone 2 union meeting is January 17th at 6:00 pm VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores, MI. Thank You and Work Safe, Mike Adams

**ZONE 3 Info: (Saginaw)** Hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. Work in the area is slow to start the year out but we have some nice projects coming this year. Work in other areas around the state should be starting soon. If anyone is interested in any of the welding, journeymen upgrade or safety classes (Osha 30, MSHA, First Aide/CPR) please contact the Training Center. If you have changed your address or phone number please let me know or call the Lansing office to make those changes. Everyone should have received a letter from BeneSys regarding members getting their physicals in you did not get yours please contact me and I can get a copy and answer any questions you may have. Thank you, Joe Dotson

**ZONE 3 Info:** (Traverse City). Work outlook is still positive going into the spring with more schoolwork for the summer. We want to set up an MSHA class and a service class based on interest. Please call the hall with any address changes or phone numbers and then call the H&W office too, as they do not communicate with each other. If anyone needs any assistance, please contact me or go to: www.ourbenefitoffice/smw7-3.com. We are always in search of anyone interested in our trade; please give them my contact info. I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. In Solidarity, John Amalfitano

**ZONE 4 Info:** Happy New Year, to all our members. Work in Zone 4 area is staying pretty steady. Anyone interested in travel don't hesitate to call me. Look forward to seeing everyone at the next Union Meeting Jan 10, 2023. Your Brother, Scott Brotherton

**ZONE 5 Info:** Work around the U.P. is steady with more work opening up in the near future. The next Retirees meeting will be held May 2023 time and place to be announced at a later date. Thank you **Greg Faust** 

SASMI Information – Zone 3 and 5: SASMI benefits for period 2022A – Hours are from Jan. 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022. You must have worked under 600 hours in that time and have been a member in good standing to qualify. Please contact your Business Agent to apply.

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

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

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

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

from the International may be available. CONTACT US: 4931 Contec Drive, Lansing, MI 48910–517-

882-4064

**Local 7 Officers:** Samual Fuller (Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer)

517-882-4064

Eric Farrington (Agent-Lansing/Jackson) 517-242-3223

James Callahan (Agent-Battle Creek/Kalamazoo) 269-569-9200 Mike Adams (Agent-Grand Rapids/Muskegon) 616-299-3752 Joe Dotson (Saginaw) 989-225-0095

John Amalfitano (Traverse City) 231-590-1112 Scott Brotherton (Agent-Flint) 810-836-3552 Greg Faust (Agent-Upper Peninsula): 906-372-9288

laid off and it is due to weather the company MUST provide written documentation that it was weather related.

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



#### Local 169 **Boilermakers**

**Boilermakers Local 169** 

ALLEN PARK - Our next membership meeting will take place on Jan. 13, 2023, at 8:00 **pm.** It will be in Area 1 at the Boilermakers Union Hall, 1755 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, MI

Current Union dues for 2022 are \$52.35 in accordance with the



Union Hall accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. Payments can be made both at the Union

International

ers Consti-

HUTSELL Hall and over

the phone. OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 safety training can now be taken online. Please visit our website – www.boilermakerslocal169.

com- for more information. **Retirees**: Retiree luncheons have resumed.

**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 luncheon lunch is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We will be meeting at Silver Palace on January 19, 2023, at noon. Silver Palace is located at 1500 Woodside Ave, Essexville, MI 48732.

**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.

The Annual Boilermakers Local 169 Dinner Dance will be held on February 18th, 2023, at the Soaring Eagle Resort & Casino in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. Boilermakers will receive a reduced room rate of \$249.00 when using the reservation code. The code for reservations is BM021723. Please call the Union Hall to reserve a seat at the Dinner Dance and provide a deposit in the amount of \$50.00. This helps us estimate food and beverage availability and will be returned to you upon entrance to the event. I encourage all retirees, active members, and apprentices to attend this event.

This is always a great time and a chance to meet and interact with your Union Brothers & Sisters at something other than a work site. I look forward to seeing you there. The cutoff date for reservations is January 27th so do not delay, after this date room rates will increase!

Hoodies have been restocked and are available in sizes ranging from medium through 3XL. The 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 (Continued next column)



#### Local 149

#### Roofers and Waterproofers

**Roofers Local 149** DETROIT - Attention. This paper is to serve as an official notice to the membership.

Happy New Year! May 2023 be a great, safe, and prosperous year for you and your family.

Regular Membership Meeting. The regular membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, Feb. 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Board Meeting.** The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tues., Feb. 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan. The Mid-Michigan membership meeting is scheduled for Tue., Jan 10, 2023 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

Vacation Checks (quarterly and biannual). The Detroit Union Hall will open at 6:00am, Friday, Jan. 27, 2023 to distribute quarterly and biannual vacation checks. The Hall will also be open from 8 am until noon, Saturday, Jan. 28, for anyone that cannot make it down Friday.

Mid-Michigan biannual vacation checks will be mailed out on January 27, 2023

Those who have their vacation pay Direct Deposited; will have their money deposited in their bank on Jan. 25, 2023. Detroit Members will need to contact the Union Hall if you what the check mailed.

Vacation and Holiday

#### Local 169, con't

jackets are available by special order. Please contact the Union Hall for details.

The upcoming MSHA training schedule is available at www. boilermakerslocal169 or on our Facebook page.

The cost of your T.W.I.C. card is reimbursable from the M.O.R.E. Fund. Contact the Union Hall for reimbursement.

Any member needing the services of a Notary Public can do so at no charge at the Boilermakers Local 169 Union Hall beginning January 1st, 2023. Please call ahead to ensure availability.

In accordance with our International Constitution and by order of our International President, monthly union dues will increase by \$3.50 beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The total for monthly union dues beginning February 1st, 2023, will be \$55.85.

Any current apprentice that is eligible to utilize their G.I. Bill should contact their branch of service regarding this benefit. Your apprenticeship training qualifies for reimbursement under the terms of the G.I. Bill. I advise all apprentices who qualify to take advantage of this well-deserved benefit.

**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.

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 questions, please call the Hall at 313-961-6093

Thank you to the members who have paid their Union Dues a year in advance. By paying your Union Dues a year in advance, you are saving our union money. To pass these saving along to our members, we will be giving a "I paid my Dues" t-shirt to anyone who's dues are paid up to 12/31/2023 and beyond. In order to be eligible, members must pay their 2023 dues in full by January 31, 2023. Shirts are available for pickup at the Union Hall

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

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

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

**Detroit Training Center Information.** Detroit Training Center Information

The next term for all Detroit Apprentices will be as follows: •Apprentice 2 & Single Ply 1-Monday, January 16, 2023 Apprentice 1 & Single Ply 2Tuesday, January 17, 2023 •BUR 1 & Steep Slope 1- Wednesday January 18, 2023 •BUR 2 & Steep Slope 2- Thurs-

day, January 19, 2023 •Apprentice 7 & 8 Hands On + Safety & Health-Thursday, January 19, 2023

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 Tom Jaranowski, or Dean Kucharski at the Training Center, 248-543-

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

Outdoor Life. If you have

**MID-MICHIGAN AREA** Clio Office - The next Mid-Michigan regular membership meeting scheduled for Tue., Jan. 10, 2023 at 6 p.m. at 810 Tacoma Ct. Clio MI, 48420.

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

Dues must be current in order to enter the Training Center. If you are interested in any of these classes, contact the Union

Hall/Training Center, 810-687-1368, or midmichroofers149@ gmail.com to make arrange-

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 1/6/2023, 2:00p.m.

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

"It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has data. Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories, instead of theories to suit facts."

-Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859 - 1930)



THE REHABILITATED Liberty Bridge in Bay City over the Saginaw River is now open to vehicular traffic after a year-long rehabilitation project.

## **Liberty Bridge construction kudos**

(Continued from Page 1)

challenging supply-chain issues in recent history, to build what is now Bay City's best bridge! We thank LiUNA Local 1098, IBEW 692, Ironworkers Local 25, Operating Engineers 324. Carpenters Local 706, Millwrights 1102, and Painters District Council 1M Local 2352.'

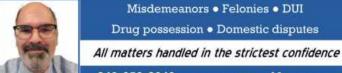
The 2,344-foot-long Liberty Bridge originally went into service in 1986 and connects Vermont Street and Woodside Avenue. One of four bridges in Bay City crossing the Saginaw River, the four-lane bascule span opens in the center to allow tall ship traffic more than 900 times per year, while carrying 16,849 motor vehicles per

Bay City Bridge Partners called the project, which began in December 2021, a "complete rehabilitation and modernization." Work included repairs and improvements to the footings and foundations, substructure, and superstructure, bridge deck/

tems, upgrades to warning gates decorative lighting.

roadway connections, bascule and operator houses, and addielectrical and mechanical sys- tion of architectural handrail and

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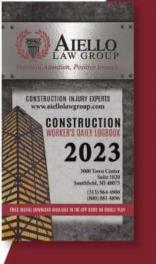
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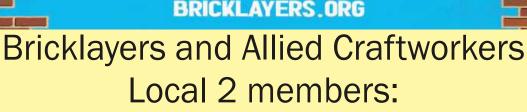
Aiello Law Group has just released our 2023 Construction Worker's Daily Logbook in both a print and digital version! We have provided logbooks to Michigan's building trades for over 30 years.

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









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Journeymen Bricklayers in the Metro Detroit Area get \$35.54 an hour, plus fully paid Health Insurance, and 2 Pensions. Our Contractors have immediate opening for Skilled Bricklayers, and Masonry Restoration Workers.

For more information go to: bricklayers.org

#### By Casey Warner Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Hearing wild turkeys gobbling and clucking as you step out into the backyard early in the morning is common for many Michiganders now, but it wasn't always so.

Let's look back and celebrate these birds' remarkable return from near extinction, often called one of the country's greatest wildlife conservation success stories. There are more than 6 million wild turkeys in the United States today, but seeing - or hearing one was rare as recently as 50

In Michigan, wild turkeys had been plentiful prior to the arrival of settlers, with an estimated 94,000 in the state at that time.

By the 1950s, Michigan's wild turkey population had disappeared due to unregulated hunting and habitat loss.

Bringing turkeys back from the brink. Thanks to the efforts of a committed cadre of conservationists over the last 70 years, 200,000 wild turkeys now call Michigan home. They can be found in parts of every Lower Peninsula county and areas of the Upper Peninsula.

By 1965, the turkey population had rebounded enough that hunting was allowed. Today Michigan ranks sixth in the nation for number of turkey hunters, with consistently high hunter success and satisfaction rates.

Michigan's spring turkey season is open in every county, and fall hunting is open in many areas of the state.

"We've gone from extirpation of all wild turkeys in Michigan to today we have over 200,000 birds and you can hunt turkeys in every county in the state," said Al Stewart, who retired last year after a 50-year career working in wildlife management for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, 20 of those years as the DNR's upland game bird specialist.

"It has brought so much pleasure and enjoyment to people either in viewing wild turkeys and knowing they were there or the ability to hunt in both the spring and fall."

Early wild turkey restoration attempts in Michigan using hatchery programs failed because



# Outdoors The return of the wild turkey



RELEASES OF WILD TURKEYS in Michigan have aided greatly in efforts to re-establish the species. Pictured here is a project to trap and relocate turkeys from Barry State Game Area in Barry County to the Baldwin area in Lake County.

like domesticated birds, weren't equipped to live in the wild and succumbed to disease, predators and weather.

Department of Conservation (now the DNR) purchased 50 wild turkeys from Pennsylvania and released them in West Michigan. Stewart was part of a later effort to reintroduce the birds. In 1983 he, along with many others, brought wild turkeys to Michigan from Iowa and Missouri and established some flocks in the southern part of the state. He was in charge of teaching DNR staff how to trap offspring of those birds to then move them to other locations in the state to help expand this restoration activity.

Ongoing efforts. Since the 1980s, the DNR has worked with many partners to complete numerous releases of trapped wild birds and improve wild turkey

highest-quality sustainable turkey hunting in the nation," Stewart said. "That says a lot when your

the turkeys raised still behaved like Missouri, that is the best wild turkey habitat in the world and the highest population. They don't have deep snow."

The DNR's habitat improve-In the 1950s, the Michigan ment work in recent years has included projects like creating Michigan's Turkey Tracts, public hunting areas with habitat intensively managed for turkeys. There are now five Turkey Tracts locations, in Allegan, Barry, Montcalm, Oakland and Tuscola counties.

'The program highlights areas of public land where the habitat has been intentionally managed for wild turkeys, creating great hunting conditions for new or seasoned hunters," Adam Bump, the DNR's current upland game bird specialist, said.

The National Wild Turkey Federation, at its annual Convention and Sport Show in Nashville last year, presented the Michigan DNR with its Land Stewardship Award, which honors companies "We created some of the and/or government agencies that promote wildlife habitat manage-

"Michigan DNR is at the competitors for that are places forefront of keeping managed

public lands open to the public, while maintaining high-quality habitat on these managed areas. The agency has a long history of collaborating with other state and federal agencies in larger landscape efforts to manage the public lands in Michigan. Moreover, the department has a long history of partnering with non-

news release about the award. Scott Whitcomb, director of the DNR Office of Public Lands, accepted the award "on behalf of the DNR and the passionate sportsmen and women who contribute to and benefit from this effort."

governmental organizations like

the NWTF to accomplish habitat

restoration and conservation proj-

ects on its lands," read a NWTF

"In Michigan, we're blessed with an abundance of natural resources and wild places you don't come across every day, providing the backdrop for hunting, fishing and all types of outdoor recreation and relaxation. This award recognizes sound, strategic stewardship of 4.6 million acres of state-managed land in Michigan, an achievement that would not be possible without conservation

partners like the National Wild Turkey Federation."

In addition to the 4.6 million acres of DNR-managed public land open to hunting, millions of additional private-land acres are leased or enrolled in programs to allow hunting for all. Visit Michigan.gov/Hunting for more information about where to hunt.

Hunters made it pos**sible.** The DNR and partners like the NWTF put in the work behind the wild turkey's comeback, but it would not have been possible without hunters.

Revenue to fund wild turkey management efforts - for the past several decades, now and into the future – comes directly from the sale of hunting licenses and equipment.

The Michigan Game and Fish Protection Fund, funded primarily through hunting and fishing license fees, is the DNR's largest revenue source and is critical to its conservation work.

And since 1937, when Con-

gress passed the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (also known as the Pittman-Robertson Act), states have received funds from manufacturer taxes on ammunition, firearms and archery equipment for wildlife restoration. These funds are distributed to the states based in part on the number of hunting licenses each state sells.

After passage of this groundbreaking legislation, conserving wild turkeys and other wildlife gained nationwide support and habitat management began.

"Sportsmen and women play an essential role in conservation efforts throughout the country," said Rebecca Humphries, co-CEO of the National Wild Turkey Federation. "Many people don't realize, including some hunters and anglers, that the sale of licenses and equipment – not state tax dollars – are the primary source of conservation funding for Michigan and other states."

So, while the turkey on your Thanksgiving table may not have been a wild one, take a moment to raise a glass to its feathered brethren in the wild and the conservationists and hunters who engineered their comeback.

Learn more about turkeys and turkey hunting at Michigan. gov/Turkey.



THE WILD TURKEY'S comeback would not have been possible without hunters, as revenue to fund turkey management efforts comes directly from the sale of hunting licenses and equipment. A few wild turkey facts: Wild turkeys stay in Michigan year-round. Their habitat is open grasslands, agricultural fields and forests. The average life span of a wild turkey is three to four years. Wild turkeys can reach speeds of up to 55 mph in flight. A group of turkeys is called a "rafter." They can range from five to 50 birds and usually consist of only males or only females.

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